



(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES.

Impeaching John McConnell, Jr., Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. STEUBE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Impeaching John McConnell, Jr., Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

1 *Resolved*, That John McConnell, Jr., Chief Judge of
2 the United States District Court for the District of Rhode
3 Island, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors,
4 and that the following article of impeachment be exhibited
5 to the Senate:

6 Article of impeachment exhibited by the House of
7 Representatives of the United States of America in the
8 name of itself and of the people of the United States of

1 America, against John McConnell, Jr., Chief Judge of the
2 United States District Court for the District of Rhode Is-
3 land, in maintenance and support of its impeachment
4 against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

5 ARTICLE I: ABUSE OF JUDICIAL DISCRETION, DERELIC-
6 TION OF DUTY, AND ENDANGERMENT OF PUBLIC
7 SAFETY

8 John McConnell, Jr., Chief Judge of the United
9 States District Court for the District of Rhode Island, has
10 engaged in conduct incompatible with the trust and con-
11 fidence placed in him as a judicial officer, as follows:

12 (1) On June 5, 2026, in *Dorcas International*
13 *Institute of Rhode Island et al., v. United States Citi-*
14 *zenship and Immigration Services et al.*, Judge
15 McConnell, Jr. issued an order vacating a policy
16 framework (Challenged Policies) adopted by U. S.
17 Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS),
18 which paused all asylum applications and pending
19 immigration benefit requests, required a substantive
20 review of already approved immigration benefit re-
21 quests, and ordered USCIS to treat country-specific
22 factors in discretionary immigration benefit deci-
23 sions. These policies were designed to ensure that
24 persons from high-risk countries who entered the
25 United States on or after January 20, 2021, do not
26 present threats to national security or public safety.

1 In his decision to vacate the Challenged Policies
2 framework, Judge McConnell, Jr. disregarded the
3 incidents that necessitated the USCIS Challenged
4 Policies framework. This includes the June 2025
5 guilty plea of an Afghan national, Nasir Ahmad
6 Tawhedi, for conspiring and attempting to provide
7 material support and resources to ISIS for a
8 planned terrorist attack in the United States on the
9 day of the general election for President and Vice-
10 President in November of 2024, as well as the No-
11 vember 2025 terrorist attack against two National
12 Guard members in Washington, D.C., by an Afghan
13 national named Rahmanullah Lakanwal.

14 (2) In his ruling, Judge McConnell, Jr. dis-
15 missed the executive branch's national-security jus-
16 tification as pretextual, and such actions are forbid-
17 den from influencing the decision-making process of
18 USCIS. Judge McConnell, Jr.'s ruling placed the in-
19 terests of noncitizens seeking immigration benefits
20 above the national security of the United States and
21 interferes with the executive branch's ability to ade-
22 quately, properly, and fully mitigate any and all na-
23 tional security risks associated with the entrance of
24 persons originating from certain countries lacking
25 sufficient vetting protocols and accountability safe-

1 guards. By mandating that USCIS resume the proc-
2 essing of immigration benefits and dismissing na-
3 tional security justifications for a pause in proc-
4 essing, it is evident that Judge McConnell, Jr., has
5 committed an egregious dereliction of duty by per-
6 mitting his own political hostility towards the execu-
7 tive branch's immigration policies to override the
8 neutral application of law.

9 (3) In taking this action, Judge McConnell, Jr.
10 marginalized core public safety and national security
11 considerations and thereby contributed to an envi-
12 ronment of impunity for terrorism, the
13 endangerment of public safety, and eroding of the
14 national security of the United States. This pattern
15 is inconsistent with the duty of impartial fidelity to
16 law and to the safety of the people, and it under-
17 mines respect for the rule of law at a time of ele-
18 vated public concern about terrorism and national
19 security.

20 Accordingly, Judge McConnell Jr. has engaged in
21 conduct so utterly lacking in judicious restraint and basic
22 fidelity to public safety and national security that he is
23 guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors, is unfit to hold
24 the office of Chief Judge, and should be removed from
25 office.