

Bills and Resolutions
North Allegheny
11 January 2020

A resolution for the establishment of a federal anti-SLAPP statute

1 Whereas the point of Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP lawsuits) is to scare,
2 intimidate, and silence a citizen as well as to make a regular citizen lose a great deal of money on legal
3 and attorney fees,

4 Whereas “defamation is a common law tort whereby one citizen can sue another citizen for damage to
5 reputation. The difference between an ordinary defamation lawsuit and a SLAPP suit is that the plaintiff
6 in a SLAPP suit does not generally plan to actually win their lawsuit.” According to the Civil Liberties
7 Defense Center.

8 Whereas most SLAPP lawsuits would fail if brought to fruition, but most do not get to trial.

9 Whereas many states have SLAPP laws in place, but their citizens can still be sued by entities that
10 don’t have SLAPP laws in this other state.

11 Whereas SLAPP lawsuits are intended to violate the First Amendment rights of another person by
12 scaring them to not make future statements or protest further against perceived wrongdoing.

13 In recent years, bloggers, online reviewers, animal welfare activists, and wealthy people have used
14 SLAPP lawsuits to purposefully cause misery to others. Even Donald Trump frequently files SLAPP
15 lawsuits and has said that one of his suits was just to “make [a journalist’s] life miserable.”

16 Whereas it is also now very common for public people to be attacked for their activism. Examples
17 include John Oliver for his attack against coal baron Bob Murray, and Oprah Winfrey was sued by
18 some cattle ranchers for her announcement that she was not eating hamburgers after the mad cow
19 scare in the 90s.

20 Therefore be it resolved by the student congress here assembled that a federal Anti-SLAPP statute
21 should be carefully fashioned and implemented so that American citizens are not intimidated into
22 silence.

A Resolution to Enact a Dark Sky Ordinance to Cut Down on Man-Made Light Pollution

1 Whereas light pollution has grown to affect much of the globe and is causing many determinants to the
2 environment and living quality of many.

3 Whereas currently Flagstaff, AZ is one of the few cities in the US that has been designated a "Dark Sky
4 City" that reduces light pollution and excessive electricity-use that not only wastes energy, but also
5 washes out the night sky and disrupts ecosystems.

6 Whereas presently 80% of the world's population lives under skyglow, meaning they have limited view
7 of the sky. This could also have a negative impact on space exploration and research.

8 Whereas there are numerous health risks for humans and wildlife relating to light pollution.

9 Therefore be it resolved by the student congress here assembled that there must be a limit to light
10 pollution with a starting 25% reduction for cities in the US that have a population with more than
11 200,000 residents.

**A Resolution to Completely Decriminalize Psilocybin Mushroom to
Grant More Freedom to the Greater Nevada Area**

- 1 Whereas Nevada should completely decriminalized the recreational use of the Psilocybin mushroom,
- 2 Whereas the psilocybin mushroom also known as 'shrooms' is a hallucinogen that is currently illegal in
- 3 all 50 states,
- 4 Whereas the FDA and other local governments could monitor the quality and quantity of production
- 5 and would require a license to sell,
- 6 Whereas these mushrooms could be used to fight a host of mental health issues, including depression,
- 7 anorexia and addiction (smoking, alcohol, and heroin are currently being tested in multiple locations),
- 8 and mushrooms are also used for meditation.
- 9 Whereas multiple universities are testing mushrooms on cancer patients to fight depression
- 10 Whereas mushrooms have been used for thousands of years and are even shown in prehistoric
- 11 drawings on caves

A Bill to Allow Prosecution of US Presidents During their Terms in Office

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

2 SECTION 1. In the case of wrongdoing, the president shall be prosecuted in a court of law.

3 SECTION 2. Wrongdoing refers to the breaking of any law both federal and state. This can involve
4 crimes committed before or during the President's term

5 SECTION 3. The Department of Justice will oversee the enforcement and implementation of this bill,
6 along with the process of the trial.

7 The Department of Justice will be able to choose the judge and trial date.

8 SECTION 4. This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2021

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

Allowing the option of physician-assisted suicide for recipients
of the death penalty or life sentence in prison

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

2 SECTION 1. Criminals on death row or sentenced for life shall be given the option of physician-
3 assisted suicide.

4 SECTION 2. Physician-assisted suicide entails making lethal means available to the patient to be
5 used at a time of the patient's own choosing by means of lethal oral medication.

6 SECTION 3. The Federal Bureau of Prisons shall be responsible for the implementation and
7 enforcement of this legislation.

8 SECTION 4. This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2021.

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

A Resolution to Hold Shale Companies Accountable

1 Whereas "In 2014, Pennsylvania became the second-largest natural gas producer in the U.S. and
2 remains so today, behind only Texas. In 2017, gas production exceeded 5.3 trillion cubic feet and
3 continues to rise. Despite rising production, Pennsylvania remains the only major gas-producing state
4 that allows companies to drill without paying taxes that increase with the volume of gas extracted"
5 according to the PA Budget and Policy Center.

6 Whereas Texas brings in more than 15 billion in taxes from shale drilling, and Pennsylvania brings in
7 less than a million.

8 Whereas in Pennsylvania, lobbyists have spent million in gifts to representatives to try to stop the
9 industry from being taxed, and our representatives are already the third highest paid in the country.

10 Whereas Pennsylvania representatives do not have a limit on the amount of gifts that they accept from
11 lobbyists. Last year, the average amount accepted by one of the representatives was \$83,000. These
12 include gifts of food, vacations, alcohol, and cash. Gifts smaller than \$250 (or \$650 in travel) do not
13 have to be reported).

14 Whereas Pennsylvania is one of the only states that allows this "buying" of representatives from
15 lobbyists.

16 Therefore be it resolved by the student congress here assembled that shale companies and their
17 lobbyists cannot give any gifts – of any amount – to PA representatives, and a tax amount similar to
18 what shale companies pay in Texas must be paid in Pennsylvania as well.

A Resolution to Ban Assault Weapons to Reduce Gun Violence

- 1 Whereas assault weapons must be banned in order to reduce gun violence in the United States; and
- 2 Whereas nearly 40,000 people died from gun violence in 2017. The United States' gun death rate is the
- 3 highest out of all developed countries; and
- 4 Whereas "assault weapon" shall be defined as any of various automatic or semiautomatic firearms
- 5 (Merriam-Webster Dictionary); and
- 6 Whereas the rate of gun deaths in the United States is getting increasingly worse yearly, so we must do
- 7 something immediately;
- 8 Therefore be it resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that the US bans assault weapons to
- 9 reduce gun violence.

A Bill to Increase funding to The United States Mass Transit System

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

2 SECTION 1. The United States congress will allocate 5 trillion dollars for the building of new urban
3 and national rail systems, bus fleets, and other mass transit systems.

4 SECTION 2. Urban rail will be defined as any rail system used in a city environment to move large
5 quantities of people

6 "National rail" will be defined as any rail system that is used to transport large
7 quantities of people and goes across state lines

8 SECTION 3. The department of transportation will oversee the implementation of this bill

9 SECTION 4. One trillion dollars will be allocated every year for the next five years until the full
10 amount is allocated

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

A Bill to Admit Puerto Rico as a State

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

2 SECTION 1. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is hereby declared to be a State of the United
3 States of America, and is declared admitted into the Union on an equal footing with
4 the other States in all respects.

5 SECTION 2. The State of Puerto Rico shall consist of all the islands, together with their territorial
6 waters, included in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico on the date of enactment of this
7 Act.

8 SECTION 3. Congress will oversee the enforcement of this bill.

9 All citizens of the United States residing in Puerto Rico shall pay federal income taxes
10 and abide by the Constitution.

11 Within 30 days of approval, the Governor of this Territory will issue proclamations of
12 the elections for two Senators and one Representative in Congress.

13 SECTION 4. This bill will be enacted one year after it passes.

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

An Emergency Resolution to Lower Plastic Use And Clean Oceans of Plastic

- 1 Whereas scientists argue over the amount of plastic in Earth's oceans because there is just so much,
- 2 and
- 3 Whereas oceanic animals that we consume are eating so much plastic as part of their regular diet, they
- 4 are causing humans to have plastics as part of our food. Micro-plastics are dramatically affecting public
- 5 health.
- 6 Whereas companies do not want to use recycled plastics because it costs more than just buying new
- 7 plastic
- 8 Whereas plastics were never intended to be used like they are used now,
- 9 Therefore be it resolved by the student congress here assembled that companies that get profit in any
- 10 way from producing products that use plastic or products that are contained in plastic must use 80%
- 11 recycled material, and any company that profits more than \$300,000 a year must give a minimum of 2%
- 12 of their profits towards cleaning up the ocean through non-profits that are designated by the FDA.
- 13 Be it further resolved that any company caught knowingly putting – as waste - plastics / microplastics
- 14 into streams, lakes, or any general water source that impacts the drinking water of any animal or
- 15 human must completely shut down until they can prove that their method of waste management does
- 16 not include this illegal dumping.
- 17 Be it further resolved that single use plastic bags can no longer be produced.