

By: Reynolds

H.C.R. No. 22

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, On June 12, 2017, U.S. Representatives Brad Sherman
2 and Al Green filed an article of impeachment against President
3 Donald John Trump for high crimes and misdemeanors; and

4 WHEREAS, The article states that President Trump has
5 prevented, obstructed, and impeded the administration of justice;
6 he has exhibited a pattern of behavior calculated to thwart
7 investigations being conducted by federal law enforcement
8 officials into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential
9 election, including inquiries into the activities of General
10 Michael Flynn, his former national security advisor, and into
11 possible collusion by members of his campaign staff and other
12 associates; and

13 WHEREAS, After vainly pressing then-FBI director James Comey
14 to shut down the Flynn probe, President Trump carried out his
15 implied threat and fired Mr. Comey; one day after that incident,
16 the president expressed to Russian officials his relief at being
17 rid of Mr. Comey, stating in a meeting "I faced great pressure
18 because of Russia. That's taken off"; he also admitted in a
19 television interview that the dismissal sprang from the Russia
20 investigation, which statement could serve as a warning to any
21 successor inclined to follow Mr. Comey's example of independence;
22 along the way, President Trump also tried to enlist Daniel Coats,
23 the director of national intelligence, in his scheme to stymie the
24 examination of General Flynn's activities; and

1 WHEREAS, Former director of national intelligence James
2 Clapper has characterized the firing of Mr. Comey as "egregious and
3 inexcusable"; President Trump's course of conduct is clearly a
4 felonious obstruction of justice under Section 1512 of Title 18 of
5 the U.S. Code, which applies to anyone who corruptly "obstructs,
6 influences, or impedes any official proceeding, or attempts to do
7 so"; Article II of the Constitution provides for impeachment and
8 removal in the case of "Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and
9 Misdemeanors," and there is broad bipartisan consensus that
10 obstruction of justice falls under this definition; obstruction of
11 justice was cited in the first article of impeachment filed against
12 President Richard Nixon in 1974, based on his efforts to interfere
13 with the FBI's Watergate investigation, and it formed one of the
14 grounds on which President Bill Clinton was impeached in 1998; more
15 recently, the House of Representatives voted unanimously to impeach
16 Texas Federal District Court Judge Samuel Kent for this offense;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Donald J. Trump has acted in a manner contrary to his
19 trust as president of the United States and subversive of
20 constitutional government, and his conduct manifestly warrants
21 impeachment, trial, and removal from office; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas,
23 1st Called Session, hereby urge the United States Congress to
24 impeach President Donald John Trump; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
26 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
27 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of

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1 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
2 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
3 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
4 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.