



Lafayette Catholic Forensic League Tournament 2019



Congress Legislation

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 - B11: A Bill to Ban the Importation or Selling of Slave-made Products within the United States of America
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 - R6: A Resolution to Increase Economic Engagement with North Korea
 - R8: A Resolution to Improve Educational Standards for Inmates
 - R10: A Resolution to Regulate Google and Facebook as Public Utilities



B1. A Bill to Minimize Plastic Pollution

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A 2% tax will be added, for those who sell them, to single use plastic
3 products

4 **SECTION 2.** A single use plastic product, according to the UN Environmental
5 Programs is "often also referred to as disposable plastics, are
6 commonly used for plastic packaging and include items intended to be
7 used only once before they are thrown away or recycled. These include,
8 among other items, grocery bags, food packaging, bottles, straws,
9 containers, cups and cutlery.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will oversee the implementation of
11 this tax.

12 A. All funds collected from the Single Use Plastic Product Tax shall
13 be directed towards the Environmental Protection Agency

14 B. The funds directed towards the EPA shall be used for pollution
15 minimization efforts

16 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented by January 1, 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by John Paul the Great Academy



B8. A Bill to Designate Puerto Rico as a State of the United States of America

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. Enable the admission of the territory of Puerto Rico into the Union as the 51st state.

SECTION 2. Admission into the Union shall be defined as granting all rights reserved for states of the USA to Puerto Rico.

SECTION 3. The government of Puerto Rico will conduct a vote to determine whether they will join the Union.

A. If a majority of the votes cast in the vote conducted are for Puerto Rico's admission into the Union as a State, then within 90 days of receipt of the certified results, the President shall appoint a commission on the Equal Application of Federal Law to Puerto Rico.

B. Puerto Rico, along with obtaining the rights of becoming a state, will also elect senators and representatives beginning in 2024.

SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect on January 3rd, 2025

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B10. A Bill to Reform the Electoral Process

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. The following reforms to the U.S. electoral system shall hereby be made.

- A. All federal elections for the office of President and U.S. House of Representatives shall be carried out under Single Transferable Vote using a Droop quota.
- B. U.S. Presidential elections shall require Electors to collectively vote according to the results of the national popular vote.
- C. States with 10 or more occurrences of violations of the Voting Rights Act in the last 25 years shall be subject to preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act for a period of 10 years.
- D. \$500,000 shall be allocated towards developing a federal open-source computer algorithm to check redistricting plans for gerrymandering.

SECTION 2. Popular vote shall be defined as the total number of votes each candidate receives. Gerrymandering shall be defined as purposefully drawing unrepresentative district lines that favor one party over the other.

SECTION 3. The Election Assistance Commission shall work in conjunction with local and state electoral commissions in carrying out this legislation.

- A. The Federal Election Commission shall be tasked with delivering a fine of \$2,500 to Electors not in compliance



24 with Section 1B.
25 B. The Federal Districting Office shall henceforth be created
26 and tasked with managing Section 1D. They shall
27 additionally require state redistricting plans be determined
28 by the algorithm to have not been gerrymandered before
29 being implemented.

30 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect January 1st 22 , 2019.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B11. A Bill to Ban the Importation or Selling of Slave-made Products within the United States of America

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. Whereas slavery is still a major problem in the world and annually grosses over \$150 billion, the importation or selling of all slave-made products shall be banned in the United States (US).

Section 2. The following terms are defined as

Slavery: the economic system where people labor for another without compensation and are in the state of a slave.

Slave: a person who is the legal property (as determined by the Justice Department) of another and is forced to labor for them.

Section 3. The Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department will oversee the enforcement of this bill.

A. Upon implementation, all current products within the United States that are a result of slave production shall be declared contraband and seized by the Justice Department, following the due process of law. The US companies of all products seized shall be compensated.

B. 120 days after implementation, all US companies who buy slave-made products will have those products seized and destroyed without compensation upon importation.

Section 4. This legislation shall take effect as of January 1, 2020.

Section 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null



22

and void.

Submitted by Baton Rouge Magnet High School



B12. A Bill to Provide Rehabilitation in Federal Penitentiary Institutions to Lower Recidivism Rates

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All federal penitentiary institutions are to provide adequate
3 psychological and medical rehabilitation to inmates serving
4 non-life or death row sentences.

5 **SECTION 2.** Federal penitentiary institutions are to constitute any place of
6 holding for criminals operated by the national government.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will oversee the enforcement of this
bill

8 and will be given the power to provide immediate closure to any
9 institution found in violation.

10 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into implementation on January 1, 2020.

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

Respectfully Submitted by Baton Rouge Magnet High School



B13. A Bill to Guarantee A Universal Basic Income

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **Section 1.** American citizens over the age of 18 and who have not been convicted

of

3 a crime shall receive \$10,000 of untaxable income from the U.S

4 Government on an annual basis. Individuals who make more than

5 \$125,000 and/or couples who make over \$200,000 annually will not

6 receive the annual base income.

7 **Section 2.** Children under the age of 18 shall have a basic annual income of \$5,000

8 given to their parents in the child's name. Funding for Social Security will

9 be halved, beginning in the next fiscal year and continue for 5 years.

10 After the end of the Five (5) years, Social Security will be eliminated.

11 Medicare and Medicaid shall also be permanently cut by 50% and

12 spending may only increase with inflation after the Five (5) year period.

13 The payroll tax and federal minimum wage are abolished. The

14 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program will be eliminated.

15 **Section 3.** Each program mentioned in Section 2 will be responsible for carrying out

16 its specific role as outlined in said section.

17 A. The Internal Revenue Service will verify eligibility for the annual

18 payment.



- 19 B. The U.S. treasury will be responsible for paying eligible citizens
20 their base income.
- 21 **Section 4.** This will go into effect June 1, 2019.
- 22 **Section 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
- Submitted for Congressional Debate by Baton Rouge Magnet High School*



B14. A Bill to Promote Marriage and End Child Poverty

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **Section 1.** A. Congress shall end all marriage penalties within the United States tax
3 system.

4 B. Congress shall end all marriage penalties within all United States
5 welfare programs.

6 **Section 2.** A. A "marriage penalty" in the tax system will be defined as when a wife
7 and husband pay more income tax filing jointly as a couple than they
8 would if they had remained single and filed as individuals.

9 B. A "marriage penalty" in the welfare system will be defined as when
10 married couples receive lower benefits from government programs than
11 they would if they had not married.

12 C. "Marriage penalties" also apply to all homosexual marriages
13 considered legal in their respective states.

14 **Section 3.** The Department of Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will
15 be responsible for implementing this bill.

16 **Section 4.** This bill will take effect June 1, 2019.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Baton Rouge Magnet High School



R1. 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
- 5 near 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
- 9 to South Africa as well as increasing funding to shared international
- 10 research projects in order to prevent a global water crisis.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R2. 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
4 training or 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
8 drug offenses following sentencing; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** paid labor and/or rehabilitation programs for nonviolent offenders
10 would decrease the prison population; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** paid labor and rehabilitation programs provide the opportunity for
12 non-violent offenders to reenter the job market and society as dignified
13 citizens of the United States; now, therefore, be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that paid labor and rehabilitation
15 programs should be federally funded as sentencing options for
16 nonviolent offenders.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R6. A Resolution to Increase Economic Engagement with North Korea

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Tensions between the United States and North Korea are quickly rising;
2 and
3 **WHEREAS,** the recent exchanges between the two governments have increased the
4 chances of nuclear conflict; and
5 **WHEREAS,** this would be detrimental to the national security of the U.S. and have
6 negative economic and political effects on the United States and global
7 community at large; and
8 **WHEREAS,** an impending military conflicts could lead to strained relations between
9 U.S. trade partners and have lasting effects on the people and relations
10 between said countries; now, therefore, be it
11 **RESOLVED,** that the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
12 to increase trade between the United States and North Korea to ensure
13 global tranquility.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R8. A Resolution to Improve Educational Standards for Inmates

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The rehabilitative purposes of imprisonment are currently undermined
2 by the removal of educational grants and programs for inmates under
3 the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** Under these current conditions, many rehabilitated criminals who cannot
5 afford education struggle to reinstate themselves in society,
6 and therefore, risk becoming recidivists; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The increasing population of inmates, fueled by recidivism, is
8 additionally detrimental to taxpayers due to the immense cost of
9 feeding and housing 2.2 million inmates; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** Allocating a fractional amount of funding to educate our nation's
11 inmates would not only lower recidivism rates but would also ensure a
12 brighter and more productive future for those who cannot afford to
13 pave their own way; now, therefore, be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled amend the Violent Crime Control and
15 Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to reinstate Pell Grant funding for
16 inmates; and, be it
- 17 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this Congress endeavor to provide higher education



- 18 opportunities to inmates in collaboration with the Federal
- 19 Bureau of Prisons.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R10: A Resolution to Regulate Google and Facebook as Public Utilities

WHEREAS, Google and Facebook have become a prime source of news and internet search results for most Americans; and

WHEREAS, Facebook has engaged in the insertion of fake news and an overabundance of anti-conservative stories; and

WHEREAS, Google has manipulated search results in a way that gives illegal advantage to its own services while harming the company's rivals; and

WHEREAS, Google and Facebook earned 99% of new digital ad spending last year;

and

WHEREAS, The Google-Facebook advertising duopoly forms an insurmountable barrier to entry of any new digital ad provider; and

WHEREAS, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has referred to Facebook as a “social utility”; and

WHEREAS, Utility regulation does not mean government ownership but rather
righter regulation of what it is able to do and prices it is able to charge;
now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled will regulate Google and Facebook as a public utility including regulation under anti-trust laws and pricing practices.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress