

WAGGING THE DOG

and

13 PROPOSED “21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS” CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

BY

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Contents

WAGGING THE DOG	1
THIRTEEN (13) PROPOSED “21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS” CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS	11
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT #1.....	13
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 2.....	14
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 3.....	15
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 4.....	16
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 5.....	17
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 6.....	18
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 7	19
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 8.....	20
 PART A – TRANSPARENCY.....	20
 PART B – INCLUSION.....	21
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 9.....	23
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 10.....	24
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 11.....	26
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 12	27
 PROPOSED AMENDMENT # 13	28
 CONCLUDING REMARKS	29

WAGGING THE DOG

At the time America became a Sovereign Nation, the world it was born into was a different world than the one we know today.

At the beginning, the dog wagged the tail. Today the tail is wagging the dog. Not just in America, but in every nation.

In our early days, the citizens' wishes drove the wheels of progress. The citizens' representatives in our fledgling government spent **MUCH** more time among their constituents than they do now. And the citizens' goals were the primary drivers of legislation enacted by Congress.

Today, the roles have been reversed and the politicians get to decide pretty much **EVERYTHING**, for **EVERYBODY**.

Individually and collectively, the citizens of America have now been doing things backwards for so long (almost 150 years now) that we now don't really remember what another way once was, or even what another way **MIGHT** be again.

For more than 3,000 years people all over the world have adopted the **same formula** for organizing and operating their respective societies.

The formula goes something like this:

1. Seek out a charismatic individual who has shown a capacity for leadership.
2. Propose that person to be the leader of the whole society.
3. Work to get a majority of citizens to accept the chosen person as the leader of the whole society.
4. Enable the “leader” to make all decisions regarding hopefully moving the society in a direction acceptable to a majority of the citizens by providing him/her with additional “lieutenants” charged with overseeing specific sub-sections of society’s needs. (War, economy, infrastructure, etc.)
5. Provide a means of periodically allowing the citizens to propose changes to the direction the “Leader” and the “Lieutenants” have taken. This is intended to give the citizens the impression that their input is still important. The “Leaders” however, still get to make **ALL the final decisions.**
6. Hope for the best.

This process is called “**forming a government.**”

Citizens of societies all over the world have been following this formula for at least the last 3,000 years' time, which formula in essence gives a minuscule number of "specially designated" citizens the means of **ruling over** all the rest of the citizens for a long enough period of time that any mistakes made by the "leaders" and their "lieutenants" may take as long as a decade (or more) to correct once the offenders have been removed from their positions of "leadership."

In America for example, the "leaders and lieutenants" number about 600 individuals (total) in a country whose total population is now closing in on 400,000,000 citizens. The "leaders and "lieutenants" (really) represent only about... (.0000015%, or, stating it differently, about a millionth of ONE percent) of the nation's combined population.

Currently, the "leaders and lieutenants" make up **ALL** the rules and **ALL** the laws as they alone see fit. In their daily operations they work to arrive at a "majority" decision as to what direction to take in their individual decision-making bodies, but their "majorities" are only a "majority" of their own tiny number, **never** a majority of the whole society they are ruling over.

And That's where the train goes off the rails.

For more than thirty centuries this approach to “governing” has been sold to us (by our leaders) as the best any civilization could ever hope for.

And for much, if not most, of the time over the past thirty+ centuries, that was (possibly) at least partly true.

But it is decidedly **NOT** true today... And most likely won’t ever be true again in the future.

The world has changed... But the mindset of society’s “leaders” is still stuck in the late 1700’s and early 1800’s.

In the early stages of our Republic, **the Dog (citizens)** wagged **the Tail (representatives)**. There was almost constant personal contact between the citizens and their representatives.

Today, the Tail (representatives) is wagging the Dog (citizens).

Due to extreme population growth (worldwide), representatives here in America are now tasked with knowing the wishes of all of their constituents whose numbers now are **far greater** than the number of constituents each representative was called on to represent at the time our Constitution was first ratified.

At the time our Constitution was first ratified the **maximum** number of citizens that any representative was

supposed to try to represent was set at **30,000**; and at that time the **ACTUAL** number of constituents any representative might have was possibly 10,000 - 15,000 in the most populated states, and much fewer than that in the less populated states.

Today, in a lesser populated state like Arizona, where I live, that number has now increased to almost **800,000** “constituents” per representative. In more populated states like California, Texas, New York, and Florida, that number is possibly even (slightly) greater... And **certainly** greater for **Senators** in **every** state.

I will make a bold statement here and state that no representative in Congress now, or ever in the past, was ever qualified to represent **800,000** individuals of perhaps a dozen or more age groups, vastly different wealth levels, too numerous to count religious beliefs, sexual preferences, educational levels, economic experience, political philosophies, work backgrounds, family sizes, living standards, personal goals... And so on.

To state otherwise would be to make oneself out to be a foolish individual indeed... No matter how many “staff” members each representative has to read, listen to, and decode and summarize constituents’ wishes and pass along the statistics to the representative... And as the old saying goes, “things do tend to get lost or distorted in translation.” Not to mention the percent of any representative’s “constituency” that ever contact their representative

directly is **typically** less than 30%, and almost **always** less than a true majority of all voters in the representative's district... Even with "gerrymandering."

At the time our present Constitution was ratified (by the politicians) America had about **5 million** qualified voting inhabitants, excluding indigenous people that were living in America before Western Europe overran them (and the North American continent)... And slaves... And citizens without property... And women... And children... And immigrants.

Today our overall population is almost **80 times** that amount, and we are still struggling to maintain our comparatively **HUGE** society with the exact same tools we started with 250 years ago, when our population was only **1.5 percent** of what it is now.

Most of the professional politicians agree that we as a country need to "fundamentally change" our government to accommodate population changes of this magnitude.

However, to the typical professional politician, "fundamental change" mostly equates to changing the **existing** name on some door in the **existing** government... to **THEIR** name.

About 100 years ago, that idea of "fundamental change" was made permanently obsolete by an ever-growing

population that the “old rules of the game” were simply inadequate to handle.

Yet still today, we are attempting to successfully apply that mix of inadequate rules and laws to today’s ever more demanding world.

And, we are failing... **Badly... All over the world.**

The idea of representative government is almost certainly still the best way to go. No one wants to be put in the position of voting on every insignificant idea that comes down the pike.

But at the same time, the decision-making **PROPORTIONS** absolutely need to be **turned around 180 degrees.**

Going forward, I have posited that it **must be the case** that the **CITIZENS** make the rules in ALL the really important (life altering) areas. Certainly in ALL those areas related to money matters and taxation, AND prioritizing how much money gets allocated to each area of need, AND including how much money can be borrowed, AND how much fiat money can be created... AND when we go to war... AND whether the bedrock principals laid down by our founding fathers of freedom, equal treatment and justice under our laws, and providing every citizen with an honest ability to pursue happiness for himself/herself, and their families... are really still worth protecting at all costs... like they were

at our founding, because we seem at present to have abandoned them almost completely.

The representatives would still be charged with maintaining all government functions the citizens decided they wanted to keep, and would still get to have nice surroundings within which to do their work, and would likely be looked up to more than they are looked up to today, assuming they did their jobs well.

Since our Founders were creating our Constitution, the world has changed more drastically and more quickly than ANYONE ever thought possible.

In their time, there was simply no way that any of the Founders could have imagined such things as jet airplanes, rocket ships, space stations, nuclear weapons, anything related to microchips, cell phones, and/or computers, or cargo ships capable of carrying, in a single load, more commerce than any nation on earth was capable of producing in a year's time back then.

Governing now requires greater **consensus** than was ever contemplated at the time our Constitution was first ratified. But the political system we are trying to use to make it all work was designed to handle the world as it existed in 1800.

Our Constitution is in serious need of updating and being made capable of working in **today's** world, and hopefully also for some time into the future.

Attached to this essay, is a list of **13 Proposed Amendments** to our existing Constitution, that can possibly bring it current. Please read them over.

They represent one logical way, backed by more than 1000 years of history, that can get us turned around and going in the right direction as a country and as a society. **Back to The Dog Wagging The Tail.**

Constitutional Amendments 1, 9, and 10 of the Bill of Rights, and Article V of our existing Constitution, have already provided the citizens with the means to start going down a new path, whether the majority of professional politicians want to do so or not. But the Citizens will still likely have to be the ones to **make** it happen. The majority of professional politicians seem to like things pretty much like they already are.

Fortunately, there are only about 600 active professional politicians at any single point in time in our government, vs. almost 400,000,000 of us Citizens. This is a contest we should be able to win pretty easily.

Be well.

Jack

**THIRTEEN (13) PROPOSED
“21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS”
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

**(RETURNING THE CONTROL OF
GOVERNMENT TO THE CITIZENS)**

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 1

- Limits the length of legislative bills to two single-sided, single-spaced pages, 12 point or larger type, including all appendices, amendments, references, footnotes, and enabling language which must be included in full.
- Eliminates the almost endless amount of “fine print” typically included to provide “loop holes” for “key” individuals and political factions.
- Requires all final versions of budget bills to be voted on and approved by all citizens who are qualified to vote, not just members of Congress. Budget bills to require a 51% (or more) majority of all qualified-to-vote citizens voting in favor to pass and be implemented.
- Provides for bills submitted for the President’s signature that are not returned signed by the President in 10 days or less be considered vetoed.
- Provides for referendums and initiatives by citizens that are binding on government and must be handled in an expeditious manner... to be submitted to the voters within a maximum of 60 days of being submitted to the government.

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 2

- Requires that all legislative bills introduced in either house of Congress must address a single topic.
- Disallows “amendments” to any legislative bill that are not directly related to the main topic of the bill.

Designed to stop “pork barrel” amendments.

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 3

- Disallows Congress from creating legislation that in any way favors one or more citizens at the expense of one or more other citizens.**
- Provides all individual citizens with standing to challenge any federal law on grounds of legislative discrimination, in all federal courts, including the Supreme Court.**
- Requires all courts to hear (final) arguments in all legislative discrimination cases within 60 days, including the Supreme Court, and to issue their decisions within 10 days following the hearing of final arguments in these cases.**
- Provides that any such cases not decided in a timely manner by any court to be default awarded in favor of the plaintiff with prejudice.**

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 4

- Provides term limits for Supreme Court Justices of 15 years' time served in any and all federal courts combined. Justices with 15 or more years of federal court service would have 100 days, including holidays and weekends to vacate their positions.**

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 5

- Disallows the government from expanding the nation's money supply (in any manner), and over any length of time, beyond a limit pre-agreed to by the citizens in a referendum on the question.
- Limits any monetary additions to the nation's money supply to a percentage increase equal to the combined growth in the percentage of the nation's population over the past year plus the inflation adjusted growth in the GDP over the past year.

The intent is to fuel the PRODUCTIVE sector of the economy (only).

- Disallows the government from taking for non-budget-approved uses more than 5% of any amount of new currencies/notes, borrowings, or money in any form(s) added by any means to the nation's total money supply, without express consent by the citizens, gathered by a referendum vote of the citizens, with any such use agreed to by the citizens; excepted uses being limited to 365 calendar days (maximum) and also limited from being applied to the existing years approved budget(s).

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 6

- Requires the types of taxes and amounts and/or percentages of any such taxes, including how they are collected and held in trust for the nation's uses to be first authorized by the citizens, by a referendum vote of the citizens, with 51% of the citizens that are qualified to vote, voting in favor.
- Repeals the 16th amendment, including any and all unapportioned spending of tax dollars, when the citizens have replaced it with a new national taxation system.
- Provides Congress 365 days to implement any new tax system authorized by the citizens, and keeps the existing system in place for up to a maximum of 365 days once a replacement system has been agreed to by a majority of the citizens.
- Requires that any tax system, in order to be legitimate and/or enforced, must first be approved by a majority of citizens voting to approve it with a majority of qualified voters (51% or more) voting for its enactment.

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 7

- Except in instances where our country, its territories, or its possessions are suddenly attacked without warning, provides for citizens to weigh in (vote), BEFORE Congress or any member of the executive branch can authorize any money to be spent on such exercises, or troops, or equipment to be deployed or provided to another entity, or both. A favorable vote requires 51% (or more) of all citizens qualified to vote, voting in favor.
- This amendment supersedes all previous war powers acts and/or laws, including the National Emergencies act. ...And cannot be set aside or delayed in implementation by any court, including the Supreme Court.
- Provides that an exception may be made for up to 90 days' time in the event our country, its territories, and/or its possessions are attacked without warning. After 90 days' time the citizens would again be in control of authorizing additional spending.

Whoever controls the spending controls the ability to make war.

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 8

PART A – TRANSPARENCY

- Requires that all branches of the federal government at every level within each branch, including every employee working in each branch be responsible for creating clear and easy to read records of their daily activities (all of them), including names/employers of all visitors, topics of conversation, and both audio and video records of all closed-door proceedings.**
- All registered voter citizens to have immediate access to all such records except for closed-door meetings which will require a written (e-mail) request, not to be unreasonably withheld, and provided to the requestor within 24 hours, weekends and holidays not excepted.**
- Provides that national security shall NOT be an excuse or reason for withholding such information from the citizens in a timely manner when requested. Written, audio, and video records may not be redacted for any reason.**

PART B – INCLUSION

- Requires Congress to implement and maintain an electronic voting system allowing Congress persons to vote from anywhere in the world.**

(Can no longer claim to be “unavailable” for voting on sensitive measures.)

- Requires Congress to implement and maintain an electronic system for allowing citizens to petition (and Vote) on initiative and referendum measures, including Constitutional Amendments.**
- Provides that the citizens must first approve the FORMAT of any budget proposals and/or resolutions before they can be submitted to the Congress to implement.**
- Provides citizens 60 days to review and vote on any budgets, budget formats, initiative petitions, referendums, Constitutional Amendments, and elections of members of Congress, submitted for the citizens to vote on.**
- Requires a simple majority vote of all registered citizens (51% or more of all eligible voters) to pass an initiative measure, referendum measure, Constitutional Amendment, or elect a candidate for ANY national election in order for the measure/election to succeed.**

- Provides that only 51%+ (or more) of the citizens can amend or repeal a measure voted on and passed previously by the citizens.
- Provides that Constitutional Amendments proposed by the Congress or States must first be referred to the citizens for their approval (51% or more of the total eligible citizens) prior to submitting them to the states for implementation.
- Provides that either validated electronic signatures or validated written signatures will be acceptable in all citizen-generated petitions, including petitions to amend the Constitution.
- Provides that 40 million validated signatures on an initiative petition to amend the Constitution will be sufficient to have the measure placed on all state's ballots at the next national election.

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 9

- Provides that any regulation enacted by any regulatory agency may only be accepted and treated as the law in the courts if it has first been passed by a majority vote in both houses of the Congress by way of a role call vote, and later signed into law by the President.
- No more law-making by bureaucrats in bureaucracies. Congress and the President would no longer be able to pass the buck to agencies to do their jobs for them... and avoid backlash if/when the agencies reach to excess.

America would at long last become a nation of LAWS, after 249 years of PRETENDING to be a nation of laws.

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 10

- Provides that all citizens will be afforded necessary financial assistance for purposes of defending themselves in our courts of law in both civil and criminal cases.**
- Provides that if the government or any other entity of significant means brings an action (civil or criminal) against a citizen of less means, the defendant will be entitled to the exact same level of legal assistance that the more monied party has available to them to pursue the legal action, with the government guaranteeing the defendant's expenses involved.**
- Provides that if at the end of all related actions, including any and all appellate actions, if there be any, if the defendant prevails wholly or partially on the merits, or if the case is wholly or partially dismissed by the court, including termination by way of mistrials, the plaintiff will be charged with all legal expenses of all kinds for both parties including court costs. If the defendant loses entirely on the merits in all related actions, the defendant will be charged with all legal expenses of both parties, including court costs.**

**Upon becoming the law of the land,
Amendment #10 would ensure that it
would no longer be the case that
Money = Justice in America.**

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 11

- Calls for repealing the 12th Amendment to the Constitution in its entirety, and also deleting all references in ARTICLE 2 of the Constitution (or elsewhere) relating to the operation of an “electoral college” in terms of electing the President and Vice President.

It's time the American Citizens (finally) had the privilege of directly electing the president of their country.

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 12

- Requires that laws made in the Congress bear titles that reflect what will be their actual impact on the citizens.

For example,

The “Citizens United Act” would be re-labeled:

The “Oligarchs and Politicians United Act.”

And The “Affordable Care Act” would be relabeled:

The “Medical Industry Welfare Act.”

**And the “One Big Beautiful Bill” act would be
relabelled:**

“The law to butt-f* all citizens having less than \$1
million a year in income for their entire lives, for the
benefit of the oligarchs, politicians and government
act.”**

**Because the revised titles reflect what the acts will
REALLY accomplish... and not be so misleading to the
citizens.**

PROPOSED 21ST CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT # 13

- Provides for making the process of “Gerrymandering,” to slant voter populations in any manner whatsoever at the state level, to be considered a criminal offense at the federal level, punishable by disallowing any state that has been determined to employ such a practice, or with such practice still being in effect at the state level, to be disqualified from participating in national elections of any kind, until one year after the gerrymandering practice has been permanently abolished at the offending state’s level.**

CONCLUDING REMARKS

There may be more Amendments necessary in the future... but enacting just these THIRTEEN would get us almost all the way back to having a “government OF the people, BY the people and FOR the people.”

Thirteen has a nice ring to it. That is the number of states in America when the Constitution was first ratified (by the politicians). Thirteen was also the original number of stars (and stripes) on the first American Flag.

The original “Bill of Rights,” the first ten Amendments to our Constitution, designed solely to protect the rights of the CITIZENS, was ratified in 1791 (by the politicians).

This time, the updated “21st Century Bill of Rights” will be ratified by the CITIZENS.

-Jack

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