

CHARTER OF SOCIAL & CHILD PROTECTIONS

A Proposed Constitutional Framework for the United States of America

I. Legislative Identification & Analysis

Subject Nation: United States of America

Identified Gap: Lack of federal constitutional recognition for the rights of the child and explicit socio-economic guarantees (Health, Housing, and Social Security) as defined by the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)* and the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)*.

Framework Alignment: This document integrates international human rights standards into the domestic legal tradition, providing a "Missing Pillar" for the American Bill of Rights.

II. The Charter

Preamble: *Recognizing that the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family are the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world; seeking to perfect the Union by ensuring that no citizen, specifically the youth, shall be denied the basic necessities of life or the protections required for healthy development; the following articles are proposed as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution.*

Article I: Rights of the Child

- 1. Best Interests Principle:** In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.
- 2. Protection from Harm:** Every child has the right to protection from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse.
- 3. Right to Education:** The State shall provide free, equitable, and high-quality primary and secondary education, aimed at the development of the child's personality, talents, and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential.

Article II: Economic and Social Rights

- 1. Right to Health:** Every individual shall have the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. This includes access to essential medications and medical services regardless of economic status.
- 2. Right to an Adequate Standard of Living:** The State recognizes the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their family, including adequate food, clothing, and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions.
- 3. Right to Work:** Every citizen has the right to the opportunity to gain their living by work which they freely choose, under conditions that ensure fair wages and equal remuneration for work of equal value.

Article III: Implementation

- 1. Framework Alignment:** This Charter shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

2. Enforcement: Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

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