

Good afternoon Chair Holvey and Members of the Special Committee. Thank you for taking up the monumental and serious task that's before you today. It's not without profound sadness for the state of our politics that am sending this testimony in support of consequences that equate to the gravity of Mr. Nearman's actions. I live in Yamhill County, and while Representative Nearman is not my Representative, my community shares a Senate District and truth be told, we are all effected by his unlawful actions.

I strongly encourage the members to support HR3 and expel Representative Mike Nearman immediately. Rep Nearman's conduct on Dec 21st, putting Capitol police, his colleagues and staff directly in harm's way, was beyond reprehensible - we all know he did it, there is video proof he did it, there is video proof of him planning to do it and soliciting participation, and he admitted to his actions on a radio call in show. There is no more room for equivocation, and there is zero defense for his actions in a democratic society. Mike Nearman has only himself to blame for his status as an albatross around the neck of the legislature, and the residents of the state of Oregon. It's time to remove his influence from those in Salem who, regardless of party, have honest intentions of making positive change.

There is no other solution but to expel Representative Nearman. The people of District 23 deserve representation, and the people of Oregon deserve a legislators who will stand up for the rule of law and for democracy.