

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 469

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

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

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## 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.*