

Resolution of Inquiry:

Investigating the Trump Administration's Illegal Use of Unsanctioned, Insecure Communications Services for National Security Duties

Why Is This Necessary?

- Ensuring our nation's secrets and sensitive information are secure is critical to protecting the American public.
- Numerous reports indicate that members of the Trump Administration's national security team discussed sensitive and likely classified national security information related to an air strike in Yemen via group chat on the insecure messaging service Signal. A reporter was included in the Signal chat.
- The Signal chat used to discuss the strike was also set to auto-delete messages, which is a violation of federal records retention laws.
- Subsequent reports revealed that National Security Advisor Mike Waltz and his staff used *more than 20 Signal chats as well as Gmail* to discuss numerous national security operations.
- Congress and the public must know how widespread the use of these unsanctioned, insecure messaging services and platforms are in this Administration, and what breaches may have occurred as a result.
- Despite repeated efforts by Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Democrats, the Administration has failed to provide clear information on why the Administration's national security team is using insecure communications services for war planning and other national security operations. These efforts include:
 - [Ranking Members Connolly and Frost Launch Investigation Into Trump Administration Officials Sharing War Plans in An Insecure Group Chat](#)
 - [Committee Democrats Demand Immediate Briefing from Trump Administration Officials Who Shared War Plans In An Unclassified Group Chat](#)
 - [Committee Democrats Demand Multifront Investigation Into Exposure of Classified Information In Unsecure Signal Chat](#)
 - [Ranking Member Connolly Requests Transcribed Interviews with Members of the "Houthi PC small group" Signal Chat](#)
 - [First Signal, Now Gmail: Oversight Democrats Launch Investigation into Waltz and Staff's Use of Personal Gmail for Sensitive Government Work](#)
 - [Oversight Democrats Demand Investigation Into Trump Official's Purposeful Deletion of Federal Records in Signal Chat, A Violation of Federal Law](#)

What Does this Resolution Do?

- [The resolution](#), introduced by Rep. Stephen Lynch, would require the President to provide information, documents, and communications to Congress related to:
 - The Administration's plan to preserve official communications in compliance with federal recordkeeping requirements.
 - The use of Signal, Gmail, and other electronic communication platforms on personal and government phones to conduct official business.
 - Plans, procedures, guidance, or practices to ensure that official business conducted on messaging platforms like Signal are preserved.

What is a Resolution of Inquiry?

- A Resolution of Inquiry (ROI) is a House resolution that makes a direct request or demand of the President or head of an executive department (e.g. the Secretary of State, Secretary of the Interior, etc.) to provide factual information in the Administration's possession.
- Once introduced, the Committee to which the ROI is referred has 14 legislative days to act on and report the resolution to the House or it will become privileged on the House floor.
- A ROI that is not reported to the House within 14 legislative days becomes privileged and a non-debatable motion to discharge the ROI for consideration on the House floor becomes available.