



Congressional Compensation & Ethics Commission (CCE)

The root cause of the crisis in Washington is simple: Congress sets its own rules. From determining their own pay to policing their own ethics, the system is designed to serve the few rather than the many. We cannot expect the people benefiting from a broken system to fix it.

The Citizens for Congressional Equity and Accountability (CCEA) proposes a constitutional amendment to create the Congressional Compensation & Ethics Commission (CCE). This independent body permanently separates political self-interest from legislative duty, ensuring that Congress answers to the American people, not lobbyists or personal portfolios.

1. Fairness in Compensation

Currently, congressional pay and benefits are set by Congress. The CCE will establish fair, transparent compensation rules that align with the American workforce.

The Goal: Public service should be a calling, not a path to personal enrichment. We propose aligning pay and benefits with national averages to ensure equity.

2. Uncompromising Ethics Reform

The “revolving door” between public office and private profit erodes public trust. We propose strict prohibitions on members of Congress buying individual stocks or investing in companies while in office.

The Goal: Representatives must serve the public interest, free from the temptation of financial conflicts of interest.

3. Term Limits for Fresh Leadership

To reduce entrenched power and ensure our government reflects the will of the people, the CCE would support the implementation of term limits.

The Goal: A legislative branch that remains dynamic, responsive, and connected to the reality of everyday citizens.

4. Total Transparency

Sunlight is the best disinfectant. The Amendment requires full public disclosure of all gifts, trips, donations, and investments.

The Goal: Providing a precise, enforceable mechanism for the public to hold Congress accountable.

A Permanent Fix for a Persistent Problem

Laws can be repealed. A simple majority vote can change rules. But a Constitutional Amendment is permanent. By enshrining these reforms in the Constitution, we protect them from the shifting winds of partisan politics. This is a practical, achievable reform designed to strengthen our democracy for generations to come.

You Have Read the Plan. Now Help Us Pass It.

This proposal is ready. The only thing missing is the political will to enact it, and that comes from you.

