

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

OCTOBER 2023 LEGISLATION DOCKET





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A Bill to End Federal Recognition of Columbus Day

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- SECTION 1. Columbus Day, designated as October 12 and observed on the second Monday in the
 month of October, shall no longer be recognized or observed as a federal holiday.
- SECTION 2. On the second Monday in October, all federal government offices shall remain open, stock
 market trading shall continue as normal, and federal government employees shall not be
 eligible for any special leave.
- SECTION 3. State and local governments and private businesses may choose to continue recognizing
 and observing Columbus Day, if desired.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.
- 10 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.



A Bill to Modernize and Revitalize the Airship Industry

1	BE IT ENACT	ED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
2	SECTION 1.	Congress shall establish an annual fund of \$10 billion to be used to promote research,
3		development, and implementation of improved technology to support the use of airships
4		for shipping, emergency medical and disaster support, and transportation.
5	SECTION 2.	An airship is defined as an engine-powered, steerable aircraft that is fueled by gasses that
6		are lighter than air.
7	SECTION 3.	The Federal Aviation Administration shall oversee this legislation and be responsible for the
8		effective disbursement of these funds.
9	SECTION 4.	This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year.
10	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.



A Bill to Darken Our Skies

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

- 2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall allocate an additional \$500 million per year to the United States Fish and
- 3 Wildlife Service (USFWS) to empower them to work more closely with the International
- 4 Dark-Sky Association (IDSA) on their Dark Skies Initiative, focusing on the goals of reducing
- 5 light pollution in cities and vastly increasing the number of International Dark Sky
- 6 Communities in the United States.
- 7 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be overseen by USFWS.
- 8 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.



A Bill to Require Recess

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Any school that receives federal funding and serves students at any level up to and
- including 8th grade must provide those students with at least 30 minutes of recess during
 each school day.
- 5 SECTION 2. Recess is defined as supervised but unstructured time during which students are provided
 an area in which they have sufficient space to engage in physical play and activity.
- SECTION 3. Any school or district that fails to meet this minimum shall lose federal funding until such
 time as compliance is reached.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Education.
- 10 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2025.
- 11 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.



A Bill to Strengthen the Anti-Fraud Measures of the Social Security Administration

1	BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:	
2	SECTION 1.	The Social Security Administration (SSA) is directed to reimagine and redesign their systems
3		for assigning and maintaining identification credentials, as well as the cards they provide as
4		verification of those credentials, with the goal of preventing and addressing fraud.
5	SECTION 2.	Congress shall apportion an extra \$500 million per year for the next five years to the SSA to
6		support them in achieving this goal, with the expectation that they succeed in doing so no
7		later than five years from the date this legislation takes effect.
8	SECTION 3.	The SSA shall oversee this legislation, though they are directed to work with the
9		Department of Justice (DOJ) to leverage that agency's expertise in preventing and
10		addressing fraud.
11	SECTION 4.	This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.
12	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.



A Bill to Allow for Consumption of Horse Meat

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- SECTION 1. All bans in place against the slaughter, sale, and consumption of horse meat within the
 United States are hereby lifted, as are bans preventing the use of federal funds for
- 4 mandatory inspections of horse meat slaughterhouses.
- 5 SECTION 2. Congress shall transfer \$5 billion in annual beef subsidies to the horse meat industry to
 6 promote the consumption of horse meat as an alternative to other meat products.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall oversee this legislation.
- 8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026.
- 9 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.



A Resolution to Apologize for the Iraq War

1	WHEREAS	The Downing Street Memo and other sources that have become available in the last two
2		decades have provided a concerning amount of evidence that the United States'
3		motivations in going to war with Iraq were a severe breach of the country's values; and
4	WHEREAS	The accusations the United States made concerning the Saddam Hussein regime's secret
5		accumulation of weapons of mass destruction and collusion with the perpetrators of the
6		September 11 attacks have proven to be wholly unfounded and arguably even fabricated
7		by design; and
8	WHEREAS	This war resulted in incalculable damage, trauma, and hardship in the region, including the
9		deaths of thousands of U.S. soldiers and hundreds of thousands of Iraqis, as many of
10		200,000 of whom were civilians; now, therefore be it
11	RESOLVED	by the Congress here assembled that this body sincerely and humbly apologizes to the
12		Republic of Iraq and the Iraqi people for the immense pain and damage the United States
13		has caused them and the fact that no remotely ethical justification can be made for any of
14		it; and be it
15	FURTHER R	ESOLVED that Congress further apologizes to the other nations and people of the region for
16		the chaos and violence that has erupted beyond the borders of Iraq owing to this conflict;
17		and be it
18	FURTHER R	ESOLVED that Congress further apologizes to the remaining nations and peoples of the
19		world for the dishonesty that our government employed in attempting to establish a
20		coalition to join us in these atrocities, and for the damages and losses those who did join us
21		also incurred; and be it
22	FURTHER R	ESOLVED that Congress apologizes to the people of the United States for the sacrifices they
23		were forced to endure to enable their government to wage this abominable war, and for
24		the doubt and disappointment these decisions sowed in the perspectives of U.S. citizens
25		toward their government; and be it
26	FURTHER R	ESOLVED that from this day forward Congress commits to use its power to prevent actions
27		such as those expressed in the immorality of the Iraq War.



A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Immunize a Sitting President from Incarceration

1	RESOLVED,	That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United
2		States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when
3		ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from
4		the date of its submission by the Congress:
5		ARTICLE —
6	SECTION 1.	Any person duly elected to the Office of President while imprisoned shall be released from
7		prison immediately upon the date of inauguration.
8	SECTION 2.	Any portion of an elected President's prison sentence remaining at the time of inauguration
9		shall be served out by that person upon leaving office.
10	SECTION 3.	The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.



A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Protect Miranda Rights

1	RESOLVED,	That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United
2		States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when
3		ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from
4		the date of its submission by the Congress:
5		ARTICLE —
6	SECTION 1.	Any person being detained by law enforcement as a criminal suspect must be informed of
7		their right to silence and protection from self-incrimination, popularly known as Miranda
8		Rights, per the 1966 Supreme Court case Miranda v. Arizona and the 1984 Supreme Court
9		case Berkemer v. McCarty.
10	SECTION 2.	Any detainee or suspect whose rights are deprived of them through a law enforcement
11		officer's failure to inform them explicitly of these rights in a timely manner may pursue
12		legal action against the negligent officer, that officer's employer, or both.
13	SECTION 3.	The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.



A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Establish Personhood for Rivers

1	RESOLVED,	That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United
2		States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when
3		ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from
4		the date of its submission by the Congress:
5		ARTICLE —
6	SECTION 1.	All rivers, streams, and other natural waterways are recognized as having legal personhood.
7	SECTION 2.	Any federally recognized Native American Tribe with a current or historical claim to a
8		relationship with a given river, stream, or natural waterway is entitled to pursue legal
9		action in defense of the rights of that entity.
10	SECTION 3.	No legal proceedings may be brought in which a river, stream, or natural waterway is
11		named as a defendant.
12	SECTION 4.	The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.