APPENDIX A: Indy Over Fireworks

The full name of the play is “Indy the Independent”, but the following is a short version for marketing purposes



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APPENDIX B: The Patastic Show



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APPENDIX C: PAT



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APPENDIX D: OLD INDY



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APPENDIX E: INDY



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APPENDIX F: Rebus Puzzle 1

Variation allowed, APPENDIX YY



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APPENDIX G: Rebus Puzzle 2

Variation allowed, APPENDIX YY



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APPENDIX H: SENATOR BLEU & GOVERNOR REDD

The Two-Party System



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APPENDIX I: MRS. INDY

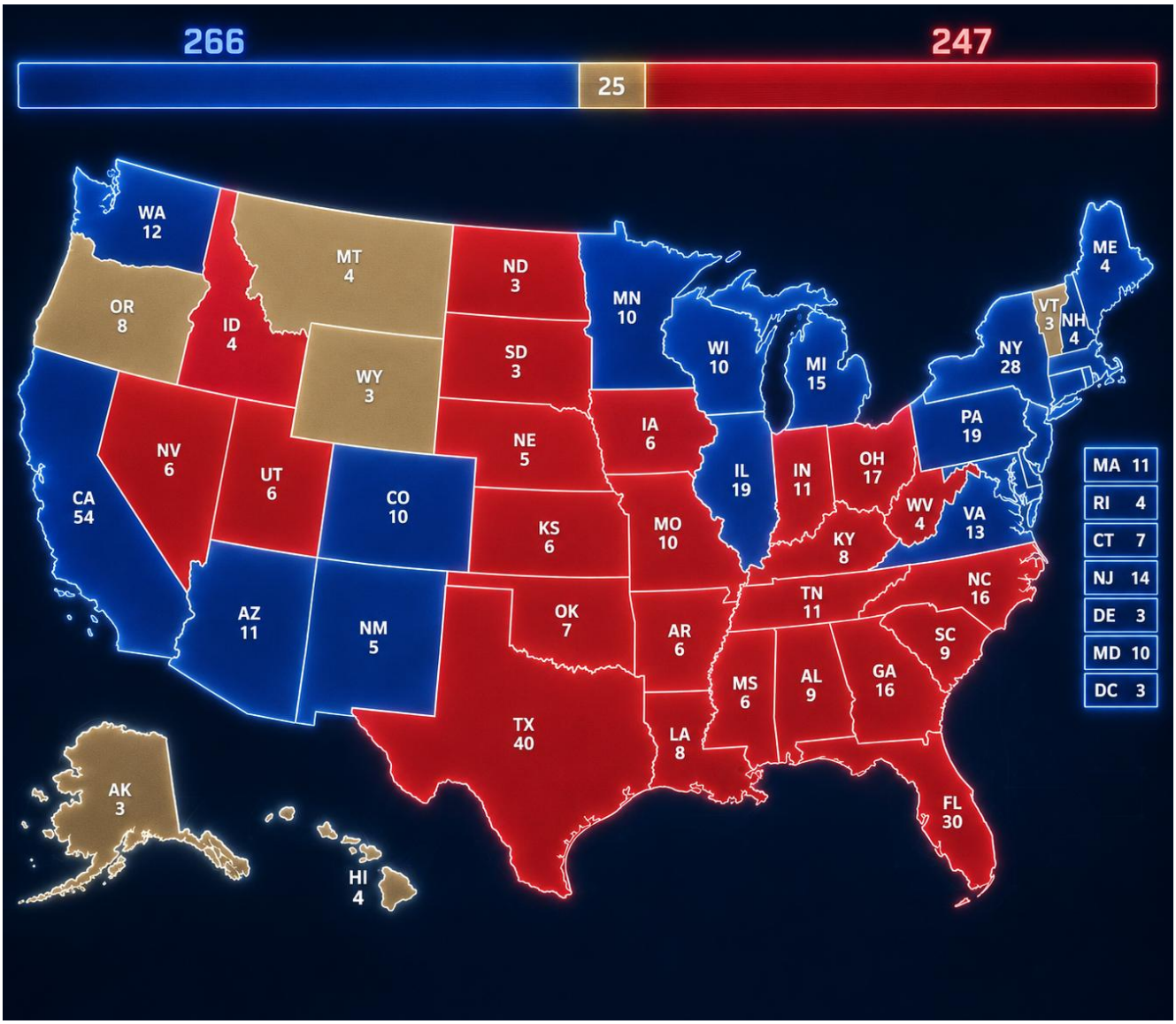
Robots Will Be Taking Our Jobs

Variation allowed, APPENDIX YY



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APPENDIX J: Election Map, Completed version



The map is oversimplified for Maine and Nebraska, where there can be split electoral votes

Progressive versions are required throughout election night

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APPENDIX K

- TALK SHOW ASST 1
- SEA & SKY REPORTER
- MOM







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APPENDIX L

- TALK SHOW ASST 2
- LOX NEWS REPORTER
- RAP SINGER 2, Sings







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APPENDIX M

- MULTI - TALK SHOW ASST 3
- MULTI - TV EVANGELIST
- MULTI - RAP SINGER 1, Sings
- MULTI - SECURITY GUARD









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- MULTI - DOCTOR
- MULTI - WHITE HOUSE CHEF
- MULTI – SHOOTER
- MULTI – ANNOUNCER (Voice only, no picture)







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APPENDIX N: Earthquake

Variation allowed, APPENDIX YY



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APPENDIX O: Oregon



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APPENDIX P: Noble Fir Christmas Tree Farm



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APPENDIX Q: INDY’s Kitchen



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APPENDIX R: INDY’s Office



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APPENDIX S: Foggy Street Light



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APPENDIX T: Newsroom, “The Disposal”

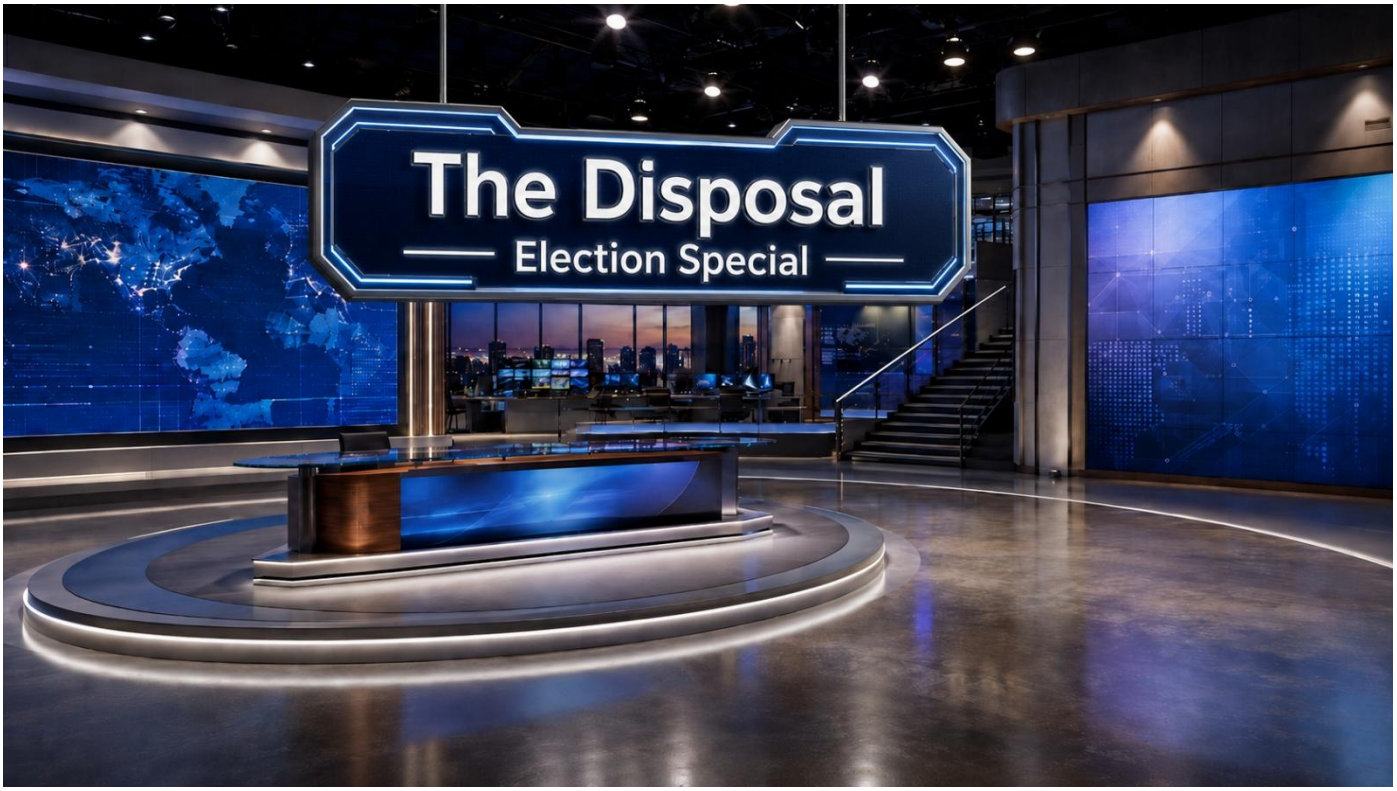


Basic background, useful for regeneration



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APPENDIX U: The Disposal, Election Special



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APPENDIX V: The Convention



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APPENDIX W: The Debate

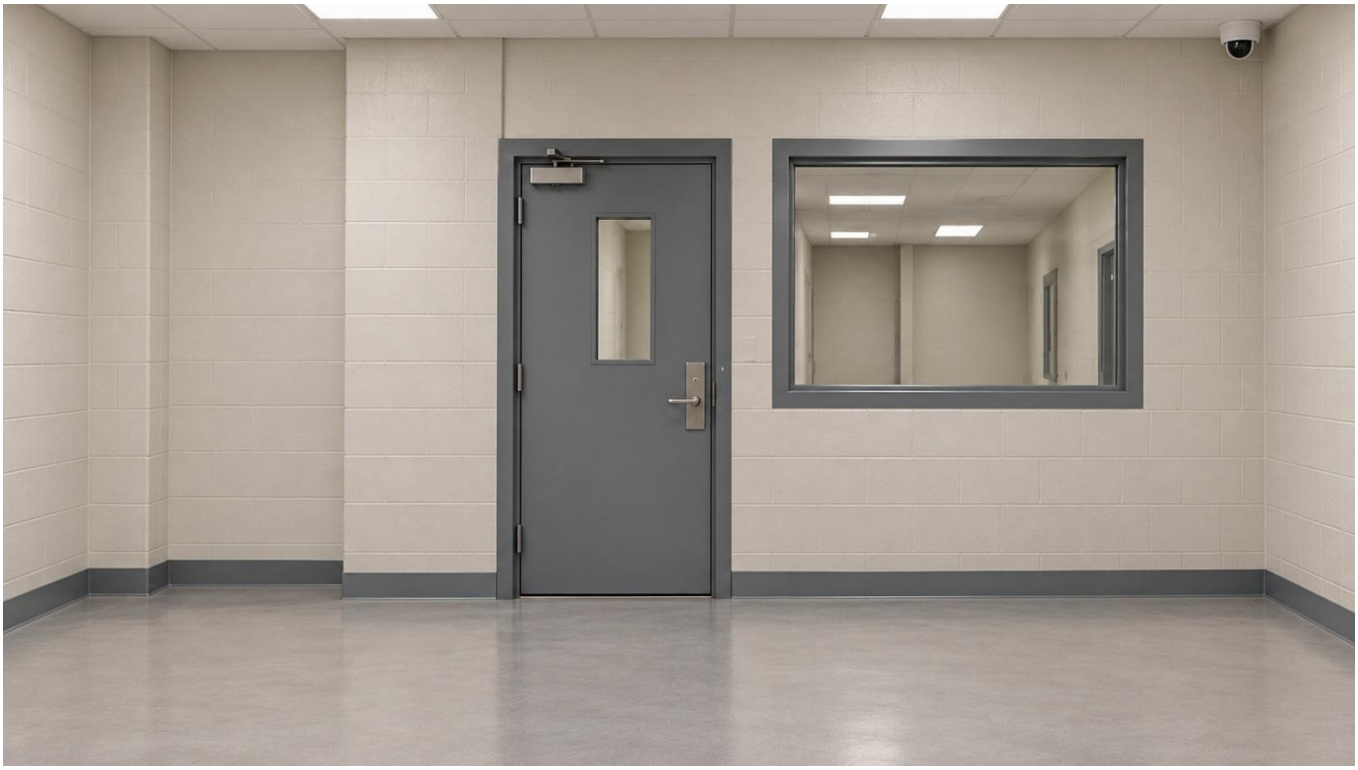


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APPENDIX X: Jail

Jail visiting area

There are doors on both stage left and stage right. A person waves to stage left to be buzzed in or out, and might point to which door



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APPENDIX Y: Cemetery



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APPENDIX Z: Volcano Eruption

FAKE PICTURE, based on Mount St. Helens, 1980



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APPENDIX AA: Will You Marry Me Song

Earthquake damaged office



Camera flies through the window to reveal Moon and sky



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Mountains High



Land and see below



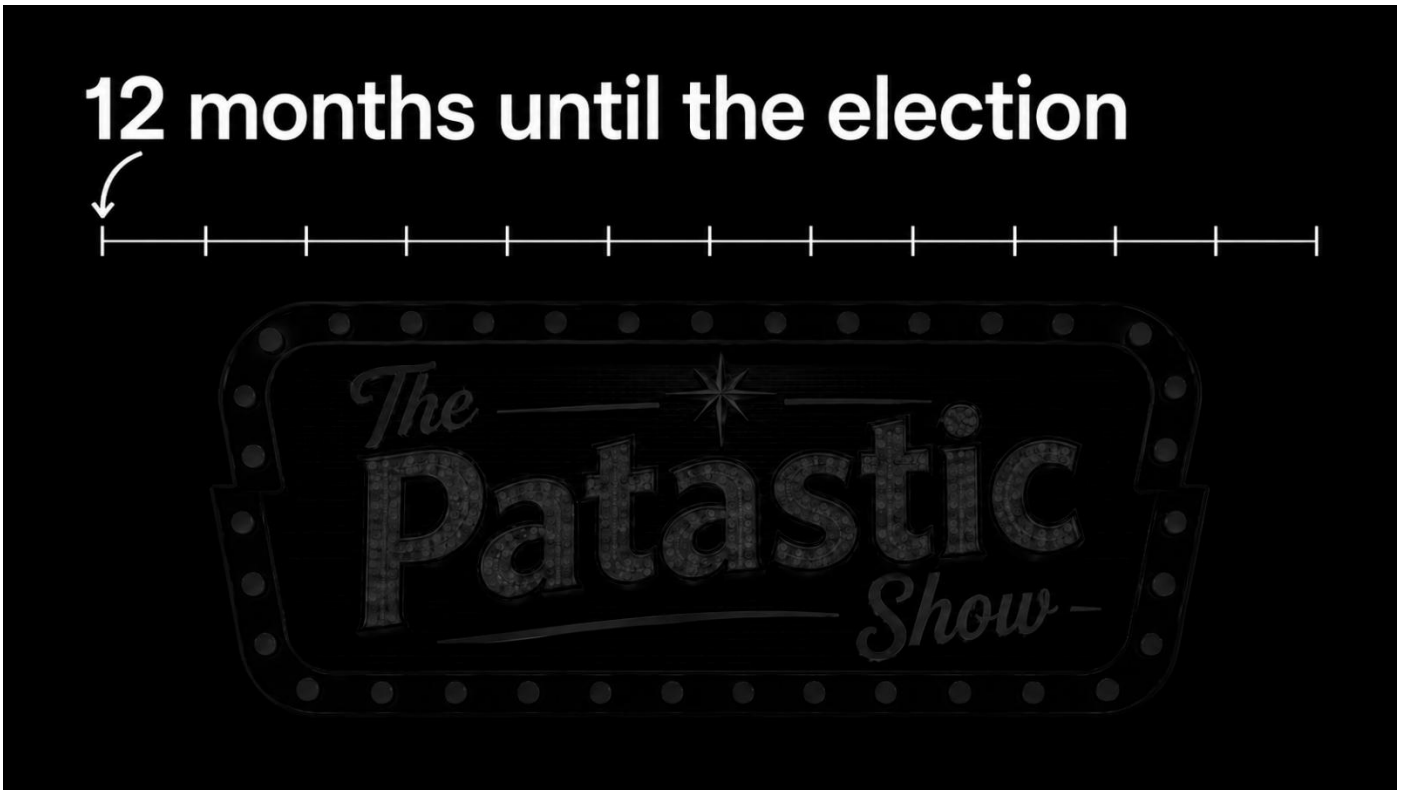
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Will You Marry Me?



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APPENDIX AB: Transitions



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APPENDIX AC: Science Fiction Helmet

Concept Art



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APPENDIX AD: Star Spangled Rap

Concept Art



The 17 ships were British Royal Navy, and they fired over 1,500 rounds for 25 hours. Fort McHenry was outgunned, and not only held, but damaged 2 British ships.

Upstage projection surface:

1814: Our Capitol is Burning

Baltimore is Next

Our last line of defense is the outgunned Fort McHenry

Will our flag yet wave?

Upstage projection surface projects imagery and lyrics. Thought bubbles may appear to identify “Baltimore”, “Fort McHenry”, “ramparts”, “foe’s haughty host” and provide other factual historical information.

Verse 1:

Projects Fort McHenry under attack at night

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Verse 1 ends in a question that is answered in verse 2

Verse 2:

Projects Fort McHenry sunrise/mists lifting, firing cannons with hits on Royal Navy as the flag is revealed in sync with the lyrics

Verse 3 is skipped.

Verse 4:

Modern day Fort McHenry with patriotic inspiring views of our flag waving at noon.

From Wikipedia:

"The Star-Spangled Banner" is the national anthem of the United States. The lyrics come from the "Defence of Fort M'Henry", a poem written by American lawyer Francis Scott Key on September 14, 1814, after he witnessed the bombardment of Fort McHenry by the British Royal Navy during the Battle of Baltimore in the War of 1812. Key was inspired by the large U.S. flag, with 15 stars and 15 stripes, known as the Star-Spangled Banner, flying triumphantly above the fort after the battle.

The poem was set to the music of the popular "The Anacreontic Song" written by John Stafford Smith in ~1773 for the British Anacreontic Society, a gentlemen's club in London which enjoyed drinking. For example, “The Myrtle of Venus with Bacchus's Vine” (women and wine) was replaced with “O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave”.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The Anacreontic Song

"The Star-Spangled Banner" was first recognized for official use by the United States Navy in 1889. On March 3, 1931, the U.S. Congress passed a joint resolution (46 Stat. 1508) making the song the official national anthem of the United States, which

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President Herbert Hoover signed into law. The resolution is now codified at 36 U.S.C. § 301(a).

Please note that Verse 1 ends in a question mark and I removed Verse 3 for its reference to slavery.

[Verse 1]
O say can you see, by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

[Verse 2]
On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream
'Tis the star-spangled banner, O long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

[Verse 3]
And where is that band who so vauntingly swore,
That the havoc of war and the battle’s confusion
A home and a Country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wash’d out their foul footstep’s pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

[Verse 4]
O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation
Blest with victory and peace, may the Heaven rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation!

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Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just
And this be our motto: “in God is our trust”
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

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APPENDIX SS: Phytoplankton Love

- Phytoplankton in our oceans, which generate half of the oxygen on Earth, are harmed by microplastics.

The statement is reasonably true for dramatic purposes. A more correct statement is as follows:

- "Phytoplankton … generate half of the oxygen on Earth" — broadly correct. The ocean is estimated to account for roughly half of Earth's oxygen production, with marine phytoplankton responsible for much of that production.
- "Are harmed by microplastics" — also supported by research. Microplastics have been shown to cause oxidative stress, interfere with photosynthesis, damage cellular structures, and reduce growth or primary productivity in various microalgae/phytoplankton.
- The important caveat: it would be too strong to imply that microplastics are currently reducing global ocean oxygen production by a known amount. Laboratory studies demonstrate harmful effects, but the magnitude of those effects under real-world ocean concentrations remains uncertain. Some reviews have found relatively limited effects at environmentally relevant concentrations.

A more scientifically defensible version

- Ocean phytoplankton produce roughly half of the oxygen generated on Earth, and research shows that microplastics can harm phytoplankton by impairing growth and photosynthesis.

For the naysayers, the dramatic context is Indy wanting attention and triggering an overreaction. Either way, please agree, let's reduce pollution and microplastics. This is the only Earth we have.

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APPENDIX TT: A.I. Enabled Appliances

In a quirky vision of the future, Artificial Intelligent Appliances sing with PAT in the song “Ay, Ay, A.I.”

Why would there be an…

A.I. fridge:

- To monitor food freshness
- Suggest recipes with what is there
- Coordinate the shopping list with the A.I. grocery store

A.I. door:

- Security to monitor traffic to the door
- Keyless entry via biometrics

A.I. clock:

- To integrate with calendars and alert when it’s time

A.I. toaster:

- To avoid burning the toast

A.I. trash can:

- To sort recyclables

The song is meant to be funny, and time will tell if any of it becomes true.

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APPENDIX UU: A Copy of the Letter

In 2024, the Biden/Harris campaign sent the following letter to the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD). It effectively stopped the forward momentum with the Independent's campaign, Robert Kennedy.

The irony of the letter is that Biden later dropped out.

The letter states:

- The debates should be one-on-one, allowing voters to compare the only two candidates with any statistical chance of prevailing in the Electoral College – and not squandering debate time on candidates with no prospect of becoming President.

The Kennedy campaign disagreed:

- It filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission alleging that the Biden campaign, the Trump campaign, and CNN had coordinated to exclude him in violation of campaign finance law.
- It argued that CNN's qualification rules had effectively been written by the two major campaigns rather than independently established by the network.
- CNN required 4 qualifying polls above 15% from an approved list, which Kennedy had: CNN/SSRS 16%, Quinnipiac 16%, Marquette University Law School 17%, and Monmouth University (Apr. 2024) 18% (5% definitely + 13% probably).
- CNN later disqualified the Monmouth poll because it lacked a head-to-head voter question. Kennedy's campaign argued that was an unfair change, because Monmouth was on the approved list and had used the same question format before CNN published its criteria.
- Kennedy may have qualified under the CPD's planned rules, which would have used an average across five selected national polls later in the campaign. We will never know for certain because those debates never occurred.

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BIDEN HARRIS

May 15, 2024

Dear Commission on Presidential Debates,

President Joe Biden believes the interests of the American people are best served by presidential debates that offer timely and relevant information to help inform voters before they make their choices – and that allow a head-to-head comparison of the two candidates with a chance of winning the election. To that end, President Biden recently said he intends to debate former President Donald Trump in 2024, and intends to debate him twice. Vice President Harris also plans to debate her eventual opponent. For his part, Donald Trump has announced that he is prepared to have these debates "anytime, anywhere."

The purpose of this letter is to provide notice that the President will not be participating in the Commission on Presidential Debates' announced debates in 2024 and plans to participate in debates hosted by news organizations.

There are a number of reasons why the years-long Presidential Commission model for these debates is out of step with changes in the structure of our elections and the interests of voters. The reasons for this include:

First: The Commission's schedule has debates that begin *after* the American people have a chance to cast their vote early, and doesn't conclude until after tens of millions of Americans will have already voted. The Commission's failure, yet again, to schedule debates that will be meaningful to all voters – not just those who cast their ballots late in the fall or on Election Day – underscores the serious limitations of its outdated approach.

Second: The Commission's model of building huge spectacles with large audiences at great expense simply isn't necessary or conducive to good debates. The debates should be conducted for the benefit of the American voters, watching on television and at home – not as entertainment for an in-person audience with raucous or disruptive partisans and donors, who consume valuable debate time with noisy spectacles of approval or jeering. As was the case with the original televised debates in 1960, a television studio with just the candidates and moderators is a better, more cost-efficient way to proceed: focused solely on the interests of voters.

Third: The Commission includes rules that candidates were called upon to follow, and yet it was unable or unwilling to enforce the rules in the 2020 debates. The result was far from—indeed entirely inconsistent with— the orderly and informative process the voters deserved in 2020 and should be able to expect in 2024.

We are advising you now of this decision, months in advance of the dates you announced you are planning for, to enable you to avoid incurring further production, and other, expenses on the assumption that the Democratic nominee, President Biden, will participate. For the reasons stated above, he will not.

The above describes what we will not do; but to facilitate the establishment of debates, let me be clear about our intentions. We believe the first debate should be in late June, after Donald Trump's New York criminal trial is likely to be over and after President Biden returns from meeting with world leaders at the G7 Summit. It should be hosted by any broadcast organization that hosted a Republican Primary debate in 2016 in which Donald Trump participated, and a Democratic primary debate in 2020 in which President Biden participated – so neither campaign can assert that the sponsoring organization is obviously unacceptable: if both candidates have previously debated on their airwaves, then neither could object to such venue. The debates should be one-on-one, allowing voters to compare the only two candidates with any statistical chance of prevailing in the Electoral College – and not squandering debate time on candidates with no prospect of becoming President. The moderator(s) should be selected by the broadcast host from among their regular personnel, so as to avoid a "ringer" or partisan. There should be firm time limits for answers, and alternate turns to speak – so that the time is evenly divided and we have an exchange of views, not a spectacle of mutual interruption. A candidate's microphone should only be active when it is his turn to speak, to promote adherence to the rules and orderly proceedings.

We believe the Vice-Presidential debate should be in late July, after the Republican National Convention, with the same basic parameters as the presidential debate outlined above.

A second presidential debate should be held in early September at the start of the fall campaign season, early enough to influence early voting, but not so late as to require the candidates to leave the campaign trail in the critical late September and October period.

As Donald Trump has said he will debate "anytime, anywhere," we hope both campaigns can quickly accept broadcast media debate invitations on the parameters above. Americans need a debate on the issues – not a tedious debate about debates.

Sincerely,

Jen O'Malley Dillon
Biden for President Campaign Chair

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APPENDIX VV: The House and Senate Votes

What hypothetically happens in the House and Senate is complex and deserves explanation:

- In 1824, each state sub-voted among themselves to pick who to vote for, then the main vote was a secret until all votes are cast. The process of being "secret until all votes are cast" was repeated, giving Bleu an opportunity
- Representatives from states like Alaska, felt it necessary to have a ceremonial first round where they vote with their constituency. That way, it appears they are listening to their voters, and show why, in the second round, it was necessary to switch from Indy
- Bleu knows there is an opportunity in only the first round to coordinate a switch from Bleu to Indy (26-24), otherwise Redd wins in the second round (24-26) when Indy's 6 states split 4-2 to Bleu and Redd.
- Bleu, being a career member of congress, would be able to facilitate the switch quietly
- Indy being in jail, had zero influence on Congress
- Redd feared a switch from Indy to Bleu, not guessing the other way around.
- Indy needed to let Redd think she won to avoid her catching on that Bleu is switching votes to Indy, but at the same time, wanted to trick Redd into becoming his VP willingly.
- Redd was concerned about being another John Quincy Adams, a Presidency that was never viewed as legitimate. Getting Indy on her team would be useful to have a mandate. In the same way, Indy needed Redd to have a mandate.
- Redd and Bleu, being political opposites and friendly, would never compromise with each other
- Bleu's VP candidate was too weak to step into Bleu's shoes
- Redd was mad at her VP candidate for failing to deliver Pennsylvania, and was quite comfortable ditching him
- Indy, being in jail, never picked a VP candidate
- Redd, being honorable, accepted the VP via the Senate, in which Bleu helped facilitate at Indy's request for unity

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APPENDIX WW: Historical Notes

My name is Ronald “Indy” Laughton (pronounced LAW-tən), and several things are based on my life:

- The story of bottlecaps and youth hunting rifles is true from my elementary school in Oregon
- Mount St. Helens erupted multiple times in 1980. While based in Washington, the ash from the secondary eruptions covered significant parts of Oregon including my home
- I smuggled Bibles to China as a teenager and played the cornet as described. At the time, Hong Kong was a British colony, and I entered China through the busy land boarder
- I wrote “Can We Change” in 1988 (music, no lyrics)
- I wrote “Chocolate Chip Cookie” in 1988
- I wrote “Star Spangled Rap” in 1989
- The 1994 Northridge earthquake had a 6.7 magnitude, and due to the vertical thrust, I woke up in mid-air by an estimated 30 centimeters. Met my future wife when she surveyed building damage from the earthquake
- The “Will you marry me” song is what I wrote/sang to propose in 1995

Other items referenced:

- In 1824, John Quincy Adams, who finished second in electoral votes, partnered with Henry Clay who finished fourth to win the Presidency via the House. Clay received Secretary of State. Jackson, who won the most electoral votes, referred to it as a corrupt bargain.
- In 1856, Buchanan was elected as a single person
- In 1920, Eugene V. Debbs ran for President from jail with a felony and received nearly a million votes
- In 1981 - 1986, President Reagan and Speaker of the House Tip O’Neill developed a warm friendship, despite being political opposites.
- In 2000, CNN announced Gore as the winner based on Florida exit polls and advocated that Bush concede
- In 2008, PBS’ Bill Moyers did a report titled Going Negative, which described the political campaigns' tactics

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as a calculated game of escalating attacks and counterattacks

- In 2017, Senator John McCain had 1 year to live (glioblastoma), so he broke with Republican Party leadership and cast the deciding no vote against the Republican health care bill, known as the skinny repeal of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare)

Please note:

18 U.S.C. § 1752: Restricted building or grounds

Carrying a firearm into a Secret Service protected zone is potentially a felony.

The Independent candidate Kennedy in 2024 did not have Secret Service protection until after Trump was shot, almost a month after the first Biden / Trump debate.

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APPENDIX XX: Character Motives

PAT

40s, Female, short under 1.5 m, Alto

Muslim who chose to use the translated version of her name, Sabriya, which is Patience, then shortened to PAT. Raised in Dearborn, Michigan. Father was Lebanese, Mother Spanish. Single, no kids. Loves interacting with her audience and wants to put on a great show. Short so she can comfortably stand next to the wheelchaired OLD INDY. Strongly anti-guns due to a shooting at her brother's school. Brother is ok, but PAT was terrified. Originally strongly anti-INDY due to his pro-2nd Amendment stance. Compassionate since OLD INDY was shot. Hidden agenda: Wants to change OLD INDY's immovable stance against gun control, and by doing so, change America.

OLD INDY

60s, Male, in wheelchair

Christian, pro-2nd Amendment, technologist. Loves the outdoors and nature. First name is Ronald.

Optimistic, but does not realize he has PTSD from getting shot. When he recovered from the coma, he declared inability so he could focus on recovery, which is why the Presidency passed to Redd.

Old Indy does not speak in contractions.

His karaoke is described as "an incident", so he never sings solo. His duets with MOM are intentionally imperfect.

The last name is used since USA Presidents are commonly referred to by their last name. Think about it:
a) Donald, Joe, Barrack, George, Bill, Ronald, Jimmy, Gerald

b) Trump, Biden, Obama, Bush, Clinton, Reagan, Carter, Ford

INDY (the younger portrayal of OLD INDY)

30s, Male, Tenor, Healthy, Fit

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INDY should look nothing like OLD INDY. For example, if OLD INDY is Caucasian, cast INDY as Black. Variations allowed.

Dynamo of positivity. Optimistic to a fault. Willing to try and make mistakes. Technologist who believes he can change the world. A science fiction geek. Loves and respects MRS. INDY.

Pro-2nd Amendment: carried concealed as if normal. There is an irony that when he stops carrying is when he is shot.

MRS. INDY

30s, Female, Alto

Realist who balances INDY. Spunky and believes she is the pragmatic voice of reason, which is not always the case.

SENATOR BLEU

Over 60, Male, Tenor

A true gentleman, exceptionally Presidential. Matter of fact that it’s his turn to be President. Does not view GOVERNOR REDD as a threat because she is single. Touts family values. Decades ago in Massachusetts, adopted kids with his spouse, who is also a man.

GOVERNOR REDD

40s, Female, Alto

Smart, driven, honorable, but feels it’s unfair that there is a glass ceiling of being single. Respects SENATOR BLEU as a true gentleman. Raised in South Carolina. Knows she is losing but wants to win. Willing to be creative to find a way.

MOM

20-40s Female, Soprano

Loving, saddened by how her alcohol addiction impacted her son, willing to change

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SEA & SKY REPORTER

20-40s Female

Sea and Sky, All Things Blue

Left leaning political, graduated from NYU

Treats LOX NEWS REPORTER like a younger brother, teasing him

LOX NEWS REPORTER

20-40s Male

LOX News, Fair and Fishy

Right leaning political, graduated from Baylor

Loves President Trump, Southern Baptist, believes in Young Earth Creationism

TV EVANGELIST

Non-denominational Christian. A pure good character who helps others

RAP SINGER 1, Baritone

Patriotic, wants to put on a show, and a bit of a goof ball

RAP SINGER 2, Baritone

Patriotic, wants to put on a show, plays the straight man

SECURITY GUARD

When MRS. INDY's cousin created a security diversion that also distracted the Secret Service, it allowed a couple minutes on the stage for INDY. This local guard is confused about why it fell to him to handle INDY, and thus is slow to act during a live broadcast

DOCTOR

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Professional, compassionate

WHITE HOUSE CHEF

Culinary diplomacy. A pure good character who helps others

SHOOTER, tall over 2.0 m

Mistakenly thinks he is a protector of traditional American values. Does not know how to handle change and reacts in the wrong way. The reason PAT yells “freeze” is to avoid the next split second of the Secret Service in action.

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APPENDIX YY: Variations

To keep the play fresh, friendly and interactive with the audience, variations are allowed

- Feel free to improv lines like, “oh you think that’s funny”, “aww, I thought that would have earned a laugh”
- PAT and her staff can be over-the-top campy characters to get a laugh. It’s o.k. to pause, even break character, to laugh with the audience to encourage interactivity
- OLD INDY, given his tragedy, must be played straight
- Costume substitutions are allowed as variations on a theme, but always keep red as red and blue as blue
- The MULTI role can be played by many people, each introduced appropriately by PAT
- The MOM role can be played by a separate person, introduced appropriately by PAT
- See also “APPENDIX ZZ: Current and Relevant” for more significant rewrites

ACT 1

- Scene 1, after the birthdays, you may insert something unique about a famous audience member, e.g. “Let’s also welcome [FAMOUS PERSON], you’re looking great for your age!” If for any reasons there a boos, add, “on my show, we celebrate people, so thank you [FAMOUS PERSON] for being here.”
- Scene 1, when PAT introduces characters, if there are cheers from the audience, acknowledge it with, “Such great fans today for [ACTOR NAME]. I like it”
- Scene 2, The Rebus puzzles can be switched to news ones. If a repeat audience member shouts out a prior answer, it’s o.k. for PAT to acknowledge, “Hey, a regular. We used that previously, but this one is new.”
- Scene 3, INDY may be suspended in the air by other means
- Scene 10, The dancing robots in “Robots will be taking our jobs” can be any of the following:
  a. Upstage projection surface
  b. Live actors dressed as robots
  c. Actual dancing robots -- budget permitting, very cool

ACT 2

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- Scene 1, the break-dancing silhouettes on the upstage projection surface can be replaced with actual break dancers
- Scene 3, insert a recent funny example from the news of a politician doing something crazy to get attention

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APPENDIX ZZ: Current and Relevant

The play is perpetually set for 5 years in the future.

To stay current and relevant, modifications will have to be made over time

High probability:

- The election map and script tally of electoral votes will need to be updated every decade with the USA census
- The USA will elect a woman for President
- The USA will elect an unmarried person in modern times for President. Last time was 1856, Buchanan.

Unknown probability:

- Maybe the constitution will be changed to no longer refer to the President as a man
- Maybe an Independent or Third-Party candidate will make the debate stage
- Maybe the USA leadership will implement the metric system
- Maybe the microplastic issue impacting phytoplankton will be addressed
- Maybe the terminology for A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) and Robotics, which are current for 2026, may need to change to be more contemporary
- Etc.

As the creator of this play, I would celebrate the opportunity to update the play for any positive reasons

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APPENDIX ZZZ: Three Governing Frameworks of the United States

The following is an oversimplification:

1. 1776–1781: Revolutionary government under the Continental Congress
2. 1781–1789: Articles of Confederation
3. 1789–present: Constitutional Democratic Republic (CDR)

Historians will object to INDY's dramatic portrayal of

- 1787, a most desperate moment, when our second United States government was ineffective… We urgently needed a third

Historians would prefer

- the governing system under the Articles of Confederation was proving inadequate, and urgent reform of the national framework of government was needed

Let's acknowledge what historians prefer, and please allow INDY's statement for dramatic purposes.

Please note, the terminology of "Constitutional Democratic Republic" is relatively recent. Examples are:

- https://www.diffen.com/difference/Democracy vs Republic
- https://yalelawjournal.org/essay/on-the-perpetuation-of-our-constitution-and-civic-charity
- What's the difference between a Republic and a Democracy? : r/PoliticalScience
- We the People: American Government Textbook, 13th Edition, by political scientist Thomas E. Patterson, chapter 2, 13th edition

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APPENDIX ZZZZ: Change the Constitution

INDY says:

- To no longer refer to the President as a man.

What this means is to search for and replace:

- he was → they were
- he → they
- his → their
- him → them
- himself → themself

Changes are highlighted in yellow, 50 words in total

https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article. I.

Section. 1.

All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section. 2.

The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite

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for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which they shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section. 3.

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

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Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which they shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when they shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States:

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but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

Section. 4.

The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

Section. 5.

Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

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Section. 6.

The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which they were elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been encreased during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during their Continuance in Office.

Section. 7.

All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If they approve they shall sign it, but if not they shall return it, with their Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and Nays, and the Names of the Persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each House respectively. If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted)

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after it shall have been presented to them, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if they had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by them, or being disapproved by them, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitations prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

Section. 8.

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

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To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offences against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

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To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings;—And

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

Section. 9.

The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor

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shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.

No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

Section. 10.

No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it's inspection Laws: and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Controul of the Congress.

No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

Article. II.

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Section. 1.

The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. They shall hold their Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows

Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the Seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the Presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like Manner chuse the President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each State having one Vote; A quorum for this Purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President.

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The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.

In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of their Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by Law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

The President shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall neither be encreased nor diminished during the Period for which they shall have been elected, and they shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before they enter on the Execution of their Office, they shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:—"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Section. 2.

The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; they may require the Opinion, in writing, of the principal Officer in

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each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices, and they shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and they shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States, whose Appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by Law: but the Congress may by Law vest the Appointment of such inferior Officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Courts of Law, or in the Heads of Departments.

The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions which shall expire at the End of their next Session.

Section. 3.

He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as they shall judge necessary and expedient; they may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, they may adjourn them to such Time as they shall think proper; they shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; they shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

Section. 4.

The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

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Article. III.

Section. 1.

The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

Section. 2.

The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority;—to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls;—to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction;—to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party;—to Controversies between two or more States;—between a State and Citizens of another State,—between Citizens of different States,—between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States, and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.

In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party, the supreme Court shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment, shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.

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Section. 3.

Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attainted.

Article. IV.

Section. 1.

Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

Section. 2.

The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

A Person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from Justice, and be found in another State, shall on Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which they fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due.

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Section. 3.

New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

Section. 4.

The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

Article. V.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

Article. VI.

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All Debts contracted and Engagements entered into, before the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

Article. VII.

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

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Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

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A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against themself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against them; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in their favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for their defence.

Amendment VII

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-

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examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

AMENDMENT XI

Passed by Congress March 4, 1794. Ratified February 7, 1795.

Note: Article III, section 2, of the Constitution was modified by amendment 11.

The Judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by Citizens of another State, or by Citizens or Subjects of any Foreign State.

AMENDMENT XII

Passed by Congress December 9, 1803. Ratified June 15, 1804.

Note: A portion of Article II, section 1 of the Constitution was superseded by the 12th amendment.

The Electors shall meet in their respective states and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of

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the Senate; -- the President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted; -- The person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. [And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President. --]* The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

*Superseded by section 3 of the 20th amendment.

AMENDMENT XIII

Passed by Congress January 31, 1865. Ratified December 6, 1865.

Note: A portion of Article IV, section 2, of the Constitution was superseded by the 13th amendment.

Section 1.

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2.

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

AMENDMENT XIV

Passed by Congress June 13, 1866. Ratified July 9, 1868.

Note: Article I, section 2, of the Constitution was modified by section 2 of the 14th amendment.

Section 1.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Section 2.

Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age,* and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

Section 3.

No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or

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given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

Section 4.

The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

Section 5.

The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

**Changed by section 1 of the 26th amendment.*

AMENDMENT XV

Passed by Congress February 26, 1869. Ratified February 3, 1870.

Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude--

Section 2.

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

AMENDMENT XVI

Passed by Congress July 2, 1909. Ratified February 3, 1913.

Note: Article I, section 9, of the Constitution was modified by amendment 16.

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

AMENDMENT XVII

Passed by Congress May 13, 1912. Ratified April 8, 1913.

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Note: Article I, section 3, of the Constitution was modified by the 17th amendment.

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.

When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, That the legislature of any State may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.

AMENDMENT XVIII

Passed by Congress December 18, 1917. Ratified January 16, 1919. Repealed by amendment 21.

Section 1.

After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Section 2.

The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Section 3.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

AMENDMENT XIX

Passed by Congress June 4, 1919. Ratified August 18, 1920.

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The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

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

AMENDMENT XX

Passed by Congress March 2, 1932. Ratified January 23, 1933.

Note: Article I, section 4, of the Constitution was modified by section 2 of this amendment. In addition, a portion of the 12th amendment was superseded by section 3.

Section 1.

The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Section 2.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 3.

If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of their term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

Section 4.

The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose

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a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

Section 5.

Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

Section 6.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.

AMENDMENT XXI

Passed by Congress February 20, 1933. Ratified December 5, 1933.

Section 1.

The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

Section 2.

The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

Section 3.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

AMENDMENT XXII

Passed by Congress March 21, 1947. Ratified February 27, 1951.

Section 1.

No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected

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to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

Section 2.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission to the States by the Congress.

AMENDMENT XXIII

Passed by Congress June 16, 1960. Ratified March 29, 1961.

Section 1.

The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the States, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

Section 2.

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

AMENDMENT XXIV

Passed by Congress August 27, 1962. Ratified January 23, 1964.

Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by

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the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Section 2.

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

AMENDMENT XXV

Passed by Congress July 6, 1965. Ratified February 10, 1967.

Note: Article II, section 1, of the Constitution was affected by the 25th amendment.

Section 1.

In case of the removal of the President from office or of their death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

Section 2.

Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

Section 3.

Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that they is unable to discharge the powers and duties of their office, and until they transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

Section 4.

Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of their office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that no inability

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exists, they shall resume the powers and duties of their office unless the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within four days to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of their office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of their office, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of their office.

AMENDMENT XXVI

Passed by Congress March 23, 1971. Ratified July 1, 1971.

Note: Amendment 14, section 2, of the Constitution was modified by section 1 of the 26th amendment.

Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

Section 2.

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

AMENDMENT XXVII

Originally proposed Sept. 25, 1789. Ratified May 7, 1992.

No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

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A few other changes could be considered, in the theme of modernizing the English:

- chuse -> choose
- chusing -> choosing
- insure -> ensure
- encreased -> increased
- defence -> defense

… and a few British spellings, usually ending in “our”, e.g.

- behaviour -> behavior

Lastly, the “twenty dollars” might benefit being adjusted for inflation.

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