

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. J. RES. 146

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring
Members of Congress to demonstrate competence in American civics.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 30, 2026

Mr. HUNT submitted the following joint resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United
States requiring Members of Congress to demonstrate
competence in American civics.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled*
3 *(two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the fol-*
4 *lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-*
5 *stitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all*
6 *intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when*
7 *ratified by the legislatures or conventions of three-fourths*
8 *of the several States:*

1 “ARTICLE —

2 “SECTION 1. The Congress shall establish, for each
3 term of ten years for which a census or enumeration is
4 conducted for the apportionment of the Representatives
5 in the Congress, an examination for the demonstration of
6 competence, to a standard expected for a citizen of the
7 United States, on the system of government under the
8 Constitution of the United States, and each House of the
9 Congress shall publish the questions and answers for the
10 examination in the Journal of its proceedings and choose
11 such Officers who shall from time to time jointly and regu-
12 larly administer the examination, which shall be without
13 any cost to any person who takes the examination, and
14 provide to any such person who demonstrates competence
15 under the examination such certificates necessary to prove
16 such demonstration.

17 “SECTION 2. No person shall be a Representative or
18 Senator who shall not have demonstrated competence on
19 the system of government under the Constitution of the
20 United States under the examination in effect at the time
21 of the election or appointment, but each House of Con-
22 gress shall afford any person elected or appointed to be
23 a Member of the House, without having demonstrated
24 competence before the election or appointment, the oppor-
25 tunity to demonstrate such competence, whether under the

1 same examination or by another means approved for such
2 purpose by law.

3 “SECTION 3. The Congress shall have power to en-
4 force this article by appropriate legislation, and such legis-
5 lation shall not require the approval of the President be-
6 fore taking effect.”.

