

The Horsch *Business Report*



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INTERIM ADVISORY REPORT



LARRY HORSCH

Since we only publish the regular Horsch Business Report every other month, there is occasionally an event that needs a comment before our next report because of the importance of the event. Currently, that issue is the impeachment process facing President Trump. This type of event happens only rarely and is of great consequence.

While many would see some of President Trump's activities as subpar for the presidency, these are generally not impeachable offenses. However, recently he became involved in two events that could be impeachable offenses if the initial facts are correct. Further investigation is needed on both to clarify the facts.

- About a month ago, he apparently instructed aides to breach the law, if necessary, to find funds and build the wall on the U. S. southern border. He also agreed to pardon them at a later date, if necessary.
- About a week ago a whistle blower came forward who did not get the facts directly but confirmed them with several participants who witnessed the phone call with the President of the Ukrainian government and President Trump. After delaying military aid approved by Congress, President Trump asked for a favor which was an attempt to stir up dirt on Joe Biden's family about a Ukrainian business that his son was involved in some years ago. If true, he is using his office to encourage a foreign government to meddle in our 2020 election cycle much as the Russians did in the 2016 election cycle. The phone call in question was taken off the normal recording system and placed in a highly secured separate system normally reserved for top-secret items.

The second event caused the Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, to change her stance on impeachment and to proceed with the process.

The apparent issue at hand is whether a Republican-controlled Senate that acts as the jury in impeachment will muster the two-thirds vote to confirm it. Deeply inside this matter, however, there is something that is at the heart of our democratic system and that is:

Can Congress carryout their Constitutional obligation to protect the country if the facts support it versus worrying about their own reelection?

President Kennedy wrote a book “Profiles in Courage” outlining courageous acts by members of Congress who did the right thing when the facts supported it. But, frankly, these are rare events. Sadly, today, most members of Congress will put their own interest first to get reelected no matter what’s happening.

Some would say it’s folly to proceed with an impeachment process if it cannot be completed by the Senate. We would say members of Congress have a Constitutional obligation to process the facts if they are sufficient even if the Senate will not confirm. With 92 percent of the Republicans supporting the President, the odds don’t favor the Senate confirming at this time. However, new facts will appear in the investigation and if this new evidence should undermine the President’s position, support for him will decline as Senators see their own reelection dreams fading. Some have simply chosen to avoid the whole thing by deciding not to seek reelection.

If the House of Representatives stays on its announced schedule, we may have a conclusion and a House vote by Thanksgiving.

Let’s hope this process is accomplished in a professional manner regardless of the outcome to restore faith in government as perceived by the American public.

Stay Tuned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Larry Horsch
Minneapolis, MN
October 4, 2019©