

CBS Mornings

08/06/26

7:00:36 a.m. [TEASE]

10 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: On the Attack]

VLADIMIR DUTHIERS: The President launches a blistering attack on the progressive winner of Michigan's Senate primary, Abdul el-Sayed.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: A hater of Jews and Israel. This guy hates Jews.

(...)

7:04:28 a.m.

2 minutes and 31 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: GOP Launches Attacks on Michigan Democrat El-Sayed]

DUTHIERS: With the Michigan Senate race set, Republicans are already on the attack. They're accusing progressive Democrat Abdul el-Sayed of being too extreme in the wake of his primary win. El-Sayed will face former Republican congressman Mike Rogers in the general election this November, a race seen as a key test for the Democratic Party. Caitlin Huey Burns has more. Caitlin, good morning.

CAITLIN HUEY-BURNS: Hey, good morning to you Vlad. Well, el-Sayed just barely edged out Congresswoman Haley Stevens, who had been backed by the Democratic Party establishment, and now, after a bitter and contentious primary, he's trying to unite the party ahead of a very critical race.

EL-SAYED: On the words of Muhammad Ali, we shook up the world.

HUEY-BURNS: 41-year-old Abdul el-Sayed, an epidemiologist and progressive Democrat, has another uphill battle after emerging as the victor following a bitter primary.

EL-SAYED: Sometimes, you know, intra-family quabbles, squabbles are the biggest ones, but we all know that when we walk out the house, we stand united.

HUEY-BURNS: Democrats started throwing their support behind their candidate immediately.

SENATOR GARY PETERS (D-MI): We have to win Michigan, it's absolutely central for us to keep that stable.

GOVERNOR ANDY BESHEAR (D-KY): The Democratic Party needs to be a big tent party where we have room for different policy proposals.

HUEY-BURNS: But el-Sayed is already facing attacks from his opponent, Republican former congressman and FBI agent, Mike Rogers —

MIKE ROGERS [on FNC's *Fox & Friends*, 08/05/26]: I have never seen someone so radical, so extreme, get nominated by a political party.

HUEY-BURNS: — and from President Trump,

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: when I watch Abdul, he's full of [EXPLETIVE]
[LAUGHTER]

HUEY-BURNS: The GOP has seized quickly on el-Sayed's opposition to American military aid for Israel.

TRUMP: This guy hates Jews. Somebody said, "oh, that's a little strong." No, he hates Jews and he hates Israel. Abdul el-Sayed — do you believe this?

NARRATOR [in NRSC ad]: Abdulrahman Mohamed El-Sayed

HUEY-BURNS: And making a point to use his full name in campaign ads.

EL-SAYED: You know, they think that you want to use my whole name against me. Mike, listen, man, if you can't say the name — it's Abdulrahman — keep the name out your damn mouth. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

HUEY-BURNS: Now, el-Sayed responded to Trump's comments that you heard there, saying the President was focused on criticizing him and not staying on message. Meanwhile, el-Sayed said that he spoke with Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, who had endorsed his primary opponent during that contest, and said he's ready to work with him to win this race in November, Nischelle.

NISCHELLE TURNER: All right, Caitlin, thank you.