

NORTH ALLEGHENY SPEECH AND DEBATE TOURNAMENT

12 JANUARY 2019

Congress Bills and Resolutions

A Bill to Lower the Age for Pilots' Licenses to Solve the World Pilot Shortage

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The new minimum age for being able to apply for a pilot license will be lowered from
3 16 to 15 in order to solve the shortage of pilots facing the rapidly growing aviation industry.

4 SECTION 2. Aviation will be described as commercial piloting and flying for the transport of people

5 SECTION 3. Lowering the age requirements for a pilot's license will provide pilots in training extra
6 time to earn the required 3,000 hours necessary for flying at a large commercial airline. This extra
7 time will give pilots time to complete their education without putting unneeded stress on them.

8 SECTION 4. The bill will be enforced by the FAA or Federal Aviation Administration.

9 SECTION 5. This bill will take effect within 6 months of the passing of this bill

10 SECTION 6. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Establish the Wind River Range as a New National Park

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The Wind River Range of Wyoming be established as the newest US National Park.

3 SECTION 2. This area would use the current boundaries of the Wind River Range managed by
4 the U.S. Forest Service and convert this into the boundaries for the National Park.

5 SECTION 3. This area would continue to be overseen by the U.S. National Parks Service and the
6 Department of the Interior. Benefits of this bill include:

7 Conservation of melting glaciers and some of the Rocky Mountain Range's largest mountain
8 peaks.

9 Safe haven for endangered wildlife such as grizzly bears and bighorn sheep.

10 SECTION 4. This is to be enacted within two years of this bill's approval.

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

A Resolution to Breakdown the Amazon Corporation to De-Monopolize It

1 WHEREAS, The Amazon Corporation has become a monopoly and needs to be broken down.

2 WHEREAS, Amazon, as shown by its recent acquisition of Whole Foods, has grown into a giant,
3 controlling 50% of the U.S. market for e-commerce. Thus, under the resolution Amazon will be
4 broken up so to keep the economy healthy and prevent Amazon from becoming too powerful.

5 WHEREAS, If Amazon continues to grow at the current rate, the problems of its monopolistic
6 characteristic and its vertical integration can seriously impact the economy, as many consumers
7 will depend on it for almost any product they buy.

8 WHEREAS, This is made further clear with the recent closing of Sears and the general mass
9 closings of multiple major brick-and-mortar stores; this indicates that consumers could potentially
10 become entirely dependent on Amazon for their everyday goods.

11 RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled will advocate for the breakdown of the
12 monopolistic Amazon Corporation to prevent its dominance in ecommerce and thus sustain a fair
13 and competitive market for consumers.

A Resolution to Give Service Dogs to Veterans

1 WHEREAS, Some of our veterans suffer from mental disorders such as anxiety disorder,
2 adjustment disorder, depression, substance abuse disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Billions of dollars and hours of time are spent each year towards treating veterans

5 WHEREAS, Service dogs help reduce the risk of violence, drug use, alcoholism, and depression
6 and thus reduce medical and psychiatric costs;

7 WHEREAS, Service dogs can be trained to recognize when a veteran is having nightmares or an
8 emotional episode, and the dog can be trained to perform certain tasks to calm the veteran.

9 WHEREAS, the government should substantially increase the amount of money that goes into
10 training dogs to specifically work with these veterans,

11 Therefore, be it resolved by the congress here assembled that veterans with mental disorders are
12 provided with a trained service dog.

A Resolution to Ban Low-Necessity Single Use Plastics

1 WHEREAS, The overuse and waste of harmful, disposable plastic products is increasing every
2 day; and

3 WHEREAS, Of the 6.3 billion metric tons of all plastic produced has become waste, filling landfills,
4 the wilderness, and the oceans; and

5 WHEREAS, 300 million tons of plastic are produced each year, mostly intended for single use;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Projections indicate that more than 12 billion metric tons of plastic will be in landfills
8 by 2050, causing greater magnitudes of dangerous chemicals to be released into the soil and
9 water systems, and causing many animals to be harmed from various forms of both microdebris
10 and macrodebris; and

11 WHEREAS, tiny plastic particles are now being found in our food and water supply,

12 WHEREAS, Action needs to be taken in order to reduce this harmful overproduction of plastic
13 starting with the unnecessary overuse of items such as plastic drinking straws and microbeads (or
14 “rollers” as some cosmetic companies have started to call them) that are used in face cleaners;

15 WHEREAS, A study, published in *Science*, claimed that fish became “smaller, slower and more
16 stupid” when exposed to tiny plastic fragments in the marine environment.

17 WHEREAS, Microbeads have become so ubiquitous that an estimated 808 trillion pieces swirl
18 down American drains every day. When this plastic-laden wastewater goes through treatment
19 plants, about 99 percent of the beads settle into sludge, which is often used as fertilizer.
20 Microbeads enter the water supply, from rain and runoff, and roughly 8 trillion microbeads are
21 released directly into our waterways. That's enough plastic to cover 300 tennis courts.

22 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Congress here assembled recommends laws
23 calling for the limitation of all single use plastics, starting with straws, microbeads and plastic bags.
24 The use of microbeads in all cosmetic products must be banned.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that single-use plastic consumption, sale, production, and trade be
26 banned.

A Resolution to Ban Construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline to Terminate Destruction of Native American Reservations

1 Whereas: Construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline needs to be terminated in order to protect
2 Native American Reservations and Native American Rights.

3 Whereas: Native American reservations are areas of land managed by a tribe under the U.S.
4 Bureau of Indian Affairs rather than state governments of the United States. Laws on these lands
5 vary from area to area. Specifically, the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation is the reservation mainly
6 affected by this installation

7 Whereas: Rights include access to clean air, water, or other natural resources necessary to live
8 life. Most Native Americans have been eradicated from past events in history and were victims of
9 mass genocide. Giving them land and their own reservations was the United States' way of "giving
10 back" to their original citizens. These are places where native tribes can use resources naturally,
11 as a part of their core belief; therefore, protection is a sense of awareness to these beliefs and the
12 prevention of their termination.

13 Whereas: Native American tribes' resources don't have government regulation, they are more
14 susceptible to contamination. The Dakota Pipeline will pollute the reservation's only water and air
15 supply.

16 Whereas: Sacred Native American burial sites are also at risk for destruction.

17 Therefore, be it resolved by the student congress here assembled that the USACE, United States
18 Army of Corporate Engineers, will conduct another area-wide full environmental impact
19 assessment of the entire effects of the overall project through the four states. In order to prevent
20 environmental impacts to Native American tribes, as well as surrounding areas, the USACE should
21 terminate its construction. The USACE is under the Department of Defense, an executive branch
22 department in charge of coordinating and supervising all agencies and functions of the
23 government. This department must provide full supervision to the United States Army of Corporate
24 Engineers to enforce the termination.

A Resolution to Implement A Professionalism Course for Social Media in Public Schools to Properly Inform Children of Social Media Etiquette

1 WHEREAS, Students and young adults are recklessly posting inappropriate pictures and
2 comments that negatively affect them or their peers.

3 WHEREAS, In the popular demand of social media, kids have become thoughtless in their
4 negative posts and comments on all social media platforms. Peers, colleges, and others can see
5 everything that is posted that reflects negatively on the child.

6 WHEREAS, Children are not properly informed of what is and isn't appropriate to post. As 88% of
7 teens have seen someone be mean or cruel to another person on social media sites according to
8 GuardChild.com. From this same source, 55% of teens have given out personal information over
9 one of these platforms. This issues are preventable.

10 WHEREAS, Students must take a course, made by professionals, to properly understand what is
11 appropriate to post online.

12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Congress here assembled require a course in
13 all public high schools to proactively teach kids the proper etiquette on online social media.

**A Bill to Require More Physical Education Hours to
Improve the Health of Students**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1: Schools must have a minimum of 35 minutes of physical education in the day of every
3 student.

4 SECTION 2: The Department of Education will oversee the enforcement and implementation of
5 this bill.

6 SECTION 3: The bill will take effect in the 2020-2021 school year.

7 SECTION 4: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Resolution to End Bail

- 1 WHEREAS, the US imprisons people at a higher rate than any other country in the world,
- 2 WHEREAS, people who commit crimes should never have to sit behind bars because they cannot
3 afford to pay while others who commit the same crime are allowed to be free until their trial
4 because they can afford it,
- 5 WHEREAS, In America, we are innocent until we are proved to be guilty,
- 6 WHEREAS, According to the ACLU, poor people, people of color, and people with certain
7 disabilities are disproportionately affected by the unfairness of bail,
- 8 WHEREAS, According to the Quattrone Center for Fair Administration of Justice, "Defendants who
9 can't make bail are more likely to be convicted and less likely to receive favorable plea deals.
10 Those detained before trial committed more crimes after their release than similar defendants who
11 paid bail and left."
- 12 WHEREAS: Multiple studies have shown that billions would be saved in tax money and crime rates
13 would actually decrease if bail for small offenses were simply eliminated.
- 14 WHEREAS: One of the purposes of bail is to guarantee that those accused of a crime will show up
15 for a later court date. Cases show that even for those who have had their bail paid for them and
16 would have no loss of money, 95-98% of defendants show up for court.
- 17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS that bail for non-violent
18 offenses be ended immediately.

A Resolution to Permit Victims of Domestic Abuse to Carry Handguns Without a Permit

1 WHEREAS, According to the Violence Policy Center, which uses Bureau of Justice statistics, three
2 women are killed each day by an intimate partner

3 WHEREAS, Many of these women had PFA (Protection From Abuse) orders against the men who
4 killed them

5 WHEREAS, According to NBC News, "Under current federal law, a person is prohibited from
6 owning a gun if they have been convicted of felony or misdemeanor domestic violence (against a
7 spouse, live-in partner, or co-parent of a child) or if they have a permanent restraining order
8 against them. But they are not barred from gun ownership if they have had a temporary restraining
9 order, a stalking conviction, or a domestic violence conviction against someone they were dating
10 but did not live with or have a child with."

11 WHEREAS, Police are often limited in what they can do and how often they can help victims, and

12 WHEREAS, In 30 states, women are even punished for calling police too much when they are
13 being abused. "The ACLU filed a lawsuit ... against the city of Maplewood, Missouri, over a policy
14 that allegedly evicts domestic violence victims and banishes them from the St. Louis suburb if they
15 call police for help more than twice in six months."

16 WHEREAS, Women who are able to carry a concealed handgun – and whose abusers know that
17 their victim has a handgun – are less likely to die at the hands of their abusers.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED that women who
19 have filed a PFA against a domestic partner who has been charged with abusing them can carry a
20 concealed weapon for 60 days without having a permit.

**A Resolution to Allow Students in PA to take a maximum of
four credit per year for early college credit**

1 WHEREAS Student stress is at an all-time high

2 WHEREAS Cheating in high school is at an all-time high. The Josephson Institute Center for Youth
3 Ethics found that 74% of students admitted to cheating

4 WHEREAS the expectation is that students will study two hours outside of class for every hour in
5 class for college level classes can never be attained for students who are in too many college-level
6 classes.

7 WHEREAS Students are so busy worrying about GPA and taking weighted courses that they do
8 not take courses that are designed to help the with real-world issues that face all adults.

9 WHEREAS Students are involved in more extra-curricular activities than ever before now

10 WHEREAS Schools that have attempted to impose a limitation locally have been met with
11 resistance from parents who are pushing their children into these stressful situations

12 WHEREAS Colleges put what students are allowed to do within their school into context.

13 WHEREAS College students report that they regret their high school class choices and wish that
14 they had not put so much stress on themselves during their younger years

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT all
16 schools in the state of PA will set up a board of teachers and administrators to determine which
17 students can take three or four AP classes, IB classes, or any class that gives advanced college
18 credit. These boards should examine the child's emotional maturity and should use the
19 recommendations of former teachers when considering the child's stress level as well as ability in
20 earlier classes.