

CAPITOL HILL CITIZEN

"Democracy
dies in
broad daylight"

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EDITORIAL

What's good for Congress is great for the American people

Which member of Congress will introduce the What's Good for Congress is Great for the America People Act?

In his 2014 book *Unstoppable: The Emerging Left-Right Alliance to Dismantle the Corporate State* (Nation Books, 2014), Ralph Nader argues that a populist left-right coalition to free Congress from corporate control would be unstoppable, but to move toward convergence, it is first necessary to separate the corporatists from the principled conservatives.

If you can get past the corporate controlled leadership of both parties and the White House, the proposals outlined in *Unstoppable* would have a better than even chance of

making it through the Senate and House.

"Since the publication of *Unstoppable*, and listening to and reading about the possibilities of right left convergence, I've come to focus on two simple bills that if enacted would go a long way toward making members of Congress identify with their sovereign voters, to be more part of 'we the people' instead of 'we the corporate Congress,'" Nader says.

Bill one: Congress members will have no employment benefits that are not accorded to all American workers, including pensions, health insurance and deductible expenses. As for wage ratios, members will be paid no more than ten times the federal minimum wage. (If

● Continued on Page 4



Art: Mr. Fish

SLAUGHTERHOUSE

Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu: "We are the people of light, they are the people of darkness" / See Page 5

History lesson from David Ben-Gurion

"If I were an Arab leader, I would never sign an agreement with Israel. It is normal – we have taken their country. It is true God promised it to us, but how could that interest them? Our God is not theirs. There has been anti-semitism, the Nazis, Hitler, Auschwitz, but was that their fault? They see but one thing – we have come and stolen their country. Why would they accept that?"

– David Ben-Gurion, founder and first Prime Minister of Israel, as quoted by Nahum Goldmann, head of the World Zionist Organization in his book *The Jewish Paradox* (1978).

Open letter to Congress staff

By Ralph Nader, Bruce Fein
and Lou Fisher

You work for the most powerful legislative body in the world by dint of the U.S. Constitution.

Congress enjoys the lion's share of enumerated powers.

It is endowed with the authority to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution all other powers vested by the Constitution in the United States government or any of its departments or officers.

Congress commands the power of the purse, the taxation authority, Senate confirmation of Presidential nominees, the responsibility for war and peace, the power to impeach and remove officers

● Continued on Page 15

INSIDE

18 Congress shall have the power to declare war

27 Brie on the brink

34 Kinzer on censorship USA style

39 Biden OK letting DeJoy wreck the Post Office?

40 The Last Word: Self Serve

Fat Accompli: Junk food lobby in control inside the Beltway

By Citizen Staff

In 2009, *Politico* ran a story titled – "Fat Accompli: Congress' Weight Issue." The article began with this:

"Supposedly preoccupied with costs and how to reduce them, the various committees involved in producing health care legislation have all but ignored the, well, husky animal in the room: fat people."

"With an epidemic of obesity enlarging the country, Congress – like many Americans blithely ignoring the gradual tightening of their waistbands – is in denial."

"Why?"

"The answer, by some accounts, is astoundingly simple: No one wants to tell Americans the bad news."

Right question.

Wrong answer.

Lots of people have told the American people the bad news.

We all know the dire health consequences of the obesity epidemic.

We know how to address it.

But junk food and Big Pharma have bought off the Congress.

And to a large degree, they have bought off the public health establishment and pub-

● Continued on Page 9

WHO CAN DEFEAT RICHIE NEAL? – PAGE 28