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Almost 70 lawmakers sign Bush impeachment letter

Published: Saturday, April 22, 2006
The Associated Press

NEWFANE -- Almost 70 Vermont legislators have signed a letter urging Congress to begin an investigation of President Bush's domestic surveillance program and the reasons for the war in Iraq and, which would lead to impeachment proceedings, if warranted.

The letter written by Rep. Richard Marek, D-Newfane, was signed by 56 members of the House and 13 members of the Senate. No Republicans have signed the letter.

The letter will be sent to the members of Vermont's congressional delegation.

Marek's letter asks Congress to hold hearings to determine if censure or "setting in motion the constitutional process for possible removal from office" are necessary.

"Vermonters from across the state have expressed concerns with the president's actions and have displayed that through resolutions, meetings and petitions," Marek said.

"I thought it was important to put our voices down as supporting an investigation and possible censure and impeachment," he said.

Earlier this month the Democratic State Committee urged Congress to begin impeachment proceedings against the president, but decided against asking the Legislature to join that call.

Democratic committees in at least eight Vermont counties have adopted similar resolutions.

On Town Meeting Day a number of towns also passed similar resolutions. The town of Newfane, which Marek represents, was the first community to call for Bush's impeachment.

Rep. Alice Emmons, D-Springfield, said she felt Bush's policies needed to be investigated.

"I feel as an American that what is happening is not right," Emmons said. "This administration needs to be investigated fairly and openly because what has happened has raised many questions."

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