

Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia (TX-29)
Statement for the Record

Thank you all for being here. I think most of you here will all agree that Executive Privilege serves a vital function in our government's ability to make laws and protect our national interests.

Without it, Presidents and the privacy required to make decisions of great national interest would be severely limited.

This privilege is limited, like all powers of the respective branches within our government, to the interests they seek to protect.

But I would like to remind everyone that it is not the interests of the President that are being protected by Executive Privilege. It is not one man's profits, political capital, or well-being that is being protected.

No, at the end of the day, it is the interests of the United States, the methods that serve our

citizens and our collective well-being that Executive Privilege is meant to protect.

What are the interests of the people of the United States?

Well let's look at the facts:

Even in its unredacted form, the Special Counsel's Report makes clear that our democracy was attacked by the Russian government in a coordinated and unprecedented manner.

Furthermore, the Report has made it crystal clear that the President repeated and systematically attempted to exert influence over the Special Counsel and other law enforcement investigations to impede their fact-finding missions.

Finally, the report concluded that contrary to the President's theories, the Constitution prohibits the President from engaging in this obstructive conduct.

Now, the Attorney General seeks to invoke executive privilege over the full Mueller report, giving no justification or reasoning.

This is not protecting the American people.
This is hiding from the American people.

They deserve to know what happened. They deserve to know what the President is hiding.