



A Resolution

Condemning the insurrection that occurred on January 6th, 2021 at  
the United States Capitol Building

**The Insurrection Condemnation Resolution**

Sponsored by: Peter R. Hayden (Business '21), Zhanna Imel (Business '21)

Co-Sponsored by: Chair of the Senate Meghana Boojala ('22), Senator Victoria Morales ('22), Senator Patrick Salsburg ('21), Senator Mia Tilman ('24), Senator Owen Williams ('23), President Aria Austin ('21), Senator Jahnavi Prabhala ('22), President Suhas Suddala ('22), Senator Sailor Miao ('24), Senator Helen Tariku ('21), President Vicka Heidt ('24), Senator Maheen Saeed ('23), Senator Rory Fedorochko ('22), Senator Randall J. Ruffle ('21), Senator Nicholas Matuszewski (Law), Senator Isabella Strauss ('24), Senator Gloriana Cubero Fernandez ('24), President Conor Sokolowsky ('23), Senator Eugene Lee ('23)

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WHEREAS, as noted in the United States Constitution and Code, on January 6th: “The President of the Senate shall, in the Presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed”<sup>1</sup>;

WHEREAS, this is normally a ceremonial, official transfer of power between the respective parties and candidates;

WHEREAS, however, this past January 6, 2021, this peaceful process was violently interrupted by domestic terrorists;

WHEREAS, this was domestic terrorism fueled by the fragile racial and economic identity of impressionable citizens of the American populace under the influence of President Donald J. Trump and his political allies;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump called on his supporters to march on the Capitol Building and withheld significantly needed military resources to stop the violence immediately;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has broken with presidential tradition and will not attend the Inauguration of President-elect Joseph Biden Jr and Vice-President-Elect Kamala Harris;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump and his fringe faction of the Republican Party gave rise to tyrannical behavior and unsubstantiated claims to voter fraud and a fraudulent election;

<sup>1</sup>United States Constitution Article I, Section 1 (emphasis added)



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WHEREAS, an overwhelming majority of Americans agree that the falsehoods perpetuated by President Donald J. Trump and his political allies inspired the insurrection that occurred on January 6, 2021;

WHEREAS, the President's Cabinet, and other Presidential appointees and his staff were mute in stopping the President from making false claims and not giving into educated reason;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump violated his oath of office, disrespected the Office of the President by refusing to accept the results of a free and fair election (as more than 60 failed legal challenges to the election have proven) and by delaying and partially refusing to participate in the historically peaceful transition to a new administration;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump's actions have caused serious damage to the Republican party, the electoral process, the credibility of the media and the sanctity of our democratic process;

WHEREAS, as a result of President Donald J. Trump's actions, the House of Representatives passed another article of impeachment on January 13, 2021, bringing the charge of "incitement of an insurrection";

WHEREAS, two William & Mary alumni who currently serve in Congress, Representative Steven Chabot '75 and Representative Matthew Gaetz II (J.D. '06) violated their oath of office in encouraging this behavior and are complicit in the decline of civility in the democratic process;



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WHEREAS, these alumni, by their own actions, have failed to fulfill their obligations as a member of the William & Mary community outlined in the Honor Code, as well as their obligations as sworn defenders of democracy;

WHEREAS, as the institution responsible for their education, we have an obligation to hold our alumni accountable for their misdeeds, especially if they render embarrassment to William & Mary and the nation as a whole;

WHEREAS, here at the College of William & Mary, the “Alma Mater of the Nation,” many alumni of the university served in the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches, designed a republican democracy of thoughtful debate to improve the human condition so all people can pursue their happiness with equal treatment under the law;

WHEREAS, many alumni have died to protect the Constitution and this nation’s democratic values in their military service, and the insurrectionist siege of the Capitol enacts grave injury to the sacrifices of them and their families;

WHEREAS, the future of William & Mary, and American democracy in its entirety, is dependent upon how we respond to this pivotal moment in history and how we act on our Values;

WHEREAS, our responsibility as the “Alma Mater of the Nation” compels us to condemn those responsible for inciting insurrection and attacking the democracy that we helped to create and defend for over three centuries;



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Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Student Assembly of the College of William & Mary:

1. Vehemently Condemns the insurrection that occurred on January 6, 2021;
  - a. Vehemently Condemns the siege and destruction of the nation's Capitol Building, the home to the legislative houses of our democracy by domestic terrorists;
  - b. Vehemently Condemns the actions of these domestic terrorists who were prepared to take hostage and potentially harm members of Congress;
  - c. Vehemently Condemns the domestic terrorists who entered the Capitol with the Confederate flag, which had prior to January 6th never entered the Capitol before, as it represents the highest symbolic form of treason against the United States of America;
  - d. Vehemently Condemns any law enforcement who did not stop the insurrection, participated in it themselves, and/or failed to preserve law and order.
  
2. Recognizes the bravery and heroism of members of the Capitol Police, the National Guard, and other law enforcement officials who protected members of Congress;
  - a. Further Recognizes the bravery of Eugene Goodman, an African American Capitol Police officer who protected members of Congress from an onslaught of domestic terrorists;



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- b. Further Recognizes the bravery of journalists who -- in the face of intimidation, threats, destruction, and injury -- documented the siege that will serve as a historical moment that will be taught in civics courses and that serve as a poignant reminder of the inappropriate and vile actions of President Donald J. Trump and fringe members of the Republican Party;
  - c. Further Recognizes Vice-President Michael R. Pence for carrying out his constitutional duty in certifying the Electoral vote;
  - d. Further Recognizes the ten representatives of the Republican Party who, on January 13, 2021, voted to impeach President Donald J. Trump;
3. Commends the following William & Mary alumni who voted for the impeachment of President Donald J. Trump:
  - a. Representative Stephanie Murphy ('00);
  - b. Representative Jennifer Wexton (J.D. '95);
  - c. Representative Dina Titus ('70), and;
  - d. Representative Lizzie Fletcher ('06).
4. Strongly Encourages the United States House of Representatives, the United States Senate and the Department of Justice to bring any legal action against President Donald J. Trump during his post-presidency;
5. Mourns the five lives that were lost during this domestic terror attack on our nation regardless of their involvement in the actions that occurred at the Capitol Building;



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6. Explicitly Denounces all members of Congress and terrorists who incited and/or were involved with the insurrection;
  
7. Explicitly Severs ties with the following members of Congress and terrorists, who were members of the William & Mary community, that sought to overturn the results of a free and fair election and who voted to throw out the fairly certified electoral votes from Arizona and/or Pennsylvania;
  - a. This includes, but is not limited to:
    - i. Representative Steve Chabot ('75);
    - ii. Representative Matthew Gaetz II (J.D. '07);
  - b. Strongly Encourages the administration of William & Mary to act in a similar fashion and require an explanation for their support of President Donald J. Trump's attempt to overturn a free and fair election before we allow them to enter onto campus for any potential future events, or work with the University in any capacity.
  
8. Strongly Denounces the following members of Congress from the Commonwealth of Virginia who decided to vote against the impeachment of President Donald J. Trump for "incitement of an insurrection" and who voted to throw out the fairly certified electoral votes from Arizona and/or Pennsylvania;
  - a. Representative Ben Cline;
  - b. Representative Bob Good;
  - c. Representative H. Morgan Griffith, and;
  - d. Representative Rob Wittman.



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- i. Further calls on them, pursuant to their oath of office, to engage in factual and restorative civil discourse about their actions with the William & Mary community as well as their constituents in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
  
9. Strongly Denounces the actions of the following members of the Virginia General Assembly who participated in the insurrection at the Capitol, and who have been unrepentant in their calls to overturn the results of the 2020 Presidential election;
  - a. State Senator Amanda Chase, and;
  - b. State Delegate David LaRock.
  
10. Reaffirms the certified election results that ceremoniously declare President-elect Joseph R. Biden Jr. and Vice-President-elect Kamala D. Harris as the winners of the 2020 Presidential Election.