As expected, on Tuesday House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, in the wake of Donald Trump’s conversation with the Ukraine President Zelensky, announced the start of an impeachment inquiry, claiming President Trump has broken the law and violated his oath of office.

It is hardly surprising that a key Republican member of the House Intelligence Committee, Chris Stewart, immediately responded by asking how Pelosi can conduct a fair investigation when she already has concluded that Trump is guilty. Then House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy declared that Pelosi’s impeachment decision is but another example of how Democrats from day one and before any
evidence was unearthed were out to remove Trump from office. Following release of the transcript of the conversation, Senator Lyndsey Graham said impeaching the President for this "would be insane".

And so the predictable rhetorical narrative has begun, making me worry that all of this will not produce consequences and accountability. It will be a political food fight. The problem is that most people now view congress as incapable of bipartisan, impartial proceedings. That’s why the ballot box may be the ultimate check and balance and mechanism for preserving the rule of law and effective functioning of our constitutional system.

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