

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2260

To codify the Bill of Rights.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 26, 2021

Mr. STIVERS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To codify the Bill of Rights.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CODIFICATION OF BILL OF RIGHTS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 1, United States Code, is
5 amended by adding at the end the following new chapter:

6 **“CHAPTER 4—BILL OF RIGHTS**

“401. Free exercise of religion; freedom of speech and assembly; right to petition Government.

“402. Well regulated militia.

“403. Quartering of soldiers.

“404. Unreasonable searches and seizures.

“405. Due process of law.

“406. Rights in criminal prosecutions.

“407. Trial by jury.

“408. Excessive bail and fines; cruel and unusual punishment.

“409. Non-enumerated rights.

“410. Rights reserved to States or people.

1 **“§ 401. Free exercise of religion; freedom of speech**
2 **and assembly; right to petition Govern-**
3 **ment**

4 “No law shall be enacted in the United States re-
5 specting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the
6 free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech,
7 or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to
8 assemble and to petition the government for a redress of
9 their grievances.

10 **“§ 402. Well regulated militia**

11 “A well regulated militia, being necessary to the secu-
12 rity of a free state, the right of people to keep and bear
13 arms, shall not be infringed.

14 **“§ 403. Quartering of soldiers**

15 “No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in
16 any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time
17 of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

18 **“§ 404. Unreasonable searches and seizures**

19 “The right of the people to be secure in their persons,
20 houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches
21 and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrants shall
22 issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affir-
23 mation, and particularly describing the place to be
24 searched, and the person or things to be seized.

1 § 405. Due process of law

2 “No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or
3 otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or in-
4 dictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the
5 land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual serv-
6 ice in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person
7 be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy
8 of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case
9 to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life,
10 liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall
11 private property be taken for public use, without just com-
12 pensation.

13 § 406. Rights in criminal prosecutions

14 “In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy
15 the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury
16 of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been
17 committed, which district shall have been previously
18 ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and
19 cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the wit-
20 nesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtain-
21 ing witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of
22 counsel for his defense.

23 § 407. Trial by jury

24 “In suits at common law, where the value in con-
25 troversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by
26 jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall

1 be otherwise reexamined in any court of the United States,
2 than according to the rules of the common law.

3 **“§ 408. Excessive bail and fines; cruel and unusual**
4 **punishment**

5 “Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive
6 fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments in-
7 flicted.

8 **“§ 409. Non-enumerated rights**

9 “The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain
10 rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others
11 retained by the people.

12 **“§ 410. Rights reserved to States or people**

13 “The powers not delegated to the United States by
14 the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are
15 reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.”.

16 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters
17 at the beginning of such title is amended by adding at
18 the end the following:

“4. Bill of Rights 401”.

