

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3705

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) CONTENTS.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—The contents of the
22 Time Capsule shall include—

23 (i) a single, joint letter from the of-
24 fices described in paragraph (1); and

1 (ii) any other item that the offices de-
2 scribed in paragraph (1) jointly determine
3 appropriate.

4 (B) LIMITATIONS.—Any item included in
5 the Time Capsule under subparagraph (A)—

6 (i) shall be made of materials that
7 pose a low risk of degrading, such as metal
8 or archival paper; and

9 (ii) shall not be made of any organic
10 or inorganic material that poses a high
11 risk of degrading.

12 (3) SIZE.—The Time Capsule shall be not more
13 than 50 inches wide, 32 inches deep, and 48 inches
14 high.

15 (4) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this sub-
16 section, the offices described in paragraph (1) may
17 consult with the Architect of the Capitol, the Sec-
18 retary of the Smithsonian Institution, and such
19 other entities of the Federal Government as the of-
20 fices consider appropriate.

21 (c) DUTIES OF ARCHITECT.—The Architect of the
22 Capitol shall—

23 (1) prepare the Time Capsule to be sealed and
24 buried in the Capitol Visitor Center, at a location
25 specified by the Architect, with the approval of the

1 Committee on Rules and Administration of the Sen-
2 ate and the Committee on House Administration of
3 the House of Representatives, on or before July 4th,
4 2026, at a time which would permit individuals at-
5 tending this event to also attend the burial of a time
6 capsule in Independence Mall in Philadelphia, Penn-
7 sylvania, under section 7(f)(1) of the United States
8 Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016 (36
9 U.S.C. 101 note prec.); and

10 (2) install a plaque to provide such information
11 about the Time Capsule as the Architect, with the
12 approval of the Committee on Rules and Administra-
13 tion of the Senate and the Committee on House Ad-
14 ministration of the House of Representatives, con-
15 siders appropriate.

16 (d) UNSEALING.—The Time Capsule shall be sealed
17 until July 4th, 2276, on which date the Speaker of the
18 House of Representatives and the Majority Leader of the
19 Senate shall present the Time Capsule to the 244th Con-

- 1 gress, and such Congress shall determine how the contents
- 2 within should be preserved or used.

Passed the Senate January 27, 2026.

Attest:

Secretary.

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