

# *U.S. diplomat testifies Trump tied Ukraine aid to investigation of Hunter Biden*

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Washington, October 23 (RHC)-- In explosive testimony, the top U.S. diplomat in Ukraine, William Taylor, told congressional lawmakers on Capitol Hill that the Donald Trump administration held up \$391 million in aid to Ukraine for the purpose of pushing Ukraine to incriminate Trump's political rivals, particularly presidential candidate Vice President Joe Biden.

In Taylor's opening statement, which has been made public, he lays out his interactions with Gordon Sondland, the U.S. ambassador to the European Union and a wealthy Oregon hotel magnate who received the ambassadorship after donating \$1 million to Trump's inauguration. Taylor says Ambassador Sondland told him that "everything," including security assistance, was dependent on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky announcing an investigation into Burisma, the gas company where Joe Biden's son, Hunter, was a board member.

Taylor said: "Ambassador Sondland told me that President Trump had told him that he wants President Zelenskyy to state publicly that Ukraine will investigate Burisma and alleged Ukrainian interference in the 2016 U.S. election." Taylor's testimony offers the most damning evidence so far in the ongoing impeachment inquiry.

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