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Trump impeached

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

BY PHILIP RUCKER,
FELICIA SONMEZ
AND COLBY ITKOWITZ

The House of Representatives voted late Wednesday to impeach President Trump on charges that he abused his office and obstructed Congress, with Democrats declaring him a threat to the nation and branding an indelible mark on the most turbulent presidency of modern times.

After 11 hours of fierce argument on the House floor between Democrats and Republicans over Trump's conduct with Ukraine, lawmakers voted almost entirely along party lines to impeach him. Trump becomes the third president in U.S. history to face trial in the Senate — a proceeding that will determine whether he is removed from office less than one year before he stands for reelection.

On Trump's 1,062nd day in office, Congress brought a momentous reckoning to an unorthodox president who has tested America's institutions with an array of unrestrained actions, including some that a collection of his own appointees and other government witnesses testified were reckless and endangered national security.

The Democratic-controlled House passed two articles of impeachment against Trump — abuse of power and obstruction of Congress — related to the president's attempts to withhold military aid to Ukraine and pressure its government to investigate former vice president Joe

SEE IMPEACHMENT ON A6



MATT MCCLAIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) gaveling the close of voting Wednesday night on the second article of impeachment against President Trump, obstruction of Congress.

How the House members voted

Article 1: Abuse of power

President Trump is accused of using the power of the presidency for his own benefit.

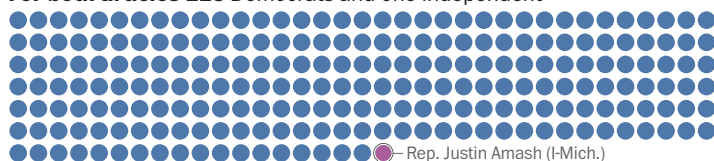
230 to 197

Article 2: Obstruction of Congress

Trump is accused of blocking Congress's investigation into his alleged wrongdoing.

229 to 198

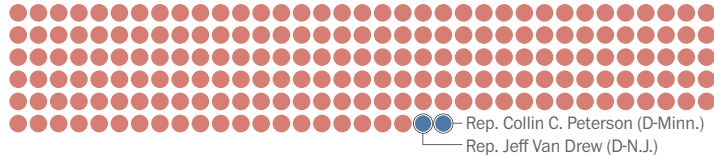
For both articles 228 Democrats and one independent



For one article One Democrat

Rep. Jared Golden (D-Maine)

Against both articles 195 Republicans and two Democrats



Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-Hawaii) voted present, three members did not vote and there are four vacancies in the 435-seat chamber.

MORE COVERAGE INSIDE

As proceedings move to the Senate, here's what happens next **A4**
In surreal split screen, president rallies supporters during historic vote **A9**
@PKCapitol: Pelosi becomes Trump's most powerful political adversary **A9**



BRITTANY GREESON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

President Trump greets supporters Wednesday during a rally in Battle Creek, Mich., as impeachment proceedings he called "a suicide march for the Democratic Party" neared a vote in Washington.

Unclear path to a virtually certain Senate acquittal

BY SEUNG MIN KIM

As President Trump prepares to stand trial in the Senate next month — proceedings that were triggered by his impeachment by the House on Wednesday — senators are hurtling toward an acquittal that is all but assured but with much uncertainty about how the chamber will arrive there.

For now, there is no clarity on how long a trial will last or even when it will begin. It is almost certain that there will not be a bipartisan agreement on witnesses. With very limited exceptions, senators are taking their cues from their party leaders, with Senate Republicans increasingly coordinating with the White House on a trial strategy that they insist will be fairer than what the House afforded Trump. Adding to the uncertainty: Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) late Wednesday left open the possibility the House may not immediately send the

SEE SENATE ON A4

An impeachment that mirrors his presidency: Disruption and division

BY MARC FISHER

Tumbling toward impeachment, Richard Nixon recognized the reality of collapsing political support and became the only American president to quit the 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 Americans to turn away from "the politics of personal destruction."

As the House voted Wednesday evening to impeach Donald Trump, the president was staging a defiant campaign rally in Michigan.

Facing a historic rebuke by the Democratic-controlled House, Trump has countered with an exaggerated version of his life-long approach to conflict, aiming to win by dividing. He has slammed his opponents in lurid language. He has urged his supporters to wage battle against those who sneer and scoff at them and their beloved president. And he has expressed zero remorse.

If the other two impeachment processes of the past 45 years were marked by a certain solemnity, by members of Congress struggling publicly with their consciences and, in some cases,

SEE TRUMP ON A8

THE TAKE

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

BY DAN BALZ

The impeachment of a president is a rare moment in the history of the country, and so Wednesday's vote in the House puts President Trump into the annals of the nation in the most ignominious of ways. The stain of the House action on his biography and legacy, whatever the final resolution in the Senate, is now part of his permanent record.

But in the annals of Trump's presidency, Wednesday's deliberations in the House reflected nothing particularly extraordi-

nary. Split sharply along party lines, with only the barest of defections among the Democrats and none among Republicans, the people's House became the nation in miniature, a people torn over the conduct of a president who has defied political odds and broken the rules of politics — and who is braced for more to come.

The word "history" can be an overused term about matters of the day, tossed around casually and often without good reason. That cannot be said about impeachment, which was included

SEE TAKE ON A11

Three-month battle tested the political will of both parties

BY RACHAEL BADE,
MIKE DEBONIS
AND JOSH DAWSEY

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi sat quietly at the head of the long table inside her ornate conference room early this month, listening as her deputies debated the last major decision in the impeachment of President Trump.

Her senior lieutenants argued for an expansive bill of charges encompassing the Mueller report. Others pressed for articles of impeachment focused solely on Trump's pressure on Ukraine to help his reelection bid.

Ultimately, it didn't matter.

Pelosi had all but made up her mind.

Two days earlier, while she was in a Madrid hotel for a climate conference, Pelosi took a call from anxious moderate members of her Democratic caucus who were feeling heat in their home districts about supporting impeachment. The speaker, they said, should resist liberal calls to expand the investigation.

Pelosi did not tip her hand on the call. But it was a compelling argument from her "majority makers," the group whose members flipped pro-Trump districts in 2018, helping make Pelosi speaker for the second time, and

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