

## Fall 2018 Legislative Docket

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## **TFA Fall 2018 Item 1. A Bill to Implement a Cap and Trade System to Curb Carbon Dioxide Emissions**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A Cap and Trade System be implemented in order to reduce Carbon Dioxide emissions  
3 within the United States. The regulations shall cap and reduce annually the CO2  
4 emissions each calendar year such that— in 2019, the quantity of CO2 emissions does  
5 not exceed 83 percent of the quantity of CO2 emissions from such sources in 2005; in  
6 2030, the quantity of CO2 emissions from capped sources does not exceed 58 percent of  
7 the quantity of greenhouse gas emissions from such sources in 2005. The emissions  
8 allowances will begin at 5,000 million metric tons of CO2 and decrease by 120 million  
9 annually.

10 **SECTION 2.** A. “Cap” shall be defined as the upper limit on CO2 emissions that companies,  
11 businesses, and firms shall not exceed.  
12 B. “Trade” shall be defined as the exchange of those CO2 permits between companies  
13 allowing for more flexibility within the market.  
14 C. “Cap and Trade System” shall be defined as the federal approach to minimizing  
15 pollution by creating and distributing carbon dioxide emission permits to companies  
16 that permit them to emit a certain amount of carbon dioxide.

17 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will  
18 oversee the enforcement of the bill.

19 A. The EPA will sell a predetermined amount of Carbon emissions permits to  
20 companies based on Carbon emissions guidelines set yearly.  
21 B. The EPA will oversee the trade of CO2 permits from organization to organization.  
22 C. The IRS will fine companies found to be exceeding the upper limit of CO2 emissions  
23 5% of their total revenue every year they fail to meet the limits.

24 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be enacted on January 1, 2020.

25 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

26 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jasper HS*

## TFA Fall 2018 Item 2. A Resolution to End the Cuban Trade Embargo

1   **WHEREAS,**   The United States trade embargo on Cuba was put into place under the Foreign  
2                   Assistance Act of 1961, to protest the highly oppressive regime of Fidel Castro,  
3                   which violated many international human rights laws; and

4   **WHEREAS,**   This embargo stays in place to this day, nearly six decades later, even though  
5                   Fidel Castro's regime no longer exists; and

6   **WHEREAS,**   Under the Foreign Assistance Act, the United States will place an embargo on  
7                   any nation that has been shown to violate multiple international human rights  
8                   laws; and

9   **WHEREAS,**   Ever since the administration of Raul Castro came to power, we observed a  
10                  drastic change in treatment of the Cuban people, and an effort by the  
11                  government to reform the quality of life in their nation; and

12   **WHEREAS,**   The government is trying to do so through economic means which are currently  
13                  being hindered by the American trade embargo; and

14   **WHEREAS,**   There is no more observable harm being done by the government that  
15                  surpasses the harm being done in other nations without embargoes on them;  
16                  now, therefore, be it

17   **RESOLVED,**   By this Congress here assembled, that the United States of America hereby  
18                  removes the trade embargo placed on the nation of Cuba.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pflugerville High School*

## **TFA Fall 2018 Item 3. A Bill to Subsidize Research and Development of Biodegradable Plastic**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall hereby subsidize the research,  
3 development, and production of biodegradable plastics.

4 **SECTION 2.** Biodegradable plastics shall be defined as plastics that decompose naturally in  
5 the environment or decompose when introduced to certain enzymes.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency shall oversee implementation and  
7 enforcement of this legislation by annually subsidizing biodegradable plastic  
8 researchers and manufacturers in the amount of at least \$2 billion US dollars.

9 **A.** The subsidies provided to manufacturers will be given in the form of cash  
10 subsidies.

11 **B.** Subsidies will be given to researchers based on how much measurable  
12 progress is made each year.

13 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect at the start of 2019.

14 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

15 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano Senior HS*

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## TFA Fall 2018 Item 4. School Security Act of 2020

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall commit to ensuring the safety of its  
3 students by way of implementing and advocating for safety measures in all  
4 public schools.

5 **SECTION 2.** "Safety measures" shall be defined as devices or policy which protect the ability  
6 to attend school without the threat of violence, including but not limited to  
7 firearm violence. "Public schools" shall be defined as primary and secondary  
8 schools within the scope of public education on the federal, state, and local  
9 levels.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education, Department of Homeland Security, and state and  
11 local education agencies shall be responsible for the implementation of this  
12 legislation.

13 A. The DoE shall establish the proper guidelines and advocate for the usage of  
14 protective policy and technology within schools.

15 B. The DoHS shall be charged with the development and deployment of proper  
16 protective technology and designation of which schools shall be prioritized

17 ~~C. Local and state agencies shall be charged with cooperating with the federal~~  
18 government to facilitate deployment of policy and protective technology

19 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect no later than the 2020-2021 scholastic year.

20 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

21 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Katy High School*

## **TFA Fall 2018 Item 5. A Bill to Mandate Driving Tests of the Elderly to Increase Road Safety**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All citizens 70 years and older must obtain a new driver's license, at  
3 which time they must successfully complete both the written and driving  
4 aspects of license screening. After the date of birth in an individual's 70<sup>th</sup>  
5 year, each driver will have 60 days to acquire a new license. Following the  
6 60-day grace period, drivers' licenses will expire and penalties will be  
7 levied against drivers for driving with an expired license.

8 **SECTION 2.** License to drive is a document permitting a person to drive a motor  
9 vehicle. At all renewal dates following the driver's 70th birthdate, drivers  
10 are required to complete both written and driving aspects of license  
11 screening.

12 **SECTION 3.** NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) will provide  
13 enforcement.

14 **SECTION 4.** This bill takes effect January 1<sup>st</sup> 2019.

15 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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17 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hereford HS*

## **TFA Fall 2018 Item 6. A Resolution to Aid South Africa to Solve its Water Crisis**

1   **WHEREAS,**   Water is a necessity and vital to all living species across the world; and

2   **WHEREAS,**   Within South Africa unfortunately, there is a dearth of fresh water; and

3   **WHEREAS,**   Droughts in various regions are exacerbated by climate change; and

4   **WHEREAS,**   Drought may affect the whole of the US and many other countries in the near  
5                   future; and

6   **WHEREAS,**   Resource wars can result if climate change is not significantly prioritized  
7                   internationally; and now, therefore, be it

8   **RESOLVED,**   By the Congress here assembled that that the US increase economic aid to South  
9                   Africa as well as increasing funding to shared international research projects in  
10                  order to prevent a global water crisis.

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11   *Introduced for Congressional debate by Clark HS (Plano).*

## **TFA Fall 2018 Item 7. A Bill to Create a Public Option Health Insurance Plan**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government will hereby open Medicare to enrollment  
3 by American residents under the age of 65 to serve as a public option.

4 **SECTION 2.** Medicare is defined as the government health insurance implemented by  
5 Title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services is tasked with  
7 implementing this legislation.

8 D. Medicare will be updated to cover pediatrics and maternity care.

9 E. Medicare will be added to the Affordable Care Act Marketplaces  
10 across the nation.

11 F. Prices will be determined by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid  
12 Services based on government expenses and applicant income.

13 Potential profit will not be factored into pricing decisions.

14 G. All American residents who are 65 or above will be eligible for  
15 Medicare without any fees.

16 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented immediately following passage.

17 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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19 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Clements HS*



## **TFA Fall 2018 Item 8. A Resolution to Provide Alternate Sentencing Options to Nonviolent Offenders within the United States**

1   **WHEREAS,**   the United States houses about five percent of the world population and  
2                   contains about a quarter of the prison population; and

3   **WHEREAS,**   approximately two-thirds of prisoners will re-enter society without training or  
4                   skills to make a living in non-criminal enterprises; and

5   **WHEREAS,**   about twenty five percent of convicts are nonviolent offenders without  
6                   opportunities for gainful employment during their sentence; and

7   **WHEREAS,**   a majority of inmates do not receive proper rehabilitation treatment for drug  
8                   offenses following sentencing; and

9   **WHEREAS,**   paid labor and/or rehabilitation programs for nonviolent offenders would  
10                  decrease the prison population; and

11   **WHEREAS,**   paid labor and rehabilitation programs provide the opportunity for non-violent  
12                  offenders to reenter the job market and society as dignified citizens of the  
13                  United States; now, therefore, be it

14   **RESOLVED,**   By the Congress here assembled that paid labor and rehabilitation programs  
15                  should be federally funded as sentencing options for nonviolent offenders.

16   *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jack C. Hays HS*

## **TFA Fall 2018 Item 9. A Resolution to Combat Counterfeit Drugs**

1   **WHEREAS,**    Trafficking in counterfeit pharmaceuticals has become one of the world's  
2                   fastest growing criminal enterprises, eclipsing the narcotics trade, and  
3                   expected to grow by 20 percent annually in coming years; and

4   **WHEREAS,**    the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that more than 10  
5                   percent of all medicines sold worldwide, including the United States and  
6                   Canada, are counterfeit; and

7   **WHEREAS,**    Counterfeit and falsified drugs with reduced potency have allowed  
8                   diseases to adapt and have contributed to global microbial resistance,  
9                   leading to drug-resistant forms of shigella, cholera, malaria, salmonella,  
10                  and tuberculosis; and

11 **WHEREAS,**    As many as one million people die each year from the administration of  
12                  falsified or counterfeit pharmaceuticals; and

13 **WHEREAS,**    Legal enforcement and penalties for trafficking in counterfeit  
14                  pharmaceuticals is exceptionally lax, with convictions often resulting in  
15                  probated sentences or house arrest, while narcotics trafficking results in  
16                  years of prison time; and

17 **WHEREAS,**    The majority of these counterfeit drugs are manufactured in countries  
18                  who are primary trading partners with the United States; now, therefore,  
19                  be it

20 **RESOLVED,**    By the Congress here assembled that the United States should increase  
21                  the penalties for counterfeiting or trading in counterfeit pharmaceutical  
22                  drugs to be commensurate with those for trafficking in narcotics; and

23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States should impose trade sanctions  
24                  against countries who fail to implement and enforce regulations  
25                  combatting the manufacture and trafficking of counterfeit  
26                  pharmaceuticals within the next three years.

27   *Introduced for Congressional Debate by James E. Taylor HS*

## TFA Fall 2018 Item 10. Managing Emissions from Agricultural Trades (MEAT) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress finds that animal agriculture contributes significantly to  
3 greenhouse gas emissions, is a leading cause of deforestation, water and  
4 air pollution, and biodiversity loss, and therefore mandates the following:

5 A. A \$.10 tax is hereby levied on every pound of meat sold from animal  
6 agriculture enterprises.

7 B. A \$.10 tax is hereby levied on every gallon of milk sold from animal  
8 agriculture enterprises.

9 C. A \$1.00 tax is hereby levied on each gross of eggs sold for  
10 consumption from animal agricultural enterprises.

11 D. A \$2.00 tax is hereby levied on every ton of grass, hay, corn, silage,  
12 same species meat, and animal protein products purchased as feed  
13 for animals raised as part of animal agriculture enterprises.

14 E. Animal agriculture enterprises will be paid \$25.00 per acre per year  
15 for up to 10 years for each acre of land which is converted from  
16 animal agriculture purposes to plant-based agriculture.

17 **SECTION 2.** Animal agriculture enterprise is defined as a commercial enterprise which  
18 contains at least 100 animals whose meat or dairy will be sold.

19 **SECTION 3.** The Department of the Treasury will oversee Sections 1(A)-(D) of this act.  
20 The Department of Agriculture will oversee the implementation of  
21 section 1(E) of this act.

22 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect six months from the date of passage.

23 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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25 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa HS*

## **TFA Fall 2018 Item 11. A Resolution to Eliminate Certain Tariffs Aimed at China**

1   **WHEREAS,**   China has issued tariffs aimed at products made in the United States; and

2   **WHEREAS,**   The new Chinese tariffs have been in response to the steel and aluminum  
3                   tariffs introduced by the United States against China; and

4   **WHEREAS,**   World leaders believe the steel and aluminum tariffs from the United  
5                   States are economically disruptive; and

6   **WHEREAS,**   China has filed a trade case with the World-Trade Organization in  
7                   response to steel and aluminum tariffs from the United States; now,  
8                   therefore, be it

9   **RESOLVED,**   That the Congress here assembled that the United States should  
10                   immediately eliminate all steel and aluminum tariffs aimed at China.

11                   

12   *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bellaire HS*

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## TFA Fall 2018 Item 12. The Healthy American Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Federal Government shall implement the following reforms in order to  
3 combat growing obesity rates.

4 A. The Federal Government shall change its recommended daily value of  
5 added sugars from 50 grams to 25 grams.

6 B. Healthy Supermarkets that open locations in impoverished areas or existing  
7 supermarkets that change focus to healthy alternatives will receive a 10%  
8 tax subsidy.

9 C. An excise tax of 10% will be implemented on all products that contain added  
10 sugars above 25 grams.

11 D. The money collected from this tax will be invested into lowering the cost of  
12 healthy alternatives.

13 **SECTION 2.** The following terms will be defined as:

14 A. Added sugars are sugars and syrups that are added to foods or beverages  
15 when they are processed or prepared.

16 B. Healthy supermarkets and healthy alternatives are supermarkets/products  
17 that mainly emphasize being fresh and nutritious.

18 C. Impoverished areas are areas where at least 20% of the population lives  
19 below the poverty line.

20 **SECTION 3.** The following agencies will be in charge of implementation:

21 A. *The Food and Drug Administration shall be given necessary funds and*  
22 *oversee the evaluating companies that apply for the tax subsidy.*

23 B. The Internal Revenue Service will allocate the subsidies.

24 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect at the beginning of fiscal year 2020.

25 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

26 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lake Travis HS*

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

6 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions will apply:

10 **B. TRICARE is the healthcare program that covers health plans, special**  
11 **programs, prescriptions, and dental plans for servicemembers and**  
12 **their families around the world.**

15     **SECTION 3.**   The Department of Veterans' Affairs along with the Department of Health  
16                   and Human Services and the Department of Defense will oversee the  
17                   implementation of this legislation. A budget of \$12 billion from the  
18                   existing Department of Defense budget will be transferred to the VA to  
19                   fund the new practitioners.

21 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

23 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Chapin HS*

**TFA Fall 2018 Item 14. A Bill to Fund Infrastructure Initiatives to  
Improve Native and Indigenous Health Systems**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Indian tribe communities will be provided grants for the development of  
3 sustainable infrastructure and utilities for health care services.

4 **SECTION 2.** The following standards are necessary:

- 5 A. "Indian tribe" is established in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education  
6 Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).  
7 B. "Emergency Medical Systems" are out-of-hospital care that provide emergency assistance  
8 and transportation to health care facilities.  
9 C. "Municipal broadbands" are defined as broadband Internet access operated by local tribal  
10 authorities

11 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Indian Affairs, respective Indian tribe authorities, and other  
12 federal agencies will implement the following primary health steps:

- 13 A. For the planning, construction, and maintenance of Emergency Medical Systems at all IHS  
14 care facilities, the Department of Health & Human Services and Indian Health Service will be  
15 allocated \$3.5 billion.  
16 B. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will exempt American Indian tribe  
17 members from state community/work engagement or work requirements for CMS  
18 eligibility.  
19 C. To create a grant dedicated to renewable and sustainable energy cooperatives in tribal  
20 territories, the Rural Electrification Authority will be allocated \$5 billion.  
21 D. The Federal Communications Committee Office of Native Affairs and Policy will provide \$1  
22 billion in grants for the creation of municipal broadbands by Indian tribal authorities.

23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect as of FY 2020.

24 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

25 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Alief Kerr HS*

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## **TFA Fall 2018 Item 15. A Bill to Authorize Mandatory Psychiatric Facility Attendance for the Dangerously Mentally Ill to Help Curb Mental Health-Related Crimes**

1    BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2           **SECTION 1.** Mentally ill individuals deemed a danger to themselves or other people will  
3           be mandated by law to enter a psychiatric hospital to reduce crimes  
4           mentally ill individuals.

5           **SECTION 2.** A. "Mentally ill individual" shall be defined as anyone suffering from a  
6           mental health condition.

7           B. "Psychiatric hospital" shall be defined as any official, accredited hospital or ward  
8           designed to handle and meet the needs of the mentally ill.

9           C. "Crimes" refer to any criminal offenses committed by mentally ill individuals.

10          **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Health and Human Services will work  
11          alongside the FBI, as well as state and local police forces to enforce this bill.

12          The Department of Health and Human Services will be responsible for ensuring the  
13          various psychiatric hospitals across the country meet legal standards, as well as

14          meeting their patients' needs.

15          The Federal Bureau of Investigation, as well as the state and local police forces, will  
16          be responsible for identifying potential risks and ensuring these individuals are  
17          successfully entered into a psychiatric hospital.

18          **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1st, 2019.

19          **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void

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21          *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Arlington High School.*