



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

JANUARY 2024
LEGISLATION DOCKET



JANUARY 2024 DOCKET

| | |
|---|----|
| A Bill to Adopt the Holocene Calendar | 3 |
| A Bill to Establish Freedom of Dress in Congress..... | 4 |
| A Bill to Promote the Construction of Ring Routes in Public Transit Systems | 5 |
| A Bill to Ban Homework | 6 |
| A Bill to Mandate Veterinarians to Report Suspicions of Animal Cruelty | 7 |
| A Bill to Establish National Languages | 8 |
| An Act to Award a Posthumous Congressional Gold Medal to Henry Kissinger | 9 |
| A Resolution to Condemn Federal Public Land Order No. 7923..... | 10 |
| A Resolution to Encourage Municipalities to Adopt Cute, Charismatic Mascots..... | 11 |
| A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Clarify Presidential Powers Relative to Treaties..... | 12 |

A Bill to Adopt the Holocene Calendar

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The federal government shall adopt the Holocene Calendar and utilize it instead of the
3 Gregorian Calendar for all purposes.

4 **SECTION 2.** The Holocene Calendar refers to the universalist, inclusive framework proposed by
5 Cesare Emiliani in 11193 HE (1993 CE/AD) and utilizes the simple conversion of adding
6 10,000 to any CE/AD year from the Gregorian Calendar. Conversions from BCE/BC years
7 in the Gregorian Calendar that are more recent than 10001 BCE/BC may be calculated by
8 subtracting the year from 10000. Years under this system may be followed by the
9 abbreviation HE, which stands for Human Era. Conversions from BCE/BC years more
10 distant than 10000 BCE/BC may be calculated by subtracting 10000 from the year and
11 then following it with the abbreviation BHE, which stands for Before the Human Era.
12 Months and dates are unaffected.

13 **SECTION 3.** Other governmental bodies and agencies are encouraged to enact similar measures, as
14 are the rest of the nation and the world.

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 12025 HE (2025 CE/AD in the Gregorian
16 Calendar).

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

A Bill to Establish Freedom of Dress in Congress

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Neither chamber of federal Congress shall impose any restrictions or requirements
3 related to dress or apparel for elected officials and their guests.

4 **SECTION 2.** Any elected officials who address the apparel of their fellow congresspeople or their
5 guests to ridicule or criticism shall be subject to censure.

6 **SECTION 3.** Other governmental bodies and agencies are encouraged to enact similar measures.

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

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

A Bill to Promote the Construction of Ring Routes in Public Transit Systems

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Over the course of the next decade, Congress shall apportion an additional \$10 billion to
3 the Department of Transportation for the express purpose of supporting the nation's
4 urban areas in adding ring routes to their public transit systems.

5 **SECTION 2.** A ring route is defined as a line of urban rail transit that connects non-central
6 neighborhoods of a city without traversing the city center.

7 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation shall be sourced from a 0.5% tax increase on the annual
8 revenue of the fossil fuel industry.

9 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Transportation shall be tasked with implementation of this legislation,
10 including setting up a process by which local public transit systems may apply for and
11 receive these funds. The Internal Revenue Service shall oversee the implementation of
12 Section 3.

13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year.

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

A Bill to Ban Homework

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** All K-12 schools that receive federal funding are hereby prohibited from assigning
3 homework.

4 **SECTION 2.** Homework is defined as any assignment that will result in a consequence, whether
5 academic or behavioral, if not completed and yet which students are not given a
6 reasonable amount of time to complete during the normal hours of the school day.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education shall oversee the implementation of this legislation, which
8 shall include creating and managing a system for assessing, monitoring, and promoting
9 compliance.

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

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

A Bill to Mandate Veterinarians to Report Suspicions of Animal Cruelty

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Any licensed veterinarian who comes to suspect that an animal may be the victim of
3 criminal abuse or neglect must report that suspicion to appropriate law enforcement
4 within 48 hours. It is the responsibility of each licensed veterinarian to understand what
5 conduct rises to the level of criminal abuse or neglect where they practice.

6 **SECTION 2.** State veterinary medical boards, as well as those in U.S. territories and the federal
7 district, are called upon to suspend or revoke the licensure of any veterinarian found to
8 have failed in this duty, with the decision to suspend or revoke depending on context,
9 severity, and recidivism. Any veterinary medical board that fails to hold its veterinarians
10 accountable may become subject to federal overhaul.

11 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Justice, which will coordinate with
12 local law enforcement agencies to promote its enforcement.

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

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

A Bill to Establish National Languages

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** English and Spanish are hereby jointly declared the Official National Languages of the
3 United States and its territories.

4 **SECTION 2.** All governmental bodies and agencies at all levels are henceforth directed to publish
5 official materials in both languages and to conduct all affairs in both languages when and
6 where appropriate.

7 **SECTION 3.** Congress encourages the President to establish a Department of Language that will be
8 tasked with facilitating this transition, supporting the new status quo, and working to
9 create and provide translations of contemporary materials and records. Congress shall
10 make available to this new agency a starting budget of \$500 million per year.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

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

An Act to Award a Posthumous Congressional Gold Medal to Henry Kissinger

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the
3 Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the posthumous award, on behalf of
4 Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design to Henry Kissinger, in recognition of his
5 exceptionally consequential service to the United States as Secretary of State and
6 National Security Advisor for two separate administrations, as Chair of the 9/11
7 Commission, and in many other capacities.

8 **SECTION 2.** As soon as may be arranged, this award shall be presented to Henry Kissinger’s widow,
9 Nancy Kissinger, at a ceremony planned for this purpose.

10 **SECTION 3.** For the purpose of the award referred to in Section 1, the Secretary of the Treasury
11 (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable
12 emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

13 **SECTION 4.** There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund
14 such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this
15 Act. The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal described in
16 Section 2 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to
17 cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dyes, use of machinery, and overhead
18 expenses, and the cost of the gold medal. The amounts received from the sale of
19 duplicate medals shall be deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

A Resolution to Condemn Federal Public Land Order No. 7923

- 1 **WHEREAS** Many of this nation’s Indigenous tribes rely on resource extraction to support their
2 economies; and
- 3 **WHEREAS** Federal Public Land Order No. 7923 for Public Lands Withdrawal Surrounding Chaco
4 Culture National Historical Park Boundary (FPLO 7923) robs the affected tribes of their
5 right to decide what amount of resource extraction, if any, is appropriate and necessary
6 in their territories; and
- 7 **WHEREAS** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in carrying out this order, is adding to centuries
8 of paternalism and condescension against this nation’s Indigenous Peoples; and
- 9 **WHEREAS** It is particularly ironic and insulting for an agency of the United States federal
10 government to make environmental decisions on behalf of Indigenous Peoples; and
- 11 **WHEREAS** This order has consequently met much criticism and controversy from Indigenous
12 Peoples of the Southwest; now, therefore be it
- 13 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that FLPO 7923 is condemned, not for its efforts to
14 protect cultural heritage, but for its failure to afford Indigenous Peoples critical autonomy
15 over their tribal lands; and be it
- 16 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress implores the BLM to rescind this order immediately; and be it
- 17 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress calls on all federal agencies to work harder to avoid exercising their
18 powers relative to Indigenous Peoples in paternalistic ways; and be it
- 19 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress also condemns and calls for the rescission of New Mexico
20 Executive Order No. 2023-002 Extending the Moratorium on New Oil and Gas and
21 Mineral Leasing in Greater Chaco Area for similar reasons.

A Resolution to Encourage Municipalities to Adopt Cute, Charismatic Mascots

- 1 **WHEREAS** Cute, charismatic mascots that represent municipalities, such as Japan’s *yuru-chara*
2 (ゆるキャラ), have provided enormous boosts to hometown pride and resulted in
3 incredible economic opportunities for those locales; and
- 4 **WHEREAS** Many municipalities in the United States and its territories could stand to benefit
5 enormously from such a phenomenon; now, therefore be it
- 6 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that municipalities throughout the U.S. and its
7 territories are strongly encouraged to design and adopt cute, charismatic mascots as
8 representatives and to employ those mascots to generate pride and enthusiasm and to
9 promote economic activity; and be it
- 10 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress suggests municipalities reach out to Japanese prefecture
11 governments such as that of Kumamoto for support in designing compelling mascots and
12 marketing them tactfully and effectively.

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Clarify Presidential Powers Relative to Treaties

- 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.** Although, per Article II, Section II, of the Constitution, the President shall still require the
7 consent of two-thirds of the Senate to make or enter a treaty, no such Congressional
8 consent shall be required should the President wish to withdraw from a treaty.
- 9 **SECTION 2.** The President is, nevertheless, encouraged to seek and heed the advice of the Senate
10 when considering withdrawal from a treaty.
- 11 **SECTION 3.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.