

## HOUSE IMPEACHES TRUMP

He becomes the third president to face removal as lawmakers approve abuse of power, obstruction articles



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**AFTER THE** House vote, Speaker Nancy Pelosi signaled she might delay sending impeachment articles to the Senate while the two parties wrangle over trial rules.



JEFF KOWALSKY AFP/Getty Images

**SPEAKING IN** Michigan, President Trump exulted when he got the impeachment tallies: "We didn't lose one Republican vote." The audience cheered.

### DECISION SEEN AS UNLIKELY TO SWAY VOTERS

Most Americans have already chosen sides on Trump's behavior.

BY EVAN HALPER AND JANET HOOK

WASHINGTON — The historic drive to impeach and remove President Trump has consumed Washington like a fever dream for months, but for politicians and activists girding for the 2020 elections, it's been another story.

Democratic presidential candidates barely mention it. Republicans running in swing states have been trying to change the subject. In battleground states like Wisconsin, Democrats are trying to engage voters on kitchen-table issues, not impeachment.

"We are in a tough spot here," said Martha Laning, former Democratic Party chairwoman of Wisconsin, where the party is trying to rebuild the "blue wall" that once buttressed Democratic presidential nominees. "We want to do what we have to do on this and move on."

At the Democratic fundraising powerhouse Priorities USA, a super PAC that is planning to spend \$100 million on anti-Trump digital and television advertising before the party even chooses its nominee, officials do not envision a single ad will focus on impeachment.

After all the drama in Congress and fulminating from the White House, the political fallout may be an anticlimax: This moment in history seems likely to intensify, not change, voters' attitudes toward Trump.

His dismal job performance ratings have changed little since impeachment began. The economy keeps humming. A significant trade deal was just inked. The courts are being reshaped in his image as his judicial nominees cruise to [See Election, A11]



BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI AFP/Getty Images

### TRUMP RALLIES AS HOUSE VOTES

Supporters cheer on President Trump at a rally in Battle Creek, Mich. The president began talking just as the House was voting on his impeachment, which became fodder in his two-hour speech. **NATION, A9**

## A tiring process for many

Even in blue California, voters are more exhausted than elated

BY MARIA L. LA GANGA, PATRICK MCGREEVY, KURTIS LEE AND ERIN B. LOGAN

James Fugate had a lot to say for a man who insisted he wasn't watching the U.S. House of Representatives get ready to vote on impeaching President Trump.

"I just wish this national nightmare would be over," the co-owner of Eso Won Books said Wednesday morning as he rang up customers in his Leimert Park shop. "Every time you hear a Republican make a speech, you want to scream. But they control the Senate.... It's a foregone conclusion: He's not going to be removed."

Even here in one of the bluest states in the country — a place that has defied the president on everything from immigration to climate change — voters say they are getting tired. Even if they approve of the job California's elected officials are doing to get rid of a president for whom they did not vote, many say they are wearying of the partisan divide, getting sick of the anger they hear coming out of Washington.

And if they support the president and believe, like many Republicans, that the impeachment process is a terrible hoax? Double it.

Just listen to Billy Hoang, a 69-year-old Vietnamese American who skipped the impeachment hearings in favor of [See California, A10]

### PARTISAN WAR NOW TURNS TO BATTLE IN SENATE

BY JENNIFER HABERKORN, SARAH D. WIRE, CHRIS MEGERIAN AND MOLLY O'TOOLE

WASHINGTON — A sharply divided House of Representatives voted on Wednesday to impeach President Trump for abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, a condemnation that will permanently mar his legacy and one that only two other presidents have faced in the nation's history.

In a partisan vote, the Democratic-controlled House approved two articles of impeachment that charged Trump with committing high crimes and misdemeanors, the constitutional standard needed to warrant his removal from office. Every Republican voted no.

The articles of impeachment next go to the Republican-controlled Senate for a trial, but that constitutional process unexpectedly fell victim to an unusual brawl between the two chambers of Congress.

After the impeachment votes, Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco) hinted that she might delay forwarding the articles to the Senate — delaying Trump's expected exoneration at trial — to put pressure on Senate Republicans to accept at least some Democratic demands about how the trial should be conducted.

Republicans have said they hope to call no witnesses, while Democrats want some of Trump's aides to testify. Either way, the president is expected to win acquittal in the Senate and remain in office — and become the first impeached president to run for reelection, shattering yet another political norm.

Democrats accused [See Impeached, A10]



ALLEN J. SCHABEN Los Angeles Times

**ALYSSA COBOS**, a 21-year-old senior at Cal State L.A., has been waiting for impeachment since the 2016 election. "I've been living in the twilight zone" since Trump was elected, she said Wednesday in Fullerton.