

Josh Hawley's Obstructionism Is Putting National Security At Risk

SUMMARY: Josh Hawley led the charge in the Senate to overturn the Electoral College's vote, helping to incite the violent insurrection at the capitol. Despite the attack, Hawley proceeded with his objections to Biden's win—even as some of his Republican colleagues dropped theirs--and continued to peddle lies about election fraud. Actions have consequences and even a senator cannot escape them, Hawley is now facing:

- Calls for his resignation from editorial boards in his home state and across the country
 - St. Louis Post-Dispatch Editorial Board wrote that the “violent armed anarchy on display at the nation’s capitol Wednesday was brought to you by none other than Missouri Sen. Josh Hawley.”
 - Kansas City Star Editorial Board wrote that “no one other than President Donald Trump himself is more responsible for [the] coup attempt at the U.S. Capitol than one Joshua David Hawley.”
 - Los Angeles Times Editorial Board wrote that the violent insurrection at the Capitol was “the predictable outcome of the grotesque charade being played not just by Trump but by Sens. Ted. Cruz (R-Texas), Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) and others who have aligned with Trump’s blatantly false assertions of voting fraud.”
- Hawley’s mentor, former U.S. Senator Jack Danforth, stated that helping Hawley win elected office was the biggest mistake of his life:
 - Danforth: “I thought he was special. And I did my best to encourage people to support him both for attorney general and later the U.S. Senate and it was the biggest mistake I’ve ever made in my life.”
- Criticisms from fellow Republican Senators who called his actions “dumbass” and questioned his motives behind the objections
- Seven senators have now asked the Ethics Committee to investigate Hawley’s role in the attack on the Capitol
- Loss of corporate support as he lost a book deal and a hotel chain backed out from holding a planned fundraiser in February

Undeterred, however, Hawley has continued working to undermine national security. On Inauguration Day, Hawley was one of just 10 senators to oppose Biden’s nominee for Director of National Intelligence, even though she had broad bipartisan support. He is now blocking swift confirmation of Alejandro Mayorkas as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security even though there is a “widely recognized need to move forward with getting a new national security team in place.”

Josh Hawley's Efforts To Overturn The Electoral College Vote Helped Incite The Insurrection At The Capitol And, Even After the Violence, He Continued With His Objections And Peddled Lies About Election Fraud.

Josh Hawley Led The Effort To Object To The Certification Of The Electoral College Vote

On December 30, 2020, Josh Hawley Announced He Would Object To The Certification Of Some States' Electoral College Votes. "I cannot vote to certify the electoral college results on January 6 without raising the fact that some states, particularly Pennsylvania, failed to follow their own state election laws," Hawley said in a statement Wednesday morning." [NPR, [12/30/20](#)]

Hawley Was "The First Senator To Announce Publicly He Will Object To The Results." "Hawley is the first senator to announce publicly he will object to the results. That's significant because the rules dictate that for an objection to be considered, a member from the House and the Senate must lodge an objection in writing. Rep. Mo Brooks, R-Ala., has already said he will object to the results as well." [NPR, [12/30/20](#)]

Despite The Violent Insurrection At The Capitol, Josh Hawley Voted in Favor Of Two Objections To The Electoral College Vote, Led The Pennsylvania Objection, And Continued To Suggest Biden's Win Was Illegitimate.

Despite the Insurrection, Josh Hawley Voted in Favor Of Two Objections To The Electoral College Vote. [The Washington Post, [01/07/21](#)]

- **Several Of The Republican Senators Who Planned "To Object To The Certification" Changed Their Minds After The Attack On The Capitol.** "Many of the Republican senators who had promised to object to the certification of President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the general election changed their mind late Wednesday after a violent mob of President Donald Trump's supporters descended on the U.S. Capitol Wednesday." [ABC News, [01/06/21](#)]

Josh Hawley Also Specifically Led The Objection To Pennsylvania's Electoral College Vote. "As to my specific objection: I objected with regard to Pennsylvania." [[Columbia Daily Tribune](#), 01/13/21]

Josh Hawley "Condemned Violence" But Has Not "Backed Down From Baseless Claims Of Fraud And Irregularities." "Republicans, including Sen. Josh Hawley, have condemned violence but haven't backed down from baseless claims of fraud and irregularities." [NBC News, [01/10/21](#)]

As Soon As Hawley "Condemned The Rioters" He Also Continued To Suggest "That Biden's Victory Was Illegitimate." "In almost the same breath as he condemned the rioters who temporarily disrupted Congress' normal process of affirming President-elect Joe Biden's win, Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri, the first Republican to announce his intention to object to the certification, suggested that Biden's victory was illegitimate." [NBC News, [01/10/21](#)]

Insurrectionists Have Said They Were There Specifically To Prevent The Certification Of The Electoral College Vote.

One Rioter Noted The President Asked His Supporters "To Show Up On January 6." "The President asked for his supporters to be there to attend, and I felt like it was important, because of how much I love this country, to actually be there," Larry Brock Jr., an Air Force veteran who was seen on the floor of the Senate in a helmet and fatigues while holding flex-cuffs [...] 'He said, 'Hey, I need my digital soldiers to show up on January 6.' And we all did,' Doug Sweet, a 58-year old who stormed the Capitol and was later arrested, told The Wall Street Journal." [HuffPost, [01/16/21](#)]

One Person Posted That, "If Congress Illegally Certifies Biden," Trump Supporters Would Have "To Storm Congress And Kill/Beat Them Up For It." "If Congress illegally certifies Biden,' a Jan. 4 post on TheDonald.win said, 'Trump would have absolutely no choice but to demand us to storm Congress and kill/beat them up for it.'" [The Washington Post, [01/09/21](#)]

And Trump Started Tweeting By Mid-December That There Would Be A “Big Protest In D.C. On January 6th.” “By Dec. 19, Trump was, as he so often does, feeding these flames with accelerant. ‘Big protest in D.C. on January 6th,’ he tweeted. ‘Be there, will be wild!’” [The Washington Post, [01/09/21](#)]

HEADLINE: “A Mob Insurrection Stoked By False Claims Of Election Fraud And Promises Of Violent Restoration.” [The Washington Post, [01/09/21](#)]

Hawley’s Role Inciting The Insurrection Led Editorial Boards To Call For His Resignation And Triggered Widespread Criticism—including From His Mentor And Some Of His Republican Colleagues.

Local Missouri Editorial Boards Have Called For Josh Hawley’s Resignation In Light Of His Role In The Incitement Of The Insurrection At The Capitol.

Editorial Board Of The Kansas City Star Claimed Senator Hawley Was In Part Responsible For The Attack On The Capitol. [Kansas City Star, [01/06/21](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Assault On Democracy: Sen. Josh Hawley Has Blood On His Hands In Capitol Coup Attempt.”** [Kansas City Star, [01/06/21](#)]

Kansas City Star Editorial Board: Josh Hawley Is Only Second To Trump In Responsibility For Inciting The Attack On The Capitol. “No one other than President Donald Trump himself is more responsible for Wednesday’s coup attempt at the U.S. Capitol than one Joshua David Hawley, the 41-year-old junior senator from Missouri, who put out a fundraising appeal while the siege was underway.” [Kansas City Star, [01/06/21](#)]

- **Hawley “Deserves An Impressive Share Of The Blame For The Blood That’s Been Shed.”** “Hawley’s actions in the last week had such impact that he deserves an impressive share of the blame for the blood that’s been shed.” [Kansas City Star, [01/06/21](#)]

Editorial Board Of The St. Louis Post-Dispatch Claimed Senator Hawley Assisted In Inciting The Insurrection. [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [01/07/21](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Editorial: Trump, With A Hawley Assist, Incites Supporters To Insurrection.”** [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [01/07/21](#)]

St. Louis Post-Dispatch Editorial Board: “The Violent Armed Anarchy” Of The Insurrection “Was Brought To You By None Other Than Missouri Sen. Josh Hawley.” “The violent armed anarchy on display at the nation’s capitol Wednesday was brought to you by none other than Missouri Sen. Josh Hawley in enthusiastic support of President Donald Trump’s incitement to insurrection.” [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [01/07/21](#)]

- **Hawley ‘Initiated And Led The Effort To Interrupt’ The “Certification Proceedings Acknowledging The Electoral College Victory Of President-Elect Joe Biden.”** “The rioters — whom Trump had openly encouraged with a promise to come join them — forced both houses of Congress to interrupt certification proceedings acknowledging the Electoral College victory of President-elect Joe Biden. That was supposed to be a solemn occasion acknowledging the triumph of American democracy. Hawley initiated and led the effort to interrupt it.” [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [01/07/21](#)]

Editorial Board Of St. Louis Post-Dispatch Called For Senator Hawley To Resign. [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [01/07/21](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Editorial: Hawley Should Resign. Silent Enablers Must Now Publicly Condemn Trumpism.”** [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [01/07/21](#)]

Editorial Board Of St. Louis Post-Dispatch Echoed Their Call For Senator Hawley To Resign. [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [01/08/21](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Editorial: Trump Must Go — And Take Hawley With Him.”** [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [01/08/21](#)]

Editorial Board The University Of Missouri’s Student Newspaper Has Called On Hawley To Resign. [The Maneater, [01/07/21](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Editorial: MU, Affiliates Must Publicly Denounce Hawley, Cease Financial Support.”** [The Maneater, [01/07/21](#)]
- **The Mizzou Law Student Bar Association Has Encouraged Hawley To Resign.** “Hawley, once an associate law professor at MU, has been encouraged to resign, ‘for the protection of the rule of law’ by the Mizzou Law Student Bar Association. ‘When he left the ranks of our faculty to pursue higher office, he severely damaged the reputation of our institution,’ the organization’s statement said.” [The Maneater, [01/07/21](#)]

National Editorial Boards Have Pointed To Senators Like Hawley Who Objected To The Electoral College Votes As Culpable In Inciting The Insurrectionists’ Violence.

NYT Editorial Board: The “Blame” For The Attack On The Capitol Also Rests On The “Eight Senators Who Gave” Trump’s “Voter-Fraud Fantasies Substance By Voting To Overturn The Results” Of The 2020 Election. “There’s no doubt that Mr. Trump is responsible for the riot at the Capitol. But the blame rests as well with the Republican officials who humored him — specifically, the 139 House members and eight senators who gave his voter-fraud fantasies substance by voting to overturn the results of an election that was as free as it was fair. Their assault on democracy should be not be forgotten.” [The New York Times, [01/07/21](#)]

Washington Post Editorial Board: Republicans Like Hawley That Planned To Support Objections To The Electoral College Fueled “The Rage Of Those The President Has Duped Into Believing The Election Was Stolen.” “The insurrection came just as many top Republicans, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (Ky.), were finally denouncing Mr. Trump’s antidemocratic campaign to overturn the election results. A depressing number of GOP legislators — such as Sen. Josh Hawley (Mo.), Sen. Ted Cruz (Tex.), House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (Calif.) and House Minority Whip Steve Scalise (La.) — were prepared to support Mr. Trump’s effort, fueling the rage of those the president has duped into believing the election was stolen.” [The Washington Post, [01/06/21](#)]

Los Angeles Times Editorial Board: Insurrection Was “The Predictable Outcome Of The Grotesque Charade” Performed “By Sens. Ted. Cruz (R-Texas), Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) And Others Who” Made False Voter Fraud Claims And That Trump’s “Enablers Have Much To Answer For As Well, And Much To Regret.” “This is the predictable outcome of the grotesque charade being played not just by Trump but by Sens. Ted. Cruz (R-Texas), Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) and others who have aligned with Trump’s blatantly false assertions of voting fraud. Attacking democratic institutions attacks democracy itself, and what the nation witnessed Wednesday in Washington is the power of the mob to destabilize even the most stable of democracies. The responsibility for this day of unconscionable attacks by Americans on the heart of our elective system belongs to Trump. But his enablers have much to answer for as well, and much to regret.” [Los Angeles Times, [01/06/21](#)]

Former Missouri Sen. John Danforth Called His Mentorship Of Josh Hawley “The Biggest Mistake I’ve Ever Made In My Life.”

Former Missouri Sen. John Danforth Stated That “Promoting Josh Hawley As The Future Of The Republican Party, A ‘Once-In-A-Generation’ Candidate Destined To Contend For The Presidency” And Taking Hawley On As A Protégé Was A Mistake, Saying That “It Was The Biggest Mistake I’ve Ever Made In My Life.” “Former Missouri Sen. John Danforth spent years promoting Josh Hawley as the future of the Republican Party, a ‘once-in-a-generation’ candidate destined to contend for the presidency, perhaps in 2024. But a day after the riot at the U.S. Capitol left four people dead, Danforth blamed his former protégé for sparking the insurrection. ‘I thought he was special. And I did my best to encourage people to support him both for attorney general and later the U.S. Senate and it was the biggest mistake I’ve ever made in my life,’ he said Thursday. ‘I don’t know if he was always like this and good at covering it up or if it happened. I just don’t know.” [Kansas City Star, [01/07/21](#)]

Fellow Republican Senator Ben Sasse Called Hawley’s Actions “Dumbass” And Noted That Helped Incite The Insurrection...

Ben Sasse Said “Sen. Hawley Was Doing Something That Was Really Dumbass’ That Helped Incite The Crowd That Mobbed The Capitol.” “Sasse also criticized Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri, who was the first Senate Republican to announce publicly that he would vote to object to the Electoral College results. ‘Sen. Hawley was doing something that was really dumbass’ that helped incite the crowd that mobbed the Capitol, Sasse said.” [NPR, [01/08/21](#)]

...And Mitt Romney Seemed To Call Hawley Out On The Senate Floor For Putting His Presidential Ambitions Above Democracy.

Mitt Romney “Seeming To Address Hawley, ‘Do We Weigh Our Political Fortunes More Heavily Than We Weigh The Strength Of Our Republic, The Strength Of Our Democracy And The Cause Of Freedom?’” “It also had something to do, if you followed Mitt Romney’s cues, with the ambitions of Josh Hawley. ‘I ask my colleague,’ said Romney (R-Utah), seeming to address Hawley, ‘do we weigh our political fortunes more heavily than we weigh the strength of our republic, the strength of our democracy and the cause of freedom?’” [The Washington Post, [01/17/21](#)]

Seven Senators Asked The Senate Ethics Committee To Investigate Hawley’s Role In The Capitol Riot.

Seven Senators Have Urged “Urging The Ethics Committee To Open An Investigation Into GOP Sens. Josh Hawley (Mo.) And Ted Cruz (Texas) Over The Jan. 6 Capitol Riot” And Asked That The Committee “Probe Whether Hawley And Cruz’s Objections To The Electoral College Results Violated The Chamber’s Ethics Rules.” “Seven Senate Democrats are urging the Ethics Committee to open an investigation into GOP Sens. Josh Hawley (Mo.) and Ted Cruz (Texas) over the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. The senators filed a complaint on Thursday with the committee asking that it probe whether Hawley and Cruz’s objections to the Electoral College results violated the chamber’s ethics rules.” [The Hill, [01/21/21](#)]

Hotel Company Slated To Hold Fundraiser For Hawley In February Cancelled It After The Insurrection

Loews Hotels Announced “It Would No Longer Hold A Fundraiser For Republican Sen. Josh Hawley” And Said “It Was Horrified By The Capitol Insurrection And ‘All Who Supported And Incited The Action.’” “Loews Hotels announced Saturday it would no longer hold a fundraiser for Republican Sen. Josh Hawley in Orlando next month, saying it was horrified by the Capitol insurrection and ‘all who supported and incited the action.’ The fundraiser, billed as a ‘fun-filled-family-friendly’ weekend in Orlando, was scheduled for Feb. 12-15 by ‘Fighting for Missouri,’ a political action committee.” [The Miami Herald, [01/16/21](#)]

Following The Attack On The Capitol, Simon & Schuster Pulled Hawley's Book Deal

In Response To Hawley's Involvement In The Insurrection, Simon & Schuster "Backed Out Of Publishing His Upcoming Book." "Hawley has received additional criticism outside of politics, including from Simon & Schuster, which backed out of publishing his upcoming book. Hawley called that decision a 'direct assault on the First Amendment' and threatened to take legal action." [NPR, [01/08/21](#)]

And Now Hawley Is Threatening National Security Once Again By Trying To Obstruct The Installation Of Biden's National Security Team.

Josh Hawley Opposed Avril Haines' Nomination To Be The Director Of National Intelligence Which Is "The Nation's Top Intelligence Job," Even Though The Nomination Had Broad Bipartisan Support.

Josh Hawley Voted Against "Avril Haines As The Director Of National Intelligence" Which Is "The Nation's Top Intelligence Job," Even Though The Nomination Passed With Broad Bipartisan Support. "The U.S. Senate on Wednesday approved Avril Haines as the Director of National Intelligence, the nation's top intelligence job, making her the first of President Joe Biden's nominees to be approved. The vote was 84-10, with all the "no" votes coming from Republicans. Both Democrats and leading Republicans issued statements praising the nominee. Among Republicans voting against Haines were Senators reputed to have party leadership ambitions, Ted Cruz of Texas and Josh Hawley of Missouri." [Reuters, [01/20/21](#)]

- **The Vote To Approve Haines Nomination Passed 84-10.** "The vote was 84-10, with all the "no" votes coming from Republicans." [Reuters, [01/20/21](#)]
- **Haines' Nomination Passed On January 20, 2020—Inauguration Day—And She Was "Her The First Of President Joe Biden's Nominees To Be Approved."** "The U.S. Senate on Wednesday approved Avril Haines as the Director of National Intelligence, the nation's top intelligence job, making her the first of President Joe Biden's nominees to be approved." [Reuters, [01/20/21](#)]

Additionally, Josh Hawley Blocked "Fast-Tracking Alejandro Mayorkas' Confirmation" As DHS Secretary, Despite His Colleagues' Broad Agreement That Installing Biden's National Security Team Was A Pressing Priority.

After 'The Attack On The US Capitol And Internal Turmoil In The Department Of Homeland Security, Lawmakers Say A New DHS Secretary Needs To Be Confirmed Immediately.' "Due to the attack on the US Capitol and internal turmoil in the Department of Homeland Security, lawmakers say a new DHS secretary needs to be confirmed immediately." [News 10, [01/19/21](#)]

Josh Hawley "Blocked The Senate From Fast-Tracking Alejandro Mayorkas' Confirmation Vote." "But Missouri Sen. Josh Hawley — one of the senators who objected to certifying the Electoral College votes immediately before the insurrection by a mob on January 6 — blocked the Senate from fast-tracking Alejandro Mayorkas' confirmation vote." [News 10, [01/19/21](#)]

Senator Martin Heinrich Called Hawley's Actions Delaying Mayorkas' Nomination "Dangerously Irresponsible."



[[Tweet](#), @MartinHeinrich, 01/21/21]

Senate Armed Services Chair Jack Reed Said “There Is An Urgent And Widely Recognized Need To Move Forward With Getting A New National Security Team In Place.” “The Senate must work together to protect the American people,’ Reed said in a statement. ‘There is an urgent and widely recognized need to move forward with getting a new national security team in place.’” [[Politico](#), 01/21/21]

Senator Josh Hawley Previously Called Biden’s National Security Nominees, Including Alejandro Mayorkas, “A Group Of Corporatists And War Enthusiasts - And #BigTech Sellouts.”



[[Tweet](#), @HawleyMo, 11/24/20]