

Resolution Urging a Congressional Investigation regarding Impeachment of President Donald J. Trump

WHEREAS the Emoluments Clauses in Articles I and II of the United States Constitution provide that “no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under [the United States], shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State,” and that the President, besides the fixed salary for his four-year term, “shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them”;

WHEREAS the term “emoluments” includes a broad range of financial benefits, including but not limited to monetary payments, subsidies, tax breaks, extensions of credit, the purchase of goods and services even for fair market value, and favorable regulatory treatment;

WHEREAS U.S. President Donald J. Trump owns numerous business interests and receives various streams of income from all over the world, by means of which he receives emoluments from foreign persons and governments, states of the United States, and the United States itself;

WHEREAS leading constitutional scholars and government ethics experts warned President-elect Trump shortly after the November 2016 election that, unless he were to fully divest those businesses and invest the proceeds in conflict-free assets or a blind trust, he would violate the Constitution from the moment he took office;

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2017, nine days before his inauguration, Donald Trump announced a plan that would, if carried out, remove him from day-to-day operation of his businesses but not eliminate any of the ongoing flow of emoluments from domestic and foreign persons and governments;

WHEREAS, from the moment he took office as U.S. President on January 20, 2017, Donald Trump has been in violation of both the Emoluments Clauses of the United States Constitution, thereby corruptly advancing his personal wealth, undermining the integrity of the Presidency, and violating the public trust;

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2017, President Trump fired the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, James Comey, who at that time was in charge of one or more investigations that might have incriminated President Trump and/or his close associates under either of the emoluments clauses or other provisions of law; and

WHEREAS, regardless of the ultimate outcome of those investigations, President Trump substantially interfered with them by firing Director Comey;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we urge the Cities of Seattle and Shoreline to call upon the United States House of Representatives to adopt a resolution authorizing and directing the Committee on the Judiciary of said House to investigate whether sufficient grounds exist for the impeachment of President Donald J. Trump, including but not limited to the matters described above; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted officially to the state legislators who represent Seattle and/or Shoreline in the Washington State Legislature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the Washington Legislature to adopt its own resolution calling upon the United States House of Representatives to support a resolution authorizing an investigation into whether sufficient grounds exist for the impeachment of President Donald J. Trump; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the aforesaid resolutions be transmitted officially to all the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives who represent the State of Washington.

Adopted _____ *by* _____