

Rep. Martin Lalonde, Chair Rep. Michael McCarthy, Chair Special Committee on Impeachment Inquiry 115 State Street Montpelier, VT 05633

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Dear Rep. Lalonde and Rep. McCarthy,

As the non-profit trade association that unites and supports Vermont's television and radio broadcast journalists state-wide, the Vermont Association of Broadcasters (VAB) is writing to ask that you reconsider the secrecy rules adopted by your special committee.

The VAB echoes the Vermont Press Association's call for transparency and agrees with the reasoning provided in the filing drafted by attorney Matt Byrne of Gravel & Shea.

There is a reason that the people's right to know and the freedom of the press is first among the rights guaranteed to United States citizens in the Bill of Rights, and has been clearly protected with regard to legal proceedings over our nation's history.

This instance of an impeachment inquiry around elected officials should therefore be transparent and open to the public and to the press.

Respectfully,

Wendy Mays

Executive Director

Vermont Association of Broadcasters

Jendy Mays