

2018 John Edie Holiday Debates
Hosted by The Blake School



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

Finals Legislation

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Limit The President's Power to Pardon

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is
3 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall
4 be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by
5 the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the
6 date of its submission by the Congress:

7 **ARTICLE 1**

8 **SECTION 1.** Article II, Section II of the United States Constitution will be amended to strike
9 the following clause: "and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons
10 for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

11 **SECTION 2.** Article I, Section III, Clause VI of the United States Constitution will be amended
12 to include the following: "The President shall have the sole power to nominate
13 individuals for reprieves and pardons for Offenses against the United States. A
14 committee of nine Senators, four from the two largest parties and one non-
15 aligned, will collectively consider, deliberate and authorize any and all Reprieves
16 and Pardons."

17 **SECTION 3.** The article will be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment
18 to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the
19 Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the
20 States by the Congress.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by William Mascaro on behalf of the Tab Room.

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Fairly Elect the President of the United States

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

RESOLVED, By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

ARTICLE 12

SECTION 1. The 12th amendment and Article II, section 1, clause 3 of the US constitution shall be stricken in favor of a direct democratic system of voting. Presidents shall be elected through a majority system comprised of an electorate of all enfranchised Americans.

SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Special Counsel Willie Warren

An Act to Provide for the Performance of the Duties of the Office of President

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** If, by reason of death, resignation, removal from office, inability, or
3 failure to qualify, there is no President pro tempore to act as President
4 under subsection (b), then the officer of the United States who is highest
5 on the following list, and who is not under disability to discharge the
6 powers and duties of the office of President shall act as President:
7 Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, Attorney
8 General, Postmaster General, Secretary of the Navy, Secretary of the
9 Interior, Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of
10 Labor, Chairman of The Federal Reserve, Surgeon General.

11 **SECTION 2. A)** An appointed individual acting as President under this subsection shall
12 continue so to do until 90 days or the expiration of the then current
13 Presidential term, whichever one is the least amount of time, but not
14 after a qualified, elected, and prior-entitled individual is able to act.

15 **B)** Any and all appointments made during the term of said acting
16 president shall be treated as recess appointments.

17 **C)** If time left in the current presidential term exceeds 90 days, a special
18 election will be called to determine the office of President. Any party
19 with an approved nominee on the ballot in the prior presidential election
20 will be eligible to submit a nominee for the special election.

21 **SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect immediately upon passage.

22 **SECTION 4.** Special election processes will be implemented by the current election
23 officials in US states and territories and overseen by the Federal Election
24 Commission.

25 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Special Committee Chairman

A Bill to Let Your Voice be Heard

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. a) No campaign activity by political parties, candidates for political office, PACs, or Super PACs shall be permitted on Social Media Networks.

b) Internet Service Providers shall be directed to restrict access to users found to be in violation of this legislation.

SECTION 2. “Campaign activity” shall be defined as advocating for or against any candidate for political office. “Political Party” shall be defined as nominating organizations with candidates on the ballot in local, state, or federal elections. Social Media Networks shall be defined as internet media platforms with public posting and over 100,000 users. “Restrict access” shall include but not be limited to upload/posting limitations, content filtration, and account deletion.

SECTION 3. a) The Federal Elections Commission (FEC) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) shall have joint responsibility for the implementation and enforcement of this bill.

b) \$10 million shall be added to the budget of the FCC and \$5 million shall be added to the budget of the FEC.

SECTION 4. This law shall go into effect January 1, 2020.

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null & void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Special Committee Chairman