

I believe nearly every responsible American agrees the violence that took place in DC at the U.S. Capitol last week should be condemned and was deplorable. The mob that breached the Capitol causing the destruction should be held accountable according to the laws that were broken.

I concurred with the resolve in JRH.1 that the Legislature condemn the violence but I believe the two resolves, regarding the resignation or impeachment of the President, are not necessary or needed as his term will expire in less than two weeks.

I do not support the Presidents statements of telling his supporters to march to the capitol and fight. This is yet another example of his lack of diplomacy, common decency or appreciation of our political system. Most demonstrators taking part in the rally remained outside on the steps or on the grounds. They were not violent and dispersed calmly once the Capitol Police, Metro PD and other law enforcement personnel regained control inside the Capitol and hedged the protestors away from the building.

The ones entering the Capitol under violent intentions were the problem. We have heard before that many travel the country to engage in similar rally's just to incite violence. To many times we have seen violence initiated by a few professional or self proclaimed agitators who tour the country in search of opportunity to incite the crowds.

My belief is this resolution, containing the resignation or impeachment resolve, only further fuels the great divide between the two major parties. As in past political resolutions, those having a different opinion than ours get very upset when there point is challenged and this resolution only serves to widen the gap.

I would have preferred to see leadership extend a hand for encouraging a cooperative approach to multi-party collaboration for future legislation that will be important to Vermonters. The Governor offered a statement in response to the mob violence. I am not convinced our resolution offers any meaningful value beyond that statement.

Lost in the resolution debate will be the death of five Americans including one police officer. The ensuing debate and Presidential removal efforts will take time and effort away from this point and from addressing further COVID-19 relief efforts to support our citizens and businesses.

Regards

Kristi