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Wyoming Republican Party

RNC Resolution to censure Representatives Cheney and Kinzinger - fact and fiction

Cheyenne, WY – The incredible amount of misinformation being generated about a resolution passed by the Republican National Committee (RNC) this past weekend, censuring Representatives Liz Cheney and Adam Kinzinger, requires a redirect to reality. A Washington Post article appears to be the universal source for all later articles by others who, true to course on the left and right (see Wyofile and Townhall), added embellishments and speculative conclusions to the WaPo piece. The record has to be set straight.

The RNC resolution is titled "Resolution to formally censure Liz Cheney and Congressman Adam Kinzinger and to no longer support them as members of the Republican Party".

Dissatisfaction with Representative Cheney is well known and widely felt in Wyoming. What's less understood is this same dissatisfaction is a nationwide response. We're repeatedly told in messages from Republicans around the nation that Cheney's influential positions in powerful committees and commissions and her relentless pull away from everything Trump, including long-standing Republican values and policies, is affecting all Republicans. This universally recognized Cheney drive is expressed in the Resolution as her "intent on advancing a political agenda to buoy the Democrat Party's bleak prospects in the upcoming midterm elections".

The Resolution recites a number of those points of dissatisfaction in the 'whereas' clauses and concludes with "Resolved, that the Republican National Committee hereby formally censures Representatives Liz Cheney of Wyoming and Adam Kinzinger of Illinois and shall immediately cease any and all support of them as members of the Republican Party for their behavior ..."

[emphasis added]. Refer to the entire Resolution.

Media pundits in general never recognize the RNC as the governing body of all Republicans. They hold out current and former national legislators, including Cheney, who very willingly act as if they are the leaders of all Republicans. Ms Cheney has been fashioning herself as the leader of a new Republican Party for years. During a May 2021 interview on the <u>Today show</u> Cheney said ""I intend to be the leader — one of the leaders — in a fight to help to restore our party, in a fight to bring our party back to substance and principle and in a fight to make clear that we won't participate in the really dangerous effort that's under way ...". In the same interview Cheney said, "I won't let a former president or anybody else unravel the democracy." That "dangerous effort" she refers to is the push back by Republicans, like those in Wyoming

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and the RNC, who recognize that the foundation and basis of their Party's very being is the maintenance of our representative constitutional republic. We are NOT a democracy.

Ronna McDaniel is a very dedicated and respected executive and spokesman for the Party, but she is not the RNC. The RNC is 'the 168' – the body made up of three representatives, the Chairman, National Committeeman and National Committeewoman, from every U.S. state and territory. The Wyoming Republican Party delegation makes up only 1.7% of that entire body. The resolution was passed by "the 168' with very few dissenting votes.

This resolution could not be implemented without invoking <u>RNC Rule 11</u>, one of the RNC's rules on policy and procedures, which addresses candidate support, <u>because the resolution</u> <u>specifically withdrew support from Representative Cheney</u>. Intent is important. The Resolution required a signature by our Chairman, National Committeeman and National Committeewoman, <u>our members of the RNC</u>, to recognize the withdrawal of Cheney support.

RULE NO. 11 Candidate Support (a) The Republican National Committee shall not, without the prior written and filed approval of all members of the Republican National Committee from the state involved, contribute money or in-kind aid to any candidate for any public or party office of that state, except the nominee of the Republican Party or a candidate who is unopposed in the Republican primary after the filing deadline for that office [emphasis added]

Wyoming's RNC members, and our state Central Committee members fully understand that the Wyoming Republican Party cannot expend funds on a candidate prior to the primary. Wyoming statute 22-25-104 prohibiting those contributions has not been violated. The Wyoming GOP has no intention of expending funds on behalf of any candidate in the U.S. House race or any other race. Further, it's our understanding that the RNC has no intention of expending funds on a Wyoming candidate to the U.S. House prior to the primary.

A last critical distinction - the Wyoming GOP and the RNC are two separate, autonomous bodies. The Wyoming GOP passed its censure and withdrawal of support from Cheney in response to STATE Republicans' concerns months ago. The RNC passed its resolution last week in response to NATIONAL concerns. These Republicans have issues with the refashioning and representation of 'Republican' values that Congresswoman Cheney and Congressman Kinzinger are engaging in.

Wyoming's RNC members honored the commitment of Wyoming's grassroots Republicans to expend no support or funds on Liz Cheney's campaign when they voted for the resolution and when they signed Rule 11. Any embellishment added by 'news' authors is pure pulp fiction.

Questions may be directed to Chairman Eathorne, or the Wyoming GOP headquarters at execdir@wyoming.gop.

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