

UNION SPEECH

Attached is a basic outline of impeachment and some question and answer type material that might be helpful. Don said that this speech can be a little ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ less judicious than a high school speech. You might want to go into what the Committee has to do in regard to the president's taxes, i.e., how the Joint Committee left it up to the Judiciary Committee to look into fraud.

You also might want to mention any subpoena action and what refusal of the White House to comply with subpoenas could mean.

Also attached is an article from the Congressional Quarterly about the pension bill. Don said that they might be very interested in this and that you should be ready to answer questions on the status of pension legislation. This article will have all the answers that you will probably need. If you want some more information, call me tomorrow.

IMPEACHMENT

A. Basic Procedure

1. Resolution introduced in the House
2. Referred to the Judiciary Committee (could have been another Committee selected by the Speaker but in the 20th c. has been Judic.)
3. The Committee can make one of two recommendations
 - a. recommendation not to impeach - resolution not dead, however, because House can vote despite Committee recommendation
 - b. recommendation to impeach - recommendation made to House along with a bill of particulars
4. House votes on bill of particulars - a simple majority necessary
5. Referred to Senate - prosecuted in Senate by House managers - will probably be from Judiciary Committee
6. Senate proceeding is a trial with the Chief Justice presiding - witnesses may be called - the Senate must convict by a 2/3 majority
7. Conviction means removal from office - in addition can find that can never hold another office - even if convicted in Senate, the President would still be liable for criminal acts and could be tried in the courts

B. Role of the Judiciary Committee

1. Must determine what an impeachable offense is - bribery, treason and high crimes and misdemeanors are Constitutional standards but the latter needs more definition
2. After this determination is made, up to the Committee to collect evidence to support charges
3. Draw up bill of particulars for submission to the House

C. Where is the Committee right now

1. Investigatin charges made against the President
 - a. alleged Watergate cover-up
 - b. fraud in the preparation of income taxes
 - c. misappropriation of government funds in San Clemente and Key Biscayne
2. What the Committee staff is doing
 - a. subpoenaing records
 - b. will conduct depositions
 - c. regular briefings to members
3. Projected timetable
 - a. May 1st - Committee starts
 - b. Relation to election