

A Declaration of Civic Breach and Renewal

A Statement of Constitutional Concern and Proposed Restoration

Preface

This document is offered anonymously to encourage evaluation on its merits rather than on the identity, affiliation, or credentials of its author(s).

It is not presented as a manifesto, platform, or policy program, but as an attempt to articulate a legitimacy problem many citizens experience yet struggle to name: the gradual separation of governing authority from meaningful consent. The arguments herein are advanced in good faith, grounded in constitutional structure, and offered for critique, revision, or rejection on their substance alone.

Anonymity is not claimed to avoid accountability, but to preserve the focus of discussion where it properly belongs: on the reasoning presented, rather than the individuals presenting it.

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Preamble

When, in the course of civic life, it becomes necessary for a people to speak plainly about the condition of their government, respect for truth requires that they declare the causes which impel them to do so.

We affirm that governments are instituted among a people to secure life, liberty, property, and equal justice, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. Consent, in this tradition, is neither abstract nor automatic. It arises from membership in the sovereign political community -- citizenship -- and from participation in a shared system of rights, duties, allegiance, and representation. Where political power is exercised on behalf of persons who have not consented, cannot consent, or are not members of the sovereign people, legitimacy is diluted rather than extended.

When a government ceases to serve these ends, it does not thereby cease to exist -- but it does forfeit its claim to unquestioned legitimacy.

This declaration is not a call to violence, insurrection, or lawlessness. It is an exercise of lawful civic speech. It seeks reform, restoration, and renewal through words, reason, and constitutional means.

Signers' Preface

This declaration is offered by citizens acting in good faith, across differences of party and belief, united only by the conviction that legitimacy requires renewal. To sign is not to reject law, nor to invite disorder, nor to claim final judgment. It is to state publicly that endurance has been long, remedies have been sought, and clarity is now required.

Signers affirm the following:

- We seek reform through lawful, peaceful, and constitutional means.
- We reject violence, intimidation, and extra-legal action.
- We accept disagreement and invite rebuttal grounded in evidence and principle.
- We reserve the right to speak plainly when legitimacy is at issue.

Signing this document is an act of civic speech, not a demand for unanimity. It is an invitation to reckon honestly with whether consent has been maintained, and if not, how it may be restored.

Statement of Principles

1. **Popular sovereignty is prior to all institutions and offices.** All legitimate governing authority flows from The People and is exercised only by their delegation. Constitutions, statutes, and offices are instruments of The People, not their masters.
2. **Consent is ongoing, not self-executing.** It must be renewed through governance that is accountable, intelligible, and responsive.
3. **Lawfulness is necessary but not sufficient.** Actions may be legal yet illegitimate when they are persistently destructive of the ends of government.
4. **Prudence and restraint are virtues, not obligations of silence.** Endurance does not require acquiescence.
5. **The People are the political community.** In the American constitutional tradition, “The People” is a term of art denoting those who constitute the sovereign political community: those who consent to government, who authorize its powers, who bear its obligations, and who retain the authority to reform or replace it. This term has never been synonymous with all persons physically present within the territory, but has instead referred to citizens and members of the polity as such.

Threshold of Necessity

Prudence counsels restraint in the face of grievance, and history teaches that governments long established should not be challenged for light or transient causes. Yet prudence does not require perpetual silence. When abuses persist across decades, move consistently toward insulation from accountability, and resist lawful correction despite repeated appeals, restraint ceases to be virtue and becomes neglect.

The threshold addressed here has been crossed not by a single crisis, election, or policy, but by accumulation: the normalization of emergency governance; the chronic deferral of obligations; the consolidation of authority beyond representation; and the neutralization of effective remedies. To withhold plain speech under such conditions would be to abandon the very consent that legitimizes self-government.

This declaration is therefore issued now not as a rupture, but as a necessary act of civic clarity so that reform may yet answer words, and harsher tests need never be reached.

Declaration of Breach

Whether by intention or by effect, the practices enumerated below now operate as a system that concentrates discretion, diffuses accountability, and subordinates consent to management. Where outcomes recur predictably across administrations and remedies fail regardless of electoral change, pattern may be inferred from function, even absent coordinated intent.

We hold that a long train of abuses has accumulated over decades, demonstrating a pattern of governance that has become destructive of the ends for which government is instituted. This conclusion is not drawn from isolated grievances, but from persistent, directionally consistent practices that resist lawful correction.

Mechanisms of Civic Displacement

The breaches identified herein did not arise from a single decision, moment, or faction. They emerged through identifiable mechanisms by which governing authority gradually separated from consent, and governance shifted from representation toward administration. These mechanisms operate incrementally and cumulatively, reinforcing one another and limiting the effectiveness of ordinary political correction.

Delegation Without Reversion

Authority delegated for convenience, expertise, or efficiency is rarely reclaimed in full. Powers initially transferred as limited or conditional measures tend to persist beyond their original scope, while the practical capacity of representatives to revise, narrow, or terminate those delegations diminishes over time. As authority migrates away from directly accountable bodies toward standing institutions, representative oversight weakens and democratic control becomes indirect.

Administrative Substitution for Enacted Law

Binding obligations are increasingly generated through administrative rulemaking rather than through legislation enacted by representatives directly accountable to The People. While such rules may satisfy formal requirements of legality, their proliferation shifts governance away from deliberative lawmaking toward managerial regulation. The connection between consent and coercion is thereby attenuated, as responsibility for binding norms becomes dispersed and difficult to trace.

Normalization of Emergency Authority

Powers adopted in response to crises are often retained beyond the conditions that justified their initial use. Emergency authorities -- particularly those expanding executive or administrative discretion -- may be renewed by routine process, absorbed into standing law, or preserved as precedents for future invocation. Over time, exceptional measures can alter the baseline of governance without renewed, affirmative consent, converting temporary necessity into enduring capacity.

Representation Without Constraint

Representation ceases to function as a binding constraint on authority when outcomes recur regardless of electoral change and available remedies fail to produce meaningful correction. In such conditions, representation persists procedurally but loses practical effect. Elections rotate officeholders without restoring control, and consent becomes symbolic rather than operative.

Temporal Displacement of Obligation

Decisions are increasingly made that impose long-term obligations on future citizens who neither consented to them nor possess effective means of revision. Debt accumulation, entitlement expansion, and extended commitments extend beyond electoral horizons, severing responsibility from decision-making. Authority thus evades accountability not only across institutions, but across generations.

Procedural Exhaustion of Remedies

Mechanisms nominally available for civic correction -- elections, petitions, legislative appeals, and judicial review -- may exist in form while proving ineffective in practice. Delay, complexity, jurisdictional insulation, and deference can render such remedies inadequate to correct persistent patterns. Where lawful avenues for reform remain theoretically open but practically unavailing, compliance is compelled while consent is hollowed out.

Cumulative Effect

Individually, these mechanisms may be tolerable. In combination, they produce a system in which authority expands, accountability diffuses, and consent is subordinated to administration. The resulting condition is not lawlessness, but the erosion of authorship: the government continues to operate, yet The People no longer exercise meaningful control over its direction.

This condition constitutes a civic breach not because any single institution has failed, but because the system as a whole no longer reliably converts consent into control. Where such

patterns persist across decades and resist lawful correction, legitimacy is strained and reform becomes not discretionary, but necessary.

Structural Breach of Representation

Representation has been severed from consent -- not by a single act, but by the cumulative erosion of representation as a meaningful constraint on governing authority. Across domains, authority is increasingly exercised without effective dependence on the will, **sovereign membership**, or accountability of The People in whose name it is exercised.

Legislative authority is routinely delegated beyond recall; administrative action substitutes for enacted law; emergency powers persist beyond exigency; and remedies nominally available to The People fail to produce correction regardless of electoral change. Representation, once the mechanism by which consent bound authority, now too often functions as a procedural formality rather than a governing limit. The result is not an isolated failure, but a system in which power expands while representation ceases to restrain it.

One manifestation of this broader breach is the allocation of representational power on the basis of population rather than **membership in the sovereign political community**. All persons may properly be counted for purposes of enumeration, administration, and understanding the nation's population. **Apportionment and representation, however, allocate governing authority**, and are therefore grounded in sovereign membership rather than physical presence. When representational power is derived from the counting of persons who are not part of "The People" in whose name government is exercised, representation is expanded without corresponding consent, civic obligation, or accountability.

This distortion arises not from any single category of persons, but from the governing rule itself: representation is enlarged by presence rather than by membership, regardless of age, citizenship status, or eligibility to participate in political consent. This practice departs from the founding-era understanding that representation flows from The People who constitute the sovereign -- those who authorize law, bear its obligations, and retain the authority to alter or abolish their government.

The result is not inclusion, but distortion: votes are weighted by presence rather than consent, and representation is detached from the community it is meant to serve. A system so arranged cannot plausibly claim to reflect the will of The People when it no longer measures The People themselves.

This claim concerns the allocation and operation of governing authority, not the denial of protection, services, or dignity to any person. Equal justice under law applies to all persons. Representation, however, must remain anchored to consent -- and to sovereign membership -- if self-government is to endure.

Among these abuses are:

- **Chronic deferral of obligations**, whereby promises are expanded without durable funding, shifting burdens to future generations without their consent.
- **Erosion of monetary stability**, diminishing the reliability of wages and savings through persistent dilution and emergency normalization.
- **Consolidation of authority**, transferring decisive power from representative bodies to administrative and discretionary mechanisms insulated from direct accountability.
- **Selective and uneven enforcement of law**, undermining equal justice and fostering the belief that rules bind some while exempting others.
- **Governance by emergency**, wherein temporary measures become permanent precedents without transparent justification or sunset.
- **Remedy fatigue**, in which lawful avenues for correction exist in form but fail in substance, leaving outcomes unchanged regardless of electoral turnover.

Taken together, these practices form a system that predictably subordinates consent of The People to managerial control, and accountability to expedience.

Exhaustion of Lawful Remedies

We affirm that lawful remedies have been pursued patiently and repeatedly through elections, petitions, litigation, and public discourse. While these mechanisms remain vital, their repeated failure to correct the underlying patterns described above constitutes a breach of trust.

We do not claim perfection of judgment. We claim good faith, sustained effort, and the right to say that endurance has reached its limit.

Reservation of Civic Authority

Accordingly, we affirm and assert:

- **All legitimate governing authority belongs to The People.** Political power is only one expression of that authority, delegated for limited purposes and subject to ongoing accountability.
- That The People retain the moral authority to judge the legitimacy of their government, and that this authority is real, not symbolic.

- That obedience to law does not require silence regarding illegitimacy, nor does lawful compliance exhaust civic duty.
- That moral consent may be withdrawn incrementally and expressed cumulatively through peaceful speech, lawful assembly, petition, and constitutional action.
- That reform, not disorder, remains our object; restoration, not rupture, our preference precisely because delay increases the risk of disorder.

This distinction does not deny the dignity, humanity, or legal protection owed to all persons. Equal justice under law applies to persons. All legitimate governing authority, however, belongs to The People. To confuse these categories is not to advance equality, but to dissolve self-government by detaching authority from those who are entitled -- and obligated -- to exercise it.

Appeal

We appeal to our fellow citizens to consider these claims soberly and without faction. We appeal to those who hold office to recognize that authority endures only where legitimacy is maintained. We appeal in particular to those institutions entrusted with constitutional correction -- legislatures, conventions, and the states -- to exercise the authority the Constitution already vests in them. We appeal to posterity to judge whether these words were spoken too soon -- or too late.

Consequence of Non-Response

Failure to address the breaches herein will not preserve stability. It will further erode consent, harden enforcement, and narrow the space for lawful correction. Reform undertaken now conserves order; reform deferred risks outcomes no one prefers.

Remedies for Restoration and Renewal

The following remedies are proposed not as partisan preferences, but as necessary structural reforms to restore legitimacy, consent, and coherence to republican self-government. These provisions are stated with precision because history demonstrates that broad grants, vague standards, and adjustable thresholds invite circumvention, expansion, and abuse inconsistent with republican self-government. They are to demonstrate seriousness and coherence, not to foreclose debate or lawful revision through constitutional process. They are offered in good faith, grounded in first principles, and ordered toward reform rather than rupture.

I. Sovereignty, Membership, and Law

1. Border Integrity and Membership Enforcement

The United States must exercise effective control over its borders and enforce its immigration laws. Unlawful presence cannot confer political standing. Sovereignty requires the ability to define membership, and finality in enforcement is essential to legitimacy.

2. Citizen-Based Representation

Enumeration shall count all persons for purposes of knowledge, administration, and planning; apportionment and representation shall count only members of the sovereign political community, by whom governing authority is authorized and to whom it must remain accountable.

For purposes of apportionment and representation, the Census shall distinctly enumerate citizens as a subset of that enumeration. This reform does not exclude persons from protection or service, but restores representation to its constitutional foundation: The People who constitute the sovereign political community. Representation derived from consent cannot be sustained where it is allocated by presence alone.

3. State Cooperation with Federal Law Enforcement

States and localities must not obstruct federal enforcement of duly enacted law within enumerated federal domains. Cooperative federalism requires operational compliance, not selective resistance.

4. Federal Land Rebalancing to The People

The Federal Government shall divest **no less than 50 percent** of its surface land holdings by acreage over a defined transition period.

- **Exclusions:** This mandate shall not apply to National Parks designated prior to 2025, active military installations, or essential federal infrastructure.
- **Priority of Transfer:** Divestment shall prioritize transfer to individual citizens, homesteading grants, and State management trusts. Auction mechanisms shall include acreage caps to prevent concentrated corporate capture.
- **Debt Lockbox:** All proceeds from such divestment shall be applied **exclusively to the retirement of the principal of the national debt** and shall not be treated as general revenue for spending.

II. Fiscal Discipline and Truth in Governance

1. **Balanced Budget Requirement**

Congress must pass a balanced budget on schedule each fiscal year. Chronic deficit spending constitutes intergenerational taxation without representation or consent and undermines democratic accountability.

2. **No New Net Debt and a Debt Retirement Plan**

The United States shall not increase its net public debt outside of formally declared wars or existential emergencies approved by supermajority. A mandatory, published debt retirement schedule shall require annual primary surpluses until the debt-to-economy ratio is reduced to sustainable levels.

3. **Spending Growth Limits**

Federal spending growth shall be capped to population growth plus inflation, absent a formally declared emergency approved by supermajority.

4. **Truth-in-Budgeting and Long-Horizon Disclosure**

All budgets and major spending authorizations must include transparent, standardized disclosure of ten-, twenty-, and thirty-year costs, including off-balance-sheet obligations and deferred liabilities.

5. **Emergency Powers Reform**

All emergency authorities must include automatic expiration, mandatory legislative reauthorization, and retrospective review. Temporary necessity must not become permanent governance.

III. Taxation and Shared Civic Burden

1. **Uniform Income Tax**

A single, flat income tax of **12 percent** shall apply to all citizens without exemption. Universal participation restores shared civic responsibility and prevents factional redistribution through the tax code.

2. **Uniform Consumption Tax (Value-Added Tax)**

A broad-based **15 percent value-added tax (VAT)** shall apply to goods and services.

- To prevent undue hardship without creating new entitlement bureaucracies, **unprepared food, prescription medicine, and residential utilities shall be exempt (Zero-Rated) from the VAT**. This ensures that the tax burden falls on discretionary consumption, not on survival. No other credits, deductions, or graduated rates shall be introduced.

- **Abolition of the Payroll Tax:**

This structure replaces the regressive Payroll Tax system entirely. By eliminating the tax wedge on labor, this plan immediately increases the take-home pay of the working class and lowers the cost of hiring. The working poor gain purchasing power, as their essential spending remains untaxed while their earnings are relieved of the payroll burden.

3. **Uniform Corporate Tax on Profits**

A flat **25 percent** corporate tax shall apply to profits, with a simplified base and minimal carve-outs to prevent rent-seeking and unequal treatment.

4. **Abolition of Hidden Redistribution**

Redistribution, if undertaken, must occur through explicit appropriations rather than deductions, credits, or opaque mechanisms embedded in the tax code.

5. **Tax Administration Modernization and Civilian De-Criminalization**

Where the government can calculate liability from third-party reporting, citizens shall not be criminalized for paperwork error. Default filing and simple settlement mechanisms should be provided, with enforcement priorities focused on complex evasion schemes and organizational entities.

IV. Representation, Accountability, and Rotation

1. **Term Limits for Federal Elected Office**

The President shall be limited to two terms; Senators to two terms; Members of the House to four terms. Rotation in office preserves representation and curbs institutional capture.

2. **Ban on Omnibus Legislation and “Read Before Vote” Requirements**

No single bill shall combine unrelated subjects into a single vote. Appropriations shall be enacted through discrete, publicly available bills with mandatory public posting windows and attestation procedures to ensure meaningful review.

3. **Regulatory and Statutory Simplification (“One-In, One-Out”)**

For each new statutory mandate enacted, an existing statutory mandate of comparable scope shall be repealed, unless a supermajority declares necessity. The object is intelligibility of law and restoration of citizen comprehension.

4. **Restoration of Congressional Lawmaking Authority**

Major policy decisions must be made by Congress through legislation. Broad delegation of lawmaking authority to administrative bodies must be curtailed.

5. **Officeholder Ethics, Trading Bans, and Transparency**

Members of Congress and senior federal officials shall be subject to real-time public financial disclosure; a comprehensive ban on individual stock trading by officials, spouses, and dependents while in office; independent audits; and severe penalties for concealment, conflicts of interest, or enrichment through public power.

V. Judicial and Legal Integrity

1. **Limits on Judicial Injunctions**

Federal district judges shall not issue nationwide injunctions. Judicial relief must be limited to parties before the court, preserving separation of powers and public confidence in neutrality.

2. **Single-Subject Rule for Legislation**

All federal legislation shall address a single subject clearly expressed in its title. Violations shall render the bill void.

3. **Mandatory Read-Before-Vote and Public Posting**

All bills must be publicly available in final form for a minimum review period prior to any vote, with sworn attestation by voting members.

4. **Agency Sunset and Reauthorization**

Federal agencies and major programs shall automatically sunset absent periodic, affirmative congressional reauthorization based on performance and necessity.

5. **Line-Item Veto for Appropriations**

A constitutionally authorized line-item veto shall permit the removal of discrete spending items while preserving the remainder of appropriations bills.

VI. Electoral, Monetary, and Privacy Legitimacy

1. **Electoral Process Integrity**

Uniform, transparent standards for ballots, verification, auditing, and chain-of-custody shall be established to ensure outcomes are accepted as binding regardless of factional interest.

2. **Hard-Asset Backing of the Currency**

Every dollar in circulation shall be fully backed by verifiable reserves or binding issuance constraints sufficient to preserve purchasing power and public trust, including but not limited to hard assets such as gold, silver, and strategic commodities. Paper promises shall not substitute for real assets. Monetary issuance must reflect tangible backing.

3. **Monetary Discipline and Transparency**

Monetary expansion outside defined emergencies must be limited, publicly justified, independently audited, and accompanied by disclosure of long-term and distributional

effects.

4. Prohibition on Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDC)

The United States Government, the Federal Reserve, and their agents are prohibited from issuing, adopting, or mandating the use of any Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) or programmable fiat currency. Money shall remain a neutral bearer instrument; it shall not function as a tool of surveillance, censorship, or behavioral control.

5. Protection of Private Currency Competition

The right of citizens to mine, own, custody, and transact in decentralized digital assets, specie, or private commodity monies shall not be infringed. The exchange of such assets for goods and services shall not be a taxable event (Capital Gains neutrality), ensuring open competition with the sovereign currency.

6. Federal Privacy Rights with Enforcement Teeth

A comprehensive federal privacy law shall establish clear rights to data minimization, purpose limitation, consent, access, deletion, and portability. Warrantless surveillance -- direct or indirect -- shall be prohibited.

7. Ban on Government Purchase of Commercial Surveillance

Government entities shall not obtain personal data through commercial intermediaries to evade warrant or consent requirements. Subscription access to mass-surveillance platforms shall be prohibited absent individualized judicial authorization.

8. Citizen Opt-Out and Redress

Citizens shall have a clear, enforceable right to opt out of non-essential data collection and automated surveillance systems, with private rights of action and meaningful penalties for violation.

VII. Entitlements, Health Care, and Intergenerational Fairness

1. Social Security Conversion to Individually Owned Accounts

The Social Security system shall be converted from pay-as-you-go transfers to individually owned retirement accounts, structured on a **Diversified Index Model** with participant-selected risk profiles. Contributions shall be credited to the individual and invested for long-term compounding.

2. Full Benefit Honor for Current and Prior Contributors

Obligations to current retirees and those who paid under the prior system shall be honored in full. Means testing shall not be used to reduce earned benefits. Transition financing may include a time-limited authority to carry debt solely to meet legacy obligations while the new funded system matures.

3. Optional Transition Settlement to Individual Accounts

As an alternative to legacy benefit continuation, an eligible taxpayer may elect a transition settlement equal to the employee and employer contributions paid on their behalf, credited to their individual retirement account for self-management. Election shall be by the taxpayer, not by administrative discretion.

4. Repeal of Affordable Care Act Subsidy Architecture

The subsidy and mandate framework commonly known as the Affordable Care Act shall be repealed in its entirety. Federal policy shall favor competition, price transparency, portability, and market entry rather than permanent subsidization.

5. Medicare Modernization and Optional Privatization Path

Medicare shall be preserved for current beneficiaries and modernized for long-term sustainability. A structured path to competitive private plan delivery may be established provided coverage obligations are met and fraud and rent-seeking are constrained.

6. Medicaid Limited to Citizens

Medicaid eligibility shall be limited to citizens. Public benefits grounded in political obligation and collective financing must be administered consistent with sovereign membership rules, while emergency and humanitarian care shall remain available to all persons as required by law.

7. Termination of Federal Educational Lending and Guarantees

The federal government shall not issue, guarantee, insure, or subsidize loans for higher education. The centralization of educational credit has severed price from value, fueled hyper-inflation in tuition costs, and reduced higher education to a vehicle for debt serfdom and ideological capture. All existing federal student lending programs shall be wound down. Future lending must return to the private market, where risk assessment and bankruptcy protections restore price discipline to universities and accountability to borrowers. The government shall not function as the creditor of its own citizens.

8. The Inviolability of Veteran Obligations

Payments for service-connected injury are not "disability" benefits; they are **Sovereign Indemnity**. They represent the amortized cost of bodily and mental loss incurred in the specific performance of constitutional defense. Unlike welfare, which is based on need, this compensation is based on debt. Given that fact, funding for veteran healthcare and compensation shall be classified as **sovereign debt obligations**, protected from sequestration, means-testing, or political negotiation, identical in priority to the interest on the national debt. The inviolability of this obligation ensures that the true, permanent cost of conflict remains visible on the national ledger, serving as a necessary fiscal restraint against reckless foreign intervention.

Conclusion

These remedies are demanding because the breach they address is serious. They do not promise comfort, perfection, or unanimity. They promise only the restoration of consent through truth, accountability, and shared obligation.

If legitimacy is renewed through reform, order is preserved. If reform is deferred, legitimacy will continue to erode, and governance will harden where consent once sufficed.

Obedience to law persists not because legitimacy is unquestioned, but because order itself is a common good, and lawful correction is preferable to rupture even under strain.

This declaration and its remedies are offered so that words may yet be enough.

Adopted and declared in good faith, in lawful assembly, and in the conviction that civic clarity is the surest guardian of peace.

- Civitas Americana
January 1, 2026

The Appendices

Implementation Mechanics and Constitutional Definitions

Appendix A: On the Constitutional Meaning of “The People”

Appendix B: On Precedent, Error, and Constitutional Correction

Appendix C: Illustrative Manifestations of Civic Displacement

Appendix D: Implementation Mechanics & Ratification Sequence

Appendix E: Pro Forma Fiscal Projections (Year 1 & 2)

These appendices constitute the technical architecture required to operationalize the remedies proposed in the Declaration.

Appendix A

On the Constitutional Meaning of “The People”

The American constitutional tradition employs the phrase “**The People**” as a term of art. From the founding era forward, it has denoted not all persons physically present within the territory, but the **sovereign political community** -- those who constitute the body from which the government derives its authority. In this tradition, “The People” are not merely participants in politics, but the source of all legitimate governing authority -- legislative, executive, judicial, and coercive -- which institutions may ultimately exercise only by delegation.

This understanding is rooted in first principles. Governments, as conceived by the American Founders, are instituted by a people to secure rights and promote the common good. Their legitimacy arises not from mere administration over territory, but from **consent**. Consent, in turn, presupposes political membership: the capacity to authorize power, to participate in self-government, to bear civic obligations, and to retain the right to reform or replace governing institutions.

Accordingly, the founding generation distinguished carefully among **persons**, **citizens**, and **The People**. The Constitution extends legal protections to *persons*, regardless of status, through guarantees of due process and equal justice. It defines qualifications and allegiances with reference to *citizens*. And it reserves the ultimate source of political authority -- ratification, representation, rights retained, and powers reserved -- to *The People*.

Throughout the constitutional text, this distinction is consistent. The Preamble announces that the Constitution is ordained and established by “We, The People.” The Ninth and Tenth Amendments refer to rights and powers retained by “The People.” The First, Second, and Fourth Amendments secure rights belonging to “The People.” In each instance, the phrase refers to the same collective body: the **sovereign political community** that formed, authorized, and governs the constitutional order.

Founding-era usage confirms this understanding. Political writings, state constitutions, and early judicial opinions consistently associate “The People” with those who compose the polity -- those who consent, who are represented, and who participate in self-government. By contrast, non-members of the political community were understood to be owed protection under law, but not to possess political authority or sovereign rights.

This distinction was not regarded as exclusionary, but structural. Self-government requires a defined body capable of governing itself. To collapse the distinction between political membership and physical presence is to sever representation from consent and to convert republican government into administration without authorship.

Representation, in the American system, was therefore understood to flow from The People as the sovereign -- not from population as such. The House of Representatives was intended to reflect The People who constituted the political community, so that laws would be made by representatives accountable to those who authorized them. Where representation is allocated on a basis disconnected from political membership, accountability is diluted and consent obscured.

On the Dilution of Suffrage

When legislative districts are apportioned based on total population rather than citizen population, the voting power of citizens in districts with high numbers of non-citizens is mathematically inflated. This dilutes the suffrage of citizens in the rest of the Union.

To count foreign nationals for the purpose of allocating American political power is to invite foreign influence into the heart of the Republic. **This reform does not denigrate the non-citizen; it honors the Naturalized Citizen.** It affirms that the path to political representation lies not in mere presence, but in the deliberate assumption of the duties of American citizenship.

Nothing in this understanding denies the dignity, humanity, or legal protection owed to all persons. Equal justice under law applies to persons. All legitimate governing authority, however, belongs to The People. The distinction preserves both liberty and legitimacy by ensuring that authority remains grounded in consent rather than presence alone.

This appendix is offered not to advance novelty, but to restate a principle long assumed: that in the American constitutional order, **“The People” are those who constitute the sovereign political community**, and that self-government depends on preserving the alignment between consent, representation, and authority.

Appendix B

On Precedent, Error, and Constitutional Correction

The Constitution of the United States is law. Judicial opinions are interpretations of that law. The two are not identical, and the latter does not displace the former.

Throughout American history, courts -- including the highest court of the land -- have at times departed from the Constitution's text, structure, or original meaning. Some decisions have mistaken policy preferences for legal mandates; others have elevated expedience over principle, or interpretation over authority. That such errors have occurred is not controversial. That they have been corrected is an established feature of our constitutional tradition.

The doctrine of precedent serves important purposes: stability, predictability, and continuity. But precedent was never intended to transform judicial error into permanent authority, nor to substitute judicial will for constitutional meaning. **Stare decisis is a rule of prudence, not a command of submission.** It counsels respect for past decisions; it does not demand obedience to demonstrable mistakes.

The Constitution itself contains no doctrine of judicial infallibility. It vests the judicial power to decide cases and controversies -- not to amend the charter by accretion, nor to bind The People indefinitely to interpretations untethered from the document they ratified. The ultimate sovereign remains The People, who retain the authority to reform their government and correct its course through lawful and constitutional means.

History confirms this understanding. Decisions once regarded as settled have been repudiated when they proved inconsistent with constitutional principle. Error did not become truth by repetition; rather, correction restored legitimacy. In such moments, fidelity to the Constitution required the courage to say plainly: *this was wrong, and it must be fixed.*

Accordingly, the existence of adverse precedent does not foreclose reform. Nor does reliance on erroneous decisions convert them into rightful authority. Where doctrine has drifted from constitutional foundations -- where interpretation has hardened into governance -- the remedy is not resignation, but restoration.

This declaration does not call for disregard of law, nor for defiance of judicial judgments. It calls for clarity: that **the Constitution is prior to precedent**, that interpretation is subordinate to meaning, and that self-government requires the capacity to correct even long-standing error when it has become destructive of the ends for which government is instituted.

To say that a court has erred is not to attack the rule of law. It is to affirm it. To say that error must be corrected is not instability -- it is constitutional maintenance. And to

insist that unelected judges, while essential to the rule of law, are not the sovereign is not radicalism, but republicanism.

The American constitutional order was designed to endure not because it is immune to mistake, but because it contains within itself the means of lawful correction. That capacity has not been exhausted. It remains the responsibility of a free people to use it.

Appendix C

Illustrative Manifestations of Civic Displacement and Corresponding Remedies

The mechanisms described in the Declaration of Breach often operate incrementally and below the threshold of public attention. Citizens may experience their effects as persistent conditions rather than discrete abuses. This appendix maps those conditions to the corrective measures proposed in the Remedies section, demonstrating that each remedy responds to a specific and identifiable failure of governance.

This mapping is illustrative, not exhaustive. It is intended to clarify how structural reforms address structural problems.

Delegation Without Reversion

Mechanism: Authority delegated without effective recall

Observable Condition:

Citizens encounter binding rules and requirements whose origins are unclear and whose continuation appears independent of legislative action. Authority initially transferred for expertise or efficiency persists indefinitely, while representatives lack practical means to reclaim or narrow it.

Primary Structural Failures

- Lawmaking authority migrates from Congress to agencies
- Delegations persist without sunset or review
- Representatives lose practical control over policy

Corresponding Remedies

IV. Representation, Accountability, and Rotation

- **Restoration of Congressional Lawmaking Authority**
→ Reasserts that major policy must be enacted by Congress, not agencies.
- **Regulatory and Statutory Simplification (“One-In, One-Out”)**
→ Forces Congress to actively manage the scope of law, not delegate endlessly.
- **Ban on Omnibus Legislation / Read-Before-Vote**
→ Prevents delegation through unread or bundled statutes.

V. Judicial and Legal Integrity

- **Agency Sunset and Reauthorization**

→ Directly cures delegation without reversion by requiring periodic, affirmative renewal.

These remedies restore representative control over authority that has migrated beyond recall.

Administrative Substitution for Enacted Law

Mechanism: Governance by regulation rather than legislation

Observable Condition:

Obligations with the force of law arise through administrative rulemaking rather than through deliberative legislative process. Citizens comply with rules without being able to identify the lawmakers responsible or meaningfully influence their content.

Primary Structural Failures

- Agencies create binding norms
- Responsibility is diffused
- Consent becomes indirect or fictional

Corresponding Remedies

IV. Representation, Accountability, and Rotation

- **Restoration of Congressional Lawmaking Authority**
- **Single-Subject Rule for Legislation**
- **Read-Before-Vote Requirements**

V. Judicial and Legal Integrity

- **Limits on Judicial Injunctions**

→ Prevents courts from effectively legislating via nationwide orders.

- **Single-Subject Rule (enforced)**

→ Forces clarity and accountability.

These measures reconnect coercive authority to accountable lawmaking.

Normalization of Emergency Authority

Mechanism: Temporary powers become baseline governance

Observable Condition:

Authorities adopted in response to crises remain operative after exigency has passed, renewed

routinely or preserved as precedent. Citizens experience expanded executive or administrative discretion as a permanent feature rather than an exception.

Primary Structural Failures

- Emergencies lack hard expiration
- Renewals are automatic or pro forma
- Exceptional authority becomes ordinary

Corresponding Remedies

II. Fiscal Discipline and Truth in Governance

- **Emergency Powers Reform**
→ Automatic expiration, mandatory reauthorization, retrospective review.
- **Spending Growth Limits (supermajority emergency override)**
→ Forces real political cost for continued exception.

I. Sovereignty, Membership, and Law

- **State Cooperation with Federal Law Enforcement**
→ Prevents emergency-style nullification or selective compliance.

These remedies ensure that emergency authority remains exceptional rather than normalized.

Representation Without Constraint

Mechanism: Elections without effective control

Observable Condition:

Elections occur regularly, yet major policies persist regardless of electoral change. Citizens observe that participation alters officeholders but rarely alters outcomes, weakening the link between consent and governance.

Primary Structural Failures

- Representation detached from sovereign membership
- Accountability diluted
- Electoral consent becomes symbolic

Corresponding Remedies

I. Sovereignty, Membership, and Law

- **Citizen-Based Representation**
→ Restores apportionment to sovereign membership.
- **Border Integrity and Membership Enforcement**
→ Ensures membership rules are meaningful.

IV. Representation, Accountability, and Rotation

- **Term Limits for Federal Office**
- **Ban on Omnibus Legislation**
- **Officeholder Ethics, Trading Bans, and Transparency**

VI. Electoral, Monetary, and Privacy Legitimacy

- **Electoral Process Integrity**

These measures restore representation as a binding constraint rather than a procedural formality.

Temporal Displacement of Obligation

Mechanism: Binding future citizens without consent

Observable Condition:

Long-term obligations accumulate through debt, entitlement expansion, and deferred funding. Present decisions impose costs on future citizens who neither consented nor possess effective means of revision.

Primary Structural Failures

- Costs deferred
- Responsibility severed from decision-making
- Intergenerational consent impossible

Corresponding Remedies

I. Sovereignty, Membership, and Law

- **Federal Land Rebalancing to The People**
→ *Explicitly links asset divestment to debt retirement.*

II. Fiscal Discipline and Truth in Governance

- **Balanced Budget Requirement**
- **No New Net Debt + Debt Retirement Plan**
- **Truth-in-Budgeting and Long-Horizon Disclosure**
- **Spending Growth Limits**

VII. Entitlements, Health Care, and Intergenerational Fairness

- **Social Security Conversion to Individually Owned Accounts**
- **Termination of Federal Educational Lending**
→ *Ends the cycle of tuition inflation and debt serfdom.*

These remedies realign decision-making authority with responsibility.

Erosion of Financial and Private Sovereignty

Mechanism: Weaponization of money and data for control

Observable Condition:

Citizens experience money not as a neutral store of value, but as a tool of surveillance and debasement. Purchasing power erodes through inflation (hidden taxation), and digital transaction systems are designed to allow censorship or behavioral control (CBDCs).

Primary Structural Failures

- Money becomes a control grid rather than a bearer asset
- Privacy is treated as suspicious
- Inflation functions as unlegislated taxation

Corresponding Remedies

VI. Electoral, Monetary, and Privacy Legitimacy

- **Hard-Asset Backing of the Currency**
→ *Restores money as a store of value, not a tool of policy.*
- **Prohibition on Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDC)**
→ *Constitutionally bans programmable money and surveillance finance.*
- **Protection of Private Currency Competition**
→ *Ensures the right to transact in decentralized assets (Crypto/Gold) without penalty.*
- **Federal Privacy Rights with Enforcement Teeth**

Procedural Exhaustion of Remedies

Mechanism: Formal remedies fail in practice

Observable Condition:

Citizens are told lawful avenues for correction exist, yet experience delay, complexity, or insulation that renders those avenues ineffective. Outcomes persist despite sustained civic engagement.

Primary Structural Failures

- Delay
- Insulation
- Deference
- Complexity

Corresponding Remedies

V. Judicial and Legal Integrity

- **Limits on Judicial Injunctions**
- **Mandatory Read-Before-Vote**
- **Agency Sunset and Reauthorization**
- **Line-Item Veto**

IV. Representation, Accountability, and Rotation

- **Regulatory Simplification**
- **Congressional Lawmaking Restoration**

These measures restore remedies as functional tools rather than symbolic assurances.

Cumulative Effect and Structural Response

Each of these conditions may appear tolerable in isolation. Together, they form a system in which authority expands, accountability diffuses, and consent is subordinated to administration. The remedies proposed in this Declaration are designed not as isolated policy preferences, but as coordinated responses to identifiable mechanisms of civic displacement.

Each remedy corresponds to a **specific failure mode** identified in the Declaration of Breach and Mechanisms of Civic Displacement. Taken together, they are not a policy agenda, but a **structural repair kit** designed to:

- Restore authorship,

- Reattach authority to consent,
- Re-enable correction,
- Re-anchor governance in sovereign membership.

This appendix is offered to demonstrate that the proposed reforms correspond directly to experienced conditions of governance, and that restoration of self-government requires addressing structure as well as intent.

Appendix D

Implementation Mechanics & Ratification Sequence

Purpose

This appendix operationalizes the remedies adopted in *A Declaration of Civic Breach and Renewal*. It specifies implementation mechanics -- particularly for Social Security reform -- and classifies each remedy by constitutional amendment versus statute, with a sequenced path for enactment and ratification.

Part I - Social Security Transition: Detailed Mechanics

A. Eligibility Cohorts (Who Goes Where)

Cohort 1: Current Beneficiaries

- Individuals already receiving Social Security benefits at the date of enactment.
- **Treatment:** Benefits continue unchanged for life. No means testing. No election required.

Cohort 2: Near-Retirees

- Individuals within **10 years** of full retirement age at enactment.
- **Treatment:** Default continuation of legacy benefits; optional conversion of accruals to an individual account. Election is voluntary and irrevocable.

Cohort 3: Mid-Career Workers

- Individuals more than **10 years** from full retirement age at enactment.
- **Treatment:** Choice between (a) legacy benefit continuation or (b) full conversion of accrued contributions into an individual account via a transition settlement.

Cohort 4: New Entrants

- Workers entering the labor force after enactment.
- **Treatment:** Mandatory participation in the individual account system. No legacy benefit accrual.

B. Payroll Taxes During Transition

During the transition period, retirement funding is aligned with the uniform tax structure adopted herein. Contributions are **reallocated, not increased**, and are designed to ensure that mandatory deductions yield direct, individual benefit rather than generalized entitlement claims.

Employee Contribution (5 percentage points of the uniform 12 percent income tax):

- This contribution is **not an additional tax**, but a designated portion of the uniform 12 percent income tax already owed by the worker.
- For individuals remaining in the legacy system, this portion continues temporarily to fund benefits for current beneficiaries and near-retirees.
- For new entrants and participants who elect conversion, this portion is credited directly to the worker's personal retirement account and ceases to fund future entitlement accrual.

Employer Contribution (10 percent of wages):

- Employers are required to contribute an amount equal to 10 percent of covered wages on behalf of each worker.
- This contribution is treated as deferred compensation and credited directly to the worker's individual retirement account.
- Employer contributions do not pass through the general treasury and are not available for general expenditure.

Combined Effect:

- The structure ensures that no less than **15 percent of earnings** (5 percent employee, 10 percent employer) is dedicated by law to retirement savings for participating workers.
- Payroll and income tax rates are frozen at baseline levels during the transition; no increases are permitted.

This framework converts mandatory deductions into individually owned retirement assets, restoring transparency, ownership, and value to required contributions while honoring existing benefit obligations and prohibiting the diversion of retirement funds into general governmental use.

C. Transition Settlement Option (Opt-In Lump Credit)

Eligible taxpayers (Cohorts 2–3) may elect a **Transition Settlement**:

- Amount equals the inflation-adjusted sum of employee + employer contributions paid on the worker's behalf.
- Credited to the individual retirement account.
- Election is **taxpayer-initiated**, time-limited, and irrevocable.

- Once elected, no further legacy benefit accrues.

D. Legacy Benefit Financing (“Benefit Bond” Authority)

To honor earned benefits without means testing:

- Congress is authorized to issue **Legacy Benefit Bonds** solely to fund obligations to Cohorts 1 and 2 and non-electing members of Cohorts 2 and 3.
- Bonds:
 - Are non-renewable
 - Carry fixed maturities
 - Are amortized on a declining schedule
- Sunset:** Authority automatically expires **65 years** after enactment or when the final legacy beneficiary obligation is satisfied -- whichever comes first.

No new entitlement obligations shall be added during this period. This authority converts implicit, unfunded entitlement obligations into explicit, finite, and amortized instruments, improving transparency while prohibiting rollover, expansion, or renewal.

E. Individual Account Structure

Default Investment Options (Diversified Index Model):

- Lifecycle funds (age-based glide path)
- Broad domestic equity index
- Broad international equity index
- Bond index
- Capital-preservation fund

Rules:

- Default enrollment into lifecycle fund unless participant selects otherwise.
- No politically directed investment mandates.
- Assets held in trust, not commingled with federal funds.

Account administrators are subject to strict fiduciary duties to participants, enforceable by private right of action, and insulated from political direction or programmatic redistribution.

F. Withdrawals, Loans, Contributions, and Distribution Flexibility

Because individual retirement accounts established under this system constitute **owned assets rather than entitlement claims**, contribution and withdrawal rules are structured to preserve long-term security while restoring individual and family agency.

Mandatory Baseline Contributions

- Participation in the individual account system includes a **mandatory baseline contribution equal to no less than 15 percent of earnings**, comprised of:
 - 5 percent designated from the worker's uniform income tax obligation, and
 - 10 percent contributed by the employer as deferred compensation.
- These mandatory contributions establish a minimum savings floor and are credited directly to the individual account. They do not pass through the general treasury and shall not be diverted for non-retirement purposes.

Voluntary Supplemental Contributions (No Cap)

- In addition to mandatory contributions, **citizens may contribute unlimited additional amounts** to their own individual retirement accounts.
- No statutory cap is imposed on voluntary contributions, recognizing that once mandatory savings are satisfied, additional saving reflects private prudence rather than public obligation.
- Voluntary contributions are fully owned by the account holder and subject to the same investment and inheritance rules as mandatory contributions.

Parental and Family Contributions

- Parents or legal guardians may make voluntary contributions to the individual retirement accounts of their children.
- Such contributions are capped annually at an amount aligned with prevailing defined-contribution limits (e.g., contemporary 401(k) contribution thresholds), adjusted periodically for inflation.
- Contributions to a child's account are irrevocable gifts, held in trust for the child's exclusive benefit, and shall not be reclaimed or encumbered by the contributor.

This structure permits families to assist in building long-term security for the next generation without undermining individual ownership or converting the system into a vehicle for unlimited intergenerational transfer.

Retirement Eligibility by Sufficiency, Not Age

- No fixed retirement age is required for account holders who have accumulated sufficient assets to self-fund retirement.

- A reference age -- aligned with the Social Security full retirement age at enactment -- serves only as a default benchmark, not a mandatory threshold.
- Account holders may elect to begin distributions earlier, provided their account balance meets minimum actuarial sufficiency standards designed to prevent premature exhaustion.

Account-Based Loans and Early Access

- Limited early access to account assets is permitted through **self-directed loans**, rather than permanent withdrawals.
- Permissible loan purposes include:
 - Primary residence purchase or down payment
 - Education or vocational training
 - Medical or family hardship
- Loans must be:
 - Secured solely against the individual's own account
 - Subject to defined repayment schedules
 - Non-recourse beyond the account balance
- Repayments restore principal to the account, preserving retirement integrity while allowing life-cycle flexibility.

Distributions

Upon retirement or sufficiency election, participants may choose among:

- Lifetime annuity purchase
- Programmed withdrawals based on actuarial tables
- Lump-sum withdrawals, subject to annual caps to prevent rapid depletion

Safeguards and Inheritance

- Permanent early withdrawals outside defined loan and hardship frameworks are restricted.
- Accounts are fully inheritable by designated beneficiaries, reinforcing ownership, family continuity, and intergenerational stability.

This framework ensures that mandatory deductions produce tangible, individually owned assets, while voluntary saving and family support are encouraged rather than penalized. Retirement becomes a function of **means, choice, and responsibility**, not administrative age thresholds or pooled dependency. The purpose of this system is not to limit saving, but to ensure that mandatory contributions create real, owned assets; voluntary saving beyond that baseline is a private matter.

This transition is structured to avoid takings, impairment of contracts, or retroactive deprivation, and is designed to honor reliance interests consistent with constitutional limits. Nothing in this transition shall be construed to diminish accrued benefits, retroactively impair vested rights, or compel participation in market-based accounts for any individual with reliance interests under the legacy system. Elections are voluntary where offered, prospective where mandatory, and structured to preserve earned expectations consistent with the Takings Clause, the Due Process Clause, and established principles of non-retroactivity.

Part II - Classification of Remedies

A. Constitutional Amendments Required

1. Balanced Budget Requirement
2. No New Net Debt (except war/existential emergency)
3. Term Limits for Congress
4. Citizen-Only Apportionment
5. Single-Subject Rule for Legislation
6. Ban on Nationwide Injunctions
7. Line-Item Veto Authority
8. Hard-Asset Backing of the Currency (minimum backing and issuance constraints set constitutionally; composition and ratios set by statute)
9. Mandatory Agency Sunset (baseline constitutional requirement; statutory implementation governs duration and criteria)

B. Statutory Reforms

1. Immigration enforcement mechanics
2. Federal-state enforcement cooperation
3. Tax system (12% income tax, 15% VAT, 25% corporate tax)
4. IRS scope reduction and default filing
5. Social Security transition program
6. Sovereign Indemnity reclassification for Veteran compensation
7. ACA repeal and health-care market reforms
8. Medicare modernization and privatization path
9. Medicaid citizenship limitation
10. Privacy rights and surveillance bans
11. Congressional ethics and trading bans
12. Federal land divestment program

Part III - Tax Structure, Revenue Allocation, and Fiscal Convergence

Purpose and Design Principles

The tax structure adopted herein is designed to fund a constitutional federal government of limited and enumerated powers while restoring transparency, stability, and consent to public finance. The objective is not to maximize revenue, but to align taxation with legitimate federal functions and to ensure that mandatory contributions produce identifiable public or individually owned benefits.

This structure replaces complexity, exemptions, and indirect redistribution with low, uniform rates applied to broad bases, and explicitly distinguishes between government revenue and private retirement savings. It is not designed to sustain the present scale of permanent transfer programs funded by perpetual deficit, but to restore alignment between federal ambition and consented means.

A. Uniform Income Tax

A single, flat **12 percent income tax** shall apply uniformly to all citizens, without exemptions, deductions, credits, or preferential treatment.

For purposes of this tax, **income** shall include all realized income from wages, salaries, business earnings, dividends, interest, capital gains, and pass-through entities, subject only to narrow definitional exclusions necessary to prevent double taxation of previously taxed principal.

Five percentage points of this tax are designated as mandatory retirement savings and are credited directly to the individual retirement account of the taxpayer.

The remaining **seven percentage points** constitute general federal revenue.

The retirement-designated portion does not enter the general treasury, is not available for appropriation, and shall not be repurposed for non-retirement use. It represents a reallocation of mandatory taxation into individually owned assets rather than an increase in the tax burden.

B. Uniform Consumption Tax (Value-Added Tax)

A **15 percent value-added tax (VAT)** shall apply broadly to goods and services consumed within the United States.

The VAT serves as a primary revenue stabilizer, capturing economic activity that may not be reflected fully in income reporting and providing a broad, difficult-to-avoid base for funding core federal functions.

To prevent undue hardship without creating new entitlement bureaucracies, **unprepared food, prescription medicine, and residential utilities shall be exempt (Zero-Rated) from the VAT.** This ensures that the tax burden falls on discretionary consumption, not on survival. No other credits, deductions, or graduated rates shall be introduced.

Abolition of the Payroll Tax:

This structure replaces the regressive Payroll Tax system entirely. By eliminating the tax wedge on labor, this plan immediately increases the take-home pay of the working class and lowers the cost of hiring. The working poor gain purchasing power, as their essential spending remains untaxed while their earnings are relieved of the payroll burden.

The VAT is intended to fund core federal functions and transitional obligations, not to serve as a vehicle for behavioral regulation, industrial policy, or social engineering.

C. Uniform Corporate Tax on Profits

A flat **25 percent tax on corporate profits** shall apply to all corporations operating within the United States.

The tax base shall be simplified and anchored to realized profits to minimize avoidance, reduce arbitrage, and discourage offshoring. Preferential credits, targeted exemptions, accelerated depreciation schemes, and industry-specific carve-outs are prohibited.

For multinational firms, profit attribution shall be governed by clear apportionment rules designed to prevent artificial profit shifting while preserving competitiveness and predictability.

This rate is designed to balance revenue sufficiency with economic neutrality and long-term investment stability.

D. Revenue Allocation and Separation

Revenues generated under this structure are classified as follows:

Private Retirement Assets:

Mandatory retirement contributions designated under the income tax are the property of the individual and are held in trust. They do not constitute government revenue and shall not be counted toward federal receipts.

General Federal Revenue:

Net income tax receipts, VAT receipts, and corporate tax receipts fund only:

- National defense
- Courts and law enforcement
- Diplomacy
- Administration of federal law
- Interstate commerce and infrastructure
- Transitional legacy obligations authorized herein

This separation is mandatory and must be enforceable. No retirement-designated funds shall be diverted, pledged, borrowed against, or otherwise encumbered for general governmental use. Diversion of such assets is prohibited and enforceable by private right of action.

National Defense and Strategic Retrenchment:

Revenues are authorized solely for the common defense of the United States, its territories, and the strategic approaches of the Western Hemisphere.

This structure explicitly rejects the funding of permanent foreign occupation, nation-building, or the subsidized defense of wealthy allied nations. The revenue limits imposed by this Declaration are intentional constraints designed to compel a transition from global hegemony to republican defense. The United States shall maintain a military of unsurpassed lethality for the protection of its own sovereignty, but shall not tax its citizens to police the world.

E. Fiscal Discipline and Convergence

This tax structure is intentionally calibrated to constrain federal ambition to sustainable levels. It is designed to converge revenues and expenditures through reduction of structural obligations, not through hidden taxation, perpetual borrowing, or monetary dilution.

Federal revenues under this framework are sufficient to support core constitutional functions and time-limited transition obligations. No new unfunded entitlement obligations shall be created during the transition period.

As legacy entitlement obligations sunset, spending shall decline correspondingly. Where revenues are constrained, spending must adjust. No automatic expansion of programs or obligations is permitted absent explicit authorization and visible taxation.

The limitation imposed by this structure is not a defect, but a feature: it restores the principle that the government must operate within the bounds of consented means.

F. Transparency and Enforcement

All tax collections and allocations shall be subject to standardized public reporting, including:

- Separation of government revenue from private retirement assets
- Long-horizon revenue and expenditure projections
- Clear identification of transitional versus permanent obligations

No off-balance-sheet financing, indirect redistribution through the tax code, emergency normalization of taxation, or reclassification of private assets as public funds is permitted.

Closing Principle

This tax system is designed to make the cost of government **visible, finite, and honest**. It funds what the federal government is empowered to do, declines to fund what it is not, and ensures that mandatory contributions yield either public goods or privately owned assets -- but never unaccountable intermediaries.

Appendix E

Pro Forma Fiscal Projections (Year 1)

Purpose:

To demonstrate the mathematical solvency of the proposed tax structure against the core constitutional obligations of the Federal Government. The following projections use Fiscal Year 2025 baseline economic data, adjusted for the structural reforms mandated by this Declaration.

I. Revenue Projections (The Means)

Assumptions: Based on estimated FY2025 Total Personal Income (\$25.0T), and Corporate Profits (\$3.4T).

Source	Rate	Tax Base	Projected Revenue
Uniform Income Tax (Net Federal Share)	7%	\$25.0 Trillion	\$1.75 Trillion
Uniform VAT (Zero-Rated Essentials)	15%	\$15.6 Trillion	\$2.34 Trillion
Corporate Profit Tax	25%	\$3.4 Trillion	\$0.85 Trillion
TOTAL FEDERAL REVENUE			\$4.94 Trillion

Note: The 5% "Retirement Share" of the Income Tax is excluded from Federal Revenue as it is diverted directly to private accounts.

II. Expenditure Projections (The Obligations)

Assumptions: Immediate termination of non-constitutional agencies (Education, Housing, Energy, etc.); full honor of Legacy Entitlements; maintenance of Defense and Interest obligations.

Category	Description	Projected Cost
Social Security (Legacy)	Mandatory payments to current/near retirees	\$1.50 Trillion
Medicare (Legacy)	Coverage for existing beneficiary cohorts	\$1.00 Trillion
Net Interest on Debt	Service on existing ~\$38T Debt	\$1.20 Trillion
National Defense	Western Hemisphere & Strategic Deterrence	\$0.90 Trillion
Veterans Affairs	Medical and compensation obligations	\$0.35 Trillion
Core Constitutional Functions	Courts, DOJ, State Dept, Treasury, Borders	\$0.10 Trillion
TOTAL FEDERAL SPENDING		\$5.05 Trillion

Note on Defense & Veterans: The allocation represents a strategic retrenchment. Savings derived from closing overseas bases and ending foreign aid are reinvested into homeland defense and the unconditional fulfillment of obligations to those who have borne the battle. We do not fund foreign empires; we fund our own defenders.

III. The Solvency Gap & The Land Bridge

Year 1 Deficit: ~\$110 Billion (approx. 2% of budget).

While the structural reforms balance 98% of the budget in Year 1, the accumulated interest burden (\$1.2T) creates a nominal deficit. This gap is closed not by borrowing, but by the **Asset Liquidation Mandate (Section I.4)**.

The Land-for-Debt Mechanism:

- **Asset Sale:** Mandated divestment of 50% of federal surface lands (approx. 320 million acres).
- **Revenue Target:** Conservative estimates (grazing, mineral, and timber land) project multi-trillion dollar liquidity events over the transition decade.
- **Impact on Future Budgets:** Proceeds from land sales are applied strictly to debt principal. For every **\$1 Trillion of debt retired**, the government's **annual interest payment drops by approximately \$40 Billion** (assuming a 4% blended rate).
- **Result:** This mechanism permanently lowers the cost of government, converting the Year 1 deficit into a structural surplus by Year 2.

IV. Year 2 Trajectory (The Surplus)

By Year 2, the combination of asset liquidation and natural economic growth pushes the system into surplus.

- **Debt Reduction Impact:** Sale of initial land tranches reduces Interest Expense by ~\$80 Billion.
- **Growth Impact:** 2% conservative growth raises Revenue base to ~\$5.03 Trillion.
- **Result:** The budget moves from a \$110B deficit to a **structural surplus**.

Conclusion:

The system is mathematically solvent. By liquidating unused assets to retire expensive debt, the government bridges the transition gap without crushing taxation or inflationary money printing. The divestment of federal assets pushes the budget into **Primary Surplus by Year 2**, allowing for the rapid amortization of the remaining national debt.