

POSITION PAPER

IMPEACHMENT OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

GREG GUTHUES | CANDIDATE FOR U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 2, HAWAII | MARCH 2026

I. STATEMENT OF POSITION

AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, I AM COMMITTED TO PURSUING THE IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP AND VICE PRESIDENT JD VANCE. THEIR CONDUCT IN OFFICE REPRESENTS A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER TO AMERICAN DEMOCRACY, THE SEPARATION OF POWERS, AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER. I WILL USE EVERY LEGISLATIVE TOOL AVAILABLE TO ME AS A MEMBER OF CONGRESS TO ADVANCE ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AND TO HOLD THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH ACCOUNTABLE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

II. CONSTITUTIONAL BASIS FOR IMPEACHMENT

ARTICLE II, SECTION 4 OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION PROVIDES THAT THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, AND ALL CIVIL OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES SHALL BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE UPON IMPEACHMENT FOR, AND CONVICTION OF, TREASON, BRIBERY, OR OTHER HIGH CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS. THE FOUNDERS DESIGNED THIS MECHANISM PRECISELY TO ADDRESS THE ABUSE OF EXECUTIVE POWER AND THE SUBVERSION OF DEMOCRATIC NORMS.

THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION'S ACTIONS – INCLUDING THE DISMANTLING OF INSTITUTIONAL CHECKS, THE MARGINALIZATION OF INDEPENDENT AGENCIES, THE SUPPRESSION OF DISSENT WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, AND THE CONSOLIDATION OF AUTHORITY IN A MANNER INCONSISTENT WITH DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE – MEET THE CONSTITUTIONAL THRESHOLD FOR IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS.

III. GROUNDS FOR IMPEACHMENT

THE FOLLOWING GROUNDS, AMONG OTHERS, SUPPORT THE INITIATION OF IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS:

- ABUSE OF EXECUTIVE POWER THROUGH THE SYSTEMATIC DISMANTLING OF INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT BODIES AND REGULATORY AGENCIES, IN VIOLATION OF THE SEPARATION OF POWERS.
- THE SUPPRESSION AND MARGINALIZATION OF CAREER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, INSPECTORS GENERAL, AND OTHERS WHOSE INDEPENDENCE IS PROTECTED BY LAW AND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

- **ACTIONS CONSISTENT WITH AUTHORITARIAN GOVERNANCE, INCLUDING THE USE OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY TO INTIMIDATE POLITICAL OPPONENTS, SUPPRESS LEGITIMATE DISSENT, AND CONSOLIDATE POWER.**
- **DISREGARD FOR CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORITY, INCLUDING DEFIANCE OF LAWFUL SUBPOENAS, REFUSAL TO COOPERATE WITH OVERSIGHT, AND UNLAWFUL IMPOUNDMENT OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.**
- **CONDUCT UNBECOMING OF THE OFFICE THAT UNDERMINES THE PUBLIC'S TRUST IN DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.**

IV. MY PLAN OF ACTION IN THE HOUSE

UPON TAKING OFFICE, I WILL PURSUE THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

- **CO-SPONSOR AND ADVOCATE FOR ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT TARGETING BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT.**
- **WORK WITH COLLEAGUES ACROSS THE CAUCUS TO BUILD THE VOTES NECESSARY TO PASS ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT OUT OF THE HOUSE.**
- **ENGAGE THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS THAT ESTABLISH A THOROUGH EVIDENTIARY RECORD.**
- **MAKE THE CASE DIRECTLY TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THROUGH PRESS CONFERENCES, TOWN HALLS, AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS.**

V. THE SENATE AND THE PATH TO REMOVAL

UNDER ARTICLE I OF THE CONSTITUTION, THE HOUSE HOLDS THE SOLE POWER OF IMPEACHMENT. UPON PASSAGE OF ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT, THE MATTER IS TRANSMITTED TO THE SENATE, WHICH SITS AS A COURT OF TRIAL. A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY OF SENATORS PRESENT IS REQUIRED TO CONVICT AND REMOVE A PRESIDENT FROM OFFICE.

I AM UNDER NO ILLUSION THAT A SENATE CONTROLLED BY MEMBERS SYMPATHETIC TO THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL ACT SWIFTLY OR WILLINGLY. SHOULD THE SENATE PROVE RELUCTANT TO FULFILL ITS CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY, I WILL PURSUE A SUSTAINED PUBLIC PRESSURE STRATEGY:

- **ISSUE REGULAR PRESS RELEASES AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS DOCUMENTING EVERY SENATE VOTE AND EVERY INSTANCE OF INACTION.**
- **COORDINATE WITH ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY GROUPS, AND CIVIC LEADERS TO MOBILIZE CONSTITUENTS IN KEY SENATE STATES.**
- **TARGET THE HOME-STATE CONSTITUENTS OF SENATORS WHO ARE BLOCKING REMOVAL, PROVIDING THEM THE INFORMATION AND TOOLS NEEDED TO MAKE THEIR VOICES HEARD.**

- **COLLABORATE WITH MEDIA AND JOURNALISM OUTLETS TO MAINTAIN CONSISTENT PUBLIC ATTENTION ON THE SENATE’S OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION.**
- **SUPPORT PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION CHALLENGERS IN STATES WHERE INCUMBENT SENATORS REFUSE TO ACT ON THE EVIDENCE.**

VI. PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION

SHOULD BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE THROUGH THE IMPEACHMENT AND CONVICTION PROCESS, THE PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION ACT GOVERNS THE LINE OF SUCCESSION. UNDER CURRENT LAW, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDS THIRD IN LINE TO THE PRESIDENCY, FOLLOWING THE VICE PRESIDENT. IN THE EVENT THAT BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT ARE REMOVED, CONVICTED, OR OTHERWISE UNABLE TO DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF THEIR OFFICE, THE SPEAKER WOULD ASSUME THE PRESIDENCY.

THIS CONSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM IS NOT THEORETICAL. IT IS A DELIBERATE SAFEGUARD DESIGNED BY CONGRESS TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE TO KNOW THAT THE SYSTEM HAS GUARDRAILS – AND THAT THOSE GUARDRAILS WILL HOLD.

VII. CONCLUSION

IMPEACHMENT IS NOT A PARTISAN WEAPON. IT IS THE CONSTITUTION’S ANSWER TO THE QUESTION: WHAT DO WE DO WHEN A PRESIDENT REFUSES TO BE BOUND BY THE LAW? THE ANSWER THE FOUNDERS GAVE US IS CLEAR. I AM RUNNING FOR CONGRESS BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT ANSWER MUST BE ACTED UPON – NOT DEFERRED, NOT SOFTENED, AND NOT TRADED AWAY FOR LEGISLATIVE CONVENIENCE.

THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII DISTRICT 2 DESERVE A REPRESENTATIVE WHO WILL SAY PLAINLY WHAT THE EVIDENCE SHOWS, AND WHO WILL ACT ON IT. I WILL BE THAT REPRESENTATIVE.

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