



# President Trump and the Capitol Attacks: What Comes Next?

JANUARY 12, 2021

**UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**



# The Riots: What Caused Them?

- ▶ In the lead-up to the November 2020 election, President Trump cast doubt on the election's security and integrity
- ▶ President Trump refused to accept the election results and filed lawsuits, made threatening phone calls, and continued his online campaign of spreading false information
  - ▶ These allegations were added to four years worth of conspiracy theories and dangerously misleading information that emboldened many Trump supporters
- ▶ This culminated in a rally at the White House on January 6<sup>th</sup> where President Trump encouraged his followers to "stop the steal" and march on the Capitol to alter the outcome of the 2020 presidential election

# The Riots: My Experience

- ▶ As rioters began to storm the Capitol, I was in an office on the West front of the Capitol awaiting votes on the electoral college certification
- ▶ At 2:10 p.m. we were told to shelter in place, lock the doors, and turn off the lights
- ▶ At 3:10 p.m. we were evacuated from the Capitol and brought to safety





1776  
It free people ought not only be  
armed and disciplined, but they  
should have sufficient arms  
to maintain it states of independence  
to attempt to abuse them, We

TRUMP  
2020  
FEELINGS

STOP  
THE  
STEAL

TRUMP  
-2020-  
KEEP AMERICA GREAT!

TRUMP

# The Riots: What We Have Learned

- ▶ Many of President Trump's followers had been organizing the effort to siege the Capitol in online forums for some time
- ▶ Prior to January 6<sup>th</sup>, US Capitol Police (USCP) denied offers for additional law enforcement or military assistance
  - ▶ USCP and local law enforcement were expecting a smaller crowd
- ▶ USCP and DC Mayor Bowser requested additional National Guard assistance after rioters breached the barricades all around the Capitol
- ▶ Due to a lack of preparation and coordination, the lack of a functioning operations center slowed down the response

# Our Response: Safety of Capitol

- ▶ Several of the top security officers in the Capitol have resigned, including:
  - ▶ USCP Chief
  - ▶ House Sergeant at Arms
  - ▶ Senate Sergeant at Arms
- ▶ An investigation into the USCP response has been launched
- ▶ Several other investigations have been requested, including one by the GAO and the creation of an independent commission

# Our Response: Holding the President Accountable

- ▶ TONIGHT: Vote in the House to call on Vice President Pence to **invoke the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment to remove President Trump from office**
- ▶ If Vice President Pence does not act, **the House will proceed with impeachment**, possibly making President Trump the first President to be impeached twice
  - ▶ Impeaching the President has the potential to make him ineligible to receive any retirement benefits, limit his security detail, and most importantly prohibit him from holding office again
- ▶ On January 20<sup>th</sup>, President-elect Biden will take office and the Senate will be in Democratic control, leaving us with more options to investigate and hold President Trump accountable

# Efforts I Support

- ▶ **3 impeachment resolutions**
- ▶ Bill to create a Congressional Commission to **execute Congress's Constitutional duties as they relate to the 25th Amendment**
- ▶ Letter to the Comptroller General requesting a **comprehensive investigation into security failures** that led to the Capitol riots
- ▶ **Letter to President Trump urging him to resign**
- ▶ Letter to House Leadership **urging that the House immediately reconvene** to address the events of last week

# Committees

## ▶ Education & Labor

- ▶ Ensure that Americans' needs are addressed so that students and workers may move forward in a changing school system and a competitive global economy

## ▶ Transportation & Infrastructure

- ▶ Maintain and improve the transportation and infrastructure in our country to best ensure the efficient flow of people, goods, and ideas

## ▶ Oversight & Reform

- ▶ Main investigative committee in the U.S. House of Representatives

## ▶ Rules

- ▶ Power over which bills are considered on the floor and influence over procedure

# Mark's Actions Since Coming to Congress

**30 initiatives** enacted into law, including efforts to:

- ▶ Expand John Muir National Historic Site
- ▶ Empower pharmacists to fight the opioid crisis

**38 legislative efforts** passed the House and Committee including efforts to:

- ▶ Instruct the Navy to exonerate the Port Chicago 50
- ▶ Ensure Isabel Bueso, a constituent, is not deported and continues to receive treatment for her life-threatening disease

## Caucuses & Initiatives:

- ▶ Future of Work Wages and Labor
- ▶ Bipartisan Cancer Survivors Caucus, *Founder & Co-Chair*
- ▶ Urban Regional Studies Caucus, *Founder*
- ▶ Working Group on Saving Local News

**END OF YEAR REPORT**  
*Since coming to Congress, Mark has...*

- Hosted **119** town halls
- Passed **68 initiatives** in the House
- Answered **604,120+** constituent inquiries & opinions
- Helped **5,747** constituents with federal agency issues
- Attended **910+** community events

CONGRESSMAN THE DISTRICT  
MARK DESAUNIER

# Democracy Awards

- ▶ **Transparency, Accountability, and Innovation Award – 2019 Winner**
  - ▶ *“The office believes Americans deserve an efficient and effective government that works on their behalf each and every day. **In order to build public trust, Congressman DeSaulnier and staff strive to be transparent and accountable to constituents by providing a higher-level of customer service.**” – Brad Fitch, President & CEO of the nonpartisan Congressional Management Foundation*
- ▶ **Constituent Service Award – 2018 Finalist (1 of 3 Democrats)**
  - ▶ *“**Constituent service has been the hallmark of Representative Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA-11) and his office since his election in 2015...**To keep constituents informed, Representative DeSaulnier uses Facebook Live to explain hot button issues happening in Washington in real time, and maintains an impressive four-day response time for constituents who send questions or concerns regarding his congressional activity. ” – Brad Fitch, President & CEO of the nonpartisan Congressional Management Foundation*

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