

The Ukraine Supplemental Includes a Hidden Impeachment Clause Against President Trump

Background: President Trump was wrongfully impeached by the partisan Pelosi-led House of Representatives on December 18, 2019.¹ At the core of the impeachment was a pause on funds appropriated to Ukraine: “...\$391 million in security assistance: \$250 million through the Department of Defense’s (DOD) Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative and \$141 million through the State Department’s Foreign Military Financing program.”²

The false argument put forward by Democrats was/is as follows: as President Trump had allegedly paused these funds because he wished to see the corrupt nexus between the Biden family and Ukraine investigated, President Trump had abused his power, with the aim of interfering with the U.S. presidential election. Page 425 of the Committee Report on the first impeachment states: “The President froze military assistance to Ukraine against U.S. national security interests and over the objections of career experts.”³ The impeachment inquiry report states, “The President did so despite the longstanding bipartisan support of Congress, uniform support across federal departments and agencies for the provision to Ukraine of the military assistance, and his obligations under the Impoundment Control Act.”⁴

The Supplemental Impeachment Time Bomb: President Trump has said, in regard to the war in Ukraine, “We got to get that war settled and I’ll get it settled.”⁵ He has stated that he would resolve the war in 24 hours.⁶

The bill includes \$1.6 billion for foreign military financing in Ukraine, and \$13.7 billion for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative. These funds expire on September 30, 2025—nearly a year into the possible second term of President Trump. These are the exact same accounts President Trump was impeached for pausing in December 2019. Every single House Republican voted against this impeachment resolution.⁷

¹ The New York Times, “Trump Impeached for Abuse of Power and Obstruction of Congress”, Available at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/18/us/politics/trump-impeached.html>

² Report of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Pursuant to H. Res. 660 in Consultation with the House Committee on Oversight and Reform and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Available at: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GOVPUB-Y4_IN8_18-PURL-gpo129303/pdf/GOVPUB-Y4_IN8_18-PURL-gpo129303.pdf

³ Report of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives to Accompany H. Res. 755, Available at: <https://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20191216/CRPT-116hrpt346.pdf>

⁴ Report of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Pursuant to H. Res. 660 in Consultation with the House Committee on Oversight and Reform and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Available at: <https://www.justsecurity.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/impeachment-report-majority-schiff-intelligence-december-3-2019.pdf> (emphasis added)

⁵ Bloomberg News, “Trump Says War in Ukraine Must End Even as US Aid Advances,” Available at: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-02-10/trump-says-ukraine-war-must-end-as-senate-advances-aid-package?embedded-checkout=true>

⁶ NBC News, “Zelensky Invites Trump to Ukraine, says he needs just 24 minutes to explain to him why he ‘can’t bring peace’”, Available at: <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/zelenskyy-invites-trump-ukraine-says-just-needs-24-minutes-explain-can-rcna123713>

⁷ Roll Call 696, H. Res. 755, available at: <https://clerk.house.gov/Votes/2019696>

If President Trump were to withdraw from or pause financial support for the war in Ukraine in order to bring the conflict to a peaceful conclusion, “over the objections of career experts,” it would amount to the same fake violation of budget law from the first impeachment, under markedly similar facts and circumstances.

Partisan Democrats would seize on the opportunity to impeach him once again. The Washington Post has reported that tying President Trump’s hands on foreign policy is very much top of mind for Biden administration officials, who are openly boasting about their plans.⁸ The background quote is damning:

Not incidentally, a U.S. official said, the hope is that the long-term promise — again assuming congressional buy-in — will also “future-proof” aid for Ukraine against the possibility that former president Donald Trump wins his reelection bid.⁹

Conclusion: The supplemental represents an attempt by the foreign policy blob/deep state to stop President Trump from pursuing his desired policy, and if he does so anyways, to provide grounds to impeach him and undermine his administration. All Republicans should oppose its passage.

⁸ The Washington Post “U.S. war plans for Ukraine don’t foresee retaking lost territory,” Available at: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2024/01/26/ukraine-war-plan-biden-defense/>

⁹ Ibid