

under this resolution that comes to us tomorrow just as they are going to do one open hearing. And it might be a gavel in and gavel out. That will comply with this resolution. And they can move on.

It says also, The chair and ranking minority member of the committee—that is the secret committee, the Permanent Select Committee—“shall be permitted to question witnesses for equal specified periods of longer than 5 minutes, as determined by the chair.”

So ADAM SCHIFF can decide if he wants to question a witness for beyond 5 minutes, 10 minutes, 20 minutes, 30 minutes, even 45 minutes because they have a 90-minute cap on this, as determined by the chair. But if ADAM SCHIFF wants to question a witness for 6 minutes only, that means that DEVIN NUNES can only question that witness for 6 minutes only. Well, that is a pretty tight rule, isn't it?

So if they like what the witness is saying, they are going to continue to ask questions. If they don't like what he is saying, he is going to shut that questioning off, and that shuts off DEVIN NUNES, and he is the only one that can ask questions of that witness.

It says but the time, “shall be equal for the chair and the ranking minority member.” Sure. But the chair determines how long that time will be.

And then it says it, “shall not exceed 90 minutes,” which I mentioned “in the aggregate. Only the chair and ranking member or a Permanent Select Committee employee,” meaning staff, “if yielded to by the chair or ranking minority member may question witnesses during such periods of questioning.”

So the rest of the committee that is allowed access into that secret basement room, there in the dark, in the confines of the most secret room in the entire Capitol complex, they are constructing a method to try to impeach the President of the United States.

Banana republics do that. Soviet-style justice does that. It is not justice in the Soviet, it is not justice here.

Also it says, “At the conclusion of questioning pursuant to this paragraph, the committee shall proceed with questioning under the 5-minute rule pursuant to clause. . . .” Does that allow all Members? That is not determined.

“ . . . minority witness requests, the ranking minority member may submit to the chair, in writing, any requests for witness testimony” But “any such request shall be accompanied by a detailed written justification of the relevance of the testimony of each requested witness to the investigation described in the first section of the resolution.” Then it says, “The ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee is authorized, with the concurrence of the chair, to require, as deemed necessary to the investigation . . . subpoena. . . .”

Let me boil this down for you, Mr. Speaker. What it really says is, the chair has subpoena power, and the

ranking member has subpoena power, if the chair allows the ranking member to have subpoena power, which means the majority runs this whole show. The ranking member, the minority, if he does not like it that he is denied subpoena power, oh, he is free to appeal it to the full committee. The full committee, which is dominated by Democrats and commanded by ADAM SCHIFF and will never—and I will put this point down—will never roll their speaker on a question of a subpoena for a witness that might defend the President of the United States, as called by the ranking member, DEVIN NUNES. That is what we are dealing with.

“In the case that the chair declines to concur in a proposed action of the ranking minority member . . . the ranking minority member shall have the right to refer to the committee for decision. . . .” That is just what I said. He can go to the committee, but the votes aren't going to be there in an objective fashion. The votes are only going to be those that follow down the partisan line. That is what it is set up to do.

It says, “The chair is authorized to make publicly available . . . the transcripts of depositions.” And they may be “with appropriate redactions for classified and other sensitive information.” Other sensitive information means whatever ADAM SCHIFF decides the public shouldn't know if it runs contrary to his agenda will be redacted before any report comes out of there. And remember, we are not going to see the video, we are not going to hear the audio, we are not going to read the transcript. We are going to get the edited version that ADAM SCHIFF would deliver to us.

It says, “The Permanent Select Committee is directed to issue a report setting forth its findings and recommendations. . . . The chair shall transmit such report . . . to the Committee on the Judiciary. . . .” Well, so the report would go to the Judiciary Committee. The Judiciary Committee then would have the responsibility presumably of taking up an impeachment motion and debating it up or down and voting on it in the Judiciary Committee. It takes a lot of authority out of the hands of JERRY NADLER, the chair of the committee. And it says to me that the Speaker and ADAM SCHIFF and others in leadership over on this side of the aisle don't have the confidence that JERRY NADLER will handle this the way they would like to see him handle it.

“The report required by this paragraph shall be prepared in consultation with the chairs of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Oversight and Reform.” Prepared with their counsel with the chairs. Seems like they left out the ranking members. There will be no minority input in this. They are just going to sit down with the chairs of some other committees that they claim to be relevant and have them weigh in on this before this report comes out, Mr. Speaker.

“The chair of the Permanent Select Committee . . . in consultation with the ranking minority member, to transfer such records or materials to the Committee on the Judiciary.” The chair in consultation. What does “consultation” mean? That means ADAM SCHIFF can say, hey, DEVIN NUNES, I am going to introduce this report and send it over to the Judiciary Committee. What do you think? And ranking member NUNES can say, “I don't like it. I think it is dishonest.” Well, too bad, we consulted, now I am sending it to judiciary. That is all this language requires. This is a phony resolution, Mr. Speaker.

“Committee on the Judiciary.” It says, “The House authorizes the Committee on the Judiciary to conduct proceedings relating to the impeachment inquiry . . . including such procedures as to allow for the participation of the President and his counsel.” Oh, that is good. I would be happy to have the President's counsel there, but it doesn't say the judiciary, it says, authorizes the committee to conduct those proceedings. It doesn't say shall allow the President's counsel. So that is all missing.

“ . . . Judiciary is authorized to promulgate additional procedures as it deems necessary. . . .” Well, that will be the majority deeming necessary that which they think will best impeach the President, not an impartial hearing.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I want to see a balanced and a fair process, one that is consistent with the history of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 27 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2250

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PAPPAS) at 10 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON H. RES. 660, DIRECTING CERTAIN COMMITTEES TO CONTINUE ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS INTO WHETHER SUFFICIENT GROUNDS EXIST FOR THE IMPEACHMENT OF DONALD JOHN TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-266) on the resolution (H. Res. 660) directing certain committees to continue their ongoing investigations as part of the existing House of Representatives inquiry