

WNDC



Political Dispatch

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From the Committee on Public Policy and Political Action

Karen Pataky, Chair

PERSPECTIVES

Say It Over and Over: Trump Must Be Removed Fast!

The most important argument for impeaching President Donald Trump was first made strongly by one of the four constitutional law experts interviewed by the House Judiciary Committee, Harvard Law School professor Noah Feldman. His argument is now repeated in the Articles of Impeachment put forward by the Democrats for vote in the Judiciary Committee and in the full House of Representatives. The argument for urgency in carrying forward the impeachment process lies in the fact that Trump has proved conclusively that his pattern in violating his oath of office was repeated and would be repeated in the future. What he had done in the elections of 2016 he would do again in 2020, bringing in foreign assistance to help ensure through election rigging that he will not lose the election. Therefore, the national emergency Donald Trump represents does not simply consist of the crimes that he committed in the past but those he must be stopped from committing in the future. If he remains in office while the impeachment proceedings go through appeals to courts and other delay tactics, he will continue to commit the crimes that he committed. The Democrats have said convincingly that they are not looking at political advantage; they are looking at the necessity to guard American security, American democracy and American values. They must be supported.

— Elizabeth Clark, Chair, Democracy and Human Rights Task Force

Get Out the Vote Tech Drive

As we prepare for our 2020 election cycle mobilization activities, we hope to be able to create a "tech-bank" for volunteers who are unable to bring laptops or tablets for phone- and text-banking. If you have an old laptop or tablet, in working condition, that you can donate to the WNDC we would be very grateful! You can drop them off with Marisha (mkirtane@democraticwoman.org).

TASK FORCE REPORT: Gun Violence Prevention

Gun Violence in America

Will 2020 and the new decade bring the change a majority of Americans want and need? Will Senators follow their constituents and act? More than 300 pieces of legislation, including several GVP House bills, passed in 2019. But, they still await Majority Leader McConnell's leadership and Senate action. Speaker Pelosi and her colleagues in the House showed us, in 2019, what multi-tasking looks like when managing both impeachment and legislative actions for their constituents and all Americans. What will Mitch McConnell do? What will the Senate do?

Wrap-up of 2019 Legislation

The House Judiciary Committee was very busy in September and October. They marked-up three bills and passed them out of committee, two of which are ready for the House floor in 2020: Red Flag or ERPO (Extreme Risk Protective Order) bill; and Hate Crimes—those convicted of a misdemeanor hate crime, are prohibited from possessing guns. The third one, to ban “high-capacity” magazines will go to the House floor in 2020 when there are three more co-sponsors, currently 215.

2020 Elections

Most groups and organizations, including WNDC's GOTV Committee, are preparing for the upcoming elections—Presidential, Senate, and House. WNDC's GVP Task Force will be doing the same at our January 23 meeting. All will be researching and drawing up criteria for selection of states and candidates after the primaries. Furthermore, the 7th Annual Meeting of the National Gun Violence Prevention organizations and gun violence survivors and their families met in DC in early December 2019. They, too, focused on electoral strategies and revving up the troops for action in 2020!

Members, especially Young Dems, join the GVP Task Force! We need you!

--Ellen McGovern, Chair, Task Force on Gun Violence Prevention

