

CONGRESSIONAL INTEGRITY PROJECT

To: Interested Parties
From: Kyle Herrig, Executive Director, Congressional Integrity Project
Re: Impeachment of DHS Secretary Mayorkas is a Partisan Political Stunt
Date: January 24, 2024

After a year of investigating Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, MAGA House Republicans have failed to present a single shred of evidence of impeachable offenses or high crimes or misdemeanors. Despite this, MAGA Republicans announced they are taking the [unprecedented step](#) of impeachment, with a [newly leaked memo](#) showing they never even cared about the facts all along; they planned to move forward with the proceedings even before any hearing, evidence, or testimony was given. Instead of coming to the table to address the issues with our outdated and broken immigration system, House Republicans like Rep. Maria Salazar continue to pursue baseless, extreme, and harmful impeachment charades, demonstrating their interest in playing politics rather than solving real problems. This impeachment is a pre-planned, predetermined political stunt, designed to distract from MAGA House Republicans' inability to legislate in an effort to help return Donald Trump to the White House in 2024.

MAGA House Republicans' bogus pursuit of impeachment of Secretary Mayorkas is nothing but a pre-planned, predetermined political stunt.

- **MAGA House Republicans have failed to turn up a single shred of evidence of wrongdoing by Secretary Mayorkas.** MAGA Republicans have spent a year investigating Secretary Mayorkas, during which time they've neither turned up a single shred of evidence of impeachable offenses nor do they have [any grounds](#) for an impeachment that is based solely on policy disagreements. **Even after Secretary Mayorkas said he would testify**, MAGA House Republicans [refused](#) the testimony, truly displaying their motives for an impeachment that would benefit them politically despite being unsupported by evidence. An [inadvertently shared](#) GOP memo even shows the MAGA House Republicans on the Homeland Security Committee had pre-planned to move forward with an impeachment markup hearing of the secretary -- all before holding a single hearing.
 - The Constitution doesn't allow impeachment for [policy disagreements](#). According to the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service, documentation from the Constitutional Convention supports the view that "congressional disagreement with a President's policy goals is not sufficient grounds for impeachment."

- Officials like [former Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff](#) know this impeachment attempt is nothing but a political stunt, calling it a “very sad day” if Republicans succeed in their political stunt.
- Interviews with eight U.S. Border Patrol Chief Patrol Agents have [contradicted](#) House Republicans’ claims about the southern border. The agents “consistently agreed that the resources provided by the Biden-Harris Administration assisted their operations in securing the border, created a safer environment for U.S. Border Patrol agents, and improved morale among agents.”
- **This impeachment attempt has been pre-planned and predetermined since day one.** MAGA House Republicans like [Chairman Mark Green](#) and [Marjorie Taylor Greene](#) have long called for the impeachment of the Secretary, and have even fundraised on the topic. Mayorkas has always been the [number one target](#) of the House GOP, with 31 MAGA Republicans signing articles of impeachment before the midterm elections. The House GOP is only using these so-called investigations to disrupt the Department of Homeland Security’s national security work and hinder the Biden administration.
- **House Republicans have no credibility to claim they care about real solutions to fix our broken and outdated immigration system or the border.** Republicans have refused to work with the Biden administration or even the Senate on immigration or border policy – the House GOP continues to [refuse to consider](#) bipartisan compromises on immigration. Instead of engaging and negotiating, Republicans are only using border policy as an endless [issue](#) to campaign on.
 - Republicans like Rep. Troy Nehls have said the quiet part out loud, [admitting](#) Republicans won’t do anything to help Biden’s approval ratings by passing bipartisan border security legislation.
 - Even MAGA Speaker Mike Johnson has reportedly [refused to seriously consider](#) immigration reform and border security legislation “until Donald Trump or another Republican is in the White House.”
- **MAGA House Republicans have the wrong priorities.** Impeachment is an ongoing campaign strategy for MAGA Republicans. From the evidence-free impeachment pursuit of President Biden to now Secretary Mayorkas, MAGA House Republicans have been focusing on playing partisan political stunts, rather than focusing on the real issues keeping Americans up at night. Their only goal is to harm President Biden and his administration and help their disgraced former President, Donald Trump return to the White House in 2024 while distracting from his 91 criminal indictments and the House GOP’s year of legislative failures. They are only capable of playing politics.
- **After years of Republicans failing to take action on immigration, Florida Rep. Maria Salazar (FL-27) should commit to working for Americans and**

not going forward with this impeachment. A [member](#) of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus, Salazar has [staked her reputation](#) on bipartisan compromise, particularly on immigration policy, and has even [admitted](#), “we have a major big problem called immigration. In the last 30 years, this body, Congress, has not been able to come together and create legislation...” Yet Salazar has a record of failing to take action on immigration, instead preferring to push partisan stunts, [voting against](#) billions of dollars in border security funding last year just to spite President Biden. Instead of playing politics, she should follow through on her commitment to working for Americans and not going through with this baseless impeachment effort.