

Ohio's Jim Jordan will play key role in Joe Biden impeachment inquiry

By **Sabrina Eaton, cleveland.com**

WASHINGTON, D. C. – House Judiciary Committee Chair Jim Jordan on Wednesday said he views the impeachment inquiry that he's leading into President Joe Biden with a degree of irony.

Harkening back to the House of Representatives' [2019 vote to impeach former President Donald Trump](#) for asking Ukraine's president to investigate Biden's role in firing a former Ukrainian prosecutor while holding up aid to Ukraine, Jordan on [Wednesday told Fox News](#) that "Biden actually did what they impeached President Trump for."

"They said he held up money, and got Ukraine to do certain things," Jordan said on Fox & Friends. "Ukraine didn't do anything and they got the money, but they they impeach President Trump for that. Joe Biden leveraged American tax dollars to get certain actions from Ukraine. That's the big irony here."

Jordan, a Champaign County Republican who vocally defended Trump when the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives impeached him over his Ukraine activities and [his role in the Jan. 6, 2021 riot at the U.S. Capitol](#), will play a key role in the impeachment inquiry of Biden that House Speaker Kevin McCarthy announced on Monday.

McCarthy said the inquiry will be led by House Oversight and Reform Committee Chair James Comer, a Kentucky Republican, in coordination with Jordan and Ways and Means Committee Chair Jason Smith, a Missouri Republican.

If the three committees find grounds for impeachment, the Judiciary Committee Jordan chairs would draft and vote on any articles of impeachment that would be referred to the full House of Representatives for a vote, an aide to Jordan said.

"In recent months, House Republicans have uncovered serious and credible allegations into President Biden's conduct; taken together, these allegations paint a picture of a culture of corruption," said McCarthy.

McCarthy said investigations the three committees have led indicate Biden "lied to the American people about knowledge of his family's foreign business dealings." He said eyewitnesses testified that Biden joined multiple phone calls and had multiple interactions, dinners, resulting in cars and millions of dollars to his son and his son's business partners.

He also said “it appears that the president’s family has been offered special treatment by Biden’s own administration; treatment he would not otherwise have received if he were not related to the president. These are allegations of abuse of power, obstruction, and corruption, and they warrant further investigation by the House of Representatives.”

The White House says there are no grounds to impeach Biden, with a spokesman calling the effort “extreme politics at its worst.

“House Republicans have been investigating the president for 9 months, and they’ve turned up no evidence of wrongdoing,” said White House spokesman Ian Sams. “His own Republican members have said so. He vowed to hold a vote to open impeachment, now he flip flopped because he doesn’t have support.”

Not all Republicans in the House of Representatives say they back impeachment. [Dave Joyce of South Russell told Forbes](#) this week that “at this point, I haven’t seen any facts or evidence” to warrant impeachment, but indicated he’d like to hear “the case on why they need it.”

“If ... what they found so far would dictate that then go ahead and we look forward to it,” Joyce continued. “But I look at impeachment as one of those thing that’s once in a lifetime, and unfortunately it’s becoming every other year ... I really think we’re abusing the system and it’s not exactly how it was meant to be used.”

Democratic U.S. Rep. Shontel Brown of Warrensville Heights, a member of the Oversight and Reform Committee, released a statement that called the impeachment inquiry “illegitimate” and “beneath the dignity of the U.S. House of Representatives.

“Despite years of investigations, there is no evidence of any wrongdoing by President Biden—and even Republicans admit as much,” continued Brown. “This is further evidence Speaker McCarthy has handed control of the House to MAGA extremists ... Such blatantly partisan and political grandstanding is an embarrassing attempt to advance the careers of a few right-wing extremists with no shame or sense of purpose.”

Jordan told FoxNews on Wednesday that a House floor vote on the impeachment inquiry is still possible. He said he believed that he could enough votes to move forward, but a vote isn’t needed.

“There’s all kinds of evidence that warrants moving to this phase of our constitutional duty to do oversight of the executive branch,” said Jordan.

Factors that warrant the impeachment inquiry include Hunter Biden’s addition to the board of Burisma with no qualifications, Burisma’s request that he “weigh in with DC” to relieve pressure the company was under from a Ukrainian prosecutor, and the fact that Joe Biden leveraged “our tax money to get the prosecutor fired,” said Jordan.

“And then you get all the other facts surrounding it, the emails, the dinners, the phone calls, the meetings, the 5000 times you use the pseudonym and all that stuff,” said

Jordan. “That’s why the Speaker has said we’re moving to this space of our constitutional duty to do oversight of the executive branch.

A joint statement that Jordan, Comer and Smith released after the impeachment inquiry was announced said that since January, House Republicans “have uncovered an overwhelming amount of evidence showing President Joe Biden lied to the American people about his knowledge and participation in his family’s influence peddling schemes.

“Bank records, suspicious activity reports, emails, texts, and witness testimony reveal Joe Biden allowed his family to sell him as ‘the brand’ around the world to enrich the Bidens,” the statement continued. “And, thanks to [two brave IRS whistleblowers](#), we know that the Justice Department – which has been sitting on much of this evidence – has prevented career investigators from pursuing information that could have led to Joe Biden.

When asked how an impeachment inquiry will be different from the investigation that the three committees are already doing, Jordan told Fox News an impeachment inquiry would “mean something to courts” if they’re asked to enforce investigators’ demands for information that the White House might resist providing.

“I think it ramps up the pace at which we’re going to try to get information from the executive branch” Jordan told Fox News. “And then again, if we end up in court, as is typically the case with these kinds of things, I think that helps our position in the courts when we’re making our argument.”

“If we go to a vote, I think that it gives even more weight to it,” said Jordan. “But that’s the significance, I think, of what the Speaker announced yesterday.”