

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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MEMORANDUM

May 13, 2024

To: Members, Committee on Oversight and Accountability

From: Committee Staff

Re: Full Committee Business Meeting

On **Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. ET, in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building**, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability will hold a business meeting to consider the following:

- 1) H.Res. _____, Recommending that the House of Representatives find Attorney General Merrick B. Garland in contempt of Congress for refusal to comply with a subpoena duly issued by the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

I. RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FIND ATTORNEY GENERAL MERRICK B. GARLAND IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS FOR REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH A SUBPOENA DULY ISSUED BY THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

A. Summary

Since January 2023 when reporting first indicated that President Joe Biden had maintained classified material at the Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement (Penn Biden Center) and the President's home in Wilmington, Delaware, the Committee has investigated the circumstances surrounding the materials' location and the White House's role in and response regarding the documents.

Special Counsel Robert K. Hur was appointed by Attorney General Garland on January 12, 2023, after the Committee announced its own investigation on January 10, 2023. On February 27, 2024, the Committee—along with the Committee on the Judiciary— issued a subpoena to Attorney General Garland. The subpoena required Attorney General Garland to produce requested materials by March 7, 2024, including recordings of the Special Counsel's interview with President Biden. The Department of Justice (DOJ) has refused to produce the

recordings of Special Counsel Hur's interviews with President Biden and with Mr. Mark Zwonitzer, the ghostwriter for then-former Vice President Biden to whom Mr. Biden divulged details about his retention of classified materials. Therefore, Attorney General Garland has refused to fully comply with the Committee's duly issued subpoena. Accordingly, the Chairman of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability recommends that Congress find Attorney General Merrick B. Garland in contempt for his failure to comply with the Committee subpoena issued to him.

B. Amendments

The Chairman will offer an ANS.

Staff contacts: Jake Greenberg and Abby Salter at (202) 225-5074.

II. AMENDMENT PROCESS:

Committee Rule 2(g) authorizes the chair of the Committee to prioritize the consideration of amendments filed 24 hours in advance of the consideration of matters before the Committee or subcommittees. Pursuant to this rule, and at the chair's discretion, the Committee may consider amendments that are pre-filed with the Committee clerk prior to amendments offered at a markup.

Members should pre-file amendments with the clerk of the Committee by emailing a searchable, electronic PDF copy of the amendment prepared by the House Legislative Counsel directly to GOP Oversight Clerks at GOP.Oversight.Clerks@mail.house.gov at least 24 hours before the scheduled start of the business meeting. Members should include in the email accompanying the amendment text:

1. The name(s) of the Member(s) who will offer the amendment;
2. The name and number of the measure to be amended;
3. A brief, one-sentence description of the amendment; and
4. The name and phone number of a staff member who will serve as the point of contact for the amendment.

Pre-filed amendments will be compiled into a single roster, and the roster will be made available to Committee members prior to business meetings. Any amendment to a measure or matter before the Committee or a subcommittee should be germane to the measure or matter, including in scope, subject matter, and Committee consideration. Votes on amendments likely will be grouped together at a time determined by the chair, pursuant to Committee Rules.