



## 2021 Spring Congressional Debate Docket

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## **1. A Resolution to Promote the Development and Exploration of Outer Space**

- WHEREAS,** Humanity has extraordinarily little knowledge of Space Beyond Earth's Atmosphere; and
- WHEREAS,** The Exploration and Development of space will have immense Economic, and Scientific Benefits; and
- WHEREAS,** The United States has a prudent interest in being one of the primary driving forces in Outer Space Development and Exploration; and
- WHEREAS,** Prioritizing collaboration with international agencies, along with private companies will expedite and improve the Exploration and Development of space; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that all relevant agencies prioritize the Development and Exploration of Outer Space; and
- FURTHER RESOLVED,** That all relevant agencies mentioned prior substantially increase Collaboration with International organizations as well as private companies, with the intent of furthering expediting the Development and Exploration of Outer Space.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Sandra Day O'Connor High School*



## **2. A Bill to Expand Title X Funding**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The “gag rule” and “physical separation rule” restrictions on Title X funding shall be permanently banned. Additionally, 100 million dollars will be allocated to clinics that lost funding on account of these previous discriminatory policies.

**SECTION 2.** The “gag rule” prohibits health care providers serving in Title X funded institutions from referring patients for abortion care. The “physical separation rule” requires separate facilities, separate staff, separate accounting and medical records, and separate workstations for abortion and non-abortion related care.

**SECTION 3.** This legislation will be implemented by the Office of Population Affairs.

- A. Title X clinics will not be required to provide family planning services.
- B. This legislation will not fund abortions in compliance with the Hyde Amendment. All additional funds will be distributed for contraceptives, screening, and other health services.
- C. The funding will be distributed on a population-based need basis that does with no accounting for the specific family planning services a given clinic provides.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2021.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dripping Springs High School.*



## A Resolution to End Palestinian Support for Terrorists Groups

- 1   **WHEREAS,**    In 2017, Palestine was reported to have paid \$345 million to convicted  
2                   terrorists and their families; and
- 3   **WHEREAS,**    terrorist organizations like Hamas are strengthened through this  
4                   continuous stream of aid; and
- 5   **WHEREAS,**    Hamas has killed upwards of 1900 civilians and made the Gaza Strip a  
6                   violent region; and
- 7   **WHEREAS,**    the United States has already levied economic sanctions on the  
8                   Palestinian government and specific officials; and
- 9   **WHEREAS,**    these sanctions have created massive strain on Palestine's economy and  
10                  pressured Palestine to pursue negotiations with the United States; and
- 11   **RESOLVED,**   By the Congress here assembled that the United States open negotiations  
12                  with Palestine and offer sanction relief on the condition that Palestine  
13                  limits its support towards terrorist organizations.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by A&M Consolidated High School*



## **4. A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Honor International Treaty Obligations**

**RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

### **ARTICLE ----**

**SECTION 1:** When the President shall determine that an international treaty, properly ratified by the United States, no longer promotes the common welfare the nation, the President shall submit to the Senate Majority Leader and the Speaker of the House a notice of intent to withdraw from the treaty.

**SECTION 2:** Upon receipt of the notice of intent to withdraw from the treaty, the Senate and the House of Representatives shall vote within sixty days whether to approve or not approve withdrawal from the treaty.

**SECTION 3:** A two-thirds affirmative vote of both the Senate and the House of Representatives shall be required for withdrawal from a treaty.

**SECTION 4:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School*

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## **5. A A Bill to Create a Pathway to Citizenship**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States will begin a two year long amnesty program and reform the immigration process to establish a pathway to citizenship.

**SECTION 2.** The amnesty program will give Lawful Permanent Residency or a “Green Card” to undocumented immigrants who have no felonies, and who can prove they have lived in the US for a minimum of ten years.

An asylum cap or quota is defined as a limit on the number of asylum seekers allowed into the country every year.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will be charged with the implementation of this bill.

- A. There will no longer be asylum caps or quotas.
- B. Lawful Permanent Residences (LPRs) will no longer be deportable.
- C. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) must receive an arrest warrant signed by a judge in order to pursue a deportable immigrant.
- D. Immigrants can no longer be barred from applying for legal status based on illegal entry charges alone.
- E. \$300 million will be allocated every year to the DOJ for a public defender system to be established in immigration courts.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect at the beginning of fiscal year 2022.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pflugerville High School*



## **A Bill to Form a Collaborative Cybersecurity Agency**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** A new cybersecurity agency shall be created by the Department of Defense to oversee technological needs of all official government agencies and be provided \$1.5 billion in annual funding.

- A. This agency shall hire any necessary IT professionals.
- B. This agency shall monitor cybersecurity threats spanning multiple individual government agencies.
- C. This agency shall be tasked with updating outdated software and devices as seen fit by the IT professionals.

**SECTION 2.** Official government agency: any independent executive unit listed in the United States Government Manual.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense will implement this legislation.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect in the FY 2022

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Louis D. Brandeis High School*



## **7. A Bill to Fully Fund Mail-in Voting**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States federal government will fully fund mail-in voting for elections that include at least one federal office. Additionally, enough money will be allocated to the United States Postal Service to cover the costs of ensuring that mail-in ballots are postmarked and received on time.
- SECTION 2.** A mail-in or absentee ballot is defined as a vote cast by someone who is unable or unwilling to attend the official polling station to which the voter is normally allocated.
- SECTION 3.** This legislation will be enforced by the Federal Election Commission, Postmaster General, and the Department of Justice.
- A. States will be required to offer mail-in voting for any person who requests it regardless of the reason. Failure to provide a voter with a properly requested mail-in ballot will result in fines for state governors and state election officials.
- B. Anyone caught tampering with mail-in ballots will be sentenced to prison for no less than two years.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2021.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dripping Springs High School.*





## **8. A Bill to Provide Tuition-Free College Education**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The US federal government will guarantee access to tuition-free college education for citizens with a family income of less than \$110, 000/year.

**SECTION 2.** “Tuition-free” will include tuition, institution fees, course fees, and textbooks required for the completion of each college course.

**SECTION 3.** The US Department of Education will oversee the implementation and oversight of this bill.

A. Colleges included in the tuition-free program will be publicly funded 2-year and 4-year public colleges and universities, community colleges, technical colleges, and all minority-serving institutions.

B. Each institute of higher learning receiving federal funds will submit a biennial plan detailing its efforts at tuition cost containment for approval.

C. Following the initial year of enrollment, students must make satisfactory progress toward graduation each year to continue in the program. Funds will be available for a maximum of 5 years or the completion of a 4-year degree, whichever comes first.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will become effective in the Fall semester of 2022.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by James E. Taylor High School*



## **A Bill to Reinstate Funding for the World Health Organization**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The U.S Federal Government will hereby decide to remain a part of the World Health Organization (WHO) and reinstate previously frozen funding over a period of 5 months.

**SECTION 2.** The following definitions apply:

- A. The World Health Organization will be defined as a multilateral organization tasked with ensuring global health security
- B. "Previously frozen funding" will be defined as the \$893 million funding program to the WHO which was terminated in April 2020

**SECTION 3.** The USAID, Department of State, and Department of Human Health Services will be tasked with the implementation of this bill.

- A. The USAID will provide a report to the US House Subcommittee of Appropriations every three months regarding the integrity and efficacy of the WHO.
- B. If the US House Subcommittee of Appropriations deems failure in funding for the WHO based on the report, all aid will be retracted from the multilateral organization.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will go into place effective immediately.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Village High School*



## **10. A Resolution for the US to Rejoin the Trans-Pacific Partnership**

- WHEREAS,** The Trans-Pacific Partnership, or TPP, is a free trade agreement between Canada, Mexico, Peru, Chile, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Vietnam, and Brunei, countries that border the Pacific Ocean; and
- WHEREAS,** On January 23, 2017, President Trump signed to withdraw from the TPP; and
- WHEREAS,** The Obama administration and many trade economists argued that the deal lowered tariffs and increased market access, which would have reduced prices for consumers, spurred cross-border investment, and boosted U.S. exports; and
- WHEREAS,** The TPP was set to become the world's largest free trade deal, covering 40 percent of the global economy; and
- WHEREAS,** Data from the U.S. International Trade Commission shows that U.S. trade with TPP countries amounted to more than \$1.5 trillion, or about 40 percent of all U.S. trade, before withdrawing; and
- WHEREAS,** The United States would greatly benefit from the TPP; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States should rejoin the Trans-Pacific Partnership as it is a comprehensive deal that would provide economic growth.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Elkins High School*



## **A Resolution to Restore Stability in Mali**

- WHEREAS,** In August 2020, protests led by the June 5th movement led to a military coup in Mali, and
- WHEREAS,** The international community has condemned the military government and urged for a peaceful transition back to a civilian-led, democratic government; and
- WHEREAS,** The United States has retracted military assistance to and cooperation with Mali to further pressure the military government; and
- WHEREAS,** US military assistance to Mali totaled \$145 million in 2017 and has been critical to training troops for counterterrorism operations; and
- WHEREAS,** Islamic extremists have taken advantage of growing political instability in Mali and are attempting to gain a stronghold in the region; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States shall reinstate US military assistance and cooperation with the Malian military to thwart rising extremism.
- FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the US shall work in conjunction with African Union Election Observation Missions (AUEOM) to ensure fair, democratic elections are held.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano West Senior High School*



## **12. A Resolution to Support Taiwan in Joining the World Health Organization**

- WHEREAS,** Taiwan has been successful in combatting the coronavirus; and
- WHEREAS,** Global health has clearly become a major concern for the future; and
- WHEREAS,** Democracy continues to grow stronger in Taiwan; and
- WHEREAS,** The US and Taiwan have long been allies and relations continue to improve; and
- WHEREAS,** Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization could bolster future response to global pandemics; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the US support Taiwan's bid to join the World Health Organization.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Seven Lakes High School*



### **13. A Resolution to Use Ranked Choice Voting for National Elections**

- WHEREAS,** the current system of ‘first past the post’ voting entrenches the dominance of the two-party system in American politics by forcing people with a wide variety of values, beliefs, and experiences to choose a Democrat or Republican for fear of not wasting their vote; and
- WHEREAS,** the founders of our country and most legal scholars today acknowledge the harms of a two-party system; and
- WHEREAS,** ranked-choice voting allows voters to rank candidates in their order of preference; if a vote’s top pick receives the fewest votes and no other candidate earns over 50% of the vote, their vote transfers to their second choice; and
- WHEREAS,** in other countries where ranked-choice voting is used, there are a significant number of parties representing the interests of specific groups of people outside of the scope of the main parties; and
- WHEREAS,** this system has been successfully used in congressional, state, and municipal elections in America; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that By the Congress here assembled that the American congressional and presidential elections should use ranked choice voting rather than the current ‘first past the post’ method.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jack C. Hays High School*



## **The African Investments in Development and Energy Research (A.I.D.E.R.) Act of 2021**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The U.S International Development Finance Corporation shall reprioritize all new African investments to focus on environmentally sustainable projects in developing countries in the continent. These initiatives will include, but are not limited to: renewable energy research, biodegradable materials research, sustainable construction projects, carbon capture technologies, and waste management.

**SECTION 2.** **A.** “Environmentally sustainable” shall be defined as having the ability to improve quality of life while remaining in ecosystem carrying capacity.  
**B.** “Developing countries” shall be defined as countries which are categorized as a “low” human development country on the Human Development Index.

**SECTION 3.** The U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) shall be tasked with the implementation of this legislation.  
**A.** The DFC will cooperate with the United States African Development Foundation to select projects, monitor affairs, and regulate spending.  
**B.** The DFC investment cap shall be raised from \$60 billion to \$100 billion.

**SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect FY 2022.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by All Saints Episcopal School*



## **15. The ARC (Afghanistan Reform in Counternarcotics) Act of 2021**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**

**SECTION 1.** The United States Government will reformulate and prioritize a new counternarcotics plan in the country of Afghanistan situated around intelligence-gathering and military scale back.

**SECTION 2.** The US Counternarcotic plan will include:

- A.** The US Military will continue its pull back of troops and remove 50% of all ground troops in the region over the course of 5 years, with the US military strategy shifting towards intelligence-gathering and reconnaissance operations.
- B.** The intelligence-gathering and reconnaissance shall be used for counternarcotics, including but not limited to the tracking and mapping of drug cartel routes flowing through the country.
- C.** The remaining 50% of ground troops in the region shall form stations and checkpoints wherever deemed necessary by US military initiatives using the gathered intelligence and information.
- D.** All counternarcotic operations will be performed in cooperation of the Afghani government. Any Afghani farmer who wishes to farm a crop other than Opium shall be granted sufficient technology and aid through USAID to assist them in the process.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense (DoD), the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, and USAID shall be responsible for the implementation of this bill.

- A.** The DoD will submit annual reports to Congress of the ongoing military scale back process, as well as the status of drug trafficking and cultivation in the country.
- B.** USAID will be responsible for issuing necessary equipment and materials to farmers shifting away from Opium.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will 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 Jasper High School*





## **16. A Resolution to Eliminate Governmental Subsidies for the Fossil Fuel Industry**

- WHEREAS,** The United States is one of the largest contributors to climate change globally due to massive subsidies for its fossil fuel sector; and
- WHEREAS,** Subsidies result in lower prices for fossil fuels such as oil, coal, and gas – this makes renewables appear vastly more expensive in the market; and
- WHEREAS,** A transition to 100% renewable energy is crucial to mitigating the effects of rising global temperatures; and
- WHEREAS,** Studies have found that carbon emissions decline by 18% through the elimination of subsidies; and
- WHEREAS,** The European Union has implemented a policy of phasing-out fossil fuel subsidies and has seen relative success in shifting to renewable energy; and
- WHEREAS,** Ending subsidization leaves an additional \$20 billion in public funds available for investment into renewable energy; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States should eliminate governmental subsidies for the fossil fuel sector to initiate a shift towards renewable energy.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Coppell High School*



## **A Bill to Shorten Copyright Claims**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The US Congress shall reduce the maximum length of a copyright claim from an author's life plus 70 years to 50 years total.

**SECTION 2.** During the last 20 years of any term of a copyright of a published work, a library, archives, or nonprofit educational institution may reproduce or distribute a copy or a phonorecord of such work, or portions thereof, for purposes of preservation, scholarship, teaching, or research, if the library, archives or nonprofit educational institution has first determined, on the basis of a reasonable investigation of reasonably available sources, that the work—

- A. is not subject to normal commercial exploitation; and
- B. cannot be obtained at a reasonable price.

**SECTION 3.** The US Copyright Office under the Library of Congress will oversee the enforcement of the bill.

A. No reproduction or distribution under section 2 is authorized if the copyright owner or its agent provides notice to the Copyright Office that the condition in paragraph (2)(A) or the condition in paragraph (2)(B) does not apply.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect January 2023.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Winston Churchill High School*



## **18. A Resolution to Ban the use of “No Knock” Warrants**

- WHEREAS,** there have been numerous recent events involving “no knock” warrants;  
and
- WHEREAS,** many of these events have ended poorly for all involved; and
- WHEREAS,** “no knock” warrants lead to confusion and panic typically causing  
shooting by police and civilians resulting in police and civilian deaths; and
- WHEREAS,** examples such as the deaths of Breona Taylor and Bounkham  
Phonesavanh were directly related to “no knock” warrants; and
- WHEREAS,** individuals responsible for these deaths were not held accountable  
because of working under “no knock” warrants; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that “no knock” warrants should be  
banned in the United States.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Claudia Taylor “Lady Bird” Johnson High School*



## **19. A Bill to Recognize Ethiopia's Claims to the Nile River**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States Government will hereby recognize Ethiopia's claims to the Blue Nile and any land required for their Great Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) project.

**SECTION 2.** CYBERCOM will refer to the United States Cyber Command program under the DOD that focuses on cybersecurity. The Ethiopian National Defense Force will be defined as the military of Ethiopia.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense (DOD), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and Department of State (DOS), will be tasked with distributing the following funds over a 15 year period:

- A. \$5 billion will be allocated to the DOD to fund defensive weapon systems as well as CYBERCOM operations in Ethiopia.
- B. \$500 million will go to aiding Ethiopian National Defense Force operations in the Nile basin.
- C. \$3 billion of this aid will be allocated to the Great Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) construction process.
- D. Every 5 years the DOS will review Ethiopia's use of the aid money. The DOS may terminate the Aid if it is being misused.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect in fiscal year 2022.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pflugerville High School*

## A Bill to Increase the National Tax on Gasoline

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States shall increase the national tax 30% on every gallon of gasoline and diesel. The collected tax will go towards FEMA and the Department of Transportation.

**SECTION 2.** FEMA is defined as the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The tax shall be collected by the states' Department of Transportation.

**SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Transformation and the Office of Management and Budget will work together to enforce this bill.

A. The federal tax will be increased to 23.92 cents on every gallon of gasoline and 31.72 cents on every gallon of diesel.

B. 50% of the collected tax will go to FEMA to help fund the National Preparedness System and the other 50% of the collected tax will go to the Department of Transportation for the purpose of creating and fixing climate change safe infrastructure.

**SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by James Bowie High School.*



## **21. A Resolution to Normalize Relations with North Korea**

- WHEREAS,** Decades of heavy-handed diplomacy towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (hereinafter North Korea) have failed to result in regime change, and have disproportionately affect civilians in the country; and
- WHEREAS,** The United States' demand of up-front denuclearization from North Korea before relations can be normalized is a failed approached; and
- WHEREAS,** Diplomatic isolation forces North Korea to maintain strong ties with China, bolstering China's influence in the region; and
- WHEREAS,** Improved relations with North Korea would limit China's growing influence, and would result in increased economic opportunities for North Korea and for the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** Normalizing relations reduces the risk of war; and
- WHEREAS,** Twenty-five nations, including some of our European allies maintain embassies in Pyongyang; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States formally petition the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea for permission to open an embassy of the United States in Pyongyang.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School*



## **22. A Resolution To Increase The Expansion of USAMIID**

**WHEREAS,** The US and the world are in desperate need of a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine.

**WHEREAS** Worldwide there have been over 27 million COVID-19 cases reported and almost 900,000 deaths involving this pandemic which does not include figures from the previous H1N1 (Swine Flu) pandemic of 2009-2010.

**WHEREAS,** the U.S has been significantly unprepared for past pandemics including H1N1 virus as well as the current COVID-19 virus.

**WHEREAS,** USAMIID (U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases) is the lead laboratory for medical and biological defense and research for the US in conjunction with the CDC and WHO.

**RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled recommends additional budgetary monies (as needed) be appropriated to the USAMIID for the hiring of necessary and qualified staff members, costs of research, laboratory facilities and fiscal operations, as well as any other expenses created and incurred while pursuing an end to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

*This resolution is here by introduced by Rankin High School.*



## **23. A Bill to Reform the USDA to Promote Sustainable Agriculture**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) shall halt certain subsidies and redirect resources towards sustainable agriculture.
- A. The USDA Risk Management Agency, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, and Commodity Credit Corporation will close.
- B. The following subsidy programs will be terminated: Agriculture Risk Coverage, Price Loss Coverage, Conservation Stewardship Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Market Facilitation Program, Price Support Programs, and Agricultural Trade Promotion Program.
- C. All surrendered assets and saved funds will be redirected to sustainable agriculture and child nutrition programs. At least 50% of sustainable agriculture funds must be granted to small farms.
- SECTION 2.** Sustainable agriculture is defined in 7 U.S. Code § 3103 and includes but is not limited to vertical farming, organic farming, and agroforestry. Small farms are defined as those with gross cash farm income under \$250,000.
- SECTION 3.** The USDA is responsible for the implementation of this legislation.
- A. The USDA Office of Inspector General will submit a biennial report to the House Committee on Agriculture regarding the allocation of funds.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect during FY 2025.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Seven Lakes High School*





## **24. A Bill to Ban Prison Labor to Enable Carceral Education**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Penal labor shall be prohibited in all federal correctional facilities within the United States. All such facilities shall be required to offer college or vocational degree programs to both current inmates and ex-offenders.

**SECTION 2.** Penal labor is any form of employment of currently incarcerated inmates, regardless of their employer.

**SECTION 3.** The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and the Department of Education (DoE) shall be tasked with enforcing this legislation.

- a. The BOP shall terminate all existing penal labor programs.
- b. The DoE shall inspect new and existing prison education programs to certify that and that the range of programs offered is sufficient for future
- c. \$25bn shall be allocated to the DoE to fund contracts with colleges and vocational schools that will offer carceral degree programs.

These contracts shall cover tuition for students.

**SECTION 4.** Penal labor shall be banned upon passage. Educational programs shall be completed by 2024.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by L C Anderson High School*



## **25. A Bill to define Ethnic Hairstyles as Part of Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1984**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** Henceforth, banning ethnicity-related hairstyles shall be considered a violation of Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1984 save for specific safety concerns in certain professional environments. Furthermore, no education agency may penalize a student for ethnicity-related hairstyles.
- SECTION 2.** Ethnic hairstyles are defined as any styling of hair on the head or face that has a historical or genetic connection to a defined people or religious group.
- SECTION 3.** The Office of Civil Rights shall enforce this legislation. The Department of Education shall enforce this legislation in schools.
- A. Any business or government entity maintaining unreasonable rules against ethnicity-related hair due specifically to workplace danger shall be civilly liable for injuries and/or damages caused to individuals due to discriminatory actions.
- SECTION 4.** This law will take effect January 1, 2022
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eric Saucedo, Barbers Hill High School*



## **26. A Resolution to Grant Statehood to Puerto Rico**

- WHEREAS,** The United States currently holds federal power over the island territory of Puerto Rico; and
- WHEREAS,** The United States currently has the ability to significantly improve the quality-of-life and economic status of Puerto Rico by providing the same benefits that current states hold; and
- WHEREAS,** Nearly half of people in Puerto Rico live under the poverty line; statehood will create new job opportunities and income creation benefits; and
- WHEREAS,** Both the US and Puerto Rico will benefit economically through statehood. Puerto Rico can contribute nearly \$2b to the US Treasury every year and bring in a large amount of extra revenue through taxes. Puerto Rico would have access to more financial aid from the US government; and
- WHEREAS,** Puerto Rico would be able to enter into an open trade market with the United States and its allies; and
- WHEREAS,** Statehood would provide Puerto Rico with representation in the government and the right to vote in elections; and
- WHEREAS,** Puerto Ricans would be granted full United States citizenship; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that that the United States will grant Puerto Rico statehood.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.*



## **27. A Resolution to Strengthen US-Taiwan Relations**

- WHEREAS,** Taiwan is instrumental to the political and economic stability of the Indo-Pacific region; and
- WHEREAS,** Taiwan has been a trusted partner to the United States in multiple global challenges including trade and the response to Covid-19; and
- WHEREAS,** Taiwan is vital to US economic competitiveness as one of the world's leading producers of information and communication technologies; and
- WHEREAS,** The People's Republic of China has taken increasingly hostile action to reign in Taiwan's democracy; and
- WHEREAS,** The PRC has engaged in threatening action against Taiwan in the form of cyberattacks and threats of military engagement; and
- WHEREAS,** a secure and free Taiwan serves the interests of both the international community and US foreign policy; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States should undertake a comprehensive review of Taiwan's security to address issues of military security, cyberattacks, and disinformation.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States should assist in expanding Taiwan's engagement in international organizations related to economics and democratic institutions.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by James E. Taylor High School*



## **28. A Bill to Help Fund the Grand Inga Dam Project to Improve Energy Access in the DRC**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** A total of \$10 billion shall be appropriated to the Agency for the Development and Promotion of Grand Inga over the period of 10 years.

**SECTION 2.** Agency for the Development and Promotion of the Grand Inga is defined as the agency within the Democratic Republic of Congo government tasked with overseeing and implementing construction of the Grand Inga Dam.

A. The Grand Inga Dam Project is defined as a project to build a series of seven hydroelectric power stations at the site of Inga Falls.

**SECTION 3.** The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

B. Upon any recorded misuse of aid, this legislation and all further aid for this project will be suspended.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect FY 2022

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Clements High School*



## **29. A Bill to Hold Drug Dealers Responsible for Deaths**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Individuals who illegally distribute controlled substances or narcotics resulting in the death of a person due to the use of said substances are guilty of second-degree murder under 18 U.S. Code §1111 (murder)

**SECTION 2.** A. Illegal distribution includes crimes outlined by 21 US Code §841 and the prescribing of controlled substances in a manner that is counter to the guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control, Food and Drug Administration, and Department of Health and Human Services.

B. Death due to use refers to any person who passes away due to the immediate, primary effects of the substance, regardless of known or unknown underlying conditions.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will oversee the enforcement of this legislation through their power to charge and try offenders.

A. The Department of Justice will bring federal charges in cases where the laws of the individual states do not permit district attorneys to bring murder charges for drug related deaths.

**SECTION 4.** This law will go into effect for all deaths resulting from sales that occur after the date of enactment.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rock Hill HS*



## **30. A Bill to Alleviate the Effects of Unfair Marijuana Prosecution**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government will completely legalize marijuana and expunge the federal criminal records of those with marijuana-related charges.
- The Federal Government will also allocate \$100 million to provide financial incentives to the states for the same marijuana legalization and record expunction of state-level marijuana charges.
- SECTION 2.** For the purpose of this legislation, “legalization” of marijuana means eliminating the government’s power to arrest, ticket, or convict individuals for possession, consumption, and distribution of the drug.
- SECTION 3.** Under this legislation, the government may still pass and enforce reasonable laws as to the age, place, and amount for consumption.
- SECTION 4.** The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) will be responsible for the implementation and oversight of this legislation.
- A. The DOJ shall financially incentivize states to legalize marijuana and expunge citizens’ state-level criminal records.
- B. Funding from the DOJ to the states should cover all court costs and legal fees associated with state-level record expunction so that these services are at no cost to the individual.
- SECTION 5.** This policy shall go into effect Fiscal Year 2022.
- SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jordan High School in Fulshear, Texas.*