

*Holding Power Accountable*

December 17, 2019

Dear Representative:

On behalf of Common Cause's 1.2 million supporters, we strongly urge the House of Representatives to vote for both articles of impeachment against President Donald J. Trump because no American, and especially not the President, is above the law. **We will be scoring both votes in Common Cause's 2020 [Democracy Scorecard](#)** that we will share with our 1.2 million members.

Impeachment is a somber yet necessary step to uphold the rule of law and prevent President Trump from continuing to shred the Constitution. President Trump's impeachable offenses go far beyond these two articles. Although we would have preferred broader, more expansive articles of impeachment, as we outlined in our November 2019 report entitled, "[Patterns of Deception: Obstruction, Corruption, and Abuse of Power: The Nonpartisan Case for Removing President Donald J. Trump from Office](#)," the overwhelming evidence that President Trump has abused his power and obstructed Congress leaves Members of Congress no choice but to impeach him.

These articles reflect the overwhelming evidence against President Trump that was collected despite obstruction of the investigation by the White House. We are extremely disappointed that, to date, Republican Members have chosen to ignore the compelling evidence before them and have failed to uphold their oath of office. We encourage all House Members to impartially review the evidence before them and keep in mind their constitutional duty to hold the executive branch accountable and vote for these [two articles](#) when they're expected to be voted on by the full House of Representatives tomorrow.

Impeachment is not a measure that Common Cause takes lightly, and we reached this decision after much deliberation; in our nearly 50 years, this is the first time we have called for the impeachment of a president. We strongly feel that the current president's actions have reached a tipping point that must be addressed with the most significant tools that the Constitution prescribes.

The depositions and public hearings conducted by the House Intelligence Committee revealed a common theme: that President Trump demanded a bribe from Ukraine's government (dirt and evidence on his 2020 election rival Joe Biden) in exchange for Trump performing an official government act (releasing nearly \$400 million of military aid). It also appears Trump obstructed justice (and Congress) by intimidating witnesses and interfering in Congress' Ukraine investigation.

The Ukraine scandal is just the latest in a long list of constitutional desecrations, though. The Mueller report revealed substantial new evidence that Trump's campaign team actively encouraged, aided, and abetted this Russian interference in the 2016 election to help Trump get elected. The Mueller report also suggests that President Trump has obstructed justice, perhaps in as many as ten instances, in order to prevent Special Counsel Mueller and the American people from learning the full extent of the Trump campaign's involvement in Russia's 2016 campaign interference.



As Congress has conducted investigations into Russian election interference and the Trump campaign's involvement, as well as Trump's obstruction of justice and other potential malfeasance (e.g., violations of the Constitution's emoluments clauses, tax fraud, and ethics violations), the Trump Administration has engaged in unprecedented stonewalling. Common Cause believes it is well past time to hold President Trump accountable for his behavior and urge Congress to do its constitutional duty to protect our country from the president's abuses of power and obstruction of Congress—actions that constitute high crimes and misdemeanors. This action is also about President Trump's ongoing and future actions to invite foreign interference in our elections.

To this end, Common Cause, on behalf of our 1.2 million members, calls for the House of Representatives to vote for these two articles of impeachment against President Trump. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss how we arrived at this conclusion.

Sincerely,



Karen Hobert Flynn  
President  
Common Cause

