

ADAM SCHIFF are charging ahead with a secretive kangaroo court behind closed doors. This is an illegitimate, unfair hearing with no due process and no charges made.

ADAM SCHIFF has refused to release to the public any of the transcripts and even refuses to let Members of Congress into the hearings to hear them.

Their goal has been impeachment since the 2016 election, and they will use any means to get there. This is the only thing the House is doing, instead of focusing on the issues that are important to hardworking Americans across this Nation.

I hope the American people will see this evil abuse of power for what it is—the Democrats' decision to choose partisan hatred of President Trump over the welfare of this great Nation.

MEMBERS ALIENATED FROM IMPEACHMENT PROCESS

(Mr. LOUDERMILK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I am in my fifth year in this esteemed body, but I have never in my 5 years been subjected to being alienated from one of the most important duties that people in this House are given the responsibility for.

There is no issue greater than impeachment, other than just declaring war. But, yet, I have been alienated from the process.

Now, when Speaker PELOSI decided that she was going to start somewhat of an inquiry, I was told, being on the Financial Services Committee, I will be one of the committees involved in it.

But then, apparently, the rules changed, and we shifted it to two other committees. And those committees, when they were having their hearings in front of the American people, apparently, that didn't go to their pleasing because the testimonies didn't meet their narrative, so they moved it into a secret area.

Since then, I have been trying to get ahold of the transcripts of the hearings that I have been alienated from.

I actually got one today. After a week of looking for Volker's testimony and asking for others, I finally got one today of Ambassador Taylor, from The Washington Post. It appears that we are leaking what we want to leak.

MAKE IMPEACHMENT PROCESS TRANSPARENT

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to strongly oppose the lack of transparency by Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats' impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump, our duly elected President.

Instead of following precedent and putting the Judiciary Committee in

charge of this process, Speaker PELOSI has empowered the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence chairman, ADAM SCHIFF, to run this effort behind closed doors in secret, with no accountability, and he is handpicking what information to leak.

What happened to Chairman NADLER over in the Judiciary Committee? If Democrats truly believe that this is the right thing to do, why don't they hold a vote? The Democrats' complete disregard for following a fair process is alarming, and quite frankly, it is un-American.

They are misleading the American people while ignoring action on the pressing issues at hand. The truth is, they have only one goal, and that is to undermine President Trump and ensure he cannot do what he was elected to do, like passing the USMCA, immigration reform, modernizing healthcare, and securing our border.

Let's end this nonsense and get to work on issues that matter to the American people.

COUNTRY SHOULD SEE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

(Mr. WATKINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WATKINS. Madam Speaker, today, I was in these official closed-door impeachment investigations. I use the word "official" loosely since the grounds upon which the Democrats are acting are shaky, at best.

Access is being limited. I am a member of one of these committees that is allowed to be in there, but as I look around and see no more than perhaps a dozen or so Republicans, I think to myself that the entire country should see what the Democrats are up to, the entire world should.

Soon that will happen because although I don't know what I am even allowed to share, because I don't understand these official formalities, I do know that I will tell the world everything that I can, and the truth will come out with time.

It is not what is best for our constituency. We ought to be passing the USMCA. We ought to be ensuring our borders are safe. We ought to be fighting against surprise billing and exorbitant healthcare costs.

IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY SHAMES HOUSE

(Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I am speaking tonight on behalf of the people I represent in the Sixth Congressional District of Tennessee.

In Tennessee, I hear excitement about the leaps forward our country has made under the leadership of our

President, Donald Trump. We are enjoying the lowest unemployment rate of my lifetime, and more Americans are employed than at any point in this Nation's history.

In the short time that I have in this, my first elected office, I have seen the great race in Washington that goes on daily. It is a race to take credit for anything positive, to run away from anything negative, and an all-out sprint away from the real problems facing our Nation.

Well, in the race to the ridiculous, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have clearly won. A closed-door, secretive, biased, so-called inquiry is shaming this House and not doing the first positive thing for the people back home.

Drop the political charades, Madam Speaker, and let this House go forward.

STOP SHAM ATTACK ON OUR DEMOCRACY

(Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, House Democrats and the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee seem to think that impeachment is nothing but a game. If you can't beat him, cheat him.

On September 26, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee fabricated and read on the record during a committee hearing a fake call transcript between the President of the United States and a foreign leader, while keeping the actual transcript of the call in a vault.

Now, he continues to conduct an impeachment inquiry against the President in complete secrecy with no vote of the House of Representatives, leaving the American people and most Members of this body in complete darkness.

What we have here is that good old case of a game created by illusion. If you can't beat him, cheat him, and game show host Chairman ADAM SCHIFF is at the lead.

Behind door number one, we had the Mueller investigation, which found there was no collusion between the President's campaign and Russia.

Behind door number two was the call between President Trump and Ukrainian President Zelensky. Again, the transcript released by the White House shows no quid pro quo, which stemmed from a whistleblower complaint Chairman SCHIFF orchestrated with in advance and advised the whistleblower how to proceed.

What is behind door number three? Nobody knows. But this sham attack on our democracy must be stopped.

DUE PROCESS CRITICAL TO IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

(Mr. SPANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, due process is a right so important that we have not one but two constitutional amendments to ensure it.

Past impeachment inquiries began with a resolution to define scope, to establish rules and procedures, and to give equal subpoena power to the minority. These due process protections are critical because removing a President is one of the most serious decisions Congress can make.

But last week, the Democratic Caucus chair dismissed our pleas for a resolution to formalize the impeachment inquiry as a “cosmetic procedural matter.” Cosmetic. Since when did fairness in this country become cosmetic?

Democrats point to the Constitution in undertaking this inquiry, but look at how it is being handled. There is no due process. The accused is presumed guilty. There is no right to confront your accuser. All proceedings are taking place in secret.

The only reason for secret hearings is to control what people see and what they hear. This sham process disregards the fundamental rights our country is founded on, and the American people deserve more.

□ 2015

PIED PIPER IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. BACON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, since President Trump was elected, Democrats have been pushing impeachment. For 2 years, the current chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence told us he had the smoking gun on collusion. The Mueller report showed the opposite, and then the chairman was not forthcoming regarding his staff's communications with the whistleblower. There is no credibility here.

The partisan impeachment effort has led to secret hearings, the minority Congress is not allowed to bring in witnesses, and the President is denied representation—violating all previous precedence in this House.

Americans demand fairness.

There have been no high crimes or misdemeanors, and hatred for the President is not grounds for impeachment. Voters decided the winner in 2016 and will do so again in 2020.

America's business is not getting done while the Democratic leadership is playing the pied piper and marching America off the impeachment cliff.

SECRET IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. DESJARLAIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Madam Speaker, today I rise in protest of the secrecy with which the House majority is conducting its impeachment inquiry. It is

unlike anything we have seen in Congress. That is probably because, lacking any evidence for their claims, the so-called resistance has already determined the outcome. The same people who perpetrated the Russia hoax are rushing forward with plan Z to remove the President from office.

Partisan congressional staff helped to craft the specious complaint at the heart of this impeachment inquiry. The inquiry itself will take place in secret to avoid public scrutiny.

Some Democrats have admitted that the only way a far left socialist candidate could replace Donald Trump is to remove him from office.

The American people want jobs, affordable healthcare, and security, not far left socialist agendas. But with nothing else to offer, a radical group in Congress has become obsessed with removing this President from office. It is an attack on our democracy and our Constitution.

Madam Speaker, my constituents care about real issues. I appeal to more sensible Members to stop this abuse of power and concentrate on what we can accomplish together.

SOVIET-STYLE IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. PERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, this isn't Russia; this is America. Yet right in this building, a Soviet-style Star Chamber to remove the duly elected President is occurring.

The person who leads it lied to the American people for 2½ years about evidence he didn't have. The person who leads it is literally guilty of what he accuses the President of doing when he is caught on tape negotiating with foreign people about getting dirt on the President.

The person who leads it lied to the world in his reading of a mock transcript about the conversation that the President had with the President of Ukraine, and the person who leads it misled the world about his relationship with the whistleblower, or the so-called whistleblower.

Madam Speaker, we need to end this Stalinist, guilty-until-proven-innocent Star Chamber now.

SHAM IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. BABIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, for years America has been force-fed investigation after investigation of our duly elected President, and we have seen each of these sham investigations meet the same dead end because there is no evidence of any wrongdoing by Donald Trump.

I have lost hope that these pointless probes will end. House Democrats are bent on wasting time and taxpayer dol-

lars. If we are all forced to endure this charade, the least they could do is conduct a fair investigation.

They say they have evidence to impeach the President yet refuse to share what that evidence is. They say this is an official impeachment inquiry, and yet we haven't voted to make it so.

Where is the transparency?

The only evidence that is crystal clear is that the Democrats despise the President so much that they will do anything to take him down. They hate that Donald Trump is blocking their agenda of a green, socialist, nanny state with open borders, so they are willing to mislead the public to get their way.

There is no due process, just hatred. It is a dangerous precedent to our great Republic.

DISTRACTION IMPEACHMENT

(Mrs. MILLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MILLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to denounce the partisan motivations and lack of transparency behind Speaker PELOSI and Chairman SCHIFF's impeachment proceedings.

For the past 10 months, my colleagues across the aisle have operated with one sole motivation: undoing the results of the 2016 election. As such, Congress has failed to advance the priorities of the American people.

We have not funded crucial legislation to fix our outdated and crumbling infrastructure. We have not addressed the crisis on the southern border. Meanwhile, the opioid epidemic continues to rage on.

All we have to show for the past 10 months is a handful of liberal messaging bills that have no chance of being made into law.

While the priorities of the American people have been pushed to the side, all of Congress' energy and resources have been diverted to behind-closed-door impeachment proceedings far from beyond the sight of my fellow colleagues and completely hidden from the taxpayers.

This is not why I came to Congress. This is not what we were sent here to do. The American people deserve better.

CHARADE IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. WRIGHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my outrage over the ongoing parliamentary inquiry against our President.

Impeachment is the House's most solemn and serious responsibility. It should not be undertaken haphazardly. Although I strongly believe in Congress' oversight duties and agree that no public official, including the President, is above the law, I have serious concerns about the partisan nature and procedure of this inquiry.