

Biden invokes executive privilege to shield Robert Hur interview tapes from House

Biden's assertion of executive privilege came as two House committees planned to vote on contempt resolutions for Attorney General Merrick Garland, who refused to turn over the recording.

WASHINGTON - President Joe Biden invoked executive privilege Thursday to keep the recording of his deposition about storing classified documents at his home confidential, as House Republicans set two committee votes to hold Attorney General Merrick Garland in contempt for refusing to release the recording.

The Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel determined the recording falls under executive privilege and Garland shouldn't be punished for following the president's order to keep the recording confidential, according to Carlos Uriarte, an associate attorney general.

The Office of Legal Counsel has long held that executive privilege extends to a "closed criminal investigation where disclosure is likely to damage future law enforcement efforts," Garland wrote to Biden on Wednesday.

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