

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. ____

Impeaching David H. Chipman, Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY XX, 2021

Mr. ROSENDALE of Montana submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Impeaching David H. Chipman, Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Resolved, That David H. Chipman, Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors and that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the United States Senate:

Articles of impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in the name of itself and of the people of the United States of America, against David H. Chipman, Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, in maintenance and support of its impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

ARTICLE I: FAILURE TO SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE SECOND AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

The people of the United States have an unquestioned right to keep and bear arms, enshrined in the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution, which was reaffirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States in *District of Columbia v. Heller*.

David H. Chipman's statements and employment history make clear that he does not support and defend the Constitutional right of Americans to keep and bear arms and intends to use his position as Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to violate and abridge the Second Amendment rights of Americans.

David H. Chipman worked as a paid lobbyist for Mayors Against Illegal Guns, a gun control advocacy group founded by anti-Second Amendment financier Michael Bloomberg. Subsequently, the organization has been combined with Moms Demand Action to form Everytown for Gun Safety – the largest anti-Second Amendment advocacy organization in the United States.

In his role with Mayors Against Illegal Guns, David H. Chipman advised, trained, and supported various other groups that support or advocate for policies which violate or abridge the Constitutional right of Americans to keep and bear arms, including the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, the Joyce Foundation, the Center for American Progress, and Americans for Responsible Solutions.

David H. Chipman went on to work and presently works as a senior policy advisor and paid lobbyist for Giffords: Courage to Fight Gun Violence which advocates for policies that violate and abridge the Constitutional right of Americans to keep and bear arms—and is so extreme that their legal arm filed an amicus brief in *District of Columbia v. Heller* asserting that the Second Amendment does not protect an individual's right to keep and bear arms. The Supreme Court of the United States rightly disagreed.

In his roles as a paid lobbyist and anti-Second Amendment advocate, David H. Chipman personally advocated, lobbied for, and expressed support for numerous policies which would violate and abridge the Second Amendment rights of Americans to keep and bear arms.

During his confirmation hearing, David H. Chipman responded “I do, sir” to a question asking whether he “believed in banning assault weapons.” When asked multiple times, David H. Chipman then struggled to provide a definition for “assault weapons,” before eventually defining an “assault weapon” as “any semi-automatic rifle capable of accepting a detachable magazine above the caliber of .22.” By this definition, the ban favored by David H. Chipman would encompass most modern sporting rifles owned in the United States.

David H. Chipman has stated that he supports treating AR-15s, the most popular rifle in the United States, and similar weapons “just like machine guns,” and further argued that buyers of such firearms should have to undergo universal background checks, pay a punitive tax, and submit their name, photograph, and fingerprints to be part of a gun registry.

David H. Chipman has stated that if an American did not pass a background check when seeking to purchase a firearm it was “a perfect opportunity to arrest people before committing crime”—showing a complete disregard and disrespect for the American justice system and the

due process rights afforded to individuals simply seeking to exercise their Second Amendment right to purchase a firearm.

David H. Chipman has shown disdain and contempt for Americans who choose to exercise their Second Amendment rights, repeatedly mocking them, including making a crude and disparaging comparison to “new buyers” of firearms stating that they were “like Tiger King and they’re putting themselves and their family in danger,” and suggested that they “secure that gun locked and unloaded and hide it behind the cans of tuna and beef jerky that you’ve stored in the cabinet, and only bring that out if the zombies start to appear.”

Former Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Michael Sullivan, expressed deep concern regarding the nomination of David H. Chipman stating that he “has taken such a strong and hostile position against the Second Amendment, as well as gun owners and some of the most popular firearms in the United States.” Former Director Michael Sullivan further stated that “To effectively enforce [gun] laws, you have to be unbiased and apolitical. You can’t be partisan. Dave [Chipman] has shown himself to be a rabid partisan.”

David H. Chipman has failed to uphold his oath of office, in which he swore to “support and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

ARTICLE II: FALSE STATEMENTS TO CONGRESS

Following his nomination, in sworn written responses to at least four members of the United States Senate, David H. Chipman responded “No” to questions as to whether he ever misplaced or had a firearm stolen.

David H. Chipman’s former colleagues at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives on multiple occasions have disputed this, alleging that David H. Chipman lost his service weapon after leaving it in his personal vehicle one night, and that the firearm was subsequently stolen by a handyman, according to credible reports.

Based on these allegations from his former colleagues at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, David H. Chipman in sworn, written answers to multiple inquiries from members of the United States Senate did make false statements.

Wherefore, David H. Chipman, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to the Constitution of the United States and the rule of law if allowed to remain in office. David H. Chipman thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.