

Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section 3 – The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled

MeetToImpeach.com

FEATURE:

Impeachment: week in review

A Monday one paragraph summary report and analysis; followed by recaps (with links) for about ten representative on-line articles and essays – 800 to 1,000 words

Week ending 9/17/2017

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Contact: MeetToImpeach@gmail.com

Minneapolis 9/18/17 – Impeachment winds have shifted in the wake of President Trump’s recent reported deals with Congressional Democrats: a debt ceiling and assurance that 800,000 “dreamers” – who arrived in the U.S. as children – won’t be deported. An apparent disconnect has emerged between “Trump voters” – who don’t appear to demand Trump “march in partisan lockstep” – and “GOP ruling class Politicos” – who have had it with Trump’s continuous sniping at his supposed GOP allies, including members of Congress; they are angered and less inclined to “have Trump’s back” should he face a serious future impeachment threat. In the wake of both the Neo-Nazi/KKK Charlottesville rally, and two devastating hurricanes, Trump’s support among voters appears to be holding steady at around 40% -- a benchmark that is historically on the low side compared to other Presidents. People favoring Trump’s impeachment appear to have a significantly higher “energy level” – measured as a willingness to take various actions – than Trump supporters. **Analysis:** we must ask: could Trump’s deal to protect the “dreamers” have introduced a new fear factor among impeachment advocates? Their thinking – and their inside buzz -- could be: “don’t upset Trump with impeachment until he’s signed the bill protecting the dreamers.” The “dreamer” deal could be a Trump tactic to buy six months of “impeachment peace.”

Republican Politicos are strongly behind Trump... except when they’re not

[Newsweek](#) reports former Trump advisor Roger Stone has said impeaching Trump would lead to "a spasm of violence in this country, an insurrection, like you've never seen." Televangelist Jim Baaker has said it would lead to "civil war in the United States of America." (**Note:** much of this [Newsweek](#) article reports on a [Washington Post](#) article, covered in the next section of *This Week in Impeachment*.)

After Trump’s “dreamer deal” [The Week](#) reports that [In Trump We Trust](#) author Ann Coulter has gone

wobbly, tweeting: "At this point who doesn't want Trump Impeached?" and further tweeting: "If we're not getting a wall, I'd prefer President Pence."

Anger among Congressional Republicans could cost President Trump -- eventually. [Newsweek](#) reports that while united Senate Democrats saved an impeached President Clinton from removal, many GOP members of Congress, angry with tweets and barbs from President Trump, may prefer a "President Pence."

More survey results: Trump voters appear more supportive than Congressional Republicans

[NY Times pundit Thomas Edsall](#) reports both political polling and a recent academic paper shows President Trump's voters tend to follow him more as a "tribal" leader than an "ideological" leader. When a sample of "strong Republican" voters was asked about a two-sided issue, but one subgroup was told Trump is on one side, and another subgroup was told Trump is on the other side, the results indicate about a 30% swing in response, depending entirely on which side Trump was said to be on. This suggests a core base of support is "tribal" rather than "ideological" -- it may also suggest supporters may react to an impeachment not based on what Trump has done, but based on Trump's January 2016 statement that he could "stand on Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody" and wouldn't lose voters.

Five researchers report in a [Washington Post article](#) that a poll showed for six questions, people who want Trump impeached are from 15% to 29% more likely to take action than Trump supporters. For three of the questions: "support a general strike", "withhold taxes", "attend a protest", and "vote based on Trump support", impeachment supporters are 29% more likely to act than Trump supporters.

[NY Times Washington Bureau reporter Jeremy Peters'](#) analysis contemplates an unpredictable, mercurial, rule-breaking President Trump paving the way for a breakup of the GOP -- taking note of the apparent divergence between GOP ruling class Politicos and Trump voters. As a logical consequence -- but one not considered in the article -- could the loss of "traditional party discipline" in Congress pave the way for his impeachment?

[The Telegraph](#) (UK) reports that in the aftermath of Charlottesville, President Trump's approval ratings appear almost unchanged from the weeks before the mid-August Charlottesville Neo-Nazi/KKK rally; his disapproval appears to trend slightly upward. For the week after his August 15th news conference -- which received almost no vocal support among "GOP ruling class Politico" members of Congress -- his approval was down by several points, and disapproval was up by about the same.

Attorneys and Academics assess evidence, scenarios and "Conventional Wisdom"

In a short [Newsweek](#) essay, former Clinton Labor Secretary and Yale law graduate Robert Reich argues there is "already more than enough evidence" to begin an impeachment inquiry into obstruction of justice. Trump fired FBI Director James Comey after telling Comey: "I need loyalty," and later, alone with him in the Oval Office, saying: "and I hope you can see your way clear to letting this go, to letting Flynn go," referring to

an on-going investigation. Reich says only probable cause is necessary to start an investigation.

In a [Washington Post essay](#) University of Chicago Law Professor Eric Posner proposed Congress use its Twenty-fifth Amendment power to establish a bi-partisan Presidential Oversight Council of senior leaders – including top members of Congress and Governors. Acting with the Vice President, the Council could remove from power a sitting President who is "unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office" including due to "political incompetence." However, Posner indicates only in passing that Congress could quickly be dragged in, with a required two thirds majority in both Houses to uphold the Council's judgment, if a removed President declares that no inability exists.

Writing for the [Take Care Blog](#), University of Michigan Law Professor Richard Primus offers up a highly unusual but possible Constitutional option: if both President Trump and Vice President Pence are impeached and removed from office, Congress could, by law, require an early special election. However, the Professor believes that, as a practical matter, there is "no way" such an early special election scenario would happen.

Writing for the [Lawfare Blog](#), former White House Counsel Bob Bauer argues our "conventional wisdom" understanding of impeachment may be both outdated, and overly concerned with what a "dreadful" step impeachment is. Bauer concludes "the impeachment process is a safeguard" -- suggesting it can protect us from a President who is not politically "viable" -- exhibiting many of the shortcomings widely attributed to President Trump.

High School “political correctness” appears alive and well

A [high school newspaper](#) reporter's educational article about impeachment, featuring comments from students, said no Trump supporting student was willing to speak on the record -- suggesting of course there were Trump supporting students, and implying those students were for some reason fearful or reluctant to speak publicly.

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