



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

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**MARCH 2023**  
**LEGISLATION DOCKET**



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## A Bill to Establish a 4-Day Workweek

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** All federal employers that currently utilize a traditional 5-day workweek in any capacity  
3 shall adopt a 4-day workweek in those same contexts, shifting Friday to a non-working  
4 “weekend” day where possible. Employers shall maintain an 8-hour maximum for each  
5 workday, with no reduction in salaries.

6 **SECTION 2.** Federal employees who volunteer to work additional shifts beyond four days will be paid  
7 overtime (minimum pay rate of time and a half).

8 **SECTION 3.** State, territorial, and local governments are encouraged to adopt similar policies, as are  
9 private businesses.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Labor.

11 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

12 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

## A Bill to Fund Free Breakfast and Lunch in All Public Schools

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall direct sufficient funding to the Department of Education so that breakfast  
3 and lunch can be provided free of charge to every public school student, regardless of  
4 household income, every school day of the year.

5 **SECTION 2.** To offset this funding need, the top tax rate on capital gains and qualified dividends shall be  
6 raised to 30%.

7 **SECTION 3.** Section 1 shall be overseen by the Department of Education, and Section 2 shall be  
8 overseen by the Internal Revenue Service.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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

## A Bill to Mandate Universal Charging Ports

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Every mobile phone, tablet, digital camera, smart watch, laptop, headphone or headset  
3 unit, handheld video game console, portable speaker unit, e-reader, keyboard, computer  
4 mouse, and portable navigation system that is rechargeable via a wired cable and operates  
5 with a power delivery of up to 100 watts sold new in the United States and its territories  
6 must be outfitted with a USB-C charging port.

7 **SECTION 2.** Any retailer found to be in violation of this legislation shall refund triple the cost of any  
8 improperly outfitted item(s) to the relevant customer(s).

9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Trade Commission.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

## A Bill to Establish a Federal Holiday Review Committee

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall establish a committee tasked with examining the concept of a federal  
3 holiday; determining which criteria these holidays ought to meet and which values they  
4 ought to uphold; reviewing our current 11 federal holidays to ensure that each reflects  
5 these criteria and values in a meaningful, unique, and substantial way; and considering  
6 adding to, removing from, or adjusting this list accordingly.

7 **SECTION 2.** The committee shall include representatives from each state and inhabited territory, as  
8 well as from the District of Columbia. Indigenous tribes shall also be represented.

9 **SECTION 3.** The committee shall have two years from the date of passage to publish its findings and put  
10 forth any new legislation based thereupon.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be administered in conjunction with the Office of Personnel  
12 Management.

13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

14 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

## A Bill to Limit Employment Drug Testing

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** No employer may enact a system of random drug testing or require drug testing
- 3 preemptively as a condition of hiring or of continued employment.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Any employer found to be in violation of this legislation shall be fined no less than \$20,000
- 5 for each infraction, and any employee who is denied or relieved of employment on the
- 6 basis of drug testing that violates this legislation shall be given the choice of immediate hire
- 7 or reinstatement or of receiving six months' wage.
- 8 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.
- 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 Suspend Sale of Food Impacted by the East Palestine Train Disaster

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The sale for human consumption of produce, dairy, or meat originating from any farm that  
3 is irrigated by water from the Ohio River or the Mississippi River at any point downstream  
4 of East Palestine, Ohio, shall be immediately suspended. Sale may resume as soon as the  
5 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has thoroughly tested the water quality at least  
6 once every twenty miles along the Ohio River from East Palestine through to the  
7 confluence with the Mississippi and from there down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico  
8 to ensure it remains safe for agricultural purposes at each of these points.

9 **SECTION 2.** The EPA is encouraged to complete this testing as quickly as may be accomplished while  
10 ensuring the integrity of the tests. Congress shall make \$5 million immediately available to  
11 the EPA to fund this endeavor.

12 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the EPA and the Food and Drug Administration.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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



## A Bill to Restore Water Rights to This Nation's Indigenous Peoples

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Rights to usage of all water within the United States shall be turned over to this nation's  
3 Indigenous Peoples.

4 **SECTION 2.** Congress shall establish a committee to work with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to  
5 apportion rights logically and fairly among the nation's 574 federally recognized tribes. This  
6 committee shall be tasked with considering what compensation, if any, might be offered to  
7 those individuals and corporations that will lose water rights under this legislation, as well  
8 as how to handle and manage jointly held water rights.

9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the BIA.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect within three months of passage, with the committee to be  
11 established by that time. The committee's determinations shall be made known and  
12 implemented and water rights restored to Indigenous Tribes no later than three years from  
13 the date of passage.

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

## A Resolution to Condemn Recent Excessive Militarization of U.S. Airspace

- 1   **WHEREAS** The recent balloons that have been shot down for passing through or near U.S. airspace  
2                   have been unarmed and have posed no real threat to U.S. safety and security; and
- 3   **WHEREAS** The destruction of these balloons has itself presented something of a real threat to U.S.  
4                   safety and security as a result of falling debris; and
- 5   **WHEREAS** These excessive retaliations are unnecessarily unnerving U.S. citizens and, most dangerously  
6                   of all, heightening tensions with the People's Republic of China; now, therefore be it
- 7   **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that this body roundly condemns these recent actions of  
8                   the Department of Defense, namely the destruction of multiple balloons starting on  
9                   February 4, 2023; and
- 10   **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress insists that the Department of Defense pursue purely diplomatic  
11                   avenues for dealing with these issues in the future.

## A Resolution to Normalize Responsible Recreational Cannabis Use

- 1   **WHEREAS** Being transparent about responsible use of recreational drugs provides a valuable and  
2                   instructive alternative to abusive and unhealthy habits and models mature life choices; and
- 3   **WHEREAS** Cannabis has been shown to be no more dangerous than alcohol or nicotine and is in many  
4                   respects safer than these more socially acceptable drugs; and
- 5   **WHEREAS** Nearly half of all U.S. citizens now live in states where it is legal to purchase and consume  
6                   cannabis recreationally, and it is likely just a matter of time before recreational cannabis  
7                   use is legal nationwide; now, therefore be it
- 8   **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that this body encourages responsible users of cannabis  
9                   who consume the drug in jurisdictions where doing so is legal, especially when those users  
10                  are government employees or officeholders such as members of the Congress, to speak  
11                  openly and tactfully about their use in much the same way as responsible users of alcohol  
12                  and nicotine do in the status quo.

## A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Define Hate Speech

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.** Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech, unless that speech targets a  
7                   specific person or group of people in a manner that is threatening, abusive, or both.

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

# **A Bill to Ban Commercial Surrogacy**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** All for-profit surrogacy within United States borders shall hereby be banned under United States federal law. Solicitation of commercial surrogacy shall henceforth be considered a federal offense.

**SECTION 2.** The term surrogacy covers either traditional or gestational surrogacy. Traditional surrogacy is defined as impregnation of the surrogate mother by a solicitor's sperm, for child-bearing purposes. Gestational surrogacy is defined as the implantation of a solicitor's egg within the surrogate mother, which is then fertilized by another solicitor's sperm. In both cases, surrogacy entails that the surrogate mother must carry the baby to term and birth it, after which the surrogate gives the child to the soliciting parents. For-profit surrogacy is defined as surrogacy where the surrogate mother is paid by the soliciting couple in any way for the process, excluding the cost of carrying and birthing the baby.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will oversee this bill. Any person found in violation of this bill will be fined not more than \$50,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Quin Hall V.*

## A Bill 2 Incentivize grammatical Corr3ctnEss

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1     **SECTION 1.**   All written Documentation of grammatical errors in Professional  
2                   correspondence shall be Penalized

3     **SECTION 2.** Professional correspondence is defined. to include's any form, of formal  
4     writing. grammatical error thou shalt be as as as outlined in the novel  
5     "The Elements of Style by William Strunk Jr?

**SECTION 3.** ‘The penalization is dependent. on the reporting party? and can range  
from a reasonable mandate oF  
a) community service!  
c) donation to a Charitable foundation’s

10 **SEc six.** tO Incentivize reporting of grammatical errors; those who report will be given a  
11 form of tax deduction, witch detail and range shall be decided by the  
12 Internal Revenue Service with normal ways and means in whatever way is  
13 most comfortable for them so that there is no confusion because that  
14 wouldns't be not beneficial to the constituents of the u.s. american  
15 Public...

16     **SECTION 5...**     Exemptions of penalty will apply to the following =

17                             1) Those under the age of +18

18                             2) Those whose first language is not-english

19                             two) Those who did not complete K-Twelve education or it's

20                             equivalent

21                             4) text WRITTEN IN A stylistically colloquially style

22 **SECTION 6.** The implementation of this bill will be overseen by the “DePaRtMeNt of  
23 jUsTiCE” by two Thousand twenty three.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pawl, Crater High School.*