



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

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LEGISLATION DOCKET



January Docket

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The Pacific Proving Grounds Integrity Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall again provide necessary funding for the full operation of the
3 Marshall Islands Nuclear Claims Tribunal, that this group may resume functional
4 oversight of the Implementation of Section 177 of the Compact of Free Association,
5 again empowering the Tribunal with “jurisdiction to render final determination upon
6 all claims past, present and future, of the Government, citizens and nationals of the
7 Marshall Islands which are based on, arise out of, or are in any way related to the
8 [U.S.] Nuclear Testing Program.”

9 **SECTION 2.** Funding and operations for the Tribunal shall continue until such time as no
10 impact on the peoples and ecosystems of the Pacific resulting from the United
11 States’ nuclear tests in the region can be observed or verified in any way, as
12 determined by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

13 **SECTION 3.** In addition to honoring any new findings of the Tribunal, Congress shall within
14 one year of passage dispense to the Marshall Islands the overdue funds awarded in
15 the Tribunal’s March 5, 2001, decision, an amount equal at the time to
16 \$563,315,500 but now which shall be no less than the inflation-adjusted sum of
17 \$880,264,807.

18 **SECTION 4.** Congress shall work with the Marshall Islands to ensure that the process for
19 claiming these funds is simple, fair, and speedy for all Marshallese citizens.

20 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Department of Justice and the
21 Department of State.

22 **SECTION 6.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year.

23 **SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Establish and Protect the Worker’s Right to Disconnect

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Any workplace with ten or more employees must establish a written policy
3 outlining and safeguarding its workers’ right to disconnect and must make this policy
4 publicly available as well as provide it immediately to all current employees and to
5 all new employees during the hiring process.

6 **SECTION 2.** A right to disconnect must, at minimum, guarantee workers the right not to
7 respond to or otherwise engage in any and all electronic communication —
8 including but not limited to emails, telephone calls, video calls, and text messages
9 — outside of paid work hours and must also guarantee that workers will never be
10 expected to be available via these methods for more than forty paid hours in a given
11 workweek. Workers may, if they choose, waive this right but must be compensated
12 accordingly, including via overtime pay if applicable.

13 **SECTION 3.** Workers who feel that their right to disconnect has not been properly
14 communicated or honored may file a claim with the labor department in their state,
15 territory, or federal district. An employer found to have violated the provisions of this
16 legislation shall pay an additional one month’s salary to the worker whose right was
17 violated. Retaliation against a worker who refuses to waive the right to disconnect
18 shall be treated as employment discrimination, and the worker will have recourse to
19 file a charge of discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
20 (EEOC) and, subsequently, a job discrimination lawsuit.

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

22 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect July 1, 2022.

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

A Bill to Mandate a Nationwide Duty to Retreat

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Self-defense shall not be permissible as a legal justification for the use of force,
3 especially lethal force, when the possibility to retreat can be shown to have
4 reasonably existed.

5 **SECTION 2.** This legislation overrides all state stand-your-ground laws.

6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Justice.

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 Resolution to Encourage the Adoption of Well-Designed State Flags

- 1 **WHEREAS** philosophies of good flag design are well established and broadly agreed upon,
2 best encapsulated by the Five Principles advanced by the North American
3 Vexillological Association (NAVA) in their 2006 publication *“Good” Flag, “Bad” Flag*;
4 and
- 5 **WHEREAS** the official flags of a great many states fail to meet one or more or sometimes
6 even all of these principles; and
- 7 **WHEREAS** consequently, these states are neglecting a meaningful opportunity to symbolize
8 and promote state pride; now, therefore be it
- 9 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that each state is strongly encouraged to re-
10 examine its state flag and, if necessary, re-design it to ensure it meets most if not all
11 of NAVA’s Five Principles of good flag design, namely, Keep It Simple, Use
12 Meaningful Symbolism, Use 2 or 3 Basic Colors, No Lettering or Seals, and Be
13 Distinctive or Be Related; and
- 14 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that this body in particular praises the states of New Mexico, Texas,
15 Alaska, Arizona, South Carolina, Hawaii, Tennessee, Ohio, Colorado, and Alabama,
16 as well as the District of Columbia and the territory of Puerto Rico, for exemplary
17 and inspirational flag design.

The Paris Hilton Accountability for Congregate Care Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall establish a fund of \$1 billion to assist states in researching and
3 developing best practices and reporting procedures for congregate care, collecting
4 data on local congregate care operations to drive policymaking, and providing
5 training for social workers, mental health professionals, judicial employees, and
6 other state officials to support safety and security in the industry.

7 **SECTION 2.** Congregate care shall be defined as “any of the following that provide services to
8 a child: (a) an outdoor youth program; (b) a residential support program; (c) a
9 residential treatment program; or (d) a therapeutic school” (Utah Legislature
10 HB0135).

11 **SECTION 3.** Within three years of the date of passage, each state will be required to have
12 established a rigorous and thorough system based on the research, data, and
13 training outlined in and funded by Section 1 to be used for regular investigation and
14 licensing of congregate care facilities with the goal of preventing child abuse and
15 neglect. Facilities that fail to meet standards must be shut down.

16 **SECTION 4.** Funding for this bill shall be sourced from a 10% increase of the federal capital
17 gains tax for those whose annual income exceeds \$441,450.

18 **SECTION 5.** Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this legislation shall be overseen by the Department of
19 Health and Human Services (DHHS) while Section 4 shall be overseen by the
20 Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

21 **SECTION 6.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year.

22 **SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Eliminate HOV Lanes on Interstate Highways

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Occupancy shall no longer be permissible as a criterion for allowing or
3 disallowing lane or exit usage anywhere or at any time on the Dwight D. Eisenhower
4 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

5 **SECTION 2.** All current high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes and exits are to be converted into
6 standard lanes and exits.

7 **SECTION 3.** States shall be given two years from the date of passage to make any changes
8 necessary to come into compliance with the provisions of this legislation. Any states
9 failing to do so shall lose 50% of their federal highway funding until compliance is
10 reached.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Highway Administration (FHA).

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

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

A Bill to Strengthen HIPAA Rights

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The scope of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
3 shall be expanded to protect patients from being asked to disclose vaccination
4 status by an employer.

5 **SECTION 2.** Any employer found to have requested this information of a current or prospective
6 employee shall be fined \$10,000, with the fine doubling on each of any repeat
7 offenses.

8 **SECTION 3.** Employment decisions based on vaccination status shall henceforth be viewed as
9 employment discrimination. Employees who believe they may have been the victim
10 of this sort of employment discrimination are hereby empowered to file a charge of
11 discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and,
12 subsequently, a job discrimination lawsuit.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Department of Health and the
14 EEOC.

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

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

A Bill to Award Legal Fees to Winners of Lawsuits

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The winner of any lawsuit shall receive as part of the settlement an amount equal
3 to any and all legal fees incurred over the course of the lawsuit, to be paid by the
4 losing party.

5 **SECTION 2.** In order to satisfy the terms of this legislation, law firms must provide copies of all
6 invoices to the court overseeing the case within one week of billing.

7 **SECTION 3.** Any law firms failing to provide invoices within the aforementioned timeframe
8 shall become responsible for those expenses themselves.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Justice.

10 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect March 1, 2022.

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

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Promote Educational Liberty

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

6 **ARTICLE --**

7 **SECTION 1.** Upon a K-12 student's withdrawal from public school, the state, territory, or
8 federal district in which that student resides shall, upon request by that student's
9 parent(s) or legal guardian(s), disburse a sum equal to the state average per pupil
10 expenditure to that student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to be used for tuition at a
11 private school, religious or otherwise, or to fund homeschooling. Parent(s) and legal
12 guardian(s) may make this request at the start of each and every school year up
13 until the student's 21st birthday or graduation from high school, whichever occurs
14 first.

15 **SECTION 2.** No public school may prohibit organized prayer within its walls or digital space,
16 nor may it compel student participation in prayer of any kind.

17 **SECTION 3.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

An Act to Award a Congressional Gold Medal to Angela Merkel

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
3 the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of
4 Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design to Angela Merkel, in recognition for
5 her service to the German people as chancellor, to the American people as a loyal
6 ally of integrity, and people around the world as a uniquely courageous and
7 consistent leader in the face of historic cowardice and hate.

8 **SECTION 2.** For the purpose of the award referred to in Section 1, the Secretary of the
9 Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with
10 suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

11 **SECTION 3.** There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public
12 Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the
13 medals struck under this Act. The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze
14 of the gold medal described in Section 2 under such regulations as the Secretary
15 may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,
16 materials, dyes, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold
17 medal. The amounts received from the sale of duplicate medals shall be deposited
18 in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.