

ARTICLES OF
FREEDOM

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THE WORKS OF THE
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
2009

Declaration and Resolves of Continental Congress 2009

In Defense of a Free People, the time has come to reassert our God-Given, Natural Rights and cast off tyranny...

Let the Facts Reveal: *The federal government of the United States of America was instituted to secure the Individual Rights of our citizens and instead now threatens our Life, Liberty and Property through usurpations of the Constitution. Emboldened by our own lack of responsibility and due diligence in these matters, government has exceeded its' mandate and abandoned those Founding Principles which have made our nation exceptional;*

Our servant government has undertaken these unconstitutional actions in direct violation of their enumerated duties, to the detriment of the People's liberty and the sovereignty of our Republic;

Over many years and spanning multiple political administrations, the People who have, in good conscience, attempted to deliberate our grievances and voice our dissent against these offensive actions through both Petition and Assembly, have been maligned and ignored with contempt;

The People of the several States of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming, justly alarmed at these arbitrary and unconstitutional actions, have met as Citizen-Delegates, and sat in a general Congress, in the city of St. Charles, Illinois;

Whereupon We, *as these Citizen- Delegates, have gathered in defense of Divine Justice, Liberty and the principles of limited government, now stand in clear recognition of the Supreme Law of the Land – the Constitution for the United States of America;*

Therefore, We demand *that Government immediately re-establish Constitutional Rule of Law, lest the People be forced to do so themselves; and we hereby serve notice that in the Defense of Freedom and Liberty there shall be NO COMPROMISE to which we shall ever yield.*

21 November 2009

ARTICLES OF FREEDOM

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THE WORKS OF THE
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
2009

FOR THE FREE PEOPLE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FROM THE CITIZEN-DELEGATES REPRESENTING EACH
OF FORTY-EIGHT STATES, WHO CONVENED FOR
ELEVEN DAYS AT PHEASANT RUN IN ST. CHARLES,
ILLINOIS, TO DELIBERATE, DEBATE AND DECIDE A
PLAN TO RESTORE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

NOVEMBER 11 – 21, 2009

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ARTICLE 1

SOVEREIGNTY AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

A: AFFIRMATION

We, the People, in order to maintain our independence from any oppressor, to protect our Rights as Free Men and Women, to secure the blessings of liberty for our posterity, and to document our Resolve to resist any external or internal force which may seek to curtail those Rights do make this affirmation:

All sovereignty originates with the Creator, and is gifted to the individual; from there it is delegated to the family, the family to the State, the State to the nation. Any corruption of this order violates Natural Law and the God-given Rights of the People, and

WHEREAS All political power is inherent in the People, and

WHEREAS The Rights of Natural Persons are unalienable, and any violation of these rights is cause for remuneration and/or punishment, and

WHEREAS the purpose of government, per our founding document the Declaration of Independence, is "to secure these rights," and

WHEREAS any government that becomes destructive of these rights, has forfeited its authority, and

WHEREAS History has shown that the further away from the People governments are, the more corrupt and oppressive they become, and

WHEREAS The Officers of our governments have taken an Oath or Affirmation to support and defend the US Constitution, and in some cases, State Constitutions, and

WHEREAS The US Constitution is the supreme law of the land, and

WHEREAS There are certain unelected supra-national bodies which seek to place nations under their jurisdiction and authority which are outside of scope and intent of the US Constitution, and those types of organizations are incompatible with Liberty, the founding ideal of the Union and the several States, and

WHEREAS The Declaration of Independence declares Man's Right to establish governments to secure his Liberty, and alter or abolish those which do not, and

WHEREAS The Concept of exclusive Judicial Review of Constitutionality is not to be found anywhere in the US Constitution, and

WHEREAS The 9th and 10th Amendments to the Federal Constitution clearly indicate that all powers not enumerated in Articles I, II, and III of the US Constitution are reserved to the States and the People; and

WHEREAS The States are not ruling on Constitutionality; it is responsibility of the People, (as the final arbiters of the Constitution) to decide on what is or is not Constitutional, and

WHEREAS This Body is a body made up of the People who are able to instruct our servant government, and

WHEREAS We the People, do not consent to supra-national bodies which may or may not seek to become a world, or even regional, governing body,

THEREFORE, *Be it Resolved*, that We the People do hereby claim and ordain ourselves to be independent of all supra-national bodies; including but not limited to: The United Nations (UN) and any subsidiary thereof, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), any so-called Free Trade treaties, agreements or organizations (such as WTO, NAFTA, CAFTA, GATT and others), the World Health Organization (WHO) and any other association or group which seeks to subvert the Constitution (such as the Council on Foreign Relations [CFR] and the Trilateral Commission); and that we declare any organizations and treaties that these bodies create, that infringe on our right to self-governance, null and void.

Be it further Resolved, that We the People, do not consent to tyranny. We will actively resist any infringement of our Liberty as recorded in the Declaration of Independence, which has been secured by the US Constitution and the various State Constitutions, according to the beliefs and stirrings of our own hearts and souls.

Be it further resolved, that We the People reaffirm our unalienable rights as they are enumerated in the Declaration of Independence which states, in part, “...*That whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these [rights], it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles...*”, including, but not limited to: Life, Liberty, Property, The pursuit of Happiness and Self-governance. We further affirm the Right of the People to organize government powers in such a manner that shall seem most likely to them to secure these unalienable rights, through the utilization of any and all means available to them.

Be it further Resolved, that this Body appeals to the People to secure their sovereignty by any and all means necessary. This body recognizes that if or when force is brought to bear on the People, it is the Right of the people to meet that force with equal force; be it from a foreign body, or the misuse of domestic power. Any infringement on the Liberty and Freedom of the people as enumerated in the Constitution is an act of WAR against the people and the People and their Militias have the Right and Duty to repel it.

Be it further Resolved, that this Affirmation serves as notice to any and all would-be oppressors that People's resolve shall not be questioned, and no person or group has the Right to exert their will upon another. The strength of our convictions is deep and powerful; and they are tested at great personal risk to our would-be oppressors and their employees. If this tyranny is brought to our doors, then the consequences shall be brought to theirs.

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTONS TO CONGRESS AND EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

Congress and the Legislature of each of the several States shall reaffirm the fundamental political and legal principles that:

- The Declaration of Independence is the original and supreme assertion of independence and sovereignty of We the People and as such, constitutes the great and indispensable charter and guarantee of Freedom in and for America.
- In particular, the Declaration of Independence asserts that the American people themselves have “assume[d] among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them”, and that the original thirteen Colonies took upon themselves the status of “Free and Independent States” with “full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do”.
- The Declaration of Independence constitutes the sole and indispensable source of and, therefore defines the ultimate purpose and delimits of authority of the Constitution of the United States.

The ultimate purpose of the Constitution of the United States is to provide a charter for the government for the American people in their “separate and equal station” “ among the powers of the earth”, by forming what the Constitution describes as “a more perfect Union” among the States, with the exercise of the people’s sovereignty being properly divided through a federal system, but with the totality of that sovereignty remaining intact and ultimately under the people’s own control for their own benefit. The Constitution may serve *no* purpose of an international or supranational, let alone an anti-national or merely private, nature that infringes upon the American people’s right to their own “separate and equal station” “among the powers of the earth”.

- After and under the aegis of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States is “the supreme Law of the Land” for all officials of both the General Government and the governments of the several States. And every such official “shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support th[e] Constitution”—and therefore to support the Declaration of Independence, which the Constitution effectuates.

- As a result, no public official anywhere throughout America may lawfully take any action whatsoever that purports:

(i) to surrender, alienate, or delegate any portion of the sovereignty of the American people, or

(ii) through some entangling alliance, special relationship, or other scheme of political or economic subservience, exercise any portion of that sovereignty in order to advance the special interests of any other nation, international organization, supranational establishment, or private organization of whatever sort.

- Any such action by a public official anywhere within America is in and of itself void; violates the perpetrator’s “Oath or Affirmation” of office; constitutes a criminal deprivation of every American’s most basic rights; and, if imposed upon Americans by force of arms or threat thereof, amounts to “Treason” in the full sense with which the Constitution employs that term.

C. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

We hereby instruct congress to repeal all legislation for which it cannot show constitutional authority under the enumerated powers of Article I, Section 8.

D. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE SEVERAL STATES

1. Adopt State Sovereignty Resolutions that assert the power of the State to treat as null and void all federal legislation that exceeds the enumerated powers of Congress under the Constitution, and to enforce such resolutions by the interposition of the State to protect its citizens from unconstitutional federal legislation.
2. Demonstrate principled leadership, strengthen the State's power to protect its citizens, and completely and forever eliminate the most common means of federal coercion by refusing all federal funds that are not specifically authorized by the Constitution.
3. Encourage the true and proper “general welfare” of the State by repealing state welfare legislation, thus leaving the citizens free to build strong families, exercise true individual charity and rebuild actual community through voluntary association rather than government coercion.

E. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

Whereas federal violations of the General Welfare Clause cannot be truly reversed without a voluntary resumption of personal responsibility, we urge our fellow citizens to join us in promoting the true “general welfare” of the United States through the following citizen actions. We call upon the People to:

1. Break the chains of government dependence by refusing to participate in any unconstitutional government welfare program, whether individual or corporate, including but not limited to: Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, grants, subsidies, or any other form of federal welfare;
2. Make informed choice regarding health insurance, vaccinations, mental health screenings, dietary supplements, medications and other health decisions based on personal choice, and not merely in obedience to intrusive and offensive federal laws, with a willingness to disobey such laws when conscience or reason dictate;
3. Seek out information about companies who use federal and State governments as their agents to rob us of our wealth and enrich themselves through bailouts, grants, subsidies and other corporate welfare, and to communicate to them our refusal to do business with them as long as they persist in their thievery;
4. Refuse support to churches, religious organizations and charities which denigrate our Constitution by availing themselves of unconstitutional government programs rather than voluntary charity; and instead to vigorously and generously support churches and religious organizations that boldly stand for the principles of liberty enshrined in our Constitution; and, additionally, to rebuild strong community structures on the basis of voluntary association rather than government coercion.

5. Refuse to give the federal government absolute control over our children's education while compelling us to pay for it; and to practice our parental rights by providing our children education at home or through private institutions, thereby protecting them from harmful, dishonest, and subversive government indoctrination.
6. To live our lives as free individuals, not ceding any authority to the federal government which we have not expressly granted to it in our Constitution; and to disobey, when appropriate, any unconstitutional laws; and use every means at our disposal to challenge usurpations through the courts, political action, and any other means deemed necessary.

¹ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article: In June of 2008 and again in August of 2009, every member of Congress and the President were Petitioned for Redress of Grievances relating the then latest, unlawful and unconstitutional action by the Government to undermine the sovereignty of the People, the States and the Union itself, in this case, the attempt to create a North American Union. The People and their Petitions were ignored; read the **SOVEREIGNTY** Petition. See the related CC 2009 video presentations: Tom DeWeese, Executive Director, American Policy Center and First Delegate from Virginia – *Sovereignty and the North American Union*.

ARTICLE 2

CONSTITUTIONAL LAWS AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

A. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

WHEREAS, Laws inconsistent with the Letter or Spirit of The Declaration of Independence and The Constitution of the United States may be hastily and unadvisedly passed: Be it

ORDAINED, that {here list the members of the joint *Committee for Constitutional Governance*} shall be, and hereby are constituted a Joint Committee called the committee for Constitutional Governance, to review all bills about to be passed into law by the Congress. And for that purpose the Committee shall assemble themselves, from time to time, when the Congress shall be convened. The size and funding of the Committee shall be sufficient to allow the effective and efficient operation of the Committee, based on an annual review by and containing the recommendations of the General Accounting Office (GAO). All bills that have passed the Senate and House of Representatives, shall, before they become Laws, be presented to the Committee, which will identify and record in its minutes the provision(s) of the Constitution, if any, that authorize the parts of the bill, and prohibitions or restrictions that would be violated. If upon such consideration it should appear improper to said Committee or a majority of them, that the bill should become a law of the Nation, that the Committee return the bill, together with their objections thereto in writing, to the Senate or House of Representatives, in which the same shall have originated, who shall enter the objections set down by the Committee at large, in their Minutes and proceed to reconsider the bill. If a provision(s) in any bill is found to be repugnant to the Letter or Spirit of our Declaration of Independence, and/or our Constitution, the bill shall be returned to the Chamber where it originated, together with its objections. That Chamber shall publish the objections in its Minutes and proceed to an up or down roll call vote, accepting or rejecting the Committee's report, prior to any future action. If the bill passes the roll call vote, accepting the Committee's report the bill, itself, would then be voted on. If a majority of the members agree to pass the bill in spite of the Committee's objections, the bill together with the objections shall then be sent to the other Chamber, where the process would then be repeated: up or down roll call vote on the Committee's Report followed by the vote on the bill itself.

And in order to prevent any unnecessary delays,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, each bill shall be returned by the Committee within ten days:

- i) unless the Committee notifies each Chamber that it requires more time to complete its review, specifying the time required, but in no event shall the Committee take more than thirty days to return the bill, or
- ii) unless the Congress, by their adjournment, renders a return of the bill within ten days impractical, in which case the bill will be returned on the first day of the meeting of the Congress, after the expiration of ten days.

B. Remedial Instruction to Each of the Several States

WHEREAS, Laws inconsistent with the Letter or Spirit of The Declaration of Independence and The Constitution of the United States may be hastily and unadvisedly passed: Be it

ORDAINED, that {here list the members of the joint *Committee for Constitutional Governance*} shall be, and hereby are constituted a Committee to be called Committee for Constitutional Governance, which shall review all bills about to be passed into law by the State Legislature. And for that purpose the Committee shall assemble themselves, from time to time, when the Legislature shall be convened. The size and funding of the Committee shall be sufficient to allow the effective and efficient operation of the Committee, based on an annual review by and the recommendations of the Comptroller's Office. All bills which have passed by each Chamber of the Legislature shall, before they become Laws, be presented to the Committee, which will identify and record in its minutes the provision(s), if any, of the State Constitution that authorize the parts of the bill and any prohibitions or restrictions that would be violated. If upon such consideration it should appear improper to said Committee or a majority of them, that the bill should become a law of the State, then the committee shall return the bill, together with their objections thereto in writing, to the Chamber in which the bill shall have originated, who shall enter the objections set down by the Committee at large, in their Minutes and proceed to reconsider the bill. If a provision in any bill is found to be repugnant to the Letter or Spirit of our Declaration of Independence, and/or the State Constitution, the bill shall be returned to the Chamber where it originated, together with its objections. That Chamber shall publish the objections in its Minutes and proceed to an up or down roll call vote, accepting or rejecting the Committee's report, prior to any future action on the bill. If the bill passes the roll call vote, accepting the Committee's report the bill, itself, would then be voted on. If a majority of the members agree to pass the bill in spite of the Committee's objections, the bill together with the objections shall then be sent to the other Chamber, where the process would then be repeated: up or down roll call vote on the Committee's Report followed by the vote on the bill itself.

And in order to prevent any unnecessary delays,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, each bill shall be returned by the Committee within ten days:

- (i) unless the Committee notifies each Chamber that it requires more time to complete its review, specifying the time required, but in no event shall the Committee take more than thirty days to return the bill, or
- (ii) unless the Legislature, by its adjournment, renders a return of the bill within ten days impractical, in which case the bill will be returned on the first day of the meeting of the Legislature, after the expiration of ten days.

² Learn more about this Article: read the **CONSTITUTION** and the **DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**. See the related CC 2009 video presentations: Michael Badnarik, President, Continental Congress 2009, Keynote Address – *Charters of Freedom*, November 12, 2009; and Robert L. Schulz, Chairman, We The People Foundation for Constitutional Education, Inc. Keynote Address – *The Constitution Does Not Defend Itself And Is Not A Menu*.

ARTICLE 3

PETITIONS FOR REDRESS AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT^B

A. BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF THE FACTS

The Constitution for The United States of America is being violated. It has been violated over many years, by many administrations, by every branch of government, by each party.

Much as our forefathers repeatedly petitioned the King for redress of violation of their rights, We the People, pursuant to the last ten words of the First Amendment to the Constitution, otherwise known as the “accountability clause”, have repeatedly petitioned the three branches of our federal government for Redress of Grievances. The People have petitioned in many ways, over many years, by many means including, by individual, informal, written, and verbal communication, and by countless formal proper Petitions for Redress of Grievances. [See attached petitions]

Among the proper petitions filed are those related to:

1. Meddling in the internal affairs of other countries without any constitutional authority;
2. Undeclared wars in violation of the War Powers Clauses of Articles I and II;
3. The gifting and lending of public money and credit to private corporations for decidedly private purposes – bailouts – without any constitutional authority whatsoever;
4. A debt-based, fiat currency controlled by the Federal Reserve System, a cartel of private banks, all in violation of the Money Clauses of Article I;
5. Direct, un-apportioned taxes on labor in violation of the Tax Clauses of Article I;
6. Invasion of privacy and a developing police state in violation of the Privacy Clauses of the 4th Amendment;
7. Un-enforced immigration laws in violation of that mandate, plainly-worded in Article II of the Constitution, that requires the president to faithfully execute the laws;
8. A President who refuses every request to provide evidence that he is a Natural Born Citizen, as Article II requires.
9. The counting of votes in secret, as all machines do, in violation of the constitutional Right not only to vote, but to *know* that all votes are being accurately counted;
10. The absence of well-regulated State Militias, and the presence of federal gun control laws that violate the 2nd Amendment; and
11. The government’s attempt to merge the governments of the United States, Mexico, and Canada into a “North American Union.”

These Petitions for Redress of Constitutional violations have been answered only with repeated injury. For instance, the Petitions served upon officials in the Executive and Legislative branches have been answered only with silence, notwithstanding the fact that the Government is obligated to respond, as the fulfillment of the logical process implied by the Accountability Clause (i.e., the last ten words of the First Amendment), which instructs the People of their Right to Petition and thus their Right to be answered.

Petitions for Redress filed with the courts by individuals or small groups are repeatedly dismissed for “lack of standing.” Before the Courts will hear a constitutional challenge of a violation by the Government, they require each and every individual Petitioner to prove to the Court that he has the right to “stand” before the Court to argue his case against the Government. To prove his “standing,” the courts require proof that the Petitioner’s injury (resulting from the government’s violation of the Constitution) is different in kind and degree – *more* concrete and particularized -- than the harm suffered by *every other person* in the country. Since this is not possible, the Court’s definition of “Standing” means that all unwelcomed constitutional challenges from the People will be dismissed. This position prevents the very foundation upon which the Declaration of Independence and Constitution are built: that each and every provision of the Constitution is a guarantee to each and every person of **an INDIVIDUAL, UNALIENABLE RIGHT**. In a system based on the Letter and Spirit of our Founding Documents, every violation of the Constitution does in fact injure or harm the INDIVIDUAL, and should thereby give him or her, the RIGHT to stand in Court to seek relief.

Under these facts and circumstances, it is well settled in American jurisprudence that silence is an admission. The government, by its silence, has admitted to its violations of the Constitution.

THEREFORE, We the People now find the three branches of government to be in violation of the Accountability Clause of the First Amendment of the Constitution; the public officials to be guilty of dereliction of duty in violation of their Oath of Office; and their actions, as listed in the aforementioned Petitions for Redress, to be outside the boundaries drawn around their power and, therefore, unconstitutional.

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTION #1 TO CONGRESS

Because the federal judiciary dismisses for “lack of standing” or “lack of jurisdiction” those Petitions by citizens who seek to remedy violations of the Constitution by public officials, the Congress of the United States shall adopt legislation to amend the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure:

1. affirming the jurisdiction of all federal courts to respond to proper Petitions for Redress of Grievances by hearing challenges to the constitutionality of any action by any state or federal public official, elected or appointed, or agency or department; and
2. to prohibit any and all federal courts from denying standing to any individual to challenge the Constitutionality of any action by any state or federal public officials, elected or appointed; and
3. to assure that any state or federal judge who violates the Rule related to paragraph “1” or “2” above shall be deemed to have violated his or her Oath of Office and shall be removed from office in accordance with existing Rules and disqualified from holding public office thereafter, and
4. defining “proper Petitions,” within the context of paragraph “1” above, as follows:

The term “Petition” is not defined in the Constitution. To be sure, a communication, to be protected as a proper Petition to the Government for Redress of Grievances would have to embody certain components to ensure that the document was a Petition and not a “pretended petition.” Not all communications, nor just any document, can be regarded as Constitutionally-protected Petitions for Redress of Grievances. Petitions for Redress that qualify for protection by the First Amendment include Petitions to remedy violations of the Constitution, which:

- are serious and documented, not frivolous;
- contain no falsehoods;
- are not absent probable cause;
- have the quality of a dispute;
- come from a person outside of the formal political culture;
- contain both a “direction” and a “demand” for relief;
- have been punctilious (meaning, it follows formatting conventions);
- address public, collective grievances;
- involve Constitutional Principles;
- have been signed only or primarily by citizens;
- have been dignified (meaning authenticated);
- have widespread participation and consequences; are instruments of deliberation not agitation;
- prove new information;
- do not advocate violence or crime.

C. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTION #2 TO CONGRESS

Because public officials in the Legislative and Executive branches refuse to respond to proper Petitions for Redress of Grievances, the Congress of the United States shall adopt a concurrent Resolution:

1. affirming the fact that every public official, state or federal, elected or appointed is obligated to respond to proper Petitions for Redress of Grievances, (“proper Petitions” are defined in Instruction B#4 above);
2. affirming the fact that every public official, state or federal, elected or appointed shall respond to all other Petitions for Redress of Grievances.

D. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE SUPREME COURT

1. Affirm the jurisdiction of all state and federal courts to hear challenges to the Constitutionality of any action by any state or federal public official, elected or appointed, or agency or department;
2. Prohibit any and all federal and state courts from denying standing to any individual to challenge the Constitutionality of any action by any state or federal public officials, elected or appointed, or agency or department; and
3. Remove any judge from office who violates the above, for violating his or her Oath of Office, and disqualify him or her from holding public office thereafter, all in accordance with existing Rules.

E. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTION TO THE PRESIDENT

The President shall affirm the fact that every public official, state or federal, elected or appointed is obligated to respond to proper Petitions for Redress of Grievances.

F. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

Each of the several State Legislatures shall adopt legislation, as necessary, to recall from office any elected or appointed public official for failure to respond to any proper Petition for Redress of Grievances;

1. The State Legislatures shall refuse to accept any and all federal funds until all three branches of the federal government are in compliance with the Instructions in “B” through “E” above;
2. The State Legislatures shall adopt legislation providing for the institution of a Citizens’ Grand Jury for the purpose of hearing complaints and issuing indictments, against any public official who may be in violation of his or her Oath of Office and/or of the Accountability Clause of the 1st Amendment;
3. The state legislatures shall adopt legislation removing impediments to and restoring writs of *quo warranto* and to obtain a hearing on the merits.

G. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

1. Instruct the State Legislatures and members of Congress to adopt the aforementioned;
2. Form coalitions or groups to lobby State Legislatures and members of Congress to obtain the adoption of the aforementioned;
3. Instruct State Officials to remove all Oath violators from their positions of authority; and
4. Sign these *Articles of Freedom* to give the aforementioned the moral authority it requires.

³ Learn more about this Article: see the **PETITIONS FOR REDRESS**; see the **PETITION for Writ of Certiorari** and **Appendix** to the Supreme Court of the United States (the unsuccessful attempt by the People to have the Court, for the first time in America’s history, define the meaning of the last ten words of the First Amendment). See the related CC 2009 video presentation: Mark Lane, Attorney- ***The Right to Petition and the First Amendment***; and Robert L. Schulz, Chairman, We The People Foundation for Constitutional Education, Inc.- ***We The People v. United States***.

ARTICLE 4

MILITIAS, FIREARMS AND THE SECOND AMENDMENT⁴

A. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment to the Constitution mandates, [that] in order to provide for the security of a free state, "...the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed," and

WHEREAS, a multitude of federal statutes constitute *de facto* infringement; now

THEREFORE, We, the Delegates of Continental Congress 2009, as Free People of America, do hereby Instruct the Congress of the United States as follows:

1. Repeal all federal statutes regulating the ownership, use and transfer of firearms and ammunition;
2. Repeal any federal statutes which provide for the taxation or registration of firearms and ammunition;
3. Abolish the Department of Homeland Security and thereby return the responsibility for domestic security to the Militias of the Several States; the term *militia*, inherently separate from the State National Guard, means "Constitutional Defense Force," comprising all citizenry capable of bearing arms, and under proper authority, in defense of themselves and each of the several States;
4. Make statutes providing for organizing, arming and disciplining the Militia and for governing such part of them as may be called to serve the United States and, reserve to the states all other powers relating to the Militia;
5. Encourage and support, and cease and desist from infringing upon, the duty of the People to revitalize the "well-regulated Militia of each of the Several States".

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

1. Repeal all state statutes regulating the ownership, use and transfer of firearms and ammunition.
2. Repeal any state constitutional provisions and statutes which provide for the registration of firearms and ammunition.
3. By statute, establish an Advisory Commission On Revitalization of the Militia of their State, in the exercise of their powers over the Militia*, as reserved to the several states by the Second and Tenth Amendments as well as other provisions of the Constitution for the United States; the sole purpose of the said Advisory Commission shall be to study and recommend:
 - (a) the means, including all necessary State legislation (and where appropriate legislation that authorizes direct and independent action by units of Local government), by which the State can revitalize her Militia so as to provide for her particular requirements of "homeland security" in keeping with strict Constitutional Principles; and
 - (b) such legislation as may be necessary and proper for Congress to enact in order to fully effectuate the State's program of revitalizing her Militia, in the context of a national program for revitalizing all of the Militia of each of the several States to some uniform standard of organization, arms, and discipline.
4. The Advisory Commission shall be composed of the following persons: {...here shall be listed the proposed members of the Commission...}.

5. The Advisory Commission shall submit a preliminary report to the Legislature within ninety (90) days of the enactment of the said statute; this report shall contain *inter alia* a detailed study, with specific recommendations, as to how the Militia can and should be revitalized, with particular emphasis on those areas of “homeland security” which at that time are within the jurisdiction of the General Government’s Department of Homeland Security (DHS), but the responsibility and authority for the provision of which the Advisory Commission believes can effectively be exercised within the State or by the Militia thereof. Within thirty (30) days of its receipt of that report, the Legislature shall return the report to the Commission with such directives as it may see fit for alterations, corrections, amendments, additions, deletions, and further studies and recommendations. On the basis of the Legislature’s review, within thirty (30) days thereafter, the Advisory Commission shall submit to the Legislature a final report, including complete and specific drafts of all State legislation, and recommendations for any Congressional legislation, necessary for revitalization of the Militia of the State.
6. Upon receipt of the Advisory Commission’s final report, the Legislature shall without delay, and in any event no more than thirty (30) days later, adopt such report with such amendments as the Legislature shall deem proper, and then enact such legislation based on such amended report as will most effectively and expeditiously revitalize the Militia: furthermore, the Legislature by Resolution shall urge the Congressional delegation of said State to introduce and support legislation in Congress that adopts the recommendations presented in the Advisory Commission’s final report as amended.

C. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment mandates that “the Right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed,” and

WHEREAS, Natural Law affirms the Right to defense of one’s Life and Property, and

WHEREAS, Citizens are reminded that the U. S. Constitution is the Supreme Law of the land, and that state laws repugnant to the Second Amendment are null and void – including, but not limited to, illegal and unconstitutional restrictions on open and/or concealed carry.

THEREFORE, We, the Continental Congress 2009, declare that a proper method to counter federal usurpation of said Rights is to encourage the People of each of the Several States to study and exercise their Right to keep and bear arms, and to engage in the following civic actions:

1. Meet with your County Sheriff and ask for assistance and guidance in establishing a Constitutional Militia.*
2. Converse, build coalitions, and develop networks of communication with like-minded organizations concerning the importance of Constitutional Militias, preparedness, and the protection of our Right to keep and bear arms;
3. Lobby State Legislatures to introduce and/or pass a version of what is commonly referred to as the “Firearms Freedom Act”;
4. Utilize existing “Second Amendment Scorecards” on each of their representatives.

⁴ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article: See the related CC 2009 video presentations: Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership (“JPFO”) - *2A Good for you and the USA (film)*; Ralph Conner, Local Legislation Manager, Heartland Institute - *The Second Amendment*; and, *“No Guns for Negroes” (film)*.

* The term *militia*, inherently separate from the State National Guard, means ‘Constitutional Defense Force’ comprising all citizenry capable of bearing arms and under proper authority, in defense of themselves and the states.

ARTICLE 5

PRIVACY AND THE FOURTH AMENDMENT

From November 11th to the 22nd of 2009, the Continental Congress convened pursuant to the People's formal "Petition of Redress of Grievances" relating to the violations of peoples' rights of privacy guaranteed to them under the 4th, 5th, and 9th amendments. After deliberation and discussion of the abuses of the rights to privacy, this body provides:

A. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT

1. Repeal the Patriot Act.
2. Repeal any law that is repugnant to the 4th, 5th and 9th amendments.
3. Stop the collection, storing, and dissemination of private information of a non-criminal nature belonging to the people. WE, the free people of this nation, are not the enemy.
4. Furthermore, we demand the retraction of any intelligence reports maintained by the Department of Homeland Security, not properly cited and sourced as well as any intelligence report known to contain plagiarized information.
5. Repeal of NAIS (National Animal Identification System) which requires the RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) of all livestock (animals) and mapping the premises of same.
6. Cease the implementation of acts such as the REAL ID Act of 2005, the PASS Act of 2009, and make no future attempts at implementing a national ID card or authorizing any funding associated with said acts.
7. Do not collect, process, store or disseminate intelligence of a non-criminal nature.
8. Repeal all laws that collect fingerprints, blood, or DNA upon birth.

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE SEVERAL STATES

1. We demand the retraction of any fusion center intelligence report not properly cited and sourced as well as any intelligence report known to contain plagiarized information.
2. State legislatures are called upon to repeal the Patriot Act.
3. Prohibit legislation that allows for the installation of red-light cameras and other devices used to surreptitiously gather information on American citizens. Repeal any such existing laws.
4. Repeal any legislation that requires government permission to travel, i.e. the requirement to obtain a driver's license to travel, the requirement to register one's vehicle, and/or the requirement to purchase motor vehicle insurance unless the vehicle is being used for commercial purposes.

5. All state governments shall cease and desist in prosecuting those men and women who are using the public right-of-way for personal, non-commercial transportation.
6. The language “for commercial purposes only” shall be added to the definitions of the terms “transportation” and “motor vehicle”, in all state laws, clearly removing the restrictions imposed on travel for personal, private purposes.
7. Repeal of all state laws that collect fingerprints, blood, DNA, or any other biometric data for minor traffic violations, infractions, or for any other instance where said data is not necessary for investigation.
8. Destroy all biometric data, whether digital or tangible, that have been collected for use with a driver’s license, or for any other purpose not related to a felony investigation.

C. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

The delegates of the Continental Congress of 2009 wholeheartedly support and encourage the free people of each state to engage in the following:

1. Visit www.cc2009.us and click on the Privacy Reference List, study all information provided in that list, and act in their best interest according to the information provided;
2. Inform themselves about the police and surveillance state that is being created in America in direct violation of the 4th, 5th, 9th, and 10th amendments;
3. Submit open records requests to the appropriate agencies requesting the items listed below. Consider coordinating these efforts with other activists;
 - a. Copies of all Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) between participating fusion center agencies and any other party, agency, organization, institution, governmental body or individual that relates to fusion center information/data sharing;
 - b. Copies of fusion center Privacy Policies
 - c. Copies of all strategic reports produced by or received by said fusion center, including the distribution list and citations for each produced strategic report; include identification of the authoring agency of any received strategic report;
4. Promote local and state legislation that forces local and state governments to further scrutinize the process of accepting grants or other funding concerning surveillance and the militarization and federalization of local police departments from Federal Agencies such as the Department of Homeland security
5. Expose the findings of said open records requests through online social media, existing liberty media, liberty minded organizations, and other means of public dissemination;
6. Approach fellow citizens and groups to build an issue based coalition in order to lobby local and state government to ensure that:
 - a. Unless directly involved in a crime, no private sector entities will be involved in the operations of fusion centers;
 - b. Only data and intelligence concerning federal crimes may be made available to any federal agency;

- c. Fusion centers are not to be used to conduct surveillance on an entire group based on the presence of one suspicious individual;
 - d. Ensure the creation of a "privacy committee" to oversee the privacy policy of your local fusion center and ensure compliance;
 - e. Ensure compliance with CFR 28, part 23;
7. Lobby your state legislature to nullify the Patriot Act;
8. Implement a community response hotline:
 - a. The people are encouraged to develop alternative means of communication, i.e. ham radio, short wave, or any other means of electronic communication;
9. Be aware that they are not required to release their social security number and should not release it if there is an alternative method;
10. Conduct business only with companies that do not require a social security number;
11. Use non-traceable forms of currency (i.e. prepaid credit cards) and non traceable technology (i.e. prepaid cellular phones);
12. Use open source software solutions, encrypt their computer hard drives, and use proxy servers when connected to the internet, for computer security and privacy reasons;
13. Understand they have the right to video tape anything on public property including, but not limited to, police officers and government officials;
14. Read licensing software agreements and be aware of the privacy ramifications of signing up for such services;
15. Lobby for a local resolution banning red-light cameras or other surveillance equipment in public areas.

Furthermore, without delay, the public is advised to contact their state and local representatives to open up a dialogue to assure that they repeal and propose no further legislation that violates the privacy clauses of the Constitution. Americans should also contact their local sheriff and demand they uphold their sworn oath or affirmation to protect and defend the privacy clauses of the Constitution.

⁵ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article. Read the **FOURTH AMENDMENT**. Read the **PETITION for Redress of Grievances Regarding the War on Terrorism** (and the USA Patriot Act). See the related CC 2009 video presentations: Gary Kah, First Delegate from Indiana, introducing *Shadow Government*, a film by Cloud Ten Pictures; Katherine Albrecht, consumer privacy expert, media commentator and author about privacy issues.

ARTICLE 6

PRIVATE PROPERTY AND THE 4TH, 5TH, 9TH, 10TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS⁶

“Either you have the right to own property or you are property.” Wayne Hage, rancher

A. BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF THE FACTS

The Founding Documents of the United States clearly acknowledge that the powers of the government are derived only from the consent of the governed. Under the American system, individuals decide and direct the terms of their lives; each person is independent; justice must be dispensed equally; and each person has a natural right to his or her Life, Liberty and Property

The United States is the only nation on earth specifically based on the premise of the right of individuals to own and control private property. It is the essential ingredient for Freedom and in the ability to build personal wealth. Private property ownership is the main factor in creating our national prosperity and it is the root of our individual Freedom.

Ownership of private property is essential to guaranteeing individual Liberty. Without private property, no other rights are possible. There can be no freedom of speech, no freedom of mobility, or no ability to be secure in our persons without the ability to own and control private property.

For half a century, unrestrained local and state governments have taken private property not for "public uses" – such as for bridges or public buildings – as permitted by the Constitution, but for private businesses in the name of "economic development." Through the arbitrary use of Eminent Domain, perpetrated by partnerships between government and private developers (Public/Private Partnerships), in the name of an undefined "Common good" for the community, private homes and businesses are being bulldozed, replaced by newer businesses and homes owned, not by the public, but by private, politically-connected individuals and corporations.

Internationally, there are outside forces threatening to establish an absolute tyranny over private ownership of land through a declaration that all property is part of a "Global Commons" which it declares cannot be owned or controlled by an individual. To that end, a hoard of private organizations, armed with international treaties, soft law policies, and arbitrary directives have fanned out across the nation transforming the American system of government, assuring private land is locked away or controlled to the point of rendering it worthless to the owners.

These actions subvert the principles of the Declaration of Independence and destroy the governing authority of the United States Constitution. Together, we can reverse this trend toward collectivism and uphold the Principles of Property enshrined in the Constitution, which should forever reign supreme.

B. CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

1. Our Constitution for the United States is “the Supreme Law of the Land” and has supremacy over decisions of legislature - (Art. 6, Clause 1-3)

There can be no rule making or legislation which will abrogate the Rights secured by our Constitution. *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 491 (1966)

“No right granted or secured by the Constitution of the United States can be impaired or destroyed by a state enactment, whatever may be the source from which the power to pass such enactment may have been derived...The nullity of any act inconsistent with the Constitution is produced by the declaration that the Constitution is the supreme law.” Connolly vs. Union Sewer Pipe Company, 184 U.S. 540, 558 (1902)

2. Our People of the United States are guaranteed the unalienable Right to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

“The three great rights are bound together as to be essentially one right. To give a man his life, but deny him his liberty, is to take from him all that makes his life worth living. To give him his liberty, but take from him the property which is the fruit and badge of his liberty, is to still leave him a slave.” George Sutherland, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, 1921.

3. The Rights of the People to their Property shall not be violated without probable cause, without due process, and without just compensation.

“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 person or things to be seized.” Constitution, 4th Amendment.

“No person...shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall property be taken for public use, without just compensation.” Constitution, 5th Amendment.

4. *“The enumeration in the Constitution of certain Rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the People.”* Constitution, 9th Amendment.
5. *“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.”* Constitution, 10th Amendment.

C. ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

The Creator has supplied Earth with an abundance of energy sources. Abundant energy is the foundation for all technological advancement. A high and improved quality of life is totally dependent on an abundance of energy. The Constitution does not grant the federal government the power to regulate, control, or establish a national policy for the generation and distribution of energy. Within the United States, there is a nearly unlimited supply of coal, oil, natural gas, and hydroelectric energy sources. Carbon dioxide generated from these sources is not an environmental pollutant, but is, in fact, an essential and vital element of life, enhancing life rather than negatively impacting it.

The extraction, transportation and processing of energy resources – our property – is fully our Constitutionally-protected right. So too is the production of nuclear energy. Some convincingly argue that nuclear energy is the safest, cleanest, and least expensive source of energy and that nuclear waste can be disposed of at the reactor site.

D. THE WILDLANDS PROJECT – CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

The United States has assumed control of lands within several of the western states far beyond the authority granted to it by the Constitution for the United States. When the federal government assumes control, it does so by calling these seized lands such names as: “The Wildlands Project”, “Heritage” areas, “Land Management”, “Wolf and Bear Reintroduction”, and “Rails to Trails”, “Conservation Easements”, “Open Space”, and many more. Each of these programs is designed to make it more difficult and expensive to live on the land.

The federal government has established and expanded parks, preserves, recreation and wilderness areas with no regard for the economic impact, loss of livelihood, and custom and culture of residents of the areas. These types of projects are established often without the direct consent of the legislature of the state, or the people of the community, and without concern for the impact on the communities.

For example, the economy of the small communities of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is being heavily impacted. The residents of many similarly situated communities are suffering greatly when the federal government takes several million acres of land for use in these “wilderness” projects. In these projects, among other things, the watershed areas will no longer be under the guidance and care of the citizens of those communities.

E. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

We the People, find that the three branches of our government have violated the above provisions of the Constitution and therefore provide the following instructions:

1. Reintroduce and pass the "Property Rights Protection Act (S1313). This legislation, passed in the House of Representatives in 2005, was introduced to overturn the Supreme Court's Kelo decision. The legislation specifically called for cutting off federal funds to any community that uses Eminent Domain for community development of private property. It was blocked in committee in the Senate. Passing this legislation is vital to correcting the destruction to American property rights caused by the Kelo decision.
2. Repeal all legislation related to terms such as, “sustainable development”, “social justice”, “global community”, or otherwise focused on land use, education, or population control/reduction;
3. Strengthen the Fifth Amendment by law (not a Constitutional Amendment) by requiring government at all levels to pay just compensation for regulatory takings;
4. Repeal existing funding and provide no future funds to any agency working toward a “North American Union”, regional, or global governance of any kind;
5. Repeal all laws restricting the People’s Right to private property – its acquisition, its use, and its disposal;
6. Defund and repeal all Environmental Protection Agency legislation related to the United Nations movement to collectivize all property;
7. Reject or repeal all legislation related to public/private partnerships that relate to controlling population or setting new public policy aimed at making communal the property of the People;

8. Independently evaluate any determinations by the United Nations or any non-governmental international organizations that are supportive of their promotion of top down governance of society;
9. Reject or repeal any laws/legislation that does not conform to the requirements of the 10th Amendment;
10. Refuse to enter into the Copenhagen Treaty;
11. Refuse to provide any funds to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs);
12. Discontinue any association or funding of any activities related to the Security and Prosperity Partnership (North American Leaders Summit);
13. Repeal all laws that take property from sovereign individuals merely “accused” or “suspected” of a crime;
14. Rewrite environmental laws to protect private property rights limited only by historic harm and nuisance provisions of common law, and mandate that federal lands meet their own standards;
15. Repeal all laws/regulations and funding related to National Heritage Areas;
16. Prevent Eminent Domain from being exercised to convert private property from one owner to another private owner for public advantage; Eminent domain is **only** to be used to convert private property to public “**use**” for at least 20 years;
17. Repeal all laws granting the Army Corps of Engineers control over land or water rights of private property owners;
18. Repeal all laws, regulations, and/or directives of any kind that regulate, control, or establish a national policy for the generation and distribution of energy; and
19. Let the free market determine how energy is generated and distributed.

F. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

1. Eliminate all taxes on private property, such as land, buildings/tenements, automobiles, chattels, estates, real estate, real property, personal property, or property tax assessments;
2. The legislatures shall develop laws and regulations required to establish a state policy for the generation or distribution of energy that is based upon free market principles and operates pursuant to the rights of the states under the 10th Amendment;
3. Leave the regulation, generation, or distribution of energy to the free market;
4. Pass a resolution declaring that the federal government has no power to regulate, control, or establish policy for the generation or distribution of energy within the state.
5. Pass laws defining private property and blocking the use of Eminent Domain for community development of private property.

G. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

1. Encourage self-education of property rights protected by the Constitution;
2. Get involved concerning the benefits of free market solutions to the generation and distribution of all sources of energy;
3. Establish a petition drive throughout the state indicating that energy generation and distribution must be free from all government control;
4. Develop initiatives to place on the ballot that indicate your individual right to a free market in energy generation and distribution;
5. Contact your state senator, representative, and the Governor and demand that they pass legislation that ends the federal government regulation of energy generation and distribution within the state;
6. Educate yourself about the truth behind climate change and the reality that global warming is not caused by man through carbon emissions;
7. Go to city council meetings to listen and participate in discussions;
8. Inquire through your council members during a meeting, or by setting up a personal meeting, to determine the role of the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) in driving policy at the local level;
9. Build coalitions of like-minded groups in order to build opposition to the implementation of “Agenda 21” (“sustainable development”) at the local level;
10. Demand that your local government respect your right to a “republican form of government” as enumerated in the United States Constitution and the various state Constitutions by ceasing the use of the “consensus process” and predetermined outcomes and “comprehensive planning” in order to dictate policy and implement anything that interferes with private property ownership;
11. Reject the local reception of federal, non-governmental organizations (NGO), or foundations, grants and/or funding to the extent that they further the implementation of Agenda 21;
12. Actively oppose local government participation with federal programs or agencies that seek to further the implementation of Agenda 21 (“sustainable development”);
13. Actively oppose the creation of “public/private partnerships” (PPPs) between local government and private industry;
14. Educate yourself concerning methods to combat the “consensus process”, which seeks to manipulate the public into pre-determined outcomes;
15. Address, petition, and support all states to reassert and reaffirm the 10th Amendment by passing legislation exerting 10th Amendment powers for land use management;
16. Encourage, petition, and support county officials to notify all government agencies - state and federal - to comply with the 10th Amendment and other Constitutional provisions;
17. Counsel and lobby Congress to return ownership of public lands, parks, preserves, recreation areas, and areas designated to the states in whose boundaries the land lies.

⁶ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article: Read the PETITION to the federal courts regarding the taking of the Kelos’ private land for private purposes and the Decision by the Supreme Court. See the related CC 2009 video presentations: Tom DeWeese, President, American Policy Center introduces; Michael Shaw, Director, Freedom Advocates – *Property Rights Litigation*; Dr. Michael S. Coffman, Executive Director, *Sovereignty International, Inc. – The Decline of Property Rights and Freedom in America*.

ARTICLE 7

JURIES AND THE SEVENTH AMENDMENT⁷

A. BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF THE FACTS

The Delegates representing forty-eight of the several States in Continental Congress assembled, being fully apprised of each premise, find that:

1. The American People are the American Sovereign;
2. As sovereign, the American People have the last say on the law;
3. American Citizens are called to sit on both Grand and Petit Juries;
4. In their capacity as jurors, the American people have the power, and the duty, to judge both the law and the facts;

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

1. Amend the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to require judges to apprise all plaintiffs and defendants of their right under the 7th Amendment to a common law jury; and
2. Amend the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure to require judges to apprise all defendants of their right under the 7th Amendment to a common law jury; and
3. Amend the Federal Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedure to require all judges, in cases where the United States is a party to the case, to apprise all jurors of the judge's conflict of interest; and
4. Amend the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure to provide for trials authorized only by indictments or presentments by independent, randomly empanelled citizens' common law grand juries, accessible to any individual having a complaint, and empowered to authorize any citizen of their choice to prosecute a case.

C. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

1. Amend the rules governing civil and criminal cases to require judges to apprise plaintiffs and defendants of their right under the 7th Amendment to a common law jury;
2. Amend the rules governing civil and criminal cases to require all judges, in cases where the State is a party to the case, to apprise all jurors of the judge's conflict of interest.

D. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

1. When appointed to a jury, throw off the restraints of judicial tyranny by refusing to capitulate to any judicial instruction to judge only the facts; and
2. When appointed to a jury, demand to have all issues of law argued in the presence of the jury, and have the last say by judging the law;
3. Educate your family, friends, and community to learn about the Fully Informed Jury Association ("FIJA"), and the power of judging the law as well as the accused.

⁷ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article: Read the **SEVENTH AMENDMENT**. See the related CC 2009 video presentations: Martin J. "Red" Beckman, founder, Fully Informed Jury Association ("FIJA"), constitutional activist and author – *2 Law System, Jury Nullification, 7th Amendment and Fully Informed Jurors*.

ARTICLE 8

INCOME TAX AND THE SIXTEENTH AMENDMENT

A. BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF THE FACTS

WHEREAS, From November 11th to the 22nd of 2009, the Continental Congress convened pursuant to the People’s formal “Petition for Redress of Grievances Relating to the Federal Income Tax”, and the long train of abuses and usurpations relating to the federal income tax. After a comprehensive, exhaustive, and lengthy deliberation of the current and historical facts and law, the People find:

1. That our servant federal government has failed to directly respond to the People’s Petition, and in fact, has indirectly responded with threats, intimidation, and repeated harm;
2. That the Sixteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution definitively and conclusively failed to be properly and legally ratified, thus, rendering it void, *ab initio*;
3. That the income tax as currently applied is definitively and conclusively an unconstitutional direct un-apportioned tax on labor, “the most sacred and inviolable” property of the citizens of the United States¹;
4. That the institutionalized withholding from the paychecks and earnings of the citizens is definitively and conclusively unconstitutional.

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

THEREFORE, without delay, the Congress of the United States is hereby instructed to:

1. Immediately conduct a review of the facts surrounding its non-ratification, and recognize that the Sixteenth Amendment is void;
2. Immediately cease the enforcement and collection of the direct un-apportioned income tax on the labor of the citizens of the United States;
3. Immediately cease the imposition, enforcement, and collection of withholding of earnings from the paychecks of the citizens of the United States;
4. Immediately release and fully restore all citizens wrongfully imprisoned as a result of the unconstitutional application of the income tax.

C. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTION TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

THEREFORE, each of the several states shall:

1. Repeal any and all state income tax statutes to the extent that they are rooted in or based upon unconstitutional federal income tax statutes;

¹ *Butcher’s Union Co. v. Crescent City Co.*, 111 U.S. 746, 757.

2. Preserve, protect, and defend the liberty and property of its citizens against *unconstitutional seizures* by the federal government, pertaining to the unlawful collection of income taxes;
3. Cease the unconstitutional imposition and collection of the state income tax upon the unalienable right of its citizen's labor. To wit:

“It has been well said that 'the property which every man has in his own labor, as it is the original foundation of all other property, so it is the most sacred and inviolable. The patrimony of the poor man lies in the strength and dexterity of his own hands, and to hinder his employing this strength and dexterity in what manner he thinks proper, without injury to his neighbor, is a plain violation of this most sacred property.’”

Butchers' Union Co. v. Crescent City Co., 111 U.S. 746, 757

“Compensation for labor can not be regarded as profit, within the meaning of the law. The word “profit”, as ordinarily used, means the gain made upon any business or investment - a different thing altogether from mere compensation for labor.”
Commercial League Association of America v. The People, ex rel., 90 Ill. 166, 173 (Sup. Ct. of Illinois).

D. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

WHEREAS, From November 11th to the 22nd of 2009, the Continental Congress convened pursuant to the people's formal “Petition for Redress of Grievances relating to the Federal Income Tax”, and the long train of abuses and usurpations relating to the aforementioned tax.

WHEREAS, Tyranny by means of taxation is one of the most oppressive aspects of government and must be guarded against to protect man's unalienable rights,

WHEREAS, All government activity that provides funding for unconstitutional appropriated programs is to be considered tyrannical in nature and should be condemned by the people as a whole,

WHEREAS, After a comprehensive, exhaustive and lengthy deliberation of historical facts and law, the people find:

1. That our servant federal government has failed to directly respond to the people's petition, and in fact, has indirectly responded with threats, intimidation, and repeated harm;
2. That the Sixteenth amendment to the United States Constitution definitively and conclusively failed to be properly and legally ratified, thus rendering it void;
3. That the income tax as currently applied is definitively and conclusively an unconstitutional direct un-apportioned tax on labor, the “most sacred and inviolable” property of the Citizens of the United States;
4. That the institutionalized withholding from the paychecks and earnings of the citizens is definitively and conclusively unconstitutional.

Therefore, we recommend Americans:

5. study and understand the research done by Bill Benson in his book, *“The Law that Never Was”* and once they have a firm understanding of the argument, they are encouraged to educate their family, friends and fellow Americans about the truth behind the Sixteenth Amendment;
6. contact their local county government, including the sheriff, and demand cooperation in enforcement of state and federal laws, prohibiting the illegal filing of notices of federal tax liens and the filing of a federal tax lien or levy without proper federal court orders attached. It is the duty of the sheriff to protect the citizens of the county from rogue federal agents acting under a color of law;
7. put their banks and employers on notice that federal income tax levies should not be honored without a federal court order attached and without an affidavit from the sheriff that the levy is legal and proper;
8. prepare to replace any sheriff or county or state government officials at the next election or sooner, through impeachment or recall, who refuse to cooperate and honor their oath of office to protect and defend the federal and state constitutions and the people;
9. prepare to withhold their income tax from the government once the above steps of self-defense are in place.

Furthermore, without delay, the public is advised to contact their County Sheriff, state and federal representatives and senators demanding this unconstitutional taxation and withholding of earnings be stopped immediately.

⁸ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article. Read the **TAX CLAUSES** of the Constitution. Read the **PETITION for Redress of Grievances Relating to the Federal Income Tax**. Read the **PETITION for Writ of Certiorari** regarding the 16th Amendment. See the related CC 2009 video presentations: Joseph Banister, former Special Agent, IRS Criminal Investigation Division – Personal experiences regarding his **PETITION for Redress regarding the unconstitutional operation and enforcement of the Internal Revenue Laws; Jeffrey Dickstein, Attorney – Here are the Facts regarding the PETITION relating to the Non-Ratification of the 16th Amendment, and the Direct, Un-apportioned Tax on Labor**.

Additional resources for consideration: **PETITION for redress of grievances relating to the income tax, Nov 4, 2002**, including **STATEMENT OF FACTS AND BELIEFS** (538 income tax questions We The People presented to the Congress and IRS which were answered by tax professionals under oath).

ARTICLE 9

FOREIGN POLICY AND THE GENERAL WELFARE CLAUSE OF THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION⁹

A. BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF THE FACTS

The "general Welfare" is mentioned twice in the Constitution for the United States.

First in the Preamble where embedded with other reasons to establish a Constitution, it is stated: “. . . to promote the general Welfare . . .”

Article I § 8 then states: “*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; . . .*” This declarative sentence is followed by a list of powers that restrict what Congress may do in this regard.

As James Madison states in Federalist 41 referencing the General Welfare clause: “*Nothing is more natural or common, than to use a general phrase, and then to explain or qualify it by a recital of particulars.*” Madison further writes that it would be an “absurdity” if the list of particulars was interpreted as anything but restrictive on the general statement.

Therefore, notwithstanding the interpretations of the past century, the Congress of the United States has misinterpreted the General Welfare clause in order to expand its powers and to impose the tyranny of unjust taxes upon The People.

The Preamble of the Constitution reveals that one of the reasons for its creation is to promote the general welfare of the people. A foreign policy which seeks to meddle in the internal affairs of foreign countries, including the act of choosing sides, is clearly detrimental to this cause. The “9-11” Report documents that this policy of meddling has caused foreign nationals to turn their hostilities toward Americans. These hostilities have given rise to domestic policies such as the so-called “war on terror”, which have resulted in the enactment of statutes such as the USA PATRIOT ACT that are inconsistent with the so-called Privacy Clause of the 4th Amendment.

There can be no doubt that this policy has endangered the security of the American people and has restricted their Natural Rights. This approach to relations with those beyond our borders clearly does not serve the General Welfare and does not serve the national interest.

The federal government has been served with a Petition for Redress of this grievance. However the government has failed to respond. Such refusal to respond, along with infringement of natural and enumerated Rights, Freedoms and Liberties reflects the behavioral characteristics of a police state.

The general welfare of the People is a principal goal of the United States Constitution, which implies a foreign policy consistent with the admonition of George Washington in his Farewell Address regarding foreign nations – i.e., “to have with them as little political connection as possible.”

We might look to Switzerland, a land-locked country in Central Europe, which has one of the highest GDP per capita in the world, which has avoided war since 1815 despite shared-borders with Germany, Italy and France. Switzerland has remained aggressively neutral and her citizens are well-armed and well-prepared in the defense of their country.

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

Follow the Constitution for the United States:

1. Discontinue funding for any foreign aid or other funding that is not necessary for the defense against invasion of the United States;
2. Treaties that are inconsistent with or that violate the Constitution that have been ratified shall be nullified; and any further treaties that would infringe upon individual rights, liberties and freedoms, or that are otherwise repugnant to the Constitution shall not be ratified;
3. Repeal the Patriot Act, the Military Commissions Act, REAL ID, and any other statute repugnant to the 4th Amendment of the Constitution.

C. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

The State Legislature of each of the several States shall pass a resolution in support of the above instructions to the Congress and thus exercise our just- powers as guaranteed by the 10th Amendment of the Bill of Rights.

D. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS FOR THE PEOPLE

We call upon the People to:

1. Raise their voices with ours and those of each of the several States in support of the above instructions to the U.S. Congress;
2. Educate themselves and encourage their fellow citizens to increase their knowledge and awareness of this topic in order to bring our elected officials back under the control of the Constitution, and therefore, of the People;
3. Become personal ambassadors of good-will to citizens of all nations.

⁹ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article. Read the **GENERAL WELFARE CLAUSES**. Read the **PETITION for Redress of Grievances Regarding The United States' Unconstitutional Financial Aid To Israel And Occupation Of Various Countries In The Middle East**. See the related CC 2009 video presentation: George Washington, First President (David Justice, WTPC State Coordinator) - **Foreign Policy excerpts from George Washington's Farewell Address**.

ARTICLE 10

MONEY AND ARTICLE 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION¹⁰

A. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

1. The Congress of the United States, in the exercise of its power authorized by Article I, Section 8, Clause 5 of the Constitution for the United States of America, “To Coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin,” shall enact a statute:
 - (a) establishing a National Advisory Commission on Alternative and Competitive Currency, and
 - (b) calling upon each of the several States to establish their own State Advisory Commission on Alternative and Competitive Currency.
2. That the sole purpose of the said Advisory Commissions shall be to study and recommend the means by which each State individually, and the several States and Congress collectively, can promote the adoption by both the several States and the United States, as rapidly as possible, of an economically sound and Constitutional alternative and competitive currency, which shall:
 - (a) consist exclusively of silver and gold, the units to consist of 371.25 grains (troy) fine silver and 371.25 grains (troy) fine gold, which shall be subject to transfer from one party to another in both an electronic form measurable in any number of units, as well in tenths, hundredths, and thousandths of a unit, and the form of coins (whether of traditional or nontraditional shapes) of convenient weights consisting of multiples of the units or common fractions thereof;
 - (b) gradually be introduced as the media of exchange in all of the financial transactions of the governments of each of the several States and of the United States, so as in a measured manner to minimize and finally supplant the use in such transactions of Federal Reserve Notes or bank balances payable in those notes to the maximum degree possible consistent with the general welfare; and
 - (c) eventually supplant the use of such notes or balances in all private monetary transactions within and among each of the several States to such degree as the free market determines economically appropriate.
 - (d) That the National Advisory Commission shall be composed of the following persons:
{...here shall be listed the proposed members of the Commission...}.
3. That, within thirty (30) days from the effective date of the said statute, the National Advisory Commission shall submit to Congress a report containing complete and specific drafts of all such legislation as may be necessary and proper for Congress to enact in order to guarantee that the citizens of each State may employ an alternative and competitive currency in all of their private economic transactions free from any form of taxation, reporting, or other regulation by the United States or any agency thereof, or by any State or agency thereof, that increases in cost, hinders, deters, discourages, delays, or renders cumbersome the use of such currency, or the consummation of transactions in which such currency is the medium of payment, in comparison to the same use of, or the consummation of similar transactions involving, Federal Reserve Notes or bank balances payable in such notes.

4. That, within thirty (30) days of its receipt of the National Advisory Commission's report submitted pursuant to Paragraph 2, ante, Congress shall enact such legislation as will achieve the goals set out in that Paragraph.
5. That, within ninety (90) days from the effective date of the said statute, the National Advisory Commission shall submit to Congress a report containing complete and specific drafts of all such legislation as may be necessary and proper for Congress to enact in order to achieve the goals set out in Paragraph 2, ante, for the Government of the United States.
6. That, within sixty (60) days of its receipt of the National Advisory Commission's report pursuant to Paragraph 5, ante, Congress shall enact such legislation as will achieve the goals set out in Paragraph 2, ante, for the Government of the United States.

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

1. That the Legislature in the exercise of its reserved power under Article I, Section 10, Clause 1 and the 10th Amendment, as well as other provisions of the Constitution for the United States, shall adopt a currency, other than that emitted by Congress, for use in all the financial transactions of the State. These shall by statute establish an Advisory Commission on Alternative and Competitive Currency for the State, the purpose of which shall be to study and recommend:
 - (i) the means, including all necessary State legislation (and where appropriate legislation that authorizes direct and independent action by units of Local government), by which the State can adopt an economically sound and constitutional alternative and competitive currency, consisting exclusively of silver and gold, initially for use in all of the financial transactions of the State's government, thereby minimizing the use in such transactions of Federal Reserve Notes or bank balances payable in those notes, and eventually to supplant the use of such notes or balances in all private economic transactions within the State to the maximum degree possible for the benefit of its citizens; and
 - (ii) such legislation as may be necessary and proper for the State to enact in order to guarantee that the citizens of the State may employ such alternative and competitive currency in all of their private economic transactions free from any form of taxation, reporting, or other regulation by the State or agency thereof, that increases in cost, hinders, deters, discourages, delays, or renders cumbersome the use of such currency, or the consummation of transactions in which such currency is the medium of payment, in comparison to the same use of, or the consummation of similar transactions involving, Federal Reserve Notes or bank balances payable in such notes.
2. That the Advisory Commission shall be composed of the following persons: {...here list the proposed members of the Commission...}.
3. That the Advisory Commission shall, within sixty (60) days from the effective date of the said statute, submit to the Legislature a report containing complete and specific drafts of all such legislation as may be necessary and proper for the Legislature to enact in order to achieve the goals set out in Paragraph 1, ante.
4. That the Legislature shall, within sixty (60) days from its receipt of the drafts of legislation submitted by the Advisory Commission pursuant to Paragraph 3, ante, enact such legislation as will achieve the goals set out in Paragraph 1, ante.

C. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 10 of the U.S. Constitution specifies that “*No state shall... make anything but gold and silver coin tender in payment of debts*” and understanding the Federal Reserve is a private banking cartel whose effect has been to reduce the value of the dollar approximately 96% since its inception, Continental Congress 2009, in the interest of economic liberty:

1. Encourages networks of like-minded individuals to increasingly buy hard money coinage to use among their communities with the goal of increasing financial independence, and
2. Declares that the aforementioned individuals, upon having established trade procedures in said hard money, shall be prepared for the replacement of the unconstitutional Federal Reserve upon its failure or abolition.

¹⁰ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article. Read the Money Clauses of the **CONSTITUTION**. Read the **PETITION for Redress of Grievances related to the Federal Reserve System**. See the related CC 2009 video presentation: Tom DeWeese, First Delegate from Virginia – reading the submission from Dr. Edwin Vieira, *The Power of the Purse*; William Bergman, Analyst, Morningstar – *My Experiences as an Analyst at the Federal Reserve System*; and Robert L. Schulz, Chairman, We The People Foundation for Constitutional Education - comments on *PETITION for Redress of Grievances related to the Federal Reserve System*.

Additional resources for consideration: **PETITION to the Federal Court regarding the unconstitutional bailout of the Mexican Peso**. There were four causes of action in this case by Schulz and other Plaintiffs. The fourth was the action by Schulz and others that the attempted \$20 Billion bailout of the Mexican Peso by President Clinton and Treasury Secretary Robert Ruben should be declared unconstitutional, null and void. The case was dismissed by the Court for “lack of standing.”

ARTICLE 11

PUBLIC DEBT AND ARTICLE 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION¹¹

A. BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF THE FACTS

WHEREAS, We, the Delegates, assembled as Continental Congress 2009, desire to express our deepest concerns relative to the uncontrolled and unconstitutional spending of Congress; and,

WHEREAS, irresponsible spending by Congress without regard to the Supreme Law of the Land is unconscionable;

This document presents our concerns over the accelerating accumulation of unconstitutional and uncontrolled public debt. Moreover, we demand the extinguishment of this monstrous mountain of debt, which has been created because of government officials' blatant disregard of their Oath of Office to uphold the Constitution and the principles of our American Republic. Due to their lack of understanding, most Americans are not knowledgeable about the Founding Principles of our Constitutional Republic. Congress continues to accumulate this heavy burden without regard to our Constitution. Therefore listen to the warning voices of our Founders on this critical subject.

“Indeed, we cannot too often inculcate upon you our desires, that all extraordinary grants and expensive measures may, upon all occasions, as much as possible, be avoided. The public money of this country is the toil and labor of the people... reasonable frugality ought to be observed. And we would recommend particularly, the strictest care and the utmost firmness to prevent all unconstitutional draughts upon the public treasury.” Instructions of Braintree, Massachusetts to their legislative Representative, 1765.

“As a very important source of strength and security, cherish public credit... use it as sparingly as possible... , avoiding likewise the accumulation of debt... in time of peace ... discharging the debts which unavoidable wars may occasion, not ungenerously throwing upon posterity the burthen which we ourselves ought to bear.” George Washington, Farewell Address.

“Persuaded, as the Secretary is, that the proper funding of the present debt will render it a national blessing, yet he is so far from acceding to the position, in the latitude in which it is sometimes laid down, that “public debts are public benefits”—a position inviting to prodigality and liable to dangerous abuse—that he ardently wishes to see it incorporated as a fundamental maxim in the system of public credit of the United States, that the creation of debt should always be accompanied with the means of extinguishment. This he regards as the true secret for rendering public credit immortal.” Secretary of Treasury Alexander Hamilton, First Report on the Public Credit, 1790.

“The issuing power (of money) should be taken from the banks, and restored to the people to whom it properly belongs.” Thomas Jefferson.

Our Founding Fathers have sent us a message of warning over the centuries of continuing the present policy on public debt. Suffice it to say, we need to stop our overly burdensome, frivolous constitutional and/or unconstitutional spending now. In times of such severe debt, discretionary spending is unacceptable. Therefore we acknowledge that debt is a merciless master to which we will not submit.

Therefore, the Continental Congress 2009 recommends that within 60 days after the general recess of Continental Congress 2009 citizens be selected from the several States, thoroughly familiar with all the Constitutional Principles relevant to the validity of the public debt of the United States, to come together for the purpose of reviewing the validity of the public debt as authorized by law and for the purpose of preparing a comprehensive report of their findings. This report is to be completed within 120 days of the selection of the individuals. The citizens shall study, determine, and prepare a report with respect to which of the alleged “public debts of the United States” are void and/or voidable under two principles of law, namely:

- (i) Under the doctrine of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Craig v. Missouri*, 29 U.S. (4 Peters) 410 (1830). All contracts, agreements, or other arrangements in which any part of the consideration consists or consisted of the emission of unconstitutional “bills of credit” through or under the auspices of any Federal Reserve Bank, “member bank”, or “depository institution” within the Federal Reserve System are void *ab initio* and unenforceable in any court of the United States or of any State.
- (ii) All alleged “public debts” of the United States, howsoever made and in whatever form, that have been incurred for the purpose of raising revenue to be expended from the general fund of the Treasury in payment of costs arising under a particular budget of the United States are void *ab initio* and unenforceable in any court of the United States or of any State in the same percentage that the unconstitutional programs, activities, or expenditures in that budget bear to the total programs, activities, or expenditures therein. Every lender must be presumed to know the constitutional limits on the expenditures of money the general government borrows, to the same extent that every official of that government knows those limits. So, if a lender extends a loan to public officials, knowing that his loan will be used for unconstitutional purposes, or with willful blindness to or reckless disregard of the unconstitutionality of those purposes, he is thereby a participant in a fraud against the American people. And for the repayment of such a loan, the American people cannot be held liable.

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

THEREFORE, We, as a Body of Delegates constituting the Continental Congress 2009, hereby instruct our elected representatives to:

1. Cease unconstitutional spending; cease irresponsible spending;
2. Limit the spending to those items as enumerated in Article I, Section 8 or as otherwise specifically authorized by the Constitution;
3. Order the Federal Reserve to re-acquire all of its assets from all foreign banks including the IMF;
4. Order the Federal Reserve to transfer all said assets to the Treasury of the United States;
5. The Treasury shall hold the majority of its reserves in gold, silver or other metal classified as precious in a secure location within the borders of the contiguous forty-eight United States;
6. Repeal and Rescind legal tender laws and not interfere in any way with any private medium of exchange, private script or currency that may emerge;
7. Repudiate any and all public debt that has been unconstitutionally acquired;
8. Preclude the confiscation of any private ownership of gold or silver or any other precious metal (analogous to the confiscation of gold and silver by President Roosevelt, 1933);
9. Preclude the confiscation or prohibition of any private medium of exchange, private script or currency that may emerge;

10. Preclude the adoption of any laws, orders, or directives prohibiting the use of or any private medium of exchange, private script or currency that may emerge;
11. Unmask the deceptive practice of placing some authorizations /appropriations in a hidden off record account and direct specific accountability for all expenditure;
12. Tighter auditing of expenditures to preclude the unaccountable loss of untold billions of dollars;
13. Implement the immediate investigation of the loss of any funds and begin the immediate prosecution of all persons suspected of involvement or association with the loss;
14. Repeal the Federal Reserve Act and all laws pertaining thereto; and
15. Do not enforce federal income tax withholding laws; rather, adopt legislation requiring that individuals provide any taxes due directly to the federal government.

Further, it is the consensus of the Delegates to Continental Congress 2009, that members of Congress have the inherent and moral responsibility to abide by its tenets, as attested to by their having signed the Oath or Affirmation of Office as required by the U.S. Constitution Art. II Sec. I, and Art. VI.

“Oaths in this country are as yet universally considered as sacred obligation, that which you have taken and so solemnly repeated on that venerable spot, is an ample pledge of your sincerity and devotion to your country and its government.” John Adams

In 1969, the Congress-approved national debt was 286 billion dollars. As a result of congressional irresponsibility, that debt has grown to over \$12,100,000,000,000 (trillion), which means that every child born in this nation is instantly shackled with a debt of more than \$39,000.00. This means that most families have an annual debt that far exceeds their income. (See chart below) Moreover, various authorities have suggested that the true “public debt” is over \$106 trillion dollars. This larger amount represents the inclusion of unfunded liabilities, such as Social Security, prescription drugs, Medicare, off-records appropriations, and other unconstitutional spending, etc.

Personal National Debt

Year	Debt	Population	Personal Debt
2020	24 Trillion*	342 Million	70,000
2008	12.1 Trillion	303 Million	40,000
2000	5 Trillion	281 Million	20,000
1980	908 Billion	226 Million	4,000
1969	286 Billion	179 Million	1,900

* This number was based on the best estimate available

C. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

It is the belief of the Continental Congress 2009 that our States are being directly and indirectly impacted by the public debt created by Congress. The theft of our finances to pay for unconstitutional and irresponsible constitutional spending on the part of Congress impacts the economy of every individual. The uncontrollable spending by Congress effectively steals monies that could otherwise be used for personal growth by the citizens of the various States, thereby creating a welfare/socialist/fascist State, where the citizens look to Washington D.C. for every aspect of their lives.

When the States pattern their financial policies after the federal government, the result is an increase in taxes on the citizens, thereby exacerbating the People’s burdens. Therefore, we instruct the several States to:

1. Reassert their rights, expressed in the 10th Amendment, to act autonomously;
2. Refuse to accept any federal script;
3. Refuse to give to the federal government any funds that could be used for un-Constitutional spending.

D. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

The Delegates to Continental Congress hereby express our deepest concerns relative to the uncontrolled and unconstitutional spending of Congress and issue the following urgent notice to all American Citizens:

Our government has plunged us into debt through excessive and senseless spending. Repayment of the portion of this debt, that cannot be liquidated by sale or seizure of public property, or by other means, indicates that it will fall upon us in the form of taxes (including the hidden tax of inflation). In one way, or another, the wealth that is taxed is created by the labor of the people.

THEREFORE, we recommend to the people the following to begin the correction of our economy:

1. If your State has engaged in irresponsible spending resulting in a large public debt, we recommend that citizens instruct their government to cease those practices;
2. Increase our power to produce by increasing our education level; keep our eyes open for changing dynamics and look for new opportunities; learn and develop new crafts/skills; and learn how to create more value for more people;
3. Learn how to be self-reliant rather than government-dependent. Any benefit that the government provides to one individual must be taken from others;
4. Increase your savings by selling fiat currency and buying hard assets; eliminate all forms of personal debt.
5. Introduce the principles of barter and alternative media of exchange and educate your local community;
6. Businesses are encouraged to begin accepting gold or silver as a viable payment for commodity and service exchanges;
7. Work with local businesses to implement an alternative local bartering system or establish a local private medium of exchange;
8. Only vote for candidates for office who are true Constitutionlists and who are committed to reducing government spending and borrowing;
9. Encourage elected State officials to return to the gold and silver standard by passing “sound/honest” money legislation to provide a competing currency to the existing fiat currency;
10. Share the information contained in the Continental Congress 2009 documents with your State legislators, county and local officials, and the media.

¹¹ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article. Read the **CONSTITUTION**. Read the **PETITION to the Federal Court regarding the unconstitutional \$85 Billion bailout of AIG in 2008 and Decision**. Read the **PETITION to the Federal Court regarding the unconstitutional \$700 Billion bailout of the U.S. Financial Industry in 2008 and Decision**. See the related CC 2009 video presentations: Robert L. Schulz, Chairman, We The People Foundation for Constitutional Education, Inc. – ***We The People lawsuits against the \$85 Billion AIG and \$700 Billion Bailout***; and Tom DeWeese, First Delegate from Virginia- reading the submission from Dr. Edwin Vieira, ***Declaration that all Unconstitutionally Incurred Public Debt of the United States is Void and Enforcement Thereof***.

ARTICLE 12

WAR POWERS AND ARTICLES 1 AND 2 OF THE CONSTITUTION

A. BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF FACTS

WHEREAS, the Constitution for the United States of America clearly grants Congress the exclusive power, “to declare war, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make rules concerning Captures on Land and Water” (Article 1, Section 8, Clause 11); and

WHEREAS, Congress may not delegate this power under any circumstance unless the Constitution is amended (Article 5); and

WHEREAS, the Constitution also clearly declares that the President serves as a Commander-in-Chief *only* when called into service by Congress during times of invasion or rebellion (Art. 2, §2, cl.1); and

WHEREAS, only congress can initiate war and the President merely executes and administers it; and

WHEREAS, history has proven that war powers are invariably abused when left in the hand of one individual; and

WHEREAS, all war activities should be for the sole purpose of national defense (Art. 1, §8, cl.1); and

WHEREAS, the Citizens of the several States and the United States of America have been subjected to a series of declared national emergencies beginning with Executive Order #1 issued by Abraham Lincoln on April 15, 1861 and reactivated by Franklin D. Roosevelt and Congress in 1933; and

WHEREAS, these declared states of emergency, many of which have continued uninterrupted to this day, have given successive presidents a multitude of autocratic powers; and

WHEREAS, Senate Report 93-549, War and Emergency Powers Act, 1973, 93 Congress, 1st Session states, in part:

*“These proclamations give force to 470 provisions of Federal law. These hundreds of statutes delegate to the President extraordinary powers, ordinarily exercised by the Congress, which affect the lives of American citizens in a host of all-encompassing manners. This vast range of powers, taken together, **confer enough authority to rule the country without reference to normal constitutional processes...***

*“Under the powers delegated by these statutes, the President may: seize property; organize and control the means of production; seize commodities; assign military forces abroad; institute martial law; seize and control all transportation and communication; regulate the operation of private enterprise; restrict travel; and, **in a plethora of particular ways, control the lives of all American citizens...***

*“Over the course of at last the last 40 years, Presidents have had available an enormous-seemingly expanding and never-ending – range of emergency powers. Indeed, at their fullest extent and during the height of a crisis, these ‘prerogative’ powers appear to be virtually unlimited...Because **Congress and the public are unaware of the extent of emergency powers**, there has never been any notable congressional or public objection made to this state of affairs. Nor have the courts imposed significant limitations.”* [emphasis added]; and

WHEREAS, the 1973 Senate report also expresses concern that in our current state of emergency, we could end up with a totalitarian state:

“If the President can create crimes by fiat and without congressional approval, our system is not much different from that of the communists, which allegedly threaten our existence...The enormous scope of powers ...is a time bomb.” [emphasis added]; and

WHEREAS, The congress has repeatedly violated its war powers through a long series of unconstitutional acts, resolutions and other actions, starting with the Emergency Banking Systems Act and the Agriculture Adjustment Act of 1933, resulting in a massive unconstitutional transfer of powers to the President; and

WHEREAS, the power to both declare and conduct war is thus in the hands of one man resulting in decades of unjust wars with enormous loss of life and expense while being propagandized as patriotism; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court in the Guantanamo line of cases (2008), acknowledged that the US has been under War/Emergency Powers, (Military Commissions Act) depriving detainees of their Constitutional due process/habeas rights (the court preserved Judicial Review of the Constitutional Law claims, and effectively strengthened standing to state a claim in federal court); and

WHEREAS, Congress and past Presidents have persisted in violating this clause by unconstitutionally sending advisors, troops, and/or money, equipment, and other support to aid foreign nations in “wars”, conflicts, police actions and covert activities, including, but not limited to, Korea, Vietnam, Somalia, Haiti, Kuwait, Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan without a lawful Congressional Declaration of War as stated in Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Congress and the President have engaged in non-defensive military actions by committing US troops in over 130 countries throughout the world, engaging us in foreign entanglements and fomenting animosity and reprisals; and

WHEREAS, Congress and the President have abused their power by committing US troops to serve as mercenaries in foreign conflicts under the auspices of the United Nations.

THEREFORE,

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTION TO CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT

Never again engage the United States in pre-emptive war or any military conflict except for the common defense.

C. ADDITIONAL REMEDIAL INSTRUCTONS TO CONGRESS

WE DEMAND Congress reclaim its exclusive Constitutional Power to declare war:

1. Repeal all acts, executive orders, and resolutions pertaining to the delegation of any war powers to the President;
2. Cease to fund any and all pre-emptive or offensive military activities throughout the world within twelve (12) months after receiving this document;
3. Comply with all of the war powers provisions in the Constitution as originally written and adopted, never again allowing any American troops to be committed for any reason except in accordance with the Constitution;
4. Impeach any President who initiates military activity without a lawful Congressional Declaration of War as stated in Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution
5. Return jurisdiction of National Guard troops to their respective States; enabling the States to revitalize their own militias.
6. Repeal all Emergency Powers Acts and their associated provisions in federal code within a six-month period.

D. ADDITIONAL REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT

1. Cease and desist now and **never again** take any offensive military action in any form without a lawful Congressional Declaration of War as stated in Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution.
2. Withdraw US troops from all foreign countries throughout the world within a period of twelve (12) months after receiving this instruction
3. Instruct all military commanders and leaders to keep their Constitutional Oath of Office by refusing to execute any orders that may result in injury or loss of human life without a lawful Congressional Declaration of War as stated in Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution;
4. Instruct all officers and enlisted men to keep their Oaths of Office or Enlistment by refusing to obey any orders that may result in injury or loss of human life without a lawful Congressional Declaration of War as stated in Article 1, section 8 of the US Constitution. We also encourage officers and enlisted men to refuse orders to serve under a foreign or international power.

E. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

1. Instruct the US Representatives and Senators to reclaim their exclusive constitutional power to declare war by:
 - a) Repealing all acts, executive orders, and resolutions pertaining to the delegation of any war or emergency powers to the President;

- b) Ending the funding of any and all offensive or pre-emptive military activities throughout the world within twelve (12) months after being served with this document;
 - c) Complying fully and strictly with all of the war powers provisions in the Constitution as originally written and adopted, never again allowing any American troops to be committed for any reason except in accordance with the constitution;
 - d) Impeaching any President who initiates military activity without a lawful Congressional Declaration of War as stated in Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution;
2. Immediately recall all National Guard Troops and equipment;
 3. Obey the Constitutional Oath of Office by refusing to commit any militia, equipment, or funds that may result in injury or loss of human life without a lawful Congressional Declaration of War as stated in Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution;
 4. Protest any military action by the President in any form without a lawful Congressional Declaration of War as stated in Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution.

F. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

The Continental Congress 2009 recommends the citizens of each State take the following actions to help resolve the unconstitutional activities of our elected officials:

1. Encourage the people of each of the several states to become further educated and to build coalitions of like-minded people into groups with sufficient numbers to instruct their fellow citizens how to hold their public officials accountable;
2. Get to know your sheriff within your community and determine if he/she will hold public officials accountable to their Oath of Office; let them know that you are there to help them and support all lawful efforts;
3. Work with fellow citizens within your county to form and conduct a lawful citizens Grand Jury which are paneled and conducted according to the State Constitution
4. Participating in an unconstitutional war is militarism not patriotism. In the event of an undeclared war we urge all citizens to avoid supporting or participating in the war in any way including military service or weapons production. If just 10% of the population refused to fight, the undeclared war would be unlikely to ever happen. *We the people* are the ultimate check on a tyrannical government.

¹² Learn more about the subject matter of this Article. Read the **WAR POWERS** Clauses. Read the **PETITION for Redress of Grievances Relating to the Application of the Armed Forces of the United States in Hostilities in Iraq Without a Congressional Declaration of War**. See the related CC 2009 videos: Dr. David Adler, Professor of Political Science, Idaho State University, author- *The History, Meaning, Effect, Significance and Violations of the War Powers Clauses of the Constitution*.

Additional resources for consideration: **Petition to the Federal Court Regarding the Unconstitutional Bombing of Kosovo**. Dismissed by the Court for “lack of standing.”

ARTICLE 13

ELIGIBILITY AND THE NATURAL BORN CITIZEN CLAUSE OF ARTICLE II, SECTION 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION

PART I:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Continental Congress 2009 (CC 2009) was convened to defend, and not amend, the Constitution for the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the CC 2009 has examined, among other things, the Constitutional requirements for the office of the President as originally and precisely articulated in Article II, Section 1, Clause 5 of the Constitution:

“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”

WHEREAS, the CC 2009 finds that Article II, Section 1, Clause 5 of the Constitution requires a specific class of citizenship to be eligible to hold the office of the President, as indicated by the fact that Article II includes two adjectives before the first use of the word ‘Citizen’, but not in front of the second ‘Citizen’; and

WHEREAS, the CC 2009 finds that Article II has not been amended to alter or change these words nor their meaning, and that no Federal Court has ruled on the direct meaning of this clause; and

WHEREAS, the CC 2009 finds that until the Supreme Court rules on the natural born citizen eligibility clause, or the Congress and the several States amend the Constitution, the acceptable definition of ‘natural born citizen’ is derived from that body of law referred to as the ‘Law of Nations’, referenced in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the reference to the ‘Law of Nations’ in Article I is a direct recognition that the Founders respected this body of law; and

WHEREAS, in writing about that body of law, Emmich Vattel defined a natural born citizen:

“To be a natural born citizen means one must be born on the soil of parents who themselves are citizens.”¹

WHEREAS, the CC 2009 further finds that the term ‘natural born Citizen,’ as specified only for the office of the President, is chiefly concerned that the President have a singular allegiance to the United States of America; and

¹ *Emmich Vattel, 1797. The Law of Nations, Book I, Chapter XIX, pp 103 - 104; London.*

WHEREAS, the CC 2009 finds that the natural born citizen clause does not establish a superior form of citizenship, but instead establishes a national security safeguard against foreign invasion of the White House and takeover of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the CC 2009 finds that the life, liberty, and property interests of Americans could be irrevocably injured, harmed, and threatened should a foreign national or one with split allegiance usurp the office of the Presidency; and

WHEREAS, the CC 2009 further finds that no regular or established administrative mechanism exists at any level to ensure that the President meets the eligibility requirements of Article II; and

WHEREAS, the CC 2009 finds that there is an immediate need to establish such a mechanism,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Continental Congress 2009 identifies the following set of opportunities to ensure the Constitutional eligibility of Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates:

A. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

The Congress of the United States, in coordination with the several States, should immediately establish regular administrative mechanisms and procedures for the verification of the citizenship and birthplace of candidates or nominees for the office of the Presidency, using original birth certificates, passports and any and all other identification documents necessary to establish birth on U.S. soil to parents who are American citizens. Such procedures shall provide for the verification of all nominees for the office of the President and his successor and provide for making the determinations available to the public.

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

The several States should immediately enact legislation to provide for the verification of a candidate for President as a condition for participating in the State general election for President, using original birth certificates, passports and any and all other identification documents necessary to establish birth on U.S. soil to parents who are American citizens, and to provide for the dissemination of the information to the public.

C. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

The Delegates of the Continental Congress 2009, in recognition of the extreme importance of having a constitutionally-eligible President, hereby:

1. Remind the citizenry that the protection of Life, Liberty, and Property guaranteed under our Constitution depends heavily on an informed public, and that our Constitutional Republic cannot survive without it.
2. Remind the citizenry that in the 21st Century, America faces significant security threats, and that it is important to ensure that holders of every elected public office,

- especially the President of the United States, understand their oath to uphold and defend the Constitution.
3. Encourage the citizenry to study the attached instructions to Congress and the States, and to use every tool to ensure for themselves, and activate their State legislatures to verify, that Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates are eligible to serve under Article II of the Constitution.

¹³Learn more about the subject matter of this Article. Read the [NATURAL BORN CITIZEN](#) Clause. Read the [PETITION for Redress of Grievances Regarding Mr. Obama's Eligibility](#) (Open Letter published in the Chicago Tribune on December 1 and 3, 2008).

PART II:**A PRESENTMENT****By and of****The Continental Congress of 2009****RESOLUTION****Raising a question of our purported President,
Barrack Hussein Obama a/k/a Barry Soetoro**

LET IT BE KNOWN BY THESE PRESENTS that the delegates of the Continental Congress 2009 have reviewed the available evidence and find that:

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1, Clause 5 of the Constitution for the United States says that “no Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States at the time of the Adoption of the Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President;” and

WHEREAS, in our Constitutional Republic, government is an indispensable necessity and, that whenever and however it is instituted, the People must place trust in and rely upon their representatives in order to vest it with requisite powers; and,

WHEREAS the Congress and all branches of the government of the United States of America have a duty and obligation to protect the People from usurpation and foreign influence of and over our government, and to ensure that deceptive practices in the determination of eligibility and election of our federal public servants in positions of influence and power are fully and thoroughly investigated; and

WHEREAS the framers of our Constitution, and those sworn to uphold it, have historically recognized that the loyalty of the President of the United States, vested with supreme executive power and command of our armed forces, be true and faithful, unfettered by foreign ties, attachments and allegiance; and

WHEREAS to allow otherwise, affords opportunity to tamper with domestic factions, practice arts of seduction, mislead public opinion, and influence or awe the institutions of government; and

WHEREAS the traditions of such a Constitutional requirement lay in the common belief that the leader of the executive branch of our Federal government have the breath of life bestowed in the womb of a mother, by a father, both citizens of the United States of America owing no allegiance to any foreign sovereignty, and born on sovereign American soil; and

WHEREAS, the definition of a natural born citizen is derived from the Constitutionally accepted and referenced body of law known as the “Law of Nations” as quoted in the treatise, *The Law of Nations*, as those born in the country of parents, both citizens of the United States of America, and born on sovereign American soil; and

WHEREAS, a person born of a foreign minister, consul, citizen, or subject of a foreign State would not be solely subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, such person may possess a divided allegiance, and it is logical that the founders intended to hold the offices of President and Vice President to a higher standard of citizenship to insure no divided allegiance; for if the Founders intended for native born citizens to be eligible for these offices, they would not have distinguished this requirement from that of a Senator; thus, a natural born citizen is necessarily a higher form of citizen than a native born citizen which may have a divided allegiance; and

WHEREAS, the People who framed this nation through the Constitution would not entrust their well being and security to any other type of individual holding such high office, neither shall we, the People, today; and

WHEREAS, it is unreasonable to conclude that every person born within the geographical territory of the United States is a natural born Citizen, irrespective of circumstances, and that the child of a foreigner, happening to be born to him while passing through the country, is eligible to the presidency, while the child of our Citizens, born abroad, is not; and

WHEREAS, the purported President of the United States, Barack Hussein Obama, was reputedly born in the State of Hawaii to a Kenyan father who by his own admission was a British subject from the British Colony of Kenya, only temporarily residing in the United States as a student; and

WHEREAS, the citizenship status of Mr. Obama upon his birth would have been governed, not only by the laws of the United States, but the British Nationality Act of 1948, which by its language made Mr. Obama a subject of said British colony, thus with dual citizenship at the least; and

WHEREAS, a concentrated effort has been made by many, including members of Congress entrusted by the People to protect and defend the Constitution, to intentionally subvert the legitimate and patriotic concern that the current President of the United States is ineligible and disabled under the requirements of the Constitution, which created the office which he presently holds and is the only position in federal government in which he may not sit; and

WHEREAS, the Judiciary has willfully infringed upon the unalienable rights of sovereign citizens to have Constitutional questions resolved by denying standing via technicality of law; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Obama has been less than forthcoming to those who have continually and consistently requested certain documentation to ensure his eligibility for the Office of the President under Article II, and, on the contrary, signed Executive Order 13489 claiming executive privilege blocking the release of personal documents by the National Archives and Records Administration immediately following his inauguration, and has expended large sums of public money to pay for attorneys necessary to frustrate those who simply wish to ensure that our President is eligible for the Office he holds under the Constitution for the United States, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Obama, with respect, has engaged in conduct unbecoming of the President of the United States, in which reasonable doubt can be raised as to his fidelity to the United States; and

WHEREAS, the delegates of the Continental Congress 2009 believe the People, regardless of their level of support of Mr. Obama, are interested, desirous, and in need of a resolution regarding the eligibility of Mr. Obama under the Constitution for the United States;

BE IT RESOLVED:

THEREFORE, the delegates of the states participating in the Continental Congress 2009, on behalf of the free people of America, now call upon the Congress of the United States of America, the U.S. Attorney General, Federal Judges and any others with appropriate power, authority and jurisdiction: to uphold your oath and to investigate to the fullest extent of the law, power and authority vested in you, the truth concerning the natural born citizenship status of the President, Barack Hussein Obama; and

THEREFORE, should it be discovered, in truth and substance, that Barack Obama is not a natural born citizen, and ineligible to hold the office of president of the United States of America according to Article II, section 1 clause 5 of the Constitution, we hold you to your duty and responsibility to remove him according to Constitutional provisions for such actions; and

THEREFORE, your immediate action by ordering a Grand Jury or other appropriate investigation of the matter of Barack Obama's eligibility and the prosecution of any who may have committed fraud and/or are complicit in fraud, will prove more than just your fealty to us your constituents, but will also provide confidence that our freedoms, which are your freedoms, are safe under those who stay true to their oaths of office.

ARTICLE 14

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND THE OATH OF OFFICE CLAUSE OF ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1, AND THE FAITHFULLY EXECUTE CLAUSE OF ARTICLE 2, SECTION 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION¹⁴

The Constitution of the United States of America is being violated. It has been violated over many years, by many administrations, by every branch of government, by each party.

Pursuant to the First Amendment of the Constitution, the We the People Foundation submitted petitions for Redress of Grievance, not once, but twice (in June of 2008, and again in August of 2009) which were duly served on all members of the Congress of the United States Government, and the Presidents.

The recipients, including the President, responded only with silence.

Under these facts and circumstances, it is well settled in American jurisprudence that silence is an admission. By its silence, the government has admitted to its violations of the Constitution.

THEREFORE, We the People now find the government to be in violation of the Constitution in the manner described below, and the actions taken by the government to be null and void.

We the People do hereby declare the following:

A. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT

WHEREAS, the Executive Powers are vested in the President of the United States of America;

WHEREAS, the President must take an Oath or Affirmation before executing his office;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution, the Oath or Affirmation reads, “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”,

WHEREAS, numerous petitions have been filed and ignored regarding the execution of immigration laws.

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution requires the President to “take care that the laws be faithfully executed”;

WHEREAS, in May of 2007, on the Floor of the House, Representative Ric Keller (R) stated: “It is estimated that there are currently more than 20 million illegal immigrants in this country. The cost of illegal immigration to our health care system, public education system, prison system and social services continues to rise without any sign of stopping or slowing.”;

WHEREAS, the presence of no less than 20 million illegal aliens* in the United States is evidence that the immigration laws are not being enforced,

WHEREAS, among the laws not being enforced are USC Title 8, Section 237; Section 1324 and Section 1325, and Article IV Section IV which reads: “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.”

WHEREAS, the failure of enforcing these laws has cost the nation hundreds of billions of dollars in the last decade alone, and have put the nation at risk of terrorism, crime, and disease,

THEREFORE, We the People instruct you to fulfill your sworn responsibilities as President to commit the necessary resources to Faithfully Execute all of the current immigration laws.

B. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONGRESS

WHEREAS, current statutes prescribe the various penalties for violations of the immigration laws; among those penalties are deportation, which is found at 8 USC § 1227 and INA § 237; anything less than the application of these statutory penalties would constitute a forgiveness of Civil Penalties, and

WHEREAS, the effect of the President's failure to fulfill his duty has resulted in great cost to the nation due to undue strain on society and the economy in the form of terrorism, crime, and disease. This also results in the blurring of the distinction between legal and illegal immigration, which penalizes those who have gone through the naturalization process lawfully,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Congress shall remind the President by whatever means necessary of his mandated duty to take "Care" that the immigration "Laws be faithfully executed" as mandated in Article II Section 3 Paragraph 1 of the Constitution, and
2. Congress shall appoint an Investigative Committee for the purpose of determining whether the President has faithfully upheld the Constitution, in accordance with Article II, Section 3 Clause 5.
3. If the President fails to fulfill said obligation cited above after the instructions from Congress, by default he has violated his Oath of Office as under Article II Section 1 Paragraph 8 of the Constitution and can be subject to impeachment proceedings and criminal or civil action.
4. Congress shall not enact any legislation that provides Social Services or any form of amnesty for illegal aliens*.

C. REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EACH OF THE SEVERAL STATES

WHEREAS, the President has demonstrated his failure to faithfully execute the current immigration laws, specifically, 8 USC § 1227 and INA § 237,

WHEREAS, the President and the Executive Branch of the Federal government have failed to enforce the aforementioned immigration laws,

WHEREAS, State Law Enforcement Officers must take an Oath or Affirmation to faithfully execute the Constitution and applicable laws enacted thereto,

WHEREAS, in *United States v. Santana-Garcia*, 264 F. 3d 1188, 1194 (citing *United States v. Vasquez-Alvarez*, 176 F. 3d 1294, 1295), a United States Court of Appeals upheld the Right of the States to enforce Federal immigration laws by stating, "State and local police officers [have] implicit authority within their respective jurisdictions 'to investigate and make arrests for violations of Federal law, including immigration laws.'"

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Governors of each State shall direct the Law Enforcement Officers of their State, by whatever means necessary, to honor their Oaths of Office and to take "care" that the immigration "laws be faithfully executed" to their fullest extent, and
2. The Legislatures of each State shall take steps to sanction or impeach the Governor and/or any Law Enforcement Officer who fails to honor his Oath of Office or otherwise fails to fulfill his obligations to enforce State and federal immigration laws.

D. RECOMMENDED CIVIC ACTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

We, the Continental Congress 2009, declare that the President of the United States of America has failed to “*take care to faithfully execute the laws*”, and we encourage the People of the several States, in their legitimate capacity, to engage in the following civic actions:

1. Educate yourself, your family, and your community about your government officials’ duties and all of the current immigration laws.
2. Meet with your county Sheriff and ask him to execute the current Federal and State immigration laws for which he is authorized.
3. Lobby your State legislator/legislature to demand your State Governor to execute all of the current immigration laws, where applicable.
4. Lobby your Congressman to bring impeachment proceedings against the President of the United States of America for failing to assure execution all of the current immigration laws.

¹⁴ Learn more about the subject matter of this Article. Read the **OATH OF OFFICE** and the **FAITHFULLY EXECUTE** Clauses. Read the **PETITION for Redress of Grievances Regarding the Failure of the President to Enforce the Immigration Laws**. See the related CC 2009 video presentations: Jeff Lewis, National Director of the Federal Immigration Reform and Enforcement Coalition (“FIRE”)- **Introduction**; Cory Voorhis and John Sampson, former agents, federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”)- **Border Realities**; **“Drug Wars: Silver or Lead” (film)**.

**“Definition. For purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), any person who is not a citizen or a national of the United States. There are different categories of aliens: resident and nonresident, immigrant and nonimmigrant, asylee and refugee, documented and undocumented (“illegal”).” Additionally, “According to the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), an alien is an individual who does not have U.S. citizenship and is not a U.S. national. The INA defines a national of the United States as one who, while not a citizen, owes permanent allegiance to the United States. One owes personal allegiance to the United States if that person has taken an oath of naturalization.”* Cornell University Law School;

ARTICLE 15

ANCILLARY REPORT BY THE FOREIGN POLICY AND GENERAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REGARDING THE WELFARE STATE

WHEREAS, the mention of “General Welfare” in the Preamble to the Constitution for the United States as a principal goal of the Constitution conveys no specific powers to government, and the General Welfare Clause of Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution for the United States is only intended to be restricted to the enumerated powers which follow it; and

WHEREAS, James Madison states in Federalist 41 that “Nothing is more natural or common, than to use a general phrase, and then to explain or qualify it by a recital of particulars,” and that it would be an “absurdity” if the list of particulars was interpreted as anything but restrictive on the general statement; and,

WHEREAS, the early nineteenth century serves as an example of rapid economic growth despite very limited government investment in the “general welfare”, and during that period the institution of the family provided adequately for most Americans without any federal welfare, and voluntary religious and charitable associations flourished without government involvement; and,

WHEREAS, the family and the State are competing forms of government, with the result that when one is strengthened the other is weakened, and the family is the most effective provider of social services, so that the “general welfare” is best served by strengthening families rather than by strengthening government; and,

WHEREAS, the responsibility of government is to secure to its citizens the fruit of their labor, which is their property, and the opportunity to utilize that property as capital to create wealth;

THEREFORE, the Delegates of the several States in Continental Congress assembled:

1. Protest the misinterpretation of the General Welfare Clause by Congress that results in the tyranny of unjust taxes upon the People;
2. Find the “general welfare” is neither “promoted” nor “provided for” when Congress exceeds the enumerated powers of the Constitution, and that the General Welfare Clause does not provide constitutional justification for:
 - Mandated or government run health insurance, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid or any form of welfare payments to individuals; but those who were forced to contribute into any of these programs shall be reimbursed less any payments from those programs they may have received, and inflation to be accounted for in the calculations of amounts due;
 - Mandatory vaccinations, mental health screenings, or collection of medical data of individuals;
 - The violation of the right of individuals to decide which foods, substances, or medications they put into their bodies;
 - Bailouts, grants, loans, investments or any other form of corporate welfare;
 - The disguised regulation of private activity through subsidies;
 - Grants to churches or other religious or charitable organizations for any purpose;
 - Federal funding of education at any level;
 - The coercion of States and municipalities to adopt national standards by threatening to withhold funds;
 - The building of infrastructure, except as enumerated in the Constitution;
 - Economic stimulus grants, loans or any other appropriations for State and local governments, except as enumerated in the Constitution;
 - Any other federal law, statute or regulation that is not specifically enumerated in the Constitution.

THE ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE

WHEREAS, America’s Declaration of Independence contains essential principles underlying the greatest governing documents ever given to mankind, and

WHEREAS, among our essential principles is the belief that we are endowed by our CREATOR and NATURE’S GOD with certain unalienable Rights and that Governments are instituted among men to secure these Rights, no more, no less, and

WHEREAS, the maintenance of these principles depends upon, “a firm Reliance on the Protection of DIVINE PROVIDENCE.”

THEREFORE, We, the Delegates of Continental Congress 2009, recommend the following actions to be taken by the People:

1. Each of us, beginning with ourselves and our family, set apart a day of fasting, weekly, monthly or whenever, to appeal to and to meditate and pray for the blessing of Divine Providence, in guiding our steps and assisting us in our struggle against the enemies of liberty, in reclaiming our freedom, and to encourage our friends and neighbors to do the same;
2. Encourage your minister, priest, rabbi, or other religious or spiritual leader to lead their congregation in a monthly day of fasting, meditation and prayer, for the blessing of Divine Providence to guide the success of our efforts;

IN RESPECT TO OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

Our Founding Fathers recorded in the founding documents the God-given Rights of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness to every citizen. Without Life, there is no Liberty or Pursuit of Happiness.

Authors:

Delegates who choose to be listed as contributors to this document shall be listed on this page.

NATIONWIDE CIVIC ACTION

Delegates to Continental Congress 2009 and others from Each of the several States, shall serve this document titled, “Articles of Freedom,” with its Remedial Instructions, on each United States Senator and Representative in their offices located in their respective States, placing them on notice that We, the Free People of America, believe them to be in violation of their Oath of Office and the Constitution for the United States of America.

When a goodly number of millions of American people agree, we will withdraw our financial support from the federal government, in a lawful and constitutional manner, and implement other responsible civic actions, until all violations of the Constitution for the United States of America CEASE.

MY PLEDGE

In full view of the Creator as my witness, I hereby pledge my signature to this end, in order to hold our elected and appointed officials accountable for all of their violations, with a firm reminder that each one has sworn an Oath (or Affirmation), to Preserve, Protect and Defend the Constitution for the United States of America.

We the undersigned renounce and condemn any and all INITIATION of violent force and will pursue all lawful and Constitutional means to fulfill our duty.

I place my name as an Eternal Record of the Will Of The People to be Free.

ARTICLES OF FREEDOM

SUMMARY OF THE FIFTEEN ARTICLES

Continental Congress 2009 was convened in St. Charles, Illinois, between November 11 and 21, 2009, to discuss fourteen violations of the Constitution for The United States of America, the Government’s refusal to listen or respond to the People’s First Amendment Petitions to Redress those Grievances for the past fourteen years, and to recommend a non-violent course of action for the Free People to put an end to those violations.

The conclusion of the work of Continental Congress 2009 is the, fifteen-article Document called “*Articles of Freedom.*”

The detailed, factual record of the violations and the Government’s refusal to listen or respond to the People’s prior Petitions to Redress those violations is included in the Articles of Freedom. Also included are detailed, specific Instructions to the federal Government, and to each of the several states, designed to end the violations. Also included are recommendations for civic action by the People to ensure compliance with their Instructions.

Below is a summary of the contents of each of the first fourteen articles of the “*Articles of Freedom.*”

ARTICLE	REFERENCE	VIOLATIONS	REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS: FEDERAL	REMEDIAL INSTRUCTIONS: STATES	RECOMMENDATIONS: CIVIC ACTION
1. Sovereignty	Declaration of Independence, Constitution: Art. I, 9 and 10	Erosion of Popular, State and National Sovereignty	Reaffirm fundamental principles of popular, State and National Sovereignty. Repeal laws contrary to Art. I, Section 8	Reaffirm fundamental principles of popular, State and National Sovereignty. Repeal State Welfare Laws.	Break the chains of government dependence. Make informed choices re health care. Boycott companies that accept corporate welfare. Support those charities whose aid is based on private consent not government force. Resist policies that favor public over private education. Live free.
2. Constitutional Laws	Declaration of Independence, Constitution:	Non-Conforming bills	Joint Committee to identify Constitutional authority, or absence thereof, before bills are sent to the President for approval.	Joint Committee to identify Constitutional authority, or absence thereof, before bills are sent to the Governor for approval.	Monitor promulgation, progress and performance of joint federal and state committees for compliance.
3. Petition for Redress of Grievances	First Amendment. Clause 5.	Elected officials refuse to respond to Proper Petitions to Redress Violations of provisions of the Constitution. Judges dismiss constitutional challenges for “lack of standing.”	Affirm jurisdiction of courts to hear challenges to the Constitutionality of actions by public officials, and remove judges who dismiss such cases for lack of standing. Affirm obligation of all public officials to respond to Petitions to Redress violations of the Constitution.	Recall U.S. Congress persons who ignore Petitions to Redress violations of the Constitution; refuse federal funding until federal instructions are complied with; institute citizen's grand jury for hearings re: public officials. Restore writs of quo warranto.	Instruct and lobby state legislatures to adopt instructions, remove oath violators and sign Articles of Freedom.
4. Militias and Firearms	Second and Tenth Amendments. First Amendment, Clause 5.	Absence of well-regulated State Militias. Infringements on Right to Keep and Bear Arms. Failure to respond to Petitions to Redress violations.	Abolish Dept. of Homeland Security. Return responsibility for domestic security to Militias of the several States. Repeal statutes that tax, register and regulate the use or transfer of firearms and ammunition. Make statutes for organizing, arming and disciplining the Militia.	Establish Advisory Commission On Revitalization of the Militia. Repeal statutes that tax, register and regulate the use or transfer of firearms and ammunition.	Seek assistance from County Sheriffs in establishing a constitutional Militia. Educate others re importance of Second Amendment and preparedness. Lobby State Legislatures to pass “Firearms Freedom Act.” Utilize “Scorecards” for elected officials.

5. Privacy	Fourth, Fifth, Ninth and Tenth Amendments. First Amendment, Clause 5.	Invasion of Personal Privacy via surreptitious Collection, Storage and Dissemination of Personal, non-criminal Data. Failure to respond to Petitions to Redress violations.	Repeal statutes repugnant to 4th, 5 th , 9 th and 10 th Amendments, including Patriot Act, National Animal Identification System Act and those that require collection of fingerprints, blood or DNA upon birth. Cease promulgation of Real ID Act of 2005 and PASS Act of 2009. Cease collecting intelligence of a non-criminal nature.	Retract Fusion Center Intel Reports not properly cited and sourced. Reject Patriot Act and its progeny. Repeal statutes that: 1) authorize red-light cameras and other devices that secretly gather information; 2) requires permission to travel, register and insure non-commercial vehicles; and 3) that prohibit the use of public right of ways for personal, non-commercial transportation. Destroy biometric data collected for use with driver's license, or for any other purpose not related to a felony investigation.	Be informed about our police state. File open records requests for and publicly distribute: 1) Memos of Understanding between Fusion Centers and all others; 2) Fusion Center Privacy Policies; 3) Strategic Reports by and to each Fusion Center. Make sure that: 1) no private entities are operating Fusion Centers; 2) only data re federal crimes is given to federal agencies; 3) groups are not investigated due to one suspicious person; 4) CFR 28, part 23 is complied with. Develop alternative means of communication. Do not release social security number. Use non-traceable forms of currency. Use open source software and proxy servers when connected to Internet. Encrypt hard drives. Know your right to videotape anything or anybody on public property. Lobby state legislators to nullify Patriot Act and scrutinize their process for accepting grants re surveillance and the militarization and federalization of local police departments. Lobby local sheriffs to uphold their Oaths by defending the Privacy Clauses.
6. Private Property	Article 6. 4 th and 5 th Amendments.	Confiscation of private property for private purposes. Government ownership of non-public use property. Conflict of interest in government possession of parks, preserves, et al.	Nullify or repeal unconstitutional confiscation of private property and any laws relating thereto.	Eliminate taxes on private property, both real & personal. End government participation in energy & environmental markets.	Familiarize citizenry with property rights protected by Constitution. Lobby officials regarding generation and distribution of energy. Encourage officials to comply with 10th amendment, et al. Lobby Congress to return public parks, preserves, et al to private ownership.
7. Juries	Article 3. Sixth and Seventh Amendments	Misinformation and incorrect instructions re: jury powers and responsibilities. Conflict of interest of judges.	Require judges to apprise plaintiffs, defendants and jurors of ALL of their Rights, including right to a common law jury. Require judges to apprise jurors of their conflict of interest in cases where the U.S. is a party. Provide for trials based on presentments by citizens' common law grand juries. Assure all legal arguments are heard in front of jury.	Require judges to apprise plaintiffs, defendants and jurors of ALL of their Rights, including right to a common law jury. Require judges to apprise jurors of their conflict of interest in cases where the State is a party. Repeal laws limiting function & scope and authority of grand juries.	When appointed to a jury, refuse to capitulate to any judge's instruction to judge only the facts and demand to have all issues of law argued in front of the jury. Educate yourself and others about the Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA) and the power to judge the law as well as the facts.
8. Income Tax	Article I, Sections 8, and Section 9. Article V. 16 th Amendment. First Amendment, Clause 5.	Imposition of direct, un-apportioned tax on labor without a proper and legal amendment to the Constitution. Failure to respond to Petitions to Redress violations.	Nullify the 16 th Amendment. Repeal Subtitles A and C of the Internal Revenue Code. Cease collection of direct tax on labor and withholding of earnings from paychecks. Release and restore citizens wrongfully imprisoned or fined.	Repeal state income tax law that are rooted in Subtitles A and C of the federal Internal Revenue Code. Protect citizens against unconstitutional seizures by federal government. Cease imposition of state tax on labor.	Educate yourself and others re the facts relating to the ratification of the 16 th Amendment. Obtain assistance of sheriff to end filing of tax liens and levies without federal court orders attached. Lobby banks to stop honoring tax levies without court order and sheriff's affidavit. Replace those public officials who do not honor their oaths to honor the Constitution.

9. Foreign Policy	General Welfare Clause In Preamble.	Meddling in the internal affairs of foreign counties, causing their citizens to direct their hostilities towards the U.S., resulting in a war on terror and a police state.	Discontinue foreign aid not necessary for the defense against invasion of the U.S. Nullify unconstitutional treaties. Repeal the Patriot Act, Military Commissions Act, the Real ID and PASS Acts and any other Act repugnant to the 4 th Amendment.	Resolve to support the People’s Instructions to the Congress.	Raise your voices in support of the Instructions to Congress and to the States. Educate yourselves and others about the issues and become personal ambassadors of good will to citizens of all nations.
10. Money	Article I, Section 8, Clause 5. Article I, Section 10, Clause 1. First Amendment, Clause 5.	Devaluation of debt based, fiat currency. Failure to maintain gold standard. Giving and lending public funds to private entities for decidedly private purposes. Failure to respond to Petitions to Redress violations.	Enact statute establishing a National Advisory Commission on Alternative and Competitive Currency and calling on States to establish similar Commission, all for the purpose of adoption by the United States and the several States, as rapidly as possible, an economically sound and Constitutional alternative and competitive currency consisting of gold and silver coin.	Enact statute establishing an Advisory Commission on Alternative and Competitive Currency for the state, for the purpose of adoption by the State, as rapidly as possible, an economically sound and Constitutional alternative and competitive currency consisting of gold and silver coin.	Encourage individuals to purchase hard money coinage to use among their communities with the goal of increasing financial independence, and to be otherwise prepared for the replacement of the unconstitutional Federal Reserve upon its failure or abolition.
11. Public Debt	Article 1, Section 8. First Amendment, Clause 5.	Emissions of unconstitutional Bills of Credit through or under the auspices of the Federal Reserve System. Debts incurred for the payment of costs of unconstitutional programs, activities or expenditures. Failure to respond to Petitions to Redress violations.	Cancel all debt incurred unconstitutionally, whether by unconstitutional Bills of Credit issued under the auspices of the Federal Reserve System, or for unconstitutional programs, activities or expenditures. Limit spending to activities directly authorized under Article I, Section 8. Transfer all Federal Reserve Assets to the Treasury Department, converting them to gold and silver. Repeal legal tender laws. Preclude interference with any private medium of exchange. Repeal the Federal Reserve Act.	Reassert right to act autonomously. Refuse to accept federal scrip. Refuse to give the federal government any funds that could be used for unconstitutional activities.	Eliminate personal debt. Become self reliant rather than government dependent. Pressure your state to end unnecessary and unconstitutional spending. Encourage bartering. Encourage businesses to accept silver and gold as payment for goods and services.
12. War Powers	Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 11. Article II Section 2, Clause 1. Article V. First Amendment, Clause 5.	Sending troops, advisors, money, equipment, and other support to aid foreign nations in “wars,” conflicts, police actions, and covert activities including Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan without a lawful congressional declaration of war. Engaging in non-defensive military actions by committing troops in over 130 countries. Committing troops to serve as mercenaries in foreign conflicts under the auspices of the United Nations. Failure to respond to Petitions to Redress violations.	Withdraw troops from all countries throughout the world in twelve months. Limit military action to the common defense; no preemptive war; repeal all acts pertaining to delegation of congressional war powers to the President; cease funding of offensive military activities; impeach President for non-compliance; retain jurisdiction of National Guard troops to their states. President shall instruct military personnel to honor Oath of Office.	Recall National Guard; refuse to commit any equipment or militia that may result in injury or death without a lawful congressional declaration of war; protest military action of President in any form without lawful congressional declaration of war; instruct U.S. Congressmen to reclaim their exclusive constitutional power to declare war.	The People are the ultimate check on a tyrannical government. Build coalitions; hold officials accountable; become acquainted with and support local sheriff; form citizens’ grand jury; in the event of undeclared war, avoid supporting military action or weapons production.

13. Eligibility	Article 2, Section 1, paragraph 5. Article V. First Amendment, Clause 5.	President, both of whose parents were not American Citizens and who was not born on U.S. soil. Threat to national security. Lack of administrative mechanism to verify Constitutional eligibility; no Supreme Court ruling on definition; no Constitutional amendment. Failure to respond to Petitions to Redress violations.	Investigate the truth concerning the Natural Born Citizenship status of the President, and those who may have committed fraud or conspired to commit fraud. Remove the President from office should it be determined that he is not a natural born citizen. Establish procedures to verify Presidential candidates, and share information with public.	Enact legislation to verify Presidential candidates as a condition of being on state's general election ballot.	Be informed; study resolutions; ensure all office holders uphold Constitution. Presentment to Congress regarding the President.
14. Illegal Immigration	Article 2, Sections 1 and 3. Article IV, Section 4. First Amendment, Clause 5.	Failure to execute immigration laws. Failure to honor Oath of Office; Failure to respond to Petitions to Redress violations.	Apply penalties per 8 USC Sec 1227 and INA Sec 237; Congress shall ensure that President takes "care that immigration laws be faithfully executed" and Congress shall prohibit social services or amnesty for illegal immigrants. Congress shall impeach the President for failure to honor his Oath of Office in this regard.	Instruct law enforcement officers to keep oaths and enforce statutory immigration laws. Impeach the Governor or any law enforcement officer who fails to faithfully execute the immigration laws.	Educate citizenry re: government's official duties and all immigration laws; meet with county sheriff to seek execution of immigration laws; lobby state legislature to demand all current immigration laws are executed; lobby congressman for impeachment proceedings against President of U.S. for failure to execute immigration laws.