NEW REPORT

Vulnerable Republicans Will Break Their Campaign Promises By Pursuing Impeachment

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Battleground House Members Promised to Focus on Voters' Priorities, Not Bogus Political Stunts to Protect Donald Trump

When Republicans ran for office last year, they promised to focus on solving the issues that matter to the American people, like growing the economy, creating jobs, and lowering costs. Instead, the MAGA Republican Congress has focused on bogus investigations into President Biden and retaliation against law enforcement officials leading investigations into former president Donald Trump.

Today, as members come back from August recess, Speaker Kevin McCarthy <u>announced</u> that the House will be starting an impeachment inquiry <u>without taking a vote</u> since he knows he doesn't have the votes or the evidence to open an impeachment inquiry. Even though McCarthy is trying to spare his vulnerable members from having to vote on an inquiry, they still owe it to their constituents to put their thoughts on impeachment on the record. Recent polling by the Congressional Integrity Project <u>shows</u> that a majority of voters in the Biden 18 districts say an impeachment inquiry would be more of a partisan political stunt instead of a serious effort to investigate important problems – including 55 percent of independent voters.

The Republicans who won in vulnerable districts must decide: are they going to do what they promised when they ran and focus on lowering costs and growing the economy? Or do they want to greenlight McCarthy, Comer, and Marjorie Taylor Greene's unpopular, evidence-free, bogus impeachment.

• Rep. Don Bacon (R-NE)

- Bacon: "Republicans Were Largely Elected To Get Control" Of Spending. BACON: "Well, I think it is a real threat that both sides have to take serious. You know, the Republicans were largely elected to get control of reckless spending. That's the mission that their voters have given them." [ABC This Week, a1/15/23, <u>VIDEO</u>]
- Rep. Chavez-DeRemer (R-OR)
 - "I Know Oregonians Want To See Less Partisanship Coming Out Of D.C. - Not More." "I was elected to Congress on the promise that I'd utilize my experience as a mayor to work with anyone to get things done. At the end of the day, I know Oregonians want to see less partisanship coming out of D. C. — not more. They want leaders to find common ground. That's why I'm pleased Speaker McCarthy and President Biden were able to reach this bipartisan agreement, and



I was proud to support the bill today to avoid default and enact responsible spending policies,' Chavez-DeRemer said." [Chavez-DeRemer Statement on Bipartisan Fiscal Responsibility Act, 5/23/23]

- Chavez-DeRemer Said Her Number One Issue Is "Inflation, Inflation, Inflation." "Chavez-DeRemer's number one issue is 'inflation, inflation, inflation,' she told KATU. When asked to provide specific information on policies she would enact to combat inflation, Chavez-DeRemer did not provide specifics, but said she would restrict "wasteful" government spending and support small businesses." [Street Roots, 9/28/22]
- "Families Needed A Congresswoman To Tackle Inflation, Keep Us Safe, And Focus On What's Best For Oregon Families." "I am humbled and grateful for the outpouring of support we received throughout this campaign. From the suburbs of Clackamas, down to rural Linn and Marion counties, and over to the Cascades to Central Oregon, one thing was clear to me: Oregonians wanted common-sense solutions to their everyday problems. Families needed a Congresswoman to tackle inflation, keep us safe, and focus on what's best for Oregon families." [Chavez-DeRemer Statement to KATU News, <u>11/13/22</u>]
- Rep. Juan Ciscomani (R-AZ)
 - Ciscomani Says Constituents "Expect Leaders Who Will Focus On Solutions And Bring People Together Around Common Sense Solutions." "Kirsten congratulated me on the victory after a hard fought campaign from both sides," Ciscomani said Tuesday morning. 'I appreciate her civility and graciousness and wish her and her family all the best.' 'During this campaign, I heard from voters of all backgrounds — Republicans, Democrats and Independents,' he said. The district 'expects leaders who will focus on solutions and bring people together around common-sense solutions. I recommit to being an independent voice for everyone in our district — no matter your party affiliation or background. We are all Americans; we are all Arizonans."" [Tucson Sentinel, <u>11/15/22</u>]
- Rep. Anthony D'Esposito (R-NY)
 - D'Esposito Said He Was Going to "Focus" On Public Safety And Affordability, Issues He Was Elected On, And Said He Did Not "See" The Facts On Impeachment Were There. "Rep. Anthony D'Esposito, whose Nassau County district favored Biden by nearly 15 points in 2020, said in an interview that he will look at what facts are presented to him. But, he emphasized, he was elected to work on improving public safety and affordability. 'That's what I'm going to focus on now. Until I get presented with something different, that's my focus,' he said. Asked if the facts are there right now, he said, 'I don't see it." [Spectrum News, 7/31/23]
- Rep. John Duarte (R-CA)



- Duarte Promised To Be A "Bipartisan Champion" Focused On "Food On Our Tables, Gas In Our Tanks, And Water On Our Farms." Duarte said in a statement, "I promised our Valley families that I would be their bipartisan champion in Washington, D.C. by fighting for food on our tables, gas in our tanks, and water on our farms. That is exactly what I am going to go there to do." [Associated Press, 12/2/22]
- Duarte's Top Campaign Priorities Involved Concerns About Water Supplies, Inflation, and Public Safety. "The top finisher in the June primary was Republican John Duarte, a businessman and major grape and almond farmer whose top priorities include obtaining adequate water supplies for farmers in the drought-wracked state — a perennial issue in the Central Valley — along with addressing inflation and crime." [Associated Press, 10/18/22]
- Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA)
 - **Fitzpatrick: "We Have To Restore [Impeachment] To What It Was Always Intended To Be, Which Is A Last Resort."** "Even talking about that impeachment right now is irresponsible, because it's a very serious thing. And it's gotta be handled seriously,' said moderate Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania, who sits on the House Intelligence Committee. 'I felt the same way about the previous attempts as well. We have to restore it to what it was always intended to be, which is a last resort.'" [CNN, <u>10/6/22</u>]
 - **Fitzpatrick Said His Top Priorities Would Be Combating Opioid And Addiction Crisis, Fixing Washington, Term Limits, The Economy.** Fitzpatrick: "My top priorities would be combatting the opioid and addiction crisis by expanding access to treatment and providing resources (like in my bipartisan INTERDICT Act that was signed into law) for our law enforcement to stop the illicit flow of deadly drugs like fentanyl into our communities. We must also fix a broken Washington with a government reform plan that challenges career politicians: term limits for members of Congress, pass a budget or don't get paid, and balance the budget. Finally, I will fight to expand economic opportunity, fight inflation and rising costs, and create an environment where our small businesses can invest, grow, and hire. As Problem Solvers Caucus Co-Chair, I believe in supporting good ideas, regardless of party." [PennLive, 9/27/22]
- Rep. Mike Garcia (R-CA)
 - Garcia Said He Would Work On "Fighting Inflation, Lowering Costs, Keeping California Families Safe," And Keeping The United States The Greatest Nation. "To all the voters of CA-27: Thank you. It's an honor to be your Congressman, and whether you voted for me or not, I'll continue working every day to serve you and your interests in Washington, D.C. and here in the district -- fighting inflation, lowering costs, keeping California families safe, and



ensuring the United States remains the greatest nation the world has ever seen," Garcia said." [KCAL, <u>11/13/22</u>]

• Rep. Tom Kean Jr. (R-NJ)

- **Kean: "The Top Priority In A New Congress Is Breaking The Back Of Inflation.**" Kean Jr: "The top priority in a new Congress is breaking the back of inflation. We will do that by reining in out-of-control spending, making America energy independent again to bring down the cost of gas, and supporting middle class tax relief so families can keep more of their money." [MyCentralJersey.com, 10/24/22]
- Inflation, Border Security, And Energy Prices Are What Kean "Campaigned On" And His "Priority." "My constituents elected me to Congress to find solutions to issues such as inflation, an unsecured southern border and rising energy prices,' Kean said. 'That's what I campaigned on and that's my priority. I am supporting leadership that shares my goals and who will be partners in building the governing coalition to get results." [NJ.com, 11/9/22]

• Rep. Jen Kiggans (R-VA)

Kiggans: "Why We Won This District Was Because Of The Economy...And That's Where My Focus Is, The Economy, The Border, And Our Communities And Families." "ROBERTS: But on -- if I could on the issue of investigations, would you support House investigations of Hunter Biden? KIGGANS: I -- so, what I'm focused on are the issues that -- why we won. Why we won in this district was because of the economy, because we really sought to tell people, hey, we're going to help you. We're going to be able to put more money in your pocketbook and lower those gas and grocery prices. And that's where my focus is, the economy, the border, and our communities and families. That's where my focus has been and will continue to be." [Fox News' America's Newsroom, 11/12/22, VIDEO]

• Rep. Young Kim (R-CA)

 Kim: "In Congress, I Have Been Working To Break Through Gridlock In Washington And Deliver Results For Our Community." Kim: "In Congress, I have been working to break through gridlock in Washington and deliver results for our community. I am proud that my record ranks the most bipartisan of the freshman member class, and I think that shows how I am committed to the people I serve, not Washington special interests. In my first term, I have consistently fought to lower out-of-control prices and get inflation under control, worked to keep our communities safe amid rising crime, and advocated for our veterans to ensure they receive the care they deserve." [LA Times, 10/20/22]



- Kim: "My Top Priority Is To Slow Inflation And Lower Skyrocketing Prices." Kim: "My top priority is to slow inflation and lower skyrocketing prices. This starts by cutting the reckless spending that is fueling inflation. I will continue fighting to secure our border and will push for Congress to consider my bill — H.R. 7260, the Comprehensive Southern Border Strategy Act — to establish a strategy to stop illegal immigration, human trafficking and fentanyl coming through our southern border. I will also work towards advancing my legislation — H.R. 7552, the Golden-preneurship [Act], to support senior entrepreneurs who are looking to establish or expand their small business." [LA Times, 10/20/22]
- Rep. Nick LaLota (R-NY)
 - **LaLota Said The Economy, Taxes, and Inflation Were Top Issues.** "'A top issue of mine, along with many Americans, is fixing our economy, lowering taxes, and combating inflation,' LaLota tweeted. 'In Congress, I will support conservative economic policies and help to pass legislation that puts more money into the pockets of hard-working Americans.'" [Long Island Press, 10/13/22]
- Rep. Mike Lawler (R-NY)
 - Lawler: "I Think The Top Priority Is To Deal With Inflation And The Cost Of Living. That Is What My Focus Will Be." "LAWLER: Look, I think the top priority is to deal with inflation and the cost of living. That is what I ran on. That is what my focus will be. Obviously, Congress has oversight authority. And there is responsibility with that. But what I don't want to see is what we saw during the Trump administration, where Democrats just went after the president and the administration incessantly. If there is really reason to look into something, absolutely. That is the obligation of Congress to do that. There is oversight responsibility. But I don't want to just go from one crisis to the next without dealing with the issues that got me elected in the first place. And that's that's my focus." [CNN, 11/10/22]
- Rep. Marc Molinaro (R-NY)
 - Molinaro Penned Op-Ed Laying Out Priorities He Heard From His Constituents: Infrastructure, Substance Abuse And Mental Health, Support For Vulnerable Populations, And Inflation." "Earlier this year, I announced my 11-county town hall tour, with a town hall in each of the 11 counties I represent in New York's 19th Congressional District. After meeting with hundreds of New Yorkers, hearing concerns, answering questions and gaining different insights and perspectives, I wanted to share what I learned. ... Still, no matter which community I was in, there were several issues that kept coming up.
 - People are sick and tired of crumbling and inefficient infrastructure systems.
 - Everyone seems to know someone friend, family member, or neighbor
 who is suffering from a substance use or mental health disorder.



- Vulnerable populations aren't getting the support and care they deserve.
- Rising inflation is still pressing down on so many families, farmers and small businesses." [Molinaro Op-Ed, PressConnects.com, <u>4/25/23</u>]
- Rep. George Santos (R-NY)
 - Santos Said He Was Elected To Keep Campaign Promises On The Border, Cost Of Living, SALT, And Crime. "I was elected to fulfill my campaign promises of securing our border, lowering the high cost of living, solving the disastrous SALT issue in our tax code, and fighting the Hochul crime crisis of policies empowering criminals to terrorize the people of New York,' Santos said in a statement. 'I've been in office for 100 days, and through legislation and my votes, I've already made significant efforts to honor those promises.'" [The Hill, <u>4/17/23</u>]
- Rep. David Schweikert (R-AZ)
 - Headline: David Schweikert Wants To Talk Economy; Challenger Jevin Hodge Wants To Talk Ethics. [The Arizona Republic, 10/22/22]
 - **The Economy Was Named Schweikert's Top Campaign Priority.** "What is Schweikert's top priority? The economy is a major issue for Schweikert, who represents one of the wealthiest areas in Arizona. He told The Republic in a questionnaire: 'Congress needs to bring federal spending under control and get the country's budget on a path to balancing. The failure to control government spending has played a major role in the out-of-control inflation Arizona is now experiencing." [The Arizona Republic, <u>11/15/22</u>]
- Rep. Michelle Steel (R-CA)
 - Steel Said Her Top Issues Were Tax Relief And Fighting Spending That Caused Inflation. "Steel said she would keep pressing on her top issues. 'I have done exactly what I promised when you elected me — fighting for the tax relief and opposing crazy and reckless spending in D.C. that caused inflation,' she said." [LA Times, <u>6/8/22</u>]
 - Steel: I "Will Continue To Work To Lower Taxes, Stop Inflation, And Stand Up To Communist China." "I have been firm in my commitment to deliver for working class families, and will continue to work to lower taxes, stop inflation, and stand up to Communist China. " [Yahoo, <u>11/15/22</u>]
- Rep. David Valadao (R-CA)
 - "The American People Elected A Republican Majority Because We Promised To Focus On The Issues That Matter Most To Valley Families – Lowering Costs, Making Our Communities Safer, And Cutting Big Government Red Tape." 'The American people elected a



Republican majority because we promised to focus on the issues that matter most to Valley families – lowering costs, making our communities safer, and cutting big government red tape. I will continue to be a strong voice for Valley issues in Congress and reach across the aisle to solve the issues impacting my constituents. Let's get to work." [Valadao Press Release, 1/7/23]

• Rep. Brandon Williams (R-NY)

- Williams Said His Priorities Were Cost Of Energy, Farmers, And Reindustrializing Central New York. "After a tight election which was decided by a percentage point, Brandon Williams is headed to Washington to represent the Syracuse region in Congress. The Republican congressman-elect told *Capital Tonight* that he will prioritize the cost of energy, farmers and reindustrializing Central New York." [Spectrum News, <u>11/23/22</u>]
- Williams: People Are "Tired Of People That Become More Beholden To The Politics Of Washington Than The Needs, You Know, Back In The District." You know, I think what we see in Congress and it's not it's not limited to any particular party. What we see is people that maybe start off or at least express a particular ideological framework. And when they get to Washington, you know, they start serving the, you know, the influence of Washington more than representing the people that supported them at home. And so and that's not unique to, you know, to John Katko. And I think voters are frankly pretty tired of that kind of behavior. They're tired of people that become more beholden to the politics of Washington than the needs, you know, back in the district. And so that in particular is how I would approach that. And I tell people to keep me honest. And, you know, if I'm not, if I become beholden to the Washington elite, then they can hold me accountable. [WRVO, <u>8/13/22</u>]