

A Resolution to Offer Humane Treatment to Certified Juveniles

WHEREAS, in all 50 states, youth under 18 can be certified as adults in criminal court through various types of juvenile transfer laws; and

WHEREAS, a study of 403 children and adults shows the volume of white brain matter peaks at around age 37; and

WHEREAS, the certified juvenile can get more severe sentences depending on the severity of the crime including life sentences, thus certified juveniles do not get juvenile services which focus on rehabilitation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that The United States should offer rehabilitation services to certified juveniles in the adult court system; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified juveniles be housed in juvenile systems until age 18; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified juveniles be re-tried at age 19.

Submitted by Lava Heights High School.

A Bill to Raise Federal Minimum Wage to Accommodate the Price of Living

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Federal minimum wage will be revised to reflect a living wage for working Americans and American families

SECTION 2. Minimum wage shall be defined as the minimum amount that an employer is required to pay wage earners for the work performed during a given period, which cannot be reduced. Living wage shall be defined as a wage on which it is possible for a wage earner or an individual and their family to live at least according to minimum customary standards.

SECTION 3. The Wage and Hour Division of the United States Department of Labor shall oversee the implication and enforcement of this legislation.

1. Employers must comply with both Federal and State laws under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect at the beginning of the next fiscal year.

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

Submitted by Seviah Morgan, Hunter High School

A Bill to Amend 5 U.S. Code § 6103 to Make Election Day a Federal Holiday

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** US U.S.C. § 6103 will be amended to state the following after “Columbus
3 Day, the second Monday in October”:

4 A. Election Day, the first Tuesday after November 1st

5 **SECTION 2.** “Election Day” will now be defined as the day in which the first count of
6 federal elections is held, and will be seen as any other holiday under
7 purpose of law.

8 **SECTION 3.** All federal agencies and organizations will observe the new holiday.

9 A. If a federal agency or organization is a polling center for an election, it
10 will be opened on a limited basis in order to allow polling to continue.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be in effect beginning January 2020, and will be
12 observed in November of the same year.

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

Submitted by Woods Cross High School.

A Bill to Amend the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The Medicaid Estate Recovery Program (MERP) enacted by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 is hereby amended to eliminate the requirement that people over 55, or their estates, reimburse the government for receiving Medicaid funded long-term care medical services, so long as their total net assets are less than \$350,000.00.
- SECTION 2.** Medicaid is defined as a State and Federal health coverage program for low-income people, including seniors.
- SECTION 3.** Medicaid shall continue to be administered at the State level with oversight by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- SECTION 4.** This amendment shall be implemented beginning January 1, 2023.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Submitted by Joshua Christiansen of Beaver High School.

A Bill to make Personal Online Data Private Property of the Consumer

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** An individual's digital footprint of any kind is the private property of the individual. Said individual will be the sole owner of this data unless they choose to distribute it lawfully.
- SECTION 2.** Digital footprint shall be defined as the information about a particular person that exists on the Internet as a result of their online activity. Private property shall be defined as a legal designation for the ownership of property by non-governmental legal entities.
- SECTION 3.** The Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission will oversee the implementation of this legislation.
- A. Any theft of said digital footprint will fall under typical larceny and cyber crime legislation.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect upon implementation.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Submitted by Seviah Morgan, Hunter High School

A Bill to Implement Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1: The CDC has guidelines for prescribing opioids for chronic pain.

SECTION 2: These guidelines are as follows:

1. Before starting and periodically during opioid therapy, clinicians should discuss with patients known risks and realistic benefits of opioid therapy and patient and clinician responsibilities for managing therapy. They should also discuss other treatment possibilities such as nonpharmacologic therapy.
2. When starting opioid therapy for chronic pain, clinicians should prescribe immediate-release opioids instead of extended-release/long-acting (ER/LA) opioids.
3. When opioids are started, clinicians should prescribe the lowest effective dosage. Clinicians should use caution when prescribing opioids at any dosage, should carefully assess evidence of individual benefits and risks when considering increasing dosage to ≥ 50 morphine milligram equivalents (MME)/day, and should avoid increasing dosage to ≥ 90 MME/day or carefully justify a decision to titrate dosage to ≥ 90 MME/day.
4. Long-term opioid use often begins with the treatment of acute pain. When opioids are used for acute pain, clinicians should prescribe the lowest effective dose of immediate-release opioids and should prescribe no greater quantity than needed for the expected duration of pain severe enough to require opioids. No more than seven days will be needed.
5. Clinicians should evaluate benefits and harms with patients within 4 weeks of starting opioid therapy for chronic pain or of dose escalation. Clinicians should evaluate the benefits and harms of continued therapy with patients every 3 months. If benefits do not outweigh harms of continued opioid therapy, clinicians should optimize other therapies and work with patients to taper opioids to lower dosages or to taper and discontinue opioids.
6. Before starting and periodically during the continuation of opioid therapy, clinicians should evaluate risk factors for opioid-related harms. Clinicians should incorporate into the management plan strategies to mitigate risk, including considering offering naloxone when factors that increase the risk for opioid overdose, such as history of overdose, history of substance use disorder, higher opioid dosages (≥ 50 MME/day), or concurrent benzodiazepine use, are present.
7. Clinicians should review the patient's history of controlled substance prescriptions using state prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) data to determine whether the patient is receiving opioid dosages or dangerous combinations that put him or her at high risk for overdose. Clinicians should review PDMP data when starting opioid therapy for chronic pain and during opioid therapy for chronic pain, every 3 months.

8. When prescribing opioids for chronic pain, clinicians should use urine drug testing before starting opioid therapy and test annually to assess for prescribed medications as well as other controlled prescription drugs and illicit drugs.

SECTION 3: These guidelines should hereby be taken as requirements before prescribing opioids

SECTION 4: The CDC will be in charge of implementing this bill.

SECTION 5: This bill should be enacted at the start of the next fiscal year.

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

Submitted by Kaitlin Young of Northridge High School.

A Bill to Allow All Incarcerated Individuals the Right to Vote

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. As stated in the constitution, the 15th amendment prohibits the federal government and each state from denying a citizen the right to vote based on that citizen's "race, color, or previous condition of servitude. Upon implementation any individual with a felony record, misdemeanor, fines from serving a sentence, probation status etc. shall not be revoked the right to vote.

SECTION 2. Incarceration shall be defined as the state of being confined in prison; imprisonment.

SECTION 3. The Federal Bureau of Prisons shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

- A. Inmates will be given their ballot either through via paper ballot, proxy, or anyway the facility sees fit to allow inmates the opportunity to vote.
- B. Any individual who decides to participate or not during the election will not be forced, punished, or given any warning for choosing not to vote. They will however, be given a month prior to the election to decide if they will vote.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect upon implantation

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

Submitted by Green Canyon High School.

A Bill To Aid Countries Affected by Amazon Forest Fires

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Government will provide financial aid and relief efforts to countries that are affected by the Amazon forest fires and those that will be affected by the fires.

SECTION 2. Countries that will receive aid are Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, and Paraguay. The aid provided will include firefighting, fire prevention, reforestation and humanitarian aid for communities directly affected by the fires.

SECTION 3. USAID will lead the efforts of relief. Meanwhile the money provided will total 1 billion dollars.

A. The money provided as financial aid to the specified countries will come from the budget of the USAID, which easily meets the demand of the bill.

SECTION 4. This will be implemented at the end of the fiscal year of 2019.

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

Introduced by Syracuse High School

A Bill to Nationally Adopt Fair Hiring Policies

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Felony Check Boxes on non-government job applications are to be
3 banned, as to offer a fair chance to all eligible applicants. Conviction
4 records reduce the number of job callbacks by over 50%.

5 **SECTION 2.** This legislation will not include checks for Class A Felonies, Level 1
6 Felonies, Capital Felonies, or any state equivalent.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor shall oversee the implementation of legislation,
8 and the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall examine the effect on crime
9 rate and reincarceration rate.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect upon the next fiscal year.

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

13 *Submitted by Copper Hills High School*

A Bill to Restore Resilient Reefs

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Due to the threat of global warming, 75% of the world's coral reefs are endangered and should be restored to protect against damage, erosion, loss of life and property.

SECTION 2. The following terms are defined as:

Resilient Reefs: A coral reef that can either resist a large-scale stressful event or recover from it

SECTION 3. The NOAA will oversee the enforcement of the bill

A. The NOAA will receive a 4% budget increase (27% or 1.40 billion dollar budget). Their new budget will be to expand this program.

B. The expansion will be given 7 years; then a reassessment will take place to determine refunding.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect upon passage.

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

Respectfully submitted by Alta High.

A Resolution to Halt Production of Plastic Bags

Whereas, the National Academy of Sciences estimated that 14 billion pounds of garbage is dumped into the ocean every year, which is approximately more than 1.5 million pounds per hour and 26 million pounds is plastic; and

Whereas, the United Nations Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution (GESAMP) estimates that man-made material accounts for up to 80 percent of the world's ocean pollution, and 60 to 95 percent of the waste is plastics debris including plastic bags; and

Whereas, there are approximately 500 billion to 1 trillion plastic bags in the world today and it takes upwards of 1000 years to decompose a plastic bag; and

Whereas, marine life can suffer immensely from plastic in the ocean which can cause suffocation, starvation, and drowning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Congress, that the production of plastic bags is halted throughout the United States.

Respectfully submitted by Olivia Stephens of Bonneville High.

A Bill to Terminate Animal Testing

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Any laboratory testing on any living animals within the United States will be subjected to limiting their animal testing until the company or laboratory may reach a point of terminating their animal testing research.

SECTION 2. Any Facility not in compliance with the legislation will be required to pay a fine of \$3,000 for every animal tested within the facility along with a 6 month probation period towards the researchers who chose to continue with the practice. The probation period will range from refraining from practicing with their license to suspension of their license.

A. Animal Testing shall be defined as any scientific experiment or test in which a live animal is forced to undergo something that is likely to cause them pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Agriculture and Plant Health Inspection Service will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

A. The USDA will also have an increased budget of no more then 3 million; if necessary, to uphold the means of being able to follow up reports of laboratories decreasing animal testing and other necessities needed to promot this passasge.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect upon implementation

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Green Canyon High School.

A Bill to Increase ATF Presence in Mexico and Central America

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The flow of weapons including firearms, ammunition, and explosives to Mexico and Central America is a root cause of the rising rate of violence across the region. The United States should thus increase the presence of the ATF in those regions to curb the flow of these items.

SECTION 2. 70% of traceable guns in Mexico came illegally from the United States.

SECTION 3. This legislation will be carried out by the ATF (The Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms, and Explosives).

A. Funding will come from the Defense Budget, and will be officially budgeted each fiscal year.

SECTION 4. This legislation will begin to go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Submitted by Copper Hills High School.