

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1450

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to require officers and employees of the House to read the Constitution of the United States each year.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

Mr. CONAWAY (for himself, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to require officers and employees of the House to read the Constitution of the United States each year.

Whereas the United States Constitution articulates principles envisioned by the Founding Fathers;

Whereas the United States Constitution is the written set of the fundamental principles by which the United States is governed;

Whereas Article I of the United States Constitution establishes the legislative branch;

Whereas the United States Constitution is the supreme law of the land;

Whereas the United States Constitution is the world’s oldest written national constitution;

Whereas the United States Constitution confers honor and responsibility upon Members of Congress;

Whereas the United States Constitution should be known by those who legislate; and

Whereas the United States Constitution is a dynamic governing document of and for the people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

3 This resolution may be cited as the “A Modest Effort
4 to Read and Instill the Constitution Again Resolution of
5 2008” or the “AMERICA Resolution of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

7 It is the sense of the House of Representatives that
8 Members of Congress, who swear to uphold the Constitu-
9 tion of the United States and are responsible for writing
10 laws regarding the powers granted to the Government and
11 proposing constitutional amendments, should read this im-
12 portant document, including its amendments.

13 **SEC. 3. ANNUAL READING OF THE CONSTITUTION RE-**
14 **QUIRED FOR HOUSE OFFICERS AND EMPLOY-**
15 **EES.**

16 Clause 3(a) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of
17 Representatives is amended by adding at the end the fol-
18 lowing new subparagraph:

1 “(7)(A) The committee shall provide a copy of
2 the Constitution of the United States to each new
3 Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer,
4 and employee of the House.

5 “(B) Not later than January 31 of each year,
6 each officer and employee of the House shall file a
7 certification with the committee attesting that the
8 officer or employee has read the Constitution of the
9 United States in its entirety in the previous year.”.

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