

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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MEMORANDUM

March 3, 2020

To: Members of the Committee on Oversight and Reform

Fr: Committee Staff

Re: Hearing on “Constitutional Checks and Balances: Improving Congressional Oversight of the Executive Branch”

On **Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building**, the Committee will hold a hearing on the Constitutional basis of Congressional oversight and potential reforms to increase the accountability of the Executive Branch.

I. SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF HEARING

Article I of the Constitution vests Congress with the authority to legislate and appropriate funds.¹ Congress has the responsibility to investigate in order to exercise these and other authorities effectively and efficiently. The Trump Administration’s unprecedented stonewalling in multiple investigations prevents Congress from fulfilling its Constitutional oversight function. This hearing will explore reforms to restore the Constitutional balance and safeguard Congressional power to hold the Executive Branch accountable.

II. WITNESSES

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Former Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Tom Davis III
Former Chairman
Committee on Government Reform
Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina

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¹ U.S. Const. art. I, § 1; art. I, § 9, cl. 7.