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**Fixing a Flat at the Noisy Intersection of Science and Politics**

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Science is rarely a talent of Kings and governments. When King Solomon built his temple, he declared that  $\pi = 3$ . Three thousand years later, in 1897, the Indiana State Legislature unanimously passed Public Law 246, making  $\pi = 3.2$ . This talk will review some of the key factors that influence government decisions and then examine some of the issues that the American Physical Society has been engaged in, including confronting the Intelligent Design movement.

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