

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A
SUBSTITUTE TO THE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE RESOLUTION
RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FIND
MARK ZWONITZER IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS FOR REFUSAL
TO COMPLY WITH A SUBPOENA DULY ISSUED BY THE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

Offered by Mr. Johnson of Georgia.

At page 3 between the first and second paragraph insert:

It is common for public officials and political leaders to publish memoirs that detail their experiences, and numerous Trump administration officials have done so. For example, on June 16, 2021, HarperCollins's Broadside Books imprint announced that it had acquired a memoir by Jared Kushner, the son-in-law of former president Donald Trump and a senior adviser in his administration.¹ At the time of the acquisition, Broadside described Kushner as “playing a central role ‘in the administration's most significant accomplishments’”² and said that “[his] book will be the definitive, thorough recounting of the administration, and the truth about what happened behind closed doors.”³ Like President Biden, Kushner’s memoir was written with the help of a ghostwriter, who is identified in the book’s acknowledgements as speechwriter Brittany Baldwin.⁴

Breaking History, which was published on August 23, 2022, paints Kushner as “one of the most consequential presidential advisers in modern history” and “takes readers inside debates in the Oval Office, double-crosses at the United Nations, tense meetings in Arab palaces, high-stakes negotiations, and the daily barrage of leaks, false allegations, investigations, and West Wing infighting.”⁵

¹ *Jared Kushner has book deal, publication expected in 2022*, Associated Press (June 16, 2021) <https://apnews.com/article/donald-trump-jared-kushner-middle-east-entertainment-business-c339b8a137e126f76ad6aef346f85007>

² *Broadside Buys Book by Jared Kushner*, Publishers Weekly (June 16, 2021) <https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/newsbrief/index.html?record=3300>

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Jared Kushner’s Breaking History Is a Soulless and Very Selective Memoir*, New York Times (Updated June 21, 2023) <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/17/books/review-breaking-history-jared-kushner.html>

⁵ *Breaking History: A White House Memoir*, Amazon Listing, Accessed May 15, 2024, https://www.amazon.com/Breaking-History-White-House-Memoir-ebook/dp/B09PBTMH89/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

Members of Congress have long raised concerns about the troubling overlap between Jared Kushner's business interests and US foreign policy.⁶ Specific areas of interest include Kushner's private equity firm, Affinity Partners, which received a \$2 billion investment from Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund, a sovereign wealth fund controlled by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, less than six months after Kushner left his role as White House adviser.⁷ According to Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden, "[t]he Saudi PIF's decision to invest \$2 billion in Affinity so soon after Kushner's departure from the Trump White House raises concerns that the investment was a reward for official actions Kushner took to benefit the Saudi government, including preventing accountability for the Saudi government ordering the brutal murder of journalist and American citizen Jamal Khashoggi."⁸

Members of this committee have made no secret of their desire to investigate Kushner's business dealings with middle eastern states, including Saudi Arabia, and materials created during the process of writing of his memoir, including the ghostwriter's notes and audio recordings, could contain evidence that is relevant to such an investigation. To that end, this Committee intends to issue a subpoena to Kushner's ghost writer for all materials related to Jared Kushner's memoir.

Moreover, unlike President Biden, who publicly disclosed how much money he has made through book deals, the financial terms for Kushner's memoir have not been shared with the public.⁹ Nonetheless, campaign finance records and public reporting indicate that Save America Joint Fundraising Committee, which raises money for two political action committees associated with Trump, spent \$158,000 buying copies of Kushner's book from Books-a-Million.¹⁰ These purchases provided direct financial and reputational benefits to Kushner, and may have helped him land the No. 1 spot on the New York Times' bestseller list.¹¹

⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/jul/08/troubling-overlap-between-jared-kushner-business-interests-and-us-foreign-policy>

⁷ <https://www.newsweek.com/democrats-call-republicans-hold-hearing-jared-kushner-1883770>

⁸ <https://www.newsweek.com/democrats-jared-kushner-probe-1912243>

⁹ Jared Kushner agrees book deal for 'definitive' account of Trump presidency, The Guardian (June 15, 2021) <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/jun/16/jared-kushner-agrees-book-deal-for-definitive-account-of-trump-presidency>

¹⁰ A Trump Political Committee Bought \$158,000 Worth Of Books Shortly After Jared Kushner Published His Best-Selling Memoir, Forbes (October 16, 2022) <https://www.forbes.com/sites/zacheverson/2022/10/16/a-trump-political-committee-bought-131000-worth-of-books-four-days-later-jared-kushners-hit-the-best-seller-list/?sh=3fdca21a7c77>

¹¹ *Id.*