

Freedom21, Inc.

Legislative Committee Report

February, 2010

As mentioned in an earlier report, we have discovered that the Rules of the House of Representatives, 111th Congress, has a rule – XIII, 3.(d)(1) - which states in clear, plain English (and you don't even have to press "1" to get it): "Each report of a committee on a public bill or public joint resolution shall contain the following: A statement citing the specific powers granted to the Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution." Just a quick perusal of the tidal wave of outrageous legislation being spewed out by the Democrats and RINOs suggests that this rule is generally being ignored. Shocking.

In light of the uproar of righteous indignation and sanctimonious hubris from posturing Democrats when Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC) had the temerity to speak the truth out loud - the now famous "You lie" remark – and their invocation of the sacred Rules of the House, we feel it is only right and proper that the Republicans show their contrition by rigidly following those rules...and insisting that the Democrats and RINOs do, too.

Therefore, on my last educational jaunt to the Capitol, I contacted staff members for representatives Nathan Deal (R-GA) and Paul Brown (R-GA), both solid constitutionalists, to see if the congressmen would be interested in challenging bills as they come to the floor of the House, to see that they do indeed legitimately comply with Rule XIII, 3.(d)(1). If the bills do not, the congressmen would then force a roll call vote to suspend the rules, in essence, forcing the Democrats to publicly vote to ignore the Constitution. I also contacted staff of Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), leader of an informal group of some 100 conservatives in the House, to take the lead in this effort, thus guaranteeing that there would always be someone on the floor to challenge the bills.

There are several excellent reasons why this should be done: 1) Rules are made to be followed, one would presume, for good and important reasons. Thus, demanding that they *be* followed is the responsible thing to do; 2) Doing this will raise the issue of the importance of the Constitution as the foundation of the Rule of Law; 3) It will encourage debate as to the meaning of the parts of the Constitution cited (or *not* cited), thus raising awareness of the Constitution both with our legislators and the public (since the challenges and the ensuing debates *will* get reported, at least in the alternative media); 4) Challenging every bill the Democrats put forward will irritate the heck out of them, probably causing some of them to melt down in public; 5) Publicly standing up for the Constitution will give representatives something concrete – genuine action in defense of the Republic – to take home to their voters during the upcoming elections.

This, we believe, is a *very* worthwhile endeavor. We expect to hear back from them whether or not they will join in the effort, in the next few weeks. Therefore, we ask each and every one of you to call your congressman and politely, but strongly, suggest that it would be a great thing if they joined with their

colleagues in this action. In addition, please contact Representative Tom Price ([202]225-4501; fax: [202]225-4656) and encourage him to take the lead in this. We need new leaders, and this is a real opportunity for them to assert themselves.