

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 469

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and
Administration

AN ACT

To provide for the creation of a Congressional time capsule
in commemoration of the semiquincentennial of the
United States, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Semiquincentennial
3 Congressional Time Capsule Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL CONGRESSIONAL TIME CAP-**
5 **SULE.**

6 (a) CREATION BY ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL.—
7 The Architect of the Capitol shall create a Congressional
8 time capsule, to be known as the “Semiquincentennial
9 Congressional Time Capsule” (in this Act referred to as
10 the “Time Capsule”).

11 (b) CONTENTS.—

12 (1) DETERMINATION BY CONGRESSIONAL LEAD-
13 ERSHIP.—The Office of the Speaker of the House of
14 Representatives, Office of the Minority Leader of the
15 House of Representatives, Office of the Majority
16 Leader of the Senate, and Office of the Minority
17 Leader of the Senate shall jointly determine the con-
18 tents of the Time Capsule, taking into account the
19 requirements of paragraph (2).

20 (2) SPECIFICATIONS.—The contents of the
21 Time Capsule shall include—

22 (A) a representative portion of all books,
23 manuscripts, miscellaneous printed matter,
24 memorabilia, relics, and other materials relating
25 to the United States Semiquincentennial;

1 (B) copies or representations of important
2 legislative and institutional milestones of Con-
3 gress during the time before the Time Capsule
4 is buried;

5 (C) a message from Congress to the future
6 Congress when the Time Capsule will be
7 opened; and

8 (D) such other content as the offices de-
9 scribed in paragraph (1) consider appropriate.

10 (3) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this sub-
11 section, the offices described in paragraph (1) may
12 consult with the Architect of the Capitol, the Sec-
13 retary of the Smithsonian Institution, and such
14 other entities of the Federal Government as the of-
15 fices consider appropriate.

16 (c) DUTIES OF ARCHITECT.—The Architect of the
17 Capitol shall—

18 (1) prepare the Time Capsule to be sealed and
19 buried on the West Lawn of the Capitol, at a loca-
20 tion specified by the Architect, on or before July
21 4th, 2026, at a time which would permit individuals
22 attending this event to also attend the burial of a
23 time capsule in Independence Mall in Philadelphia,
24 Pennsylvania, under section 7(f)(1) of the United

1 States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016
2 (36 U.S.C. 101 note prec.); and

3 (2) install a plaque to provide such information
4 about the Time Capsule as the Architect considers
5 appropriate.

6 (d) UNSEALING.—The Time Capsule shall be sealed
7 until July 4th, 2276, on which date the Speaker of the
8 House of Representatives shall present the Time Capsule
9 to the 244th Congress, and such Congress shall determine
10 how the contents within should be preserved or used.

Passed the House of Representatives February 26,
2025.

Attest: KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.