

A Resolution to Nullify the 17th Amendment

WHEREAS, The alteration of the senatorial election system severely damaged the power of the states to influence the federal government, be it

RESOLVED, by the Congress here assembled (two-thirds concurring therein), that in lieu of the first paragraph of section three of Article I of the Constitution of the United States, and in lieu of so much of paragraph two of the same section as relates to the filling of vacancies, the following be reverted to its original state, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the States:

“The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.”

FURTHER RESOLVED, This amendment shall not be so constructed as to affect the election or term of any senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the constitution.

Respectfully submitted by Caleb Nelson of Cedar High School.

A Resolution to End Partisan Gerrymandering

WHEREAS, there is no current federal law against partisan gerrymandering; and

WHEREAS, a majority of U.S states conduct redistricting by state legislature, leading to partisan influence over redistricting; and

WHEREAS, gerrymandered districts have become easier to draw with the help of computer power and wide ranging databases; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has upheld that gerrymandering with respect to race is unconstitutional, yet states such as Texas and Virginia have still done so, intertwining racial and partisan gerrymandering; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that redistricting in every state shall now be conducted by independent commissions of 12 people, 6 Democrats and 6 Republicans; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that 6 members of the independent commission shall be appointed by the majority leader of the state legislature and 6 by the minority leader; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that 8 votes will be needed in order to implement a new district map, as will happen every 10 years with the U.S Census, and that it shall be required by law for the commission to produce a new map.

Respectfully submitted by Timpanogos High School.

A Bill to Rehabilitate Convicts

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States will mandate clinical therapy for one year for all convicts when they are released from prison.

SECTION 2. Definitions

- a. Clinical therapy is defined as meeting with a clinical therapist twice per week in an individual or group setting as the therapist deems needed.
- b. Clinical therapist is defined as a licensed therapist who works with patients to help identify, examine, and treat mental health and emotional issues or disorders.
- c. Convict is defined as a person found guilty of a criminal offense and serving a sentence of imprisonment.

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

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect the fiscal year of 2021.

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

Respectfully submitted by Sam H.R. of Lava Heights Academy.

A Bill to Implement a Carbon Tax

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. Currently, broad swaths of energy production in the U.S produce carbon emissions, at a great cost to the environment, farmers, individuals, etc. A tax on carbon shall thus be levied to mirror the reality of the cost brought by burning carbon, and incentivize companies to switch to renewable energy.

Section 2. Carbon Tax shall be defined as a tax of 49 dollars per metric ton of carbon dioxide. A 2017 study estimates such a tax could raise about 2.2 trillion dollars in net revenues over 10 years from 2019 to 2028.

Section 3. This legislation will be carried out by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

SECTION 4. This legislation will be implemented at the end of the fiscal year of 2020.

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

Respectfully submitted by Timpanogos High School.

A Bill to Restrict the Federal Use of Eminent Domain

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. No Federal Agency or Entity shall be authorized to exercise the power of “eminent domain” or seize public or private property for any reason.

SECTION 2. State governments shall still be authorized to exercise this power.

SECTION 3. All properties previously acquired by the federal government through the use of this power shall remain property of the federal government.

SECTION 4. The federal government shall still be authorized to petition state governments, local governments, and private citizens and entities for the purchase of property.

SECTION 5. This legislation will take effect upon passage.

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

Respectfully submitted by Caleb Nelson of Cedar High School.

A Bill to Relocate Historical National Monuments for Preservation

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

Section 1. Movements within the United States have led to a surge of petitions to remove historical monuments erected and removal of historical monuments that currently do not fit with modern day political beliefs. These monuments shall be relocated from their current location to the Smithsonian National Museum of National History in order to preserve the historical representation of the monuments. Descriptions of the historical representation shall be provided to show that the current modern day beliefs do not conform with those that are shown. Funding for preservation and any necessary equipment to relocate monuments shall be provided.

Section 2. Historical monuments shall be defined as any monument, statue, or artistic representation from that era that doesn't conform with modern day political beliefs and which are seen as offensive by the general populace of the United States ex. Andrew Jackson statue in Lafayette Park, Washington DC. Preservation shall be defined as restoration, protection, and maintenance of the monuments.

Section 3. The National Park Service and the Smithsonian Institution shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

- A. The National Park Service shall relocate the monuments to the Smithsonian National Museum of National History and the restoration of land that may be damaged due to relocation
- B. The Smithsonian Institution shall restore any monuments that are damaged, shall protect the monuments to insure no further damage is caused, and will oversee constant maintenance of the monuments. The Smithsonian Institution shall also provide historical context of when these monuments were erected and how they conflict with modern day beliefs.

Section 4. This legislation shall take effect upon implementation.

Section 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby decreed null and void.

Respectfully submitted by Keaton Thomas of Juab High School.

A Bill to Increase Aid the Kurdish People

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. Currently, the Kurds are the largest stateless nation in the world, and have acted as military allies of the U.S many times since World War II, often instrumental in the War on Terror. Military aid shall thus be increased to curb violence in the Middle East, and eventually help the Kurdish people to establish their own nation of Kurdistan.

Section 2. Aid shall be administered from U.S military bases in the region that would make up Kurdistan, and be allocated to Kurdish leaders. The military aid shall come in the form of new weapons and equipment.

Section 3. This aid shall be officially budgeted each fiscal year. Military aid shall be administered by the Department of Defense, with 200 billion dollars being re-allocated from the Defense Budget for this bill's provisions.

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

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

Respectfully submitted by Timpanogos High School.

The Higher Education Reform Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. In past decades, college tuition, fees, and student debt have all greatly increased. To help ensure that all U.S Citizens have access to higher education, and the economic freedom it provides, all public colleges, universities, HBCU's, and Minority Serving Institutions shall be made both tuition and debt free. In addition, all current student loan debt will be cancelled.

Section 2. HBCU's shall be defined as colleges and universities primarily founded to serve African American students.

Section 3. This legislation shall be implemented by the Department of Education and IRS.

A. Funding will come from a Wall Street speculation tax; 0.5% on stock trades, 0.1% on bond trades, and 0.005% on derivative trades.

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

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

Respectfully submitted by Timpanogos High School.

A Resolution to Join the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)

WHEREAS, the Trump administration withdrew the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the TPP was set to be the largest trade agreement in the world, spanning 12 countries; and

WHEREAS, not joining the TPP has given China more geopolitical and economic leverage; and

WHEREAS, the TPP would have bolstered the U.S economy and exports, strengthening the economies of all countries involved; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the United States shall join the Trans-Pacific Partnership, as signed in 2016.

Respectfully submitted by Timpanogos High School.

A Bill to Implement a Wealth Tax on the Ultra-Rich

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. According to a 2014 study by Saez & Zuchman, the richest 0.01% of Americans own as much wealth as the bottom 90% of Americans. A wealth tax will be implemented to re-allocate much of this wealth for the common good of Americans. Should a taxpayer choose to renounce their U.S citizenship, a 40% exit tax shall be imposed on all individuals worth \$50 million, increasing to 60% over 1 billion.

Section 2. 2¢ shall now be charged on every dollar of wealth above \$50 million, increasing to 3¢ over \$1 billion, paid annually. Wealth shall be defined as an individual's net assets minus their debts.

Section 3. This legislation will be carried out by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

SECTION 4. This legislation will be implemented at the end of the fiscal year of 2020.

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

Respectfully submitted by Timpanogos High School.



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

SEPTEMBER 2020
LEGISLATION DOCKET



September 2020 Legislation

- 1 A Bill to Reinstate the Fairness Doctrine to Equalize News Coverage
- 2 A Bill to Establish Congressional Term Limits
- 3 A Resolution to Defund the Police
- 4 A Resolution to Abolish the Pink Tax
- 5 A Bill to Fund Childcare During the Coronavirus
- 6 A Resolution to Increase Trade with Kenya
- 7 A Bill to Make the Executive Office for Immigration Review Independent
- 8 A Resolution to Ban the Use of Cell Phones While Operating a Motor Vehicle
- 9 A Bill to Increase Transparency of Federal Spending
- 10 A Resolution to Sanction Thailand to Decrease Human Rights Abuses

A Bill to Reinstate the Fairness Doctrine to Equalize News Coverage

A Bill to Reinstate the Fairness Doctrine to Equalize News Coverage

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All American-based news corporations will adopt the Fairness Doctrine

SECTION 2. The Fairness Doctrine is a policy that requires holders of broadcast licenses to present controversial issues, important to the public, in a manner that is honest, equitable, and balanced.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be enforced by the Federal Communications Commission.

- A. If licensed broadcasters do not voluntarily comply with this policy, the Federal Communications Commission has the power to mandate a system of access to individuals or organizations wishing to express a viewpoint on controversial public issues.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Bill to Establish Congressional Term Limits

A Bill to Establish Congressional Term Limits

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All members of both the House and Senate shall have their opportunity of re-election restricted by congressional term limits

SECTION 2. All members of the House shall serve a maximum of six terms. All members of the Senate shall serve a maximum of two terms.

- A. These terms may be served consecutively or individually; however, the maximum number of terms will be six and two for the House and Senate, respectively.
- B. Terms served in one body of Congress do not impede an individual's ability to serve in another. For instance, if an individual wanted to serve six terms in the House and two in the Senate, they would have the ability to do so.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This bill shall be implemented by the fiscal year 2022

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Resolution to Defund the Police

A Resolution to Defund the Police

WHEREAS, ineffective reform has resulted in an unchecked and over-funded system of policing which relies on tactics such as warrior training, preparing officers to treat every individual as a threat, and a lack of internal accountability; and

WHEREAS, nationally, over \$100 billion has been allocated to the police and individual cities often spend an approximate 33% of their general funds on funding the police; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, over 1,000 Americans were shot and killed by members of the police force, disproportionality affecting Black individuals who are five times more likely than White individuals to have an encounter with the police in which they felt discriminated against; and

WHEREAS, decreasing the funding that currently goes to police departments would decrease the fiscal and political power of the police while simultaneously awarding capital to other under-funded social services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation to defund the police; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the excess capital is redistributed to other programs such as education, infrastructure, healthcare, and other social services.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Resolution to Abolish the Pink Tax

A Resolution to Abolish the Pink Tax

WHEREAS, corporations are guilty of gender discrimination in pricing as they charge higher prices for products which are traditionally marketed toward women; and

WHEREAS, the disparity in pricing, known as the Pink Tax, results in women spending an approximate 7% more than men on comparable products such as toiletries, which will cost them an average of \$1,300 annually; and

WHEREAS, women already suffer the economic implications of pay-discrimination due to gender, causing women to make an average of \$0.79 for every \$1.00 made by a man, creating cyclical and structural issues which prevent women from achieving the same level of economic success as men; and

WHEREAS, holding corporations accountable for the noticeable increase in price for products which women are more likely to purchase would lift a significant economic burden on individuals, especially in lower socio-economic classes, restoring more balanced purchasing power; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled abolish the pink tax by ensuring that corporations market comparable products for the same price regardless of the gender of the target audience.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Bill to Fund Childcare During the Coronavirus

A Bill to Fund Childcare During the Coronavirus

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall increase its funding devoted to child care amidst COVID-19.

SECTION 2. Funding toward child care will be defined as \$20 billion that will be administered through the Child Care and Development Block Grant.

- A. The funding can be utilized by child care providers which had previously closed due to COVID-19 to re-open.

SECTION 3. The Department of Health and Human Resources will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

- A. The \$20 billion will be administered by the existing Child Care and Development Block Grant Agencies.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Resolution to Increase Trade with Kenya

A Resolution to Increase Trade with Kenya

WHEREAS, The majority of U.S. trade with Kenya is confined to the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and China is currently dwarfing American investment in Kenya, dominating Kenyan economic foreign policy; and

WHEREAS, China's investments include a \$4 billion railway between two economic hubs along with other infrastructure projects, while not necessarily employing local workers as previously promised, whereas the total trade between the U.S. and Kenya amounted to \$1.1 billion in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Kenya is one of the fastest-growing economies in Sub-Saharan Africa, becoming a valuable trade partner for the U.S. and is simultaneously falling into debt with China (currently more than \$5 billion) as a function of China's "debt-trap diplomacy"; and

WHEREAS, Opening more trade channels with Kenya will expand American farm and manufacturing exports while countering China's hegemonic rise in investment in Africa; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation to increase trade with Kenya.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Bill to Make the Executive Office for Immigration Review Independent

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Executive Office for Immigration Review will become an independent Article 1 court.

SECTION 2. The following definitions will apply:

- A. The Executive Office for Immigration Review is the organization that oversees Immigration Courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals.
- B. An Article 1 court, also referred to as a legislative court, is a court set up by Congress to review agency decisions.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Resolution to Ban the Use of Cell Phones While Operating a Motor Vehicle

A Resolution to Ban the Use of Cell Phones While Operating a Motor Vehicle

WHEREAS, The increasingly widespread use of cell phones has led to more people trying to use their phone and operate a vehicle simultaneously; and

WHEREAS, Drivers currently use their cell phones during 88% of drives in their vehicle, while driving an average 55 mph, allows an individual to drive the length of a football field while looking down to respond to a text; and

WHEREAS, Distracted driving is the leading cause of car accidents in the United States and cell phone usage in the car resulted in 2,841 deaths nationally in 2018 alone; and

WHEREAS, Cell phones are becoming increasingly more accessible to larger populations of the public, meaning cell phone usage will almost inevitably rise; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled ban the use of cell phones while operating a motor vehicle.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Bill to Increase Transparency of Federal Spending

A Bill to Increase Transparency of Federal Spending

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. In order for taxpayers to understand the allocation of federal spending, the government will increase transparency through the disclosure of cost and explanation of use.

SECTION 2. Increasing transparency will include expanding information published in the inventory of agency programs in the Office of Management and Budget. This information includes links to performance reviews and details about financial assistance.

SECTION 3. The Office of Management and Budget will oversee this legislation.

SECTION 4. This bill shall be implemented by the fiscal year 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Resolution to Sanction Thailand to Decrease Human Rights Abuses

A Resolution to Sanction Thailand to Decrease Human Rights Abuses

WHEREAS, The Thai government has not met minimum anti-human trafficking standards, has experienced allegations of torture, disappearances, and attacks of political opponents and has restricted civil liberties, including the right to free speech; and

WHEREAS, There are currently between 2 and 3 million migrant workers in Thailand with little governmental protection and Thailand experienced a rise in human trafficking in 2019 while refusing to conduct credible investigations into governmental mismanagement of the crisis or other abuse; and

WHEREAS, There is no domestic set of checks and balances to hold the Thai government accountable and Thailand has repeatedly ignored United Nations requests for internal investigations; and

WHEREAS, Sanctions have proven to be an important economic and external incentive for leaders to adhere to human rights standards; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled should sanction Thailand \$500 million over the next five fiscal years or until the Thai government agrees to take legislative action to combat human rights abuses and human trafficking.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association