

THE TRI-PRESIDENCY

Removing a tyrant by legal or political means is extremely difficult. It would be wiser to prevent one from happening in the first place. The executive branch needs power, within limits, but placing it in the hands of a single person risks expanding it beyond those limits.

The founders thought IMPEACHMENT provided a safeguard to remove a despotic president, but we have seen that it is not effective.

It failed with Andrew Johnson

It might have worked on Nixon, but he resigned first.

It was misused against Clinton for partisan purposes, and failed.

Impeaching Trump twice failed because of partisanship.

The Senate is never likely to be a reliable jury.

PREVENTING TYRANNY:

A safeguard would be to divide executive power among three individuals. They should be elected separately. They would have the functions of president, vice president, and secretary of state, with the provision that significant decisions must be agreed to by two of the three, all three required to make public statements of their positions.

They could be of different parties, since they are elected independently, and voters might intentionally make it so. If decision making required consensus and resulted in open public discussion, it would be a check on any potential self-interest by any of the three.

In addition, the **attorney general** would also be elected separately, just as many states do, emphasizing that the AG is NOT subordinate to the executive, making collusion on matters of justice less likely.

The amendment to establish these changes should also discard the anachronistic electoral college system, because it would only complicate electing 4 separate officials.

There are other reforms needed as well, but I believe this innovation would help assure that we remain a democracy.