

# RECENT BOOK COMBATIVE CONGRESS PROBES FOR ROOT CAUSES OF CONGRESSIONAL DYSFUNCTIONALITY

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- Combative Congress, Your Power! Your Voice! is now on Amazon <https://a.co/d/jj0KUOc> .

This book investigates the root causes of Congress's difficulty in working in an efficacious way to solve the challenging problems facing the United States.

Combative Congress takes the position that care must be taken in complex matters to identify the problem accurately followed by exposing its root causes. By taking this approach, the common mistake of trying to solve a symptom rather than the root cause is avoided.

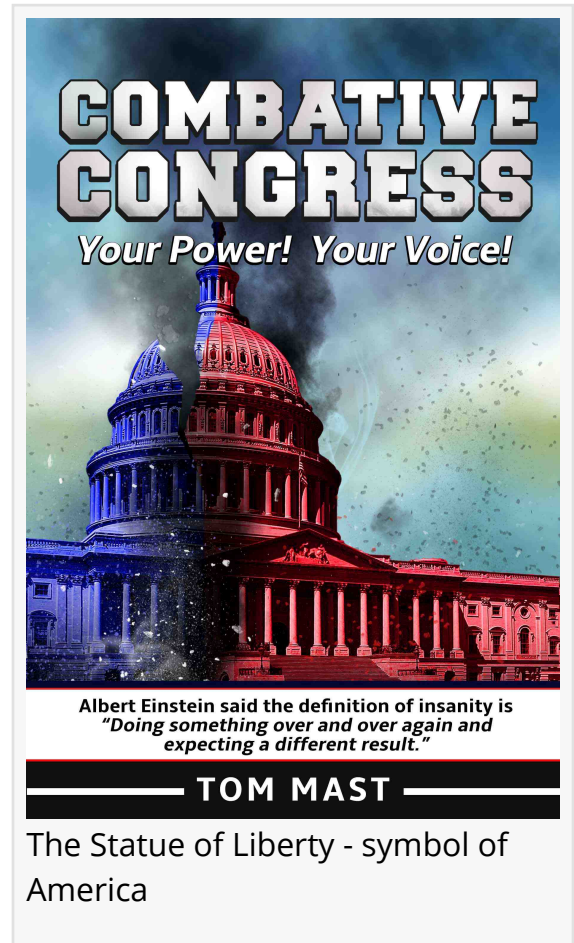
The book concludes with three root causes: closed party primaries, single-member (safe) districts for the House of Representatives, and non-proportional voting methods. It suggests the improvements needed.

These impediments are shown to be the primary reasons why it is extremely difficult for new parties to form and prosper. They are diagnosed to be electoral methods embedded into state and federal laws and party rules.

The book argues that an important one is the mandate written into federal law in 1967 requiring every state to have single-member districts for the House of Representatives; this law has led to aggressive gerrymandering and thereby safe districts that return over 80% of Representatives back to Congress every two years.

This book analyzes why Congress has only two parties and proposes needed changes in our electoral systems that will open competition to more parties and a much more civil and productive Congress. Other important countries have an average of 3.9 parties.

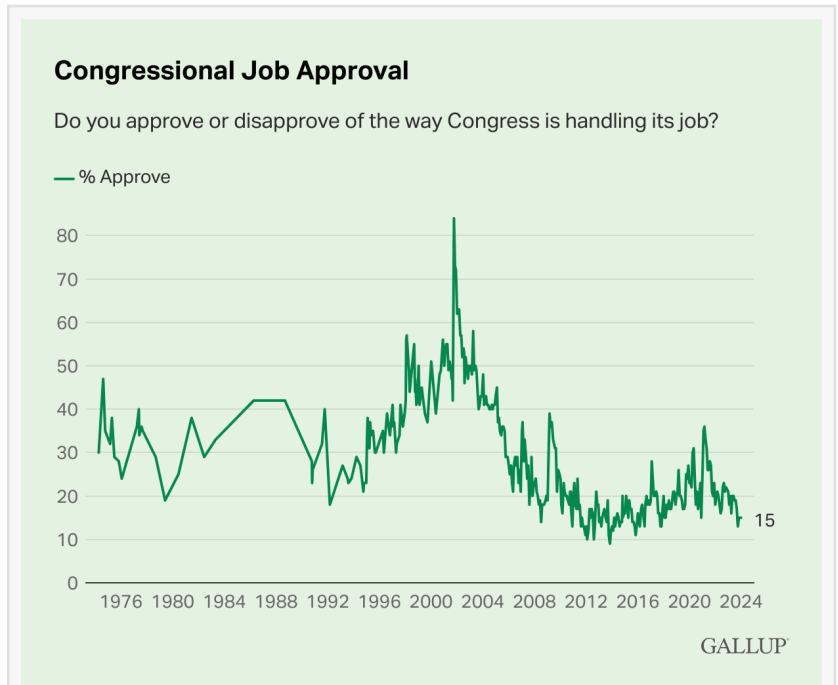
Combative Congress addresses a serious and complex topic in ways that make reading it pleasant. This nonpartisan book is unique in that its appeal stretches from a high school student



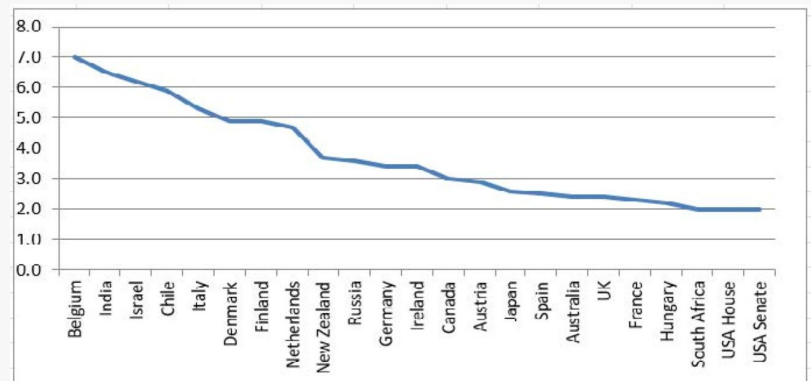
to a professor, from a young housewife to a retired chemical engineer, and more. It was written to be concise and readable in less than three hours with some humor; it has 33 color graphs and photographs to implant images of concepts in the reader's mind; and it has short chapters and good references.

National constitutions have lasted an average of only 17 years since 1789. America's Constitution has lasted over 230 years! The book points out the need for continued vigilance.

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.



Gallup 2023



Number of Parties by Country

Solve American Gridlock LLC is located in Austin, Texas. Its primary focus is educating citizens about improvements that can be made in the methods used to elect members of Congress.

Tom Mast is the founder of Solve American Gridlock and lives in Austin, Texas. He is a retired engineer with degrees from The University of Texas, Stanford, and the Harvard Business School. He served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, spent his career in manufacturing and engineering management, and has long been interested in our country's polarization, the duopoly in our Congress and its causes, and what improvements we can encourage.



Ben 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*

Tom Mast

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