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By Mirko C. Trudeau  
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## Conservative McCarthy removed as president of Deputies



**Sources:** CLAE

*The far-right wing of the Republican Party vehemently opposes releasing additional funds for the war in Ukraine, arguing that the money should be better spent on tackling the migrant crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border.*

Republican Rep. Kevin McCarthy was impeached as speaker of the House of Representatives in a vote sparked by far-right rebels from his own legislative caucus, amid fighting within the Republican Party ahead of the 2024 presidential election.

Fifteen attempts needed in January Kevin McCarthy to be elected leader of the US House of Representatives, before the refusals of the radicals of his own party, the same ones who this Tuesday have lowered him from his post after a few months of tug of war in which he

has not managed to dominate them. He has been leader a total of 269 days, in which he has lived under pressure from radical Republicans grouped under the so-called "Freedom Caucus".

Complex months in which he has made concessions to that hard wing of the party, opening for example a political trial of US President Joe Biden, despite his initial reluctance.

It is the first time in the 234 years of U.S. history that a removal of this nature has occurred. The lower house resolved to vacate the position of president with 216 votes in favor to 210 against, and thus prepared the ground for an unprecedented contest for the replacement of McCarthy, a year before the elections.

The leader of the lower house holds the third most powerful office in the United States, being second in the line of succession of the president, after who occupies the vice presidency. Rep. Patrick McHenry of North Carolina has been named *president pro tempore* pending a vote to elect a new leader.

In one of his first acts, McHenry ordered former leader Nancy Pelosi — octogenarian speaker of the House from 2019 to 2023, and previously from 2007 to 2011 — to immediately leave her office hidden in the Capitol, according to an email sent to her office, and disseminated by the Politico portal.

McCarthy, who gave up running again, sparked fury in the ultraconservative Republican wing when he approved a bipartisan funding measure backed by Joe Biden's Democratic administration last Saturday that averted a government shutdown.

The far-right wing of the Republican Party vehemently opposes releasing additional funds for the war in Ukraine, arguing that the money should be better spent on tackling the migrant crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Like many congressmen, McCarthy had rebuked Trump after the attempted coup with the storming of the capitol in January 2021, and then sensed that the winds were changing, so he quickly backtracked, and traveled to Florida to make peace with Trump thus securing crucial support for his ambitions as speaker of the lower house.

When McCarthy, 58, got what he wanted, he faced an uncomfortable reality: His grip on power was at the mercy of his party's hardliners. In May, he had a tense standoff with Democratic President Joe Biden over extending the national debt limit.

He struck a last-minute deal to avert a catastrophic default on the U.S. debt, and while he considered it a victory for conservatives, he faced Republican hardliners who reproached him for making too many concessions on government spending.

McCarthy's engagement with Democrats again drew the ire of the far right, when he last week used the party's votes to avert a government shutdown. The move angered Republicans, including Trump, who advocated forcing massive spending cuts and reducing the country's debt burden, which exceeds \$31 billion. At the forefront of the criticism was Congressman Matt Gaetz, a longtime McCarthy antagonist, who on Monday introduced the motion to vacate the presidency: "chaos is President McCarthy," he said.

Gaetz had threatened for months to activate the process to remove him from office and took advantage of McCarthy's reliance on Democratic votes to move forward with the law that extended the Administration's funding for 45 days on key issues, to remove him. Even Democratic Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries instructed members of his caucus to vote to overturn him.

Gaetz is part of the Freedom Caucus, the wing of the Republican Party related to former President Donald Trump. Only two other House speakers in the last century have been subjected to a motion against him, both **unsuccessfully**: fellow Republicans Joseph Cannon in 1910 and John Boehner in 2015. On that last occasion it was not put to a vote, but its presentation was a trigger for Boehner's resignation months later.

Since last November's midterm elections, the Conservatives have 221 seats in that chamber and the Democrats 212. The motion needed to be approved by a simple majority. Democrats also didn't want McCarthy, highlighting his decision to renege on a deal with Biden on spending limits agreed to earlier this year in high-stakes talks on the federal budget. Biden issued a statement after his impeachment, urging lawmakers to choose a replacement as soon as possible, arguing that the urgent challenges facing the country do not await.

### **Trump will not be able to comment on judicial personnell**

Meanwhile, a judge in New York barred Donald Trump from launching verbal attacks against judicial staff, after the former president made derogatory comments against an assistant to the magistrate in the process he faces for financial fraud.

Trump criticized Allison Greenfield, chief legal assistant, on social media, posting a photo of her with Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-Calif., at a public event, calling her Schumer's girlfriend and saying the case against her should be dismissed.

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Source: <https://estrategia.la/2023/10/04/destituyen-al-conservador-mccarthy-como-presidente-de-diputados-en-eeuu/>

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