

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 19, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
U.S. Senate
Office of the Majority Leader
The Capitol, S-230
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
U.S. Senate
Office of the Minority Leader
The Capitol, S-221
Washington, D.C. 20510

Chief Justice John Roberts
U.S. Supreme Court
1 First St. NE
Washington, D.C. 20543

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, and Chief Justice John Roberts:

We request the Senate to formally adopt the Federal Rules of Evidence for the impeachment trial of President Trump.

The Federal Rules of Evidence were formally adopted by Congress and became federal law in 1975. Since then the Federal Rules of Evidence have governed the admissibility of evidence for all U.S. District Court trials.

The Federal Rules of Evidence are the culmination of more than two centuries of judicial thought. They have been determined to best maximize the chance that judges and juries find the truth of a matter based solely on substantive, credible evidence (not personal opinions, hearsay, rumors or gossip – as was the case in House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s House proceedings).

In the United States, everyone has the right to a fair trial.

The formal adoption of the Federal Rules of Evidence gives Chief Justice Roberts, as the Presiding Officer, a clear-cut, well-established standard for deciding whether evidence is admissible or inadmissible.

Adoption of the Federal Rules of Evidence not only adds clarity and substance to an otherwise foggy matter, it also shortens the Senate trial by eliminating time spent admitting and considering unreliable testimony and evidence that our federal judicial system has long since found to be unworthy of merit or consideration.

Respectfully,

Mo Brooks

Rep. Mo Brooks (AL-05)

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.

Rep. Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. (AZ-04)

Jeff Duncan

Rep. Jeff Duncan (SC-03)

Jody Hice

Rep. Jody Hice (GA-10)

Ted S. Yoho

Rep. Ted Yoho (FL-03)

Neal P. Dunn

Rep. Neal P. Dunn (FL-02)

Bob Gibbs

Rep. Bob Gibbs (OH-07)

Mark Meadows

Rep. Mark Meadows (NC-11)

Debbie Lesko

Rep. Debbie Lesko (AZ-08)