

The Latest News Around Us



Impeachment Article Against Trump to Be Delivered to Senate Monday

Lindsay Wise - The Wall Street Journal

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Stefani Reynolds/Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON—Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D., N.Y.) said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D., Calif.) has told him the article of impeachment against former President Donald Trump will be delivered to the Senate Monday, triggering a second impeachment trial.

Mr. Schumer gave no details on how the trial will be conducted. “It will be a full trial; it will be a fair trial,” he said Friday.

The House voted last week to impeach Mr. Trump, alleging he incited a mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol Jan. 6, leaving five people dead.

Mr. Schumer’s remarks came after Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.) proposed Thursday that the article be sent over Jan. 28 and both impeachment managers and Mr. Trump’s defense team be given two weeks to complete pretrial briefs and responses.

Mr. McConnell and some other Republicans have said they are considering whether to vote to convict Mr. Trump during his second impeachment trial. A two-thirds super majority is needed to convict in a presidential impeachment trial, meaning 17 Republicans would need to support conviction for it to succeed, if all Democrats also voted to convict.

Mr. Trump has told associates he has picked Butch Bowers, a South Carolina attorney, to represent him in the trial, according to a person familiar with the matter.

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N *As Joe Biden Calls for Unity, AOC Demands Josh Hawley and Ted Cruz Expulsions*
James Walker

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez demanded that the Senate hold a vote to expel Republican lawmakers Josh Hawley and Ted Cruz if the upper chamber moved to delay former President Donald Trump's impeachment trial until February.



Tom Williams-Pool/AFP via Getty Images Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez urged Republicans to consider what they were doing by calling for Trump's impeachment trial to be delayed.

The New York Democrat told CNN that the Republican pair should be ousted from the Senate as she accused them of supporting the "insurrection" on the Capitol building earlier this month. She also urged her Republican colleagues to consider "what they are doing" by trying to protect Trump from a trial in the upper chamber.

The former president was impeached for the second time last week as he was charged with inciting the attack on the Capitol at a rally with his supporter earlier in the day. Republicans have since asked Democratic leadership to delay Trump's trial until the middle of February.

If the former president does stand trial in the upper chamber, a two-thirds majority vote will still be required to convict him.

Speaking about the Republican-proposed delay to former President Trump's impeachment trial, Ocasio-Cortez said: "I would really advise my colleagues, particularly my Republican colleagues, who certainly supported the underlying lie that led to this insurrection, to really think about what they are doing in trying to protect Donald Trump."

She added that if Republicans wanted to delay Trump's trial, [Democrats](#) should bring forward a vote to expel Sens. Cruz and Hawley from the upper chamber over their role in the "Stop the Steal" objections to the presidential election results.

"If we've got time on our hands, then we should actually be bringing justice to the members of [Congress...](#) who also helped support this insurrection," the congresswoman said.

"If they don't resign, they should be expelled from the Senate."

In a statement, Sen. Hawley said: "I will never apologize for giving voice to the millions of Missourians and Americans who have concerns about the integrity of our elections. That's my job, and I will keep doing it."

Newsweek has contacted the office of Sen. Cruz for comment on the congresswoman's call for their ouster.

Ocasio-Cortez pushed for the ouster of the Republican lawmakers a day after President [Joe Biden](#) issued a call for national unity as he delivered his [inaugural address](#) outside the Capitol building on Wednesday.

High-profile guests at the Inauguration Day ceremony also [opted to wear purple](#)—a move widely interpreted as a show of bipartisan unity, as the key colors of the two major parties, red and blue, combine to make purple.

Speaking about the challenges facing America, Biden said: "To overcome these challenges, to restore the soul and secure the future of America, requires so much more than words. It requires the most elusive of all things in a democracy: unity."

"This is our historic moment of crisis and challenge, and unity is the path forward," he later added.

"And we must meet this moment as the United States of America. If we do that, I guarantee you, we will not fail."



[Stimulus Check Update: 7 Reasons a Third Stimulus Check Is Likely to Become a Reality](#)

[Dana George](#)



Getty Images A hand holding a small American flag and a stimulus check from the U.S. Treasury.

Although some are still waiting on their second stimulus check, there is no doubt that President Joe Biden is already pushing ahead for another round of checks. Biden has asked Congress to approve a new bill that includes sending \$1,400 more in stimulus money to the [bank accounts](#) of eligible Americans.

Here are seven reasons we believe a third stimulus check is bound for Congressional approval despite expected resistance from Republican lawmakers.

1. [Democrats have the majority in the House and Senate](#)

While it is a small majority, if Democrats stick together, they only need 10 other senators to join them in passing another coronavirus aid bill. Even if one or two Democrats, like Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia, vote against the bill, some Republicans pushed for bigger checks to the American people in December, so it's easy to see some of them crossing the aisle.

2. [Unemployment claims are still high](#)

As the number of [COVID-19](#) cases surged following the holidays, approximately 900,000 workers filed for unemployment benefits during the week that ended Jan. 16. Jobless claims in the U.S. are higher today than during any previous economic recession on record. It will be difficult for politicians from any party to deny the ongoing need for financial assistance to the American people.

3. [Economists back more stimulus](#)

According to economists, due to a weaker-than-expected outlook for the job market, worsening pandemic, and overall economic suffering, the U.S. requires an economic life raft. While Congress may not back the entirety of President Biden's plans for a \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package, most expect them to support \$1,400 direct payments -- if only to stimulate local economies.

4. [Retail sales are falling](#)

Consumer spending accounts for 70% of the U.S. economy, making the fact that retail sales fell for the third straight month in December especially bad news. Direct \$1,400 payments are intended to spur Americans to spend and help shore up the retail and restaurant sectors.

5. The fear of economic scarring

This is not the first time Biden has inherited an economy in crisis. As vice-president in the Obama administration, Biden was part of the team charged with tackling the Great Recession from the first day in office. He punctuates the need for more stimulus funds today by saying that failure to stimulate the economy will end up costing far more than the \$1.9 trillion he has proposed. His nominee for Treasury Secretary, Janet Yellen, argues that additional stimulus is necessary to prevent "scarring" of the economy.

6. Chance to boost the GDP

Another round of direct aid alone could lift the GDP by 0.7%, according to a report from U.S. economist Gregory Daco.

7. It could happen without 60 votes

There are 100 U.S. Senators, with Vice President Harris acting as the tiebreaker in a 50/50 split. To avoid a filibuster and get the bill passed, the bill requires 60 votes. If the motion for another stimulus package cannot muster the support of at least 10 Senate Republicans, all is not lost. It is still possible to move it to a process called "budget reconciliation."

In a nutshell, budget reconciliation allows legislators to get bills passed with a simple majority instead of the 60 votes usually required in the Senate. Only specific amendments that change spending or revenue can be moved to budget reconciliation. Once there, debate time is limited, and the bill needs a simple majority of 51 to pass into legislation.

While no one expects Congress to adopt all of the president's proposals without a fight, it appears that most lawmakers are in favor of another direct payment to the American people. Whether recipients use it to pay bills, shore up their [savings accounts](#), or invest, another round of checks is like to provide an emotional shot in the arm as the pandemic drags on.

One way to accomplish this may be to break the president's proposal down into two separate bills, allowing Congress to vote on another round of direct stimulus payments as a separate bill. If all else fails, there's always budget reconciliation.