

WWW.BCIMPEACH.COM – **L.A. CITY HALL – Friday, Aug 17th @ 9:30 am**

TALKING POINT & LOGISTICS – “CITIZEN’S IMPEACHMENT PRESENCE” (200 N. Spring St. by (near Temple & Main))



TO DO THIS COMING WEEK: PLEASE CALL, EMAIL & WRITE/FAX THE LA CITY COUNCIL.

Council contact info: http://www.bcimpeach.com/5_los_angeles_city_council_click_here



Note: After Friday, Aug. 17th the LA City Council will take a three (3) week vacation including 1 week at the CA statewide City Council convention. So let's send a message to them by calling, lobbying and acting now! Also: Sunday, Aug. 12th, the Los Angeles National Impeachment Center was able to get Bill Rosendahl from the 11st District to commit at the Activist Support Circle picnic in Santa Monica Clover Field Park and, separately, at the California Democratic Club convention near LAC, to introducing a resolution before the City Council to impeach President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney!

Public Transportation: Handy way to avoid traffic and parking is to take the # 10 BIG BLUE BUS – last stop before entering the Santa Monica Freeway is the northwest corner of Pico Blvd and Bundy Avenue. It will stop at 1st and Spring Street, Cost is \$.75

each way for seniors. Please call, email and write councilmembers Monday through Friday of this coming week to insist and demand that they support Rosendahl, Perry and Garcetti in co-sponsoring an Impeachment resolution.

What? FRIDAY'S PRO-IMPEACHMENT "PRESENCE" AT LA CITY HALL. Why now? This is our last opportunity to lobby for impeachment in front of the actual Council members before they take their late August a 3 week vacation) -- **PLEASE HELP US SPREAD THE WORD BY FORWARDING THIS FLYER TO LISTSERVES AND THOSE YOU KNOW.**

How/Where/When - FRIDAY MORNING DETAILS: LOS ANGELES CITY HALL: PRO-IMPEACHMENT PRESENCE/PUBLIC COMMENT - FRIDAY, Aug. 17th @ 9:30 am at LA CITY HALL (200 N. Spring St., by Main & Temple,). The meeting will be in Council Chambers. *Please wear impeachment apparel, bring signs and **portable** signs (signs actually coming into the chamber must be foldable and non-visible signs); Please arrive early between 9:00 - 9:30 am; Park nearby (\$8-\$12 parking available 2 blocks) and give yourself enough time for going through security, signing up for public comment, etc. (Rm. 340); LA City Hall : 200 N Spring St, Los Angeles. Need more information? See www.BCIMpeach.com or contact Glenn Hopkins (T: (310) 478-7379); email: mootney123@aol.com). Please RSVP to mootney123@aol.com and copy to Peter Thottam, Executive Director for the Los Angeles National Impeachment Center (email: thottam@bcimpeach.com)).*

WWW.BCIMPEACH.COM - LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL TALKING POINTS

I. WHEN THEY SAY, "IT IS NOT OUR JOB TO IMPEACH THE PRESIDENT."

1. Most Los Angeles City Council members take an **oath of office** promising to "protect and **defend the Constitution** from enemies foreign and domestic. They don't take an oath to fix potholes. If the Constitution is in danger then their primary duty is to defend it. If it is safe, and they have time on their hands, then they can fix potholes. (You might be able to state this more diplomatically.)

2. **Cities and towns routinely send petitions to Congress** for all kinds of requests. This is allowed under Clause 3, Rule XII, Section 819, of the Rules of the House of Representatives. This clause is routinely used to accept petitions from cities, and memorials from states, all across America. As an example, here is a page from the Congressional Record showing petitions and memorials laid on the Clerk's desk on March 6th, 2006.

II. WHEN THEY SAY, "THIS IS NOT A LOCAL ISSUE."

1. If a federal action has a significant negative impact on this city, then it is appropriate for this city to defend itself.
2. **Citizens** from this city may be sent, or have been sent, to Iraq to fight in an illegal and unjustified war.
3. **Tax funds** from this city that could have been spent locally have been spent in Iraq for war. Tax money from this city has been wasted in no-bid contracts with companies like Halliburton with deep ties to the Bush administration. Yet this city can barely afford the emergency services, libraries, and schools that we need. [CostOfWar.com website has more details.]
4. **The state National Guard** should be available to protect this city from floods, hurricanes, earthquakes or other disasters. But instead they have been sent to Iraq by President Bush.

III. WHEN THEY SAY, "IMPEACHMENT WILL TAKE TIME AWAY FROM OTHER LEGISLATION."

1. The impeachment of Clinton only took four months, two in the House and two in the Senate.
4. Not every Congressperson has to be involved with impeachment the whole time. Most of the investigations and even the trial can take place in small committees. There is no issue more important than protecting the Constitution. Our system of government does not work when the Constitution is undermined. "Defending the Constitution" is required by the oath of office. Further, if Bush is in office then he might use signing statements to nullify the effect of new laws like he did with McCain's anti-torture amendment.

IV. WHEN THEY SAY, "IMPEACHMENT WILL HURT THE ANTI-WAR EFFORT."

1. Bush is an obstacle to peace and will block any efforts to stop the war. He must be impeached.
2. An investigation of Bush and Iraq will doubtless reveal many things about the Iraq war that are now secret. These will strengthen the case against the war.
3. We cannot get out of Iraq until we understand why we are there. The reasons stated by Bush were false so we need an investigation to determine the true reasons.
4. Iraq is now a complete mess. We cannot expect Bush who lied to get us into Iraq and who has completely bungled the operation of the war to be able to lead us out of Iraq.
5. If we don't stop Bush he may start a catastrophic war with Iran. Bush is positioning forces near Iran and making claims about Iran that are eerily similar to Iraq. General Pace has questioned the administrations claims about Iran.

V. WHEN THEY SAY, "IMPEACHMENT IS OFF THE TABLE."

1. Impeachment is provided by the Constitution as mechanism for protecting against abuse of power by a President. As long as the Constitution is valid then impeachment will be "on the table" as a possible remedy.
3. We do not know what national political considerations led Pelosi to say this. But at the local level this is not our concern. We are not deciding to impeach. We are deciding whether to ask for impeachment based solely on whether we feel impeachable offenses have been committed that affect us locally. The public is demanding impeachment and the will of the public is never off the table. Passing legislation calling for impeachment is simply responding to one's constituents.

The War in Iraq Costs to Los Angeles City: **\$4,821,265,291 (as of August 13, 2007; 12:10 pm PST)**

The War in Iraq Costs to Los Angeles County: **\$14,284,443,231 (as of August 13, 2007; 12:10pm PST)**

The War in Iraq Costs to California State: **\$57,216,778,323 (as of August 13, 2007; 12:10pm PST)**

NUMBER OF CALIFORNIANS NEEDLESSLY DEAD IN IRAQ SINCE MARCH 2003: 386 CALIFORNIAN CASUALTIES (Source *National Priorities Project* – Cost of War). See www.BCImpeach.com for more information.