Trump impeached

PRESIDENT IS THIRD IN U.S. HISTORY TO FACE SENATE TRIAL

BY PHILIP BRYNER, FELICIA SANCHEZ AND ELIZABETH TOMLINSON

The House of Representatives voted late Wednesday to im- peach President Trump on charges that he abdicated his office and obstructed Congress, with Democrats denouncing him as a threat to the nation and brand- ing his conduct worthy of the nation’s highest court in modern times.

After 3½ hours of House argu- ment on the House floor between Democrats and Republicans over Trump’s conduct with Ukraine, Foreman wrapped award almost entirely with speeches from the House chamber on Wednesday morning before the final tally.

Trump became the third president in U.S. history to face trial in the Senate — a proceed- ing that will determine whether he is removed from office less than one year before he stands for reelection.

On Trump’s 16½-day in office, Congress brought a mo- mentous reckoning to an uncon- flicted president who has tested America’s institutions with an array of unrestrained actions, including the firing of the own appointees and other government witnesses told was reckless and endangered national security.

The Democratic-controlled House passed two articles of impeachment against Trump, both focused on abus- ions of power and obstruction of Congress — related to the president’s attempts to withhold military aid to Ukraine and proceed to investigation into foreign influence in 2020’s impeachment at.

Unclear path to a virtually certain Senate acquittal

BY SUZAN KIM

As President Trump prepares to stand trial in the Senate next month — proceedings that were triggered by impeachment votes Wednesday — the path forward for both the House and Senate is toward an acquittal that is almost certain but with much uncertainty about how the checks and balances will play out.

For now, there is no clarity on what the Senate looks like when it begins. It is almost certain that there will not be a bipartisan agreement on witnesses. With so many wounds open, senators are taking their cases from their party leaders, with independence and party-line voting in mind. The Senate will be dominated by the White House, and the White House will have to be certain that they can call the president’s acquittal a victory that is worth the rift with the House.

Pelosi had all but made up her mind. Trump is the third of three presidents to face trial in the Senate, after Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton.

Pelosi did not tip her hand on Wednesday about her plan for the trial, but with much uncertainty about how the checks and balances will play out.

The trial is expected to last three weeks, with senators divided on how long a trial will last or even if it will be held at all. There is no clarity on what the Senate looks like when it begins. It is almost certain that there will not be a bipartisan agreement on witnesses. With so many wounds open, senators are taking their cases from their party leaders, with independence and party-line voting in mind.

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BY MARK FISHER

Tumbling toward impeach- ment, Richard Nixon recognized the reality of collapsing political support and became the only American president to resign from office. A generation later, when the House voted to impeach Bill Clinton, the president oscillated between apologies for his Oval Office behavior and fervent pleas for leniency, aiming to avert his impeachment.

As proceedings move to the Senate, here’s what happens next

By Rachel Bade, Moss Beller and Josh Dawsey

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi can quickly put the head of the highly controversial$2 trillion pandemic relief package on the line. Kay Hagan, the Republican senator from North Carolina who is the last Senate Republican to vote for Trump, could vote to acquit him. But he’s a long shot. And there’s a good reason to think Pelosi has at least a 50-50 shot of winning.

The vote is expected to be close. The Washington Post / Year 143 , No. 14

THE TAKE

In an endless fight, a momentous vote turns into just another moment

BY DAN BAGG

The impeachment of the president is a rare moment in the his- tory of political leadership. Wednesday vote in the House proved President Trump’s inability to unite the nation in the most important moments of his presidency.

The House action on his biog- raphy and legacy, whatever the final resolution in the Senate, is part of the permanent record.

But in the annals of Trump’s presidency, Wednesday’s defi- nition in the House reflected nothing particularly extraordin- ary: A fight sharply along party lines, with only the barest of de- bates among the Democrats and those among Republicans, with the president’s side uniting in lockstep and the president’s opponents divided.

The word ‘history’ can be an overused term about matters of politics — and who is braced for the odds and broken the rules of poli- tics — and who is braced for the

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