

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

Unofficial Copy
P1

1999 Regular Session
9lr0770

By: **Delegate Valderrama**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 1999

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Impeachment of the United States President**

3 FOR the purpose of urging the United States Congress to dismiss the impeachment
4 trial in the absence of impeachable evidence, or to consider censuring the United
5 States President if the record demonstrates improprieties by the President but
6 does not show an impeachable offense.

7 WHEREAS, The interests of the country dictate that the Office of the President
8 not be diminished; and

9 WHEREAS, Bipartisanship is essential in the impeachment process; and

10 WHEREAS, There are procedures that provide the means to end this national
11 dilemma without violating the Constitution; and

12 WHEREAS, There are punitive measures that can uphold the rule of law
13 without completely destroying the Presidency; and

14 WHEREAS, The public good requires the immediate and fair resolution of the
15 impeachment trial; and

16 WHEREAS, If the record does not show an impeachable offense but does show
17 improprieties, the Senate should consider the censure option; and

18 WHEREAS, Censure, in appropriate cases, would enable Congress to avoid a
19 lengthy and expensive trial; and

20 WHEREAS, Censure, in appropriate cases, would restrain the release of
21 information not essential to an impeachment or censure proceeding; and

22 WHEREAS, Censure, in appropriate cases, would prevent the weakening both
23 nationally and internationally of the institution of the United States Presidency; now,
24 therefore, be it

25 **RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND**, That the
26 General Assembly acknowledges and appreciates the important responsibility yielded
27 to Congress to fairly and impartially conduct the impeachment process; and be it
28 further

1 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly urges the United States Congress to
2 sanitize the record of any impeachment process in order to preserve the Office of the
3 President; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly urges the United States Congress to
5 dismiss the impeachment trial in the absence of impeachable evidence, or to consider
6 the censure option in cases in which the magnitude of the alleged offense does not rise
7 to the level of an impeachable offense; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
9 Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.
10 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;
11 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin,
12 Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and
13 Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and to the
14 Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V.
15 Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Casper R.
16 Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; and to all other state legislatures and
17 the Council of the District of Columbia: Alabama Legislature, State House, 11 S.
18 Union St., Montgomery, AL 36130; Alaska State Legislature, State Capitol, Juneau,
19 AK 99801-1182; Arizona Legislature, Capitol Complex, Phoenix, AZ 85007-2890;
20 Arkansas General Assembly, Little Rock, AR 72201; California State Legislature,
21 State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814; Colorado General Assembly, State Capitol, 200
22 E. Colfax, Denver, CO 80203; Connecticut General Assembly, Legislative Office Bldg.,
23 Hartford, CT 06106-1591; Delaware General Assembly, Legislative Hall, P. O. Box
24 1401, Dover, DE 19903; Council of the District of Columbia, 441 Fourth Street, NW,
25 Ste. 716, Washington, D.C. 20001; Florida Legislature, The Capitol, Tallahassee, FL
26 32399; General Assembly of Georgia, State Capitol, Atlanta, GA 30334; Hawaii
27 Legislature, State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania St., Honolulu, HI 96813; Idaho
28 Legislature, State Capitol Building, Boise, ID 83720; Illinois General Assembly, State
29 House, Springfield, IL 62706; Indiana General Assembly, State House, Indianapolis,
30 IN 46204; Iowa General Assembly, State Capitol, Des Moines, IA 50319; Kansas
31 Legislature, Statehouse, 300 SW 10th St., Topeka, KS 66612-1504; Kentucky General
32 Assembly, State Capitol, Frankfort, KY 40601; Louisiana Legislature, State Capitol,
33 Baton Rouge, LA 70804; Maine Legislature, State House Station, Augusta, ME
34 04333-0003; Massachusetts General Court, State House, Boston, MA 02133;
35 Michigan Legislature, State Capitol, Lansing, MI 48909-7536; Minnesota
36 Legislature, State Capitol, St. Paul, MN 55155; Mississippi Legislature, New Capitol,
37 P. O. Box 1018, Jackson, MS 39215-1018; Missouri General Assembly, State Capitol,
38 Jefferson City, MO 65101; State Legislature of Montana, Capitol Station, Helena, MT
39 59620; Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, State Capitol, P. O. Box 94604, Lincoln, NE
40 68509-4604; Nevada Legislature, 401 S. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89710; New
41 Hampshire Legislature, State House, Concord, NH 03301; New Jersey State
42 Legislature, State House Annex, P. O. Box 068, Trenton, NJ 08625-0068; New Mexico
43 State Legislature, State Capitol, Santa Fe, NM 87501; New York State Legislature,
44 Albany, NY 12247; North Carolina General Assembly, Raleigh, NC 27603-2808;
45 North Dakota Legislative Assembly, State Capitol, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck,
46 ND 58505-0360; Ohio General Assembly, State House, Columbus, OH 43215;
47 Oklahoma Legislature, State Capitol, 2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK

1 73105; Oregon Legislative Assembly, State Capitol, Salem, OR 97310; Pennsylvania
2 General Assembly, Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; Rhode Island General
3 Assembly, State House, Providence, RI 02903; South Carolina Legislature, Gressette
4 Bldg., P. O. Box 142, Columbia, SC 29202; South Dakota Legislature, Capitol
5 Building, Pierre, SD 57501-5070; Tennessee General Assembly, State Capitol,
6 Nashville, TN 37243; Texas Legislature, State Capitol, Austin, TX 78711; Utah
7 Legislature, State Capitol, Salt Lake City, UT 84114; Vermont General Assembly,
8 State House, Montpelier, VT 05602; Virginia General Assembly, Richmond, VA 23218;
9 Washington Legislature, Olympia, WA 98504-0482; West Virginia State Legislature,
10 State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305; Wisconsin Legislature, Madison, WI
11 53707-7882; and the Wyoming Legislature, State Capitol, Cheyenne, WY 82002.