

I am offering this testimony to implore members of the House Special Committee, meeting on December 21, 2020, to support HR 3 and move to expel Rep. Nearman from office. I am a voter and business owner in Rep. Nearman's district, and have watched his actions over the last several years with growing alarm. When the news originally broke regarding his actions on December 21st, I decided to trust the system to investigate and take appropriate action against Rep. Nearman. However, when the recent video regarding his Project Hall Pass "coaching" was released, I decided I needed to do my part to ensure the Committee was sufficiently aware that Rep. Nearman doesn't have the support in his district that such blatant actions indicate he thinks he has. Me and my friends and neighbors in the district are appalled by Rep. Nearman's long history of espousing racist, xenophobic and misogynistic views. Furthermore, I am beyond incensed that he has such disregard for the law and rules applicable to members of the Oregon State House of Representatives, as evidenced by his words and actions during the recently released video of him coaching individuals regarding how to illegally get into the Oregon Capitol, which included moments where he mockingly made statements about things he "didn't know about." It remains shocking to me that Rep. Nearman opened the door for violent, armed rioters to attack the Capitol and State Police while threatening lawmakers and Capitol staff. I beg that the Committee makes the legally and morally correct choice to remove Rep. Nearman from his office. I understand that Rep. Nearman has been criminally charged for "unlawfully and knowingly" opening the door to rioters and that the legislature's own investigation found he acted intentionally. His actions put people's lives at risk and resulted in injury to police. He does not deserve to be in office. Please do your duty under the Oregon constitution and remove him from office.