

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2761

To prohibit the use of Federal funds for a military parade in the District of Columbia intended for the personal celebration of President Donald J. Trump, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2025

Mr. COHEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To prohibit the use of Federal funds for a military parade in the District of Columbia intended for the personal celebration of President Donald J. Trump, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Halting All Parades
5 for Presidents’ Yearly Birthdays, It Risks Taxpayer
6 Harm, Damages, And Your Budget Act” or the “HAPPY
7 BIRTHDAY Budget Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Military parades are traditionally reserved
4 for national celebrations, commemorations of mili-
5 tary service, or significant public occasions, not per-
6 sonal milestones such as birthdays.

7 (2) A military parade previously considered in
8 President Donald J. Trump’s first term was can-
9 celed due to cost concerns, including costs to the
10 military of \$92 million and public safety costs to the
11 District of Columbia of over \$21 million.

12 (3) Heavy military vehicles risk causing damage
13 to District of Columbia roads, which are not de-
14 signed to support such weight, requiring taxpayer-
15 funded repairs.

16 (4) President Trump has conducted mass lay-
17 offs and firings in the Federal Government through
18 the so-called “Department of Government Efficiency
19 (DOGE)” under the guise of “saving taxpayer
20 money”.

21 (5) The District of Columbia is often not fully
22 reimbursed for expenses incurred during Federal
23 events, placing an undue financial burden on local
24 agencies and taxpayers.

25 (6) The Washington City Paper reported that
26 President Trump has expressed interest in holding a

1 military parade in the District of Columbia on June
2 14, 2025, as a personal birthday celebration.

3 (7) While June 14, 2025, is the United States
4 Army's 250th birthday and Flag Day, it is also
5 President Donald J. Trump's 79th birthday.

6 (8) The U.S. Army has never held a military
7 parade to celebrate its own birthday, and the Army's
8 250th anniversary celebration has been in the plan-
9 ning stages for several years with no plans for a pa-
10 rade in the District of Columbia.

11 (9) It is unlikely that President Trump will in-
12 clude an air, sea, or terrestrial extravaganza to cele-
13 brate the birthdays of the other military branches,
14 further highlighting the personal nature of the pro-
15 posed celebration.

16 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

17 It is the sense of Congress that public funds should
18 be used to support the well-being and security of the
19 American people and not expended on displays of military
20 force for personal glorification.

21 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR MILITARY PA-**
22 **RADE IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.**

23 No Federal funds may be obligated or expended for
24 the planning, execution, security, transportation, or infra-
25 structure support of any military parade in the District

1 of Columbia that is primarily intended to celebrate the
2 birthday, personal milestone, or private interest of any in-
3 dividual, including President Donald J. Trump.

4 **SEC. 5. ALTERNATIVE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS.**

5 (a) ALTERNATIVE CELEBRATIONS.—Congress en-
6 courages President Trump to consider alternative birthday
7 celebrations that do not involve armored vehicles or fighter
8 jets, such as cake, golf, or bingo night.

9 (b) BIRTHDAY WISHES.—In recognition of his birth-
10 day, Congress extends a sincere “Happy Birthday” to
11 Donald J. Trump, free of charge, and encourages all
12 Americans who wish to send birthday wishes to the Presi-
13 dent to do so through the United States Postal Service,
14 the only service expressly authorized in the Constitution
15 of the United States for the transmission of personal cor-
16 respondence, where neither snow nor rain nor heat nor
17 gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift comple-
18 tion of their appointed rounds.

○