THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 395

Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, JUNE 22, 2018

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, JUNE 22, 2018

A RESOLUTION

- Urging the United States House of Representatives to immediately 1 consider and adopt articles of impeachment against President 2 Donald J. Trump. 3 WHEREAS, The founding fathers drafted and signed the 4 5 Constitution of the United States which enables the Congress of the United States to investigate and sanction certain conduct 6 committed by high public officials of the United States; and 8 WHEREAS, The Constitution of the United States specifically 9 provides for the power to impeach and the procedures for the removal of the President of the United States; and 10 11 WHEREAS, Section 4 of Article II of the Constitution of the United States provides that, "The President, Vice President and 12 all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from 13 Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, 14 15 or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors"; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Clause 5 of section 2 of Article I of the
- 17 Constitution of the United States provides that "The House of
- 18 Representatives * * * shall have the sole Power of Impeachment";
- 19 and

- 1 WHEREAS, Clause 6 of section 3 of Article I of the
- 2 Constitution of the United States provides that "The Senate
- 3 shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting
- 4 for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the
- 5 President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall
- 6 preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the
- 7 Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present"; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Clause 7 of section 3 of Article I of the
- 9 Constitution of the United States provides that "Judgment in
- 10 Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal
- 11 from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office
- 12 of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party
- 13 convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to
- 14 Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law";
- 15 and
- 16 WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump, also known as David
- 17 Dennison, has been accused of preventing, obstructing and
- 18 impeding the administration of justice, abuse of office,
- 19 dereliction of duty, being unfit for office, corruption and
- 20 malfeasance requiring the immediate attention and investigation
- 21 of the Congress of the United States through an impeachment
- 22 inquiry; and
- 23 WHEREAS, The following violations of President Trump should
- 24 subject him to investigation under the impeachment authority of
- 25 Congress of the United States:
- 26 (1) on or about January 27, 2017, President Trump abused
- 27 his office and attempted to corrupt the administration of
- justice by asking then-Director of the Federal Bureau of
- 29 Investigation (FBI), James Comey, who was overseeing the
- 30 investigation of the Trump campaign for collusion with Russia

- in the 2016 Presidential campaign, among other crimes, for a "pledge of loyalty";
 - (2) on or about February 14, 2017, President Trump attempted to corrupt, impede and obstruct the administration of justice by asking James Comey to "let this go," referring to the criminal investigation of President Trump's National Security Advisor and campaign adviser Michael Flynn;
 - (3) on or about March 22, 2017, President Trump attempted to corrupt, impede and obstruct justice by asking the Director of National Intelligence, Daniel Coats, and Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Michael Pompeo, to persuade James Comey to "back off" investigating Michael Flynn;
 - (4) President Trump attempted to corrupt, impede and prevent the administration of justice by telling James Comey during several phone calls in March and April of 2017 that he wanted James Comey to lift the "cloud" of the Russia investigation;
- (5) on or about May 9, 2017, President Trump attempted to corrupt, impede and obstruct the administration of justice by firing James Comey as Director of the FBI due to his investigation of the Trump campaign's collusion with Russia in the 2016 presidential campaign, and President Trump told Russian officials on May 10, 2017, that the firing had "taken off" the "great pressure" of the Russia investigation and told NBC News on May 11, 2017, that the firing was because of "this Russia thing";
 - (6) President Trump attempted to corrupt and impede the administration of justice asking United States Attorney

 General Jefferson Sessions to intervene in the criminal

- investigation of the Trump campaign after Attorney General Sessions had recused himself on advice of ethics officials within the United States Department of Justice;
 - (7) President Trump attempted to corrupt the administration of justice by ordering the firing of Special Counsel Robert Mueller, who is overseeing the Russia investigation, but White House Counsel Donald McGahn refused to carry out that directive in June 2017;
 - (8) President Trump may have obstructed justice by helping to draft a false public statement for his son, Donald Trump, Jr., on July 8, 2017, claiming that a 2016 meeting with a Russian lawyer was about adoption policy, and Donald Trump, Jr., later acknowledged that the meeting was to discuss damaging information which the Russian government had about former Democratic Presidential Nominee Hillary Clinton;
 - (9) on or about July 26, 2017, President Trump attempted to corrupt and impede the administration of justice by the firing of then-Deputy Director of the FBI, Andrew McCabe, and the demand for the firing was reportedly part of a campaign to discredit a potential corroborating witness regarding James Comey's conversations with President Trump;
 - (10) President Trump has been derelict in his duty to defend the United States against all foreign enemies by consistently taking no action to prevent or punish Russian or other foreign interference in the 2016 presidential elections, despite repeated warnings by the highest ranking intelligence officials of concerns for the integrity of the 2018 elections and beyond;
- 29 (11) President Trump demonstrates gross unfitness for 30 office by frequently making false and misleading public

1 statements for the purpose of deceiving the people of the

2 United States, and the New York Times and the Washington Post

3 have compiled more than 2,000 false or misleading statements

4 made by President Trump to date, including, among others, the

repeated false statements about American intelligence

6 agencies' investigations and conclusions regarding Russia's

7 role in the 2016 election;

- (12) President Trump has abused his office by continuing to accept payments from foreign governments to his hotels and other business operations in potential violation of the emoluments clause under clause 8 of section 9 of Article I of the Constitution of the United States, which states that "no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State";
- vulnerable minority and immigrant populations, including issuance of an unconstitutional travel ban preventing citizens from majority-Muslim nations from entering the United States, making offensive and derogatory comments about immigrant populations from non-European countries and refusing to disavow white nationalist movements throughout the United States and the world;
 - (14) President Trump, through his continued malfeasance and abuse of office, has threatened democratic norms, institutions and the rule of law, with a propaganda campaign against the United State Department of Justice, the FBI and the free press, and the President has pledged to review libel laws and proposed to use the Federal Communications

- 1 Commission to revoke licenses of news outlets which he deems
- 2 unsympathetic, in addition to using the powers of the
- 3 presidency to attack Federal judges, law enforcement agencies
- 4 and government officials with charges that are untruthful and
- 5 without merit; and
- 6 (15) President Trump, also known as David Dennison, is
- 7 patently unfit for office, as proven by his condoning and
- 8 actively participating in unethical and immoral conduct that
- 9 renders him unfit for office, authorizing illicit payments
- via intermediaries to conceal personal improprieties,
- 11 elevating immediate family members to high government office,
- 12 promoting his personal businesses and properties in his
- official capacity as President and selling access to the
- 14 highest bidder by making himself available to members of his
- private resorts while increasing membership fees for his own
- 16 personal enrichment;
- 17 therefore be it
- 18 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 19 urge the United States House of Representatives to immediately
- 20 consider and adopt articles of impeachment against President
- 21 Donald J. Trump; and be it further
- 22 RESOLVED, That a certified copy of this resolution be
- 23 transmitted to the Speaker of the United States House of
- 24 Representatives and to each member of the Pennsylvania
- 25 delegation to the Congress of the United States.