Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

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Statement of Chairman Elijah E. Cummings Resolution Authorizing a Subpoena for the Testimony of Kellyanne Conway

Full Committee Business Meeting June 26, 2019

I have already addressed these issues in my opening statement, so I will be brief.

Our Committee has jurisdiction over the Hatch Act. I personally have worked across the aisle to amend this law several times over the past decade.

The Office of Special Counsel has found that Ms. Conway violated the Hatch Act dozens of times and has recommended that the President fire her. But he refuses to do so. In fact, he refuses to take any disciplinary action against her.

The Committee sought her voluntary testimony today. We wanted to hear from her directly. She is a public official who has been accused of wrongdoing, and she refused to explain herself to the Office of Special Counsel.

Regrettably, Ms. Conway did not appear here today. The White House sent a letter on Monday claiming she is "absolutely immune" from congressional testimony—even if she is violating the law.

There is longstanding precedent for White House aides to testify before this very Committee. We have heard from multiple White House Counsels, the Deputy Counsel to the President, an Associate Counsel to the President, a Deputy Assistant to the President, and the Director of the White House Office of Security.

The American people demand that our public officials follow the law and be held accountable for their actions.

Through this resolution, the Committee demands answers and requires Ms. Conway to provide those answers under oath.

I urge every Member of the Committee to vote for this resolution.

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