

## **A BILL**

To abolish the United States Marshals Service, repeal section 561 of title 28, United States Code, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

### **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “United States Marshals Service Abolition Act of 2026”.

### **SECTION 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States Marshals Service (USMS), a component of the Department of Justice, enforces federal court orders, apprehends fugitives, protects the federal judiciary, manages federal prisoners in transit, operates the witness security program, and manages assets seized for forfeiture.

(2) The functions of the USMS are not “necessary and proper for carrying into Execution” any power vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States and therefore find no support in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which Madison in Federalist No. 44 described as a means of executing powers already granted rather than a source of new ones, as the Anti-Federalist writer Brutus warned in his first essay of 1787 it would otherwise become.

(3) By conducting task force operations against local offenders, the USMS infringes the Fourth Amendment’s protection of “the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures,” and its requirement that no warrants shall issue “but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.”

(4) By managing and disposing of property seized through civil forfeiture, the USMS violates the Due Process Clause and Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment, which provide that no person shall “be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law” and that private property shall not “be taken for public use, without just compensation”.

(5) By administering forfeitures disproportionate to any offense, the USMS subjects Americans to penalties and forfeitures that may be grossly disproportionate to any offense, contrary to the Eighth Amendment’s command that excessive fines shall not be “imposed.”

(6) In carrying out its functions, the USMS disregards the Ninth Amendment, which provides that “The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people,” including the right of the people to order their own lives, property, and affairs free of federal direction in matters the Constitution does not commit

to the Federal Government.

(7) The Constitution delegates to the United States no power over general police powers and local crime. By conducting fugitive task forces that pursue local offenders and managing forfeited property, the USMS exercises powers that the Tenth Amendment reserves “to the States respectively, or to the people,” contrary to Federalist No. 45, in which Madison described the powers delegated to the Federal Government as “few and defined” and those remaining in the States as “numerous and indefinite.”

(8) The Declaration of Independence affirms that governments are instituted to secure the unalienable rights of the people and derive “their just powers from the consent of the governed,” and it charged the Crown with having “erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.” The USMS perpetuates the centralized administration the Declaration condemned.

(9) Abolishing the United States Marshals Service and repealing section 561 of title 28, United States Code, will reduce the size and cost of the Federal Government, return to the States and to the people the powers the Constitution reserves to them, and restore the constitutional principles of limited government and enumerated powers.

### **SECTION 3. ABOLITION OF THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE.**

(a) In General.—The United States Marshals Service, a component of the Department of Justice, is hereby abolished effective immediately following the enactment of this Act.

(b) Wind-Down Operations.—Immediately following the enactment of this Act, the President shall designate an appropriate official to expeditiously wind down the operations of the United States Marshals Service, ceasing all functions, except that the execution of the lawful writs, process, and orders of the courts of the United States, as authorized by Article III, Section 1, and Article I, Section 8, Clause 9 of the Constitution, shall be transferred to such other department or officer of the United States as determined by such official.

(c) Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.—All assets, liabilities, contracts, property, and records of the United States Marshals Service shall be transferred to the designated official under subsection (b) for appropriate disposition.

(d) Employee Transition.—Employees of the United States Marshals Service shall be offered opportunities for reassignment within the federal government or provided with severance and retraining assistance as prescribed by existing federal law.

### **SECTION 4. REPEAL OF PROVISIONS OF LAW ESTABLISHING THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE.**

(a) In General.—Section 561 of title 28, United States Code, and any other provision of law establishing the United States Marshals Service or vesting functions in the United States Marshals Service, are hereby repealed.

(b) Conforming Amendments.—The United States Code and all other relevant Federal laws are amended by—

(1) striking all references to the United States Marshals Service and to any office, officer, or function established in or vested in the United States Marshals Service;

(2) reassigning only the execution of the lawful writs, process, and orders of the courts of the United States, as authorized by Article III, Section 1, and Article I, Section 8, Clause 9 of the Constitution, in accordance with section 3(b), and terminating every other function of the United States Marshals Service; and

(3) making such other conforming changes as necessary to reflect the repeal and the permanent abolition of the United States Marshals Service.

(c) Effective Date.—The repeal under this section shall take effect immediately following the enactment of this Act.

## **SECTION 5. TRANSITION PROVISIONS.**

(a) No Restoration of Prior Structures.—No element of the United States Marshals Service shall revert to its organizational structure as it existed prior to the establishment of the United States Marshals Service, and no function of the United States Marshals Service shall be restored to any predecessor department, agency, or office.

(b) Permanent Abolition.—No department, agency, office, or other entity shall be established to carry out the functions of the United States Marshals Service abolished by this Act, other than the enumerated functions transferred under section 3(b).

## **SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY.**

If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.