

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON IMPEACHMENT

1. MEETINGS

Meetings of the Committee on Impeachment shall be held in open session and in accordance with existing COVID-19 procedures. The Committee may, by majority vote, enter into closed executive session.

2. MEDIA COVERAGE

News media may cover the proceedings open to the public in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives.

3. COUNSEL

The Committee may retain counsel to advise it in all matters pertaining to impeachment.

4. CLERK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may appoint a Clerk who shall be the official custodian of all records, evidence, and other materials pertaining to the work of the committee. The Clerk shall maintain one complete set of original documents which shall constitute the record of the Committee. The Clerk shall perform such other duties as the committee may direct.

5. SUBPOENAS

The Chair shall direct the issuance of subpoenas upon his own initiative or upon motion of a majority of the committee members.

6. QUORUM

For purposes of hearings held by the Committee, a quorum shall consist of four (4) members of the committee. In the event a regular member of the Committee is absent, the Chairman may allow an alternate member appointed by the Speaker as a substitute.

7. RULES OF THE CHAIR

The Chair shall, when he deems appropriate, make rulings necessary for the fair and efficient conduct of Committee proceedings. Such rulings shall control, unless overruled by a vote of a majority of the members present.

8. OATH OF WITNESSES

Witnesses called to testify before the Committee shall, before giving their testimony, swear the following oath or affirmation:

"Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you are about to give in the matter of the impeachment of [THE ACCUSED], shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?"

9. QUESTIONING OF WITNESSES

The Chair or his designee shall commence the questioning of each witness and may question a witness at any point during the appearance of the witness. Any member of the Committee may also question a witness at any point during the appearance of the witness.

10. ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN MEETINGS

The Chair shall announce the date, time, place, and subject matter of any Committee meeting open to the public as soon as practicable. Announcement on the floor of the House of Representatives while in session shall constitute sufficient notice.

11. COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE COMMITTEE

There shall be no contact by the petitioner or the accused or either party's counsel with members of the Committee, except through written communication directed to the Chair. Any such written communication shall become part of the record. This shall not preclude responses by the petitioner or the accused or either party's counsel to inquiries of the Committee, which shall also be in writing. The Chair may assign staff to communicate with any relevant parties on organizational and procedural matters.

12. PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING IMPEACHMENT INQUIRIES

a. The Clerk of the Committee shall at all times have access to and be responsible for all papers and things received from any source by subpoena or otherwise. Other members of the Committee and Committee counsel shall have access in accordance with the procedures hereafter set forth.

b. Copies of all records of proceedings or any other evidence appropriate for consideration by the Committee shall become subject to Committee review upon filing with the Committee.

c. All items of evidence requested by the Committee or submitted and accepted for review by the Committee and any public records may be reviewed at any time by individual members of the Committee when not meeting in session, unless the Committee has, by majority vote, ruled otherwise with regard to a particular item. Confidential records or

records that have been sealed may be reviewed by members at meetings or at the discretion of the Chairman.

d. All records of and testimony before the committee shall be publicly available unless ordered sealed or closed by a majority vote of the Committee.

e. All items of evidence shall be directed to the Clerk of the Committee or its counsel.

f. Before the Committee is called upon to make any disposition with respect to the testimony or papers and things presented to it, the Committee members shall have a reasonable opportunity to examine all testimony, papers, and things that have been obtained by the committee staff.

g. Only testimony, papers, or things that are included in the record will be reported to the House of Representatives.

I, Jason Nemes, being duly appointed as Chairman of the Committee on Impeachment by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, certify that these rules were adopted by a majority vote of the Committee on Impeachment.



Representative Jason Nemes
Chairman

January 13, 2021