

# NEW BOOK SCRUTINIZES IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED FOR ELECTING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

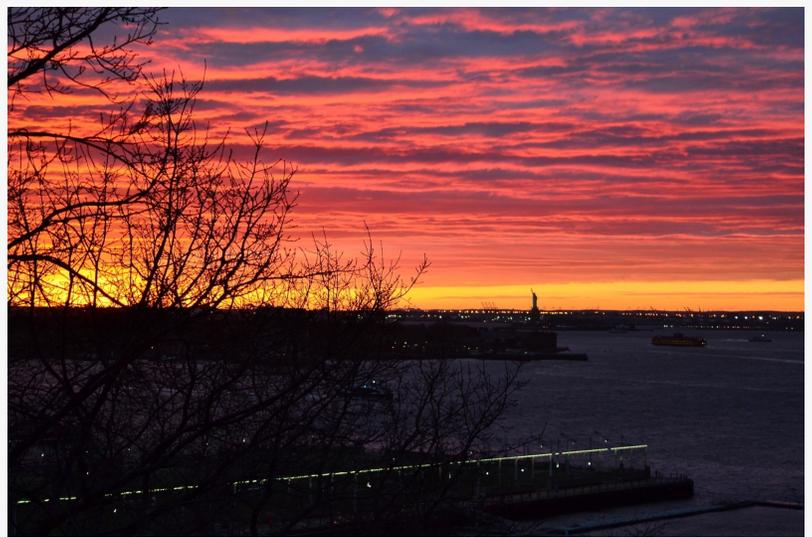
AUSTIN, TEXAS, UNITED STATES, January 4, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Solve American Gridlock LLC of Austin, Texas announces the recent publication at Amazon (<https://a.co/d/a2nmBOT>) of *Combative Congress; Your Voice! Your Power!* This book fills the need that every American age 16-90 should understand why the electoral methods now used for Congress impede collaboration.

The issue is that almost all citizens lack the time, the background, and/or intense interest in political matters to understand what needs to be changed to get a problem-solving Congress. This book solves that by first carefully studying when, how, and why our two parties became so intensely polarized. It then analyzes why the Congress has only two parties and proposes needed changes in our

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Benjamin Franklin, who, on leaving the Constitutional Convention of 1787, supposedly told a curious passerby that the Framers had produced a republic, if you can keep it.”

*Benjamin Franklin*



The Statue of Liberty

electoral systems that will lead to more parties and a much more civil and productive Congress. Other important countries have an average of 3.9 parties.

*Combative Congress* addresses a serious and complex topic in ways that make reading it pleasant. This nonpartisan book is unique in that its appeal stretches from a high school student to a professor, from a young housewife to a retired chemical engineer, and more. It was written to be concise and readable in less than three hours with some humor thrown in; it has 33 color graphs and

photographs to implant images of concepts in the reader’s mind; and it has short chapters and good references.

National constitutions have lasted an average of only 17 years since 1789. America's Constitution has lasted over 230 years! However, it is no secret that a huge percentage of the populace is increasingly worried that the United States has lost the ability and fortitude to formulate and implement solutions to serious problems. A symptom of this is gridlock, but attacking symptoms is futile; one must dig down to the root causes. This book does that.

In 2014, about 94% ([https://ballotpedia.org/United\\_States\\_Congress\\_elections,\\_2014](https://ballotpedia.org/United_States_Congress_elections,_2014)) of incumbent congressional candidates were returned to office, but the approval rate for Congress was around 15% (<https://news.gallup.com/poll/180113/2014-approval-congress-remains-near-time-low.aspx>). How in the world can that be? The answer is that we have broken electoral systems.

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**COMBATIVE CONGRESS** ..... TOM MAST  
*Your Power! Your Voice!*  
This HANDBOOK is all the reader needs to understand our Combative Congress in a couple of hours. It is designed to alert Americans of every stripe to the consequences of the dysfunctions in our Congress, provide an understanding of their root causes, and indicate pathways to solutions.  
**But your vote doesn't matter as much as it COULD!**

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**  
Tom Mast lives in Austin, Texas with Eddie, his wife of many years – many decades in fact. They adore their two sons and five grandchildren. Tom grew up in Lubbock and Midland, Texas, received a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering from The University of Texas and a MS degree from Stanford, served as a Lieutenant in the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and Spain, and returned to graduate from the Harvard Business School. He spent his career in manufacturing and engineering management and has traveled widely. In recent years, he has been active in several non-profit organizations. He has long been interested in our country's polarization, the deeply in our Congress, its root causes, and what improvements we can encourage.

**COMBATIVE CONGRESS**  
**TOM MAST**

*"Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result." —Albert Einstein*  
**TOM MAST**

The Combative Congress book

Month	Approval Rate (%)
Jun '21	26%
Jul '21	26%
Aug '21	28%
Sep '21	27%
Oct '21	21%
Nov '21	20%
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Mar '22	21%
Apr '22	20%
May '22	18%
Jun '22	16%

Congress Approval Graph, Statista 2022

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