

The Passy Press®

Letter to the Editor

From: Peter Felix <pmf@undisclosed.com>
Date: Friday, October 4, 2013 at 8:06 AM
To: Nick Gardiner "enpg@thepassypress.com"
Subject: RE: The Passy Press report and new essay by John Cogswell

Dear Sir,

John Cogswell's suggestions would go some way to remedying the situation in Congress, although sadly I cannot see Congress passing these on their own. A constitutional convention called by the public might, however, generate great support. Who would lead that? Maybe someone like Hunstman who claims to be non-partisan.

It seems to me that in a democracy it should be illegal for any branch of Government to attempt to rescind duly enacted legislation by blackmail. In the UK, of course, a vote of confidence can challenge a position but if it is defeated then Parliament must accept what the house has passed. What we are currently enduring is, as Martin Wolf in the Economist put it several days ago, an asylum run by lunatics.

In my 30 years in the US I have never been so concerned or depressed about the country. But then as Churchill said, the Americans always get it right in the end, once they have tried every available alternative. I have great faith in the US but it has become severely challenged in recent years and not because of the Obama administration per se. I am in fact a supporter of Obama care because it begins the overhaul of a totally incompetent health care system that is helping to cripple the economy. If it has to be this expensive let it least be fair. Now that reform has begun perhaps the great American flair for competition, reinvention and entrepreneurship will finally put things to right.

Best

Peter

Peter Felix is a British national living in New York who is currently President of the Worldwide Association of Executive Search Consultants.