

- Attorney General A.H. Garland (1886): The Senate adopted a resolution in 1886 in which it expressed its “condemnation” of President Cleveland’s Attorney General A.H. Garland concerning his refusal to provide certain records and papers to the Senate. The papers related to his dismissal of a U.S. attorney from the southern district of Alabama. Garland was also thought to have had improper financial interests in a new telephone company.
- Ambassador Thomas F. Bayard (1896): In 1896, the House adopted a resolution where it found that a United States Ambassador, by his speech and conduct “has committed an offense against diplomatic propriety and an abuse of the privileges of his exalted position,” and therefore, “as the immediate representatives of the American people, and in their names, we condemn and censure the said utterances of Thomas F. Bayard.”
- Secretary of State Dean Acheson (1949-1952): In the 81st and 82nd Congresses, six resolutions were submitted containing demands for the resignation of Secretary of State Dean Acheson. In 1950, the House passed a vote of no confidence with respect to Secretary Acheson, who they said had not done enough to combat the spread of Communism. Nevertheless, Acheson was able to serve until the end of the Truman administration.
- President Richard Nixon (1973-1974): President Nixon was the subject of two censure resolutions in 1973 and 1974, both of which were overtaken by moves to impeach. On November 7, 1973, a resolution was introduced in the House that expressed the sense of Congress that Richard M. Nixon should resign from the Office of President of the United States. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee and no further action was taken. On August 2, 1974, the House passed a resolution that stated President Richard M. Nixon is censured for moral insensitivity, negligence, and maladministration. The resolution was assigned to the Judiciary Committee. It was never considered by the full House.
- Assistant Secretary of the Army Sara E. Lister (1998): On October 26, 1997, at a public conference held in Baltimore, Lister stated that “The Marines are extremists.” A resolution was introduced in the House that called on the President to remove Lister if she would not resign from office. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Armed Services. The House adopted the resolution on November 13, 1997 by voice vote under suspension of the rules.
- President William J. Clinton (1998): Censure resolutions were introduced in the House and the Senate related to President Clinton’s conduct in office. In the House, a group of moderate Republicans opposed to impeachment assembled a censure proposal that condemned Clinton’s conduct, required him to acknowledge that he had deceived the American people, and imposed a fine. The authors described it as a way, short of impeachment, to express Congress’s disapproval and prevent the President from escaping punishment.