

WVSDA CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE TOURNAMENT

LEGISLATION

Session 1 – Friday, October 2, beginning at 4:00 PM
Session 2 – Saturday, October 3, beginning at 2:00 PM

A Resolution to Reevaluate Sex Cases Against Minors

1. **WHEREAS**, In the United States any minor who is convicted of a sexual crime or is
2. often labeled for life as a sexual predator; and
3. **WHEREAS**, all other criminal activities committed by minors are expunged from the
4. individual's record when they reach the age of 18; and
5. **WHEREAS**, The majority of minors who are convicted of sexual crimes against other
6. minors are between the ages of 12 and 14; and
7. **WHEREAS**, Research shows that children ages 12-14 are most susceptible to making
8. poor decisions due to hormonal changes during puberty in tandem with a still developing
9. brain; and
10. **WHEREAS**, There is currently no review done at the "offender's" 18th birthday to
11. evaluate if their offense should be kept on their record; now, therefore, be it
12. **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled work towards passing
13. legislation in an attempt to create a mandatory review of all sexual crimes committed by
14. a minor and reevaluate whether the crimes convicted should be carried onto their
15. permanent adult record; and be it
16. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That juveniles shall no longer be placed in the National
17. Sexual Offender Database for a singular conviction of a sexual crime.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Collin Connor, Wheeling Park High School

PRIMARY

A Resolution to Establish a Universal Basic Income

1. **WHEREAS:** The United States has numerous social programs that only further confuse
2. the process of receiving aid; and
3. **WHEREAS:** 46.2 Million Americans are considered impoverished, with declining
4. efficacy rates in our current welfare programs; and
5. **WHEREAS:** Automation, among other things, will result in the intrinsic elimination of
6. jobs over the course of the next few decades; therefore, be it
7. **RESOLVED:** By the Student Congress here assembled that the United States federal
8. government shall establish a Universal Basic Income to each citizen of the age 18 or
9. older of the amount of 1,000 USD each month; and be it
10. **FURTHER RESOLVED:** That funding to other major social programs will gradually be
11. slashed and reallocated toward the funding of this UBI.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Pierson

Parkersburg High School

A Bill to Withdraw Military Aid to the State of Israel

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will withdraw all military aid to the State of Israel for
3 taking part in multiple counts of war crimes, unlawful killings, illegal
4 settlements, and forced displacement.

5 **SECTION 2.** Military aid shall be defined as a sum of money generally used to assist
6 a nation or its people in its defensive or offensive efforts.

7 **SECTION 3.** This bill shall be overseen by the United States Agency for International
8 Development (USAID) and the United States Department of the Treasury.

9 A. Military aid dedicated to Israel (~\$4 billion annually on average) shall
10 instead be allocated back into the United States Federal Budget upon this
11 bill's enactment.

12 B. Funding will not be necessary for this piece of legislation.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Hamzeh Al-Qawasmi

Huntington High School

A Bill to Legalize Assisted Death for Patients in the state of West Virginia -

1. Be it enacted by the Student Congress here assembled that:
2. Section 1: Patients with a serious life-threatening terminal illness/condition, without any
3. hope of recovering, will be able to give their consent to have an assisted death within the
4. state of West Virginia.
5. Section 2: A Life-threatening terminal illness/condition is defined as: an event, accident,
6. illness, etc. that is incurable and irreversible and prevents that patient to be able to
7. recover and become independent, healthy and a functioning individual.
8. Section 2a: Life-threatening terminal illnesses/conditions must be proven that it could
9. cause death within an estimate of up towards one (1) year.
10. Section 3: Those whom go forward with assisted death, must go through a Final
11. Attestation Form (FAF), using the Californian FAF template (under the state of WV).
12. Section 4: This bill requires zero funding.
13. Section 5: The Department Health & Human Resources (DHHR) would be in charge of
14. executing this bill.
15. Section 6: This bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2022.
16. Section 7: All laws in conflict are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

William Harless

Huntington High School

A Bill Dedicating a Sales Tax Toward Free Bus Transportation in all Cities in WV

1. BE IT ENACTED IN THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. SECTION 1: A sales tax shall be dedicated to allow for all citizens in a city to receive
3. free bus transportation.
4. SECTION 2: The sales tax shall be a 4% increase, which will also clean up city buses as
5. well.
6. SECTION 3: This bill will not affect school buses, taxi cabs, or ubers.
7. SECTION 4: The transportation will allow the buses to transport people throughout the
8. city limits and outskirts of cities, but not long distances.
9. SECTION 5: The WVDOR and City Governments in WV will enact and enforce this
10. piece of legislation
11. SECTION 6: This bill will go into effect on July 1, 2022.
12. SECTION 7: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben McElroy

Huntington High School

A Resolution to Increase Voter Turnout

1 **WHEREAS**, The US has extremely low voter turnout; and

2 **WHEREAS,** This high level of voter apathy is eroding the democratic process; and

3 **WHEREAS,** When so few people vote the legitimacy of the democracy comes into question;

4 and

5 **WHEREAS**, the United States has been downgraded from a full democracy to a flawed

6 democracy in the Economist Intelligence Unit's index; now, therefore, be it

7 **RESOLVED**, by the Congress here assembled that in the United States voting ought to be

8 compulsory.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Alexandra Barrickman, Elkins High School

A Resolution to Help the Working Class by Taxing the Top 1%

- 1 **WHEREAS**, For decades, numerous working class Americans have continued to
2 struggle financially, and economic inequality has remained a persistent issue, especially
3 during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- 4 **WHEREAS**, Billionaires across the United States have drastically increased their wealth,
5 amassing over \$637 billion in the months of the pandemic alone while millions of
6 working citizens cannot find a job, keep up with their bills, or gain additional assistance
7 from the government; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, Given that the top 400 wealthiest Americans pay a lower overall tax rate
9 than any other income group, it is imperative that the US government increases their
10 taxes in a way that will alleviate financial burdens that many working class citizens face;
11 and
- 12 **WHEREAS**, A small 1% wealth tax per year would yield over 4 trillion dollars over the
13 next decade, which would be allocated to assist with unemployment, healthcare, college
14 tuition, clean energy, and food stamps, improving the lives of many US citizens; now,
15 therefore, be it
- 16 **RESOLVED**, by this Student Congress here assembled that the United States
17 government places an annual 1% wealth tax on those citizens who are financially in the
18 top 1% of the US population.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jacqueline Heil, Wheeling Park High School

A Bill Requiring Masks to Be Worn by All People Residing in the United States and US Territories Over the Age of Five Whenever in Public

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The bill will mandate the wearing of masks in public areas by anyone over
3 5 years of age, regardless of medical condition.

4 **SECTION 2.** Medical condition shall mean those who have diagnosed conditions that
5 would make it difficult for them to wear a mask.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) will oversee this law on a national
7 level, and the local health departments will oversee enforcement of the
8 law on a local level.

9 **SECTION 4.** The law will be implemented on November 1st, 2020 and will stay into
10 place until the majority of those residing in the United States are
11 vaccinated against Coronavirus, or until all portions of each
12 state/territory are labeled green, per the Harvard Global Health Institute
13 study.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mollie Lemasters, Elkins High School

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2. often labeled for life as a sexual predator; and
3. **WHEREAS**, all other criminal activities committed by minors are expunged from the
4. individual's record when they reach the age of 18; and
5. **WHEREAS**, The majority of minors who are convicted of sexual crimes against other
6. minors are between the ages of 12 and 14; and
7. **WHEREAS**, Research shows that children ages 12-14 are most susceptible to making
8. poor decisions due to hormonal changes during puberty in tandem with a still developing
9. brain; and
10. **WHEREAS**, There is currently no review done at the "offender's" 18th birthday to
11. evaluate if their offense should be kept on their record; now, therefore, be it
12. **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled work towards passing
13. legislation in an attempt to create a mandatory review of all sexual crimes committed by
14. a minor and reevaluate whether the crimes convicted should be carried onto their
15. permanent adult record; and be it
16. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That juveniles shall no longer be placed in the National
17. Sexual Offender Database for a singular conviction of a sexual crime.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Collin Connor, Wheeling Park High School

Ban Police Usage of Tear Gas in the United States

1. Be it enacted by the Student Congress assembled that
2. Section 1: The United States of America should ban the usage of tear gas by police and
3. Other law enforcement members.
4. Section 2: United States Justice System will be in charge of enforcing this law.
5. Section 3: The policy for refusing to follow this policy will result in 1 year of jail time
6. and 6 months of community service.
7. Section 4: This policy shall require no funding.
8. Section 5: This law shall take effect on August 1, 2022
9. Section 6: All laws in conflict with this bill shall be furthermore declared null and void

Respectfully Submitted,

Maddie Price

Huntington High School

A Bill to Federally Enact Automatic Voter Registration

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **Section 1:** All eligible United States citizens will be automatically registered to
3. vote.
4. **Section 2:** An eligible United States citizen is defined as; being of 18 years of age, being
5. a United States citizen, maintaining state residency requirements.
6. **Section 3:** The Automatic Voter Registration system will be operated on a state by state
7. basis through the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV).
8. **Section 4:** Eligible voters will be notified by the DMV that they have been added to the
9. automated system and will have 21 days to opt out.
10. **Section 4a:** If the DMV receives no response from voters, they will be registered as an
11. “unaffiliated voter.”
12. **Section 4b:** Unaffiliated voter is defined as: A voter not registered with any party.
13. **Section 5:** This bill requires a budget outlay of 1 billion dollars to establish the system.
14. **Section 6:** This bill will be federally enforced by the Federal Election Commission while
15. enforced via the DMV on a statewide level.
16. **Section 7:** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2024.
17. **Section 8:** All laws in conflict are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully Submitted,

Miriam Crookshanks

Huntington High School

A Bill to Abolish the Social Security Administration

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The Social Security Administration will be abolished. On the
3 below-specified date, all benefits and payments as a result of Social Security will cease
4 except those still eligible to receive benefits.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Social Security Administration is defined as an independent agency of
6 the U.S. federal government that administers Social Security, a social insurance program
7 consisting of retirement, disability, and survivor benefits that was founded in 1935 under
8 Franklin D. Roosevelt.

9 **SECTION 3.** This bill will be implemented on January 1st, 2022.

10 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Labor along with the Social Security Administration
11 Commissioner will oversee the implementation of this bill.

12 A. Any individual within 15 years of eligibility to receive social security
13 benefits may still receive social security payments until their time of
14 Death.

15 B. Individuals who still wish to receive disability insurance or survivors
16 benefits may voluntarily opt to do so by allowing a portion of their paycheck to be
17 dedicated to a government-administered investment portfolio.

18 **SECTION 5.** All other laws in conflict with this bill shall hereby be declared null and
19 void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tony Miesel, Wheeling Park High School

A Resolution to Enact Prison Reform in the United States

1. **WHEREAS:** The current state of prisons within the United States is deplorable and has
2. been ignored by federal government for far too long; and
3. **WHEREAS:** A prison sentence ought to constitute only of a deprivation to the right of
4. liberty; and
5. **WHEREAS:** Inmates suffer disproportionately from sexual harassment, malnutrition, the
6. effects of severe understaffing, and many more negative effects caused by the system in
7. place; and
8. **WHEREAS:** In order to preserve inmates remaining rights, the current prison system
9. must change for the betterment of all citizens; now, therefore, be it
10. **RESOLVED,** by this Student Congress assembled here today that: the United states will
11. enact prison reform.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Maggie Fuller, Wheeling Park High School

PRIMARY

A Resolution to Increase Protective Measures Against Wildfires

1. **WHEREAS:** Millions of acres of land are destroyed yearly by wildfires in the U.S.,
2. causing irreversible damage to our forests, homes, and property; and
3. **WHEREAS:** Wildfires cost the U.S. millions of dollars every year in rebuilding
4. infrastructure and recovery for citizens who are financially affected; and
5. **WHEREAS:** Wildfires have been proven to be a health hazards to humans from the
6. amount of air pollution produced, therefore be it
7. **RESOLVED:** By the Student Congress here assembled that the United States Federal
8. Government will push fire safety to its citizens, using ads, informational articles, and
9. wide spread messages; and be it
10. **FURTHER RESOLVED:** That we increase research being done on forest fires to
11. find the best solutions and protective measures and be it
12. **FURTHER RESOLVED:** A reliable fire monitoring system be put into
13. place, to detect fires early enough to stop major spread.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Riggs

Parkersburg High School

A Bill to Provide Affordable Prescription Medication to All Americans

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The price, per-purchase, on all prescription medication for all American
3 citizens will be set to five dollars (\$5).

4 **SECTION 2.** Prescription medications are any commodity with medicinal value that
5 must be have been legally provided to a person after being prescribed by a
6 licensed physician.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services will be responsible for
8 implementing the subsidized distribution of prescription drugs at the level
9 of five dollars (\$5).

10 A. Insurance companies no longer need to provide prescription
11 medication coverage result in premium decreases.

12 B. The new program will be funded by a 1.5% adjustment to the
13 Medicare portion of the Payroll Tax, and equally shared by employee
14 and employer in the amount of 0.75%.

15 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be effective one year after passing, and the bill will sunset
16 after five years, requiring reauthorization by passage of continuing
17 legislation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Thomas Nixon, Elkins High School

A Resolution for the United States Join the the Berlin Process

1 **WHEREAS**, the United States has currently neglected producing peace in Libya despite
2 the obligation they made when they caused chaos by launching a military intervention in
3 2011; and

4 **WHEREAS**, this problem has resulted in chaos not only in the country of Libya but in
5 NATO allies along with the whole of the Islamic World; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the status quo has allowed for refugees to flood out into the Mediterranean
7 and has perpetuated the crash of the price of the oil barrel and the fall of production in the
8 Libyan economy; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the United States joining the peace process in Berlin would ensure
10 democracy and liberty for a people that it threw into crisis back in 2011; now, therefore,
11 be it

12 **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled join the Berlin Process in order
13 to ensure a peaceful Libya.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Charlie Ihlenfeld, Wheeling Park High School