Princeton Congress 2021

Semifinals Legislation
A Bill to Reform Federal Student Loans to Base Repayment on Future Income Equity

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All Federal Direct Loans to students shall no longer be repaid in terms of the total amount borrowed plus interest. Instead, these loans shall be repaid in the form of equity in the borrower’s future income.

SECTION 2. “Equity” shall refer to a set percentage of a borrower’s income from all sources over a given time period. All recipients of these loans shall repay them with a fixed percentage (see below) of their total income, from all sources, during the twenty-five (25) years immediately following the departure from their educational institution.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education shall continue to administer the Direct Loan Program. It shall establish a uniform base rate of repayment based on the average expected earnings of all college graduates during the repayment period (as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics) and the average borrower’s debt load. This base rate will then be adjusted according to each individual student’s specific amount borrowed to determine his or her actual repayment rate.

A. The Internal Revenue Service shall act as the collection arm for these student loans.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect on January 1st, 2023.

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Both the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services shall be able to act as representatives of their respective agencies and negotiate with companies that manufacture and/or distribute pharmaceuticals.

SECTION 2. This legislation will override §(6)(b) of Section 222 of the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act, which prohibits the respective secretaries of both the DHHS and the DVA from acting in the capacity specified in Section 1.

SECTION 3. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Veterans Affairs shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect at the beginning of FY 2023.

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
A RESOLUTION ABOLISH THE DEBT CEILING

WHEREAS, The debt ceiling is an economic anachronism who primary modern use is to serve as a means of applying political leverage for one party or another; and

WHEREAS, Failing to raise the debt ceiling when necessary would generally be disastrous for U.S. prestige and creditworthiness; and

WHEREAS, The mere specter of debt ceiling-related defaults on government debt occasionally panics markets and reduces confidence in the federal government’s ability to meet its obligations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled should abolish the debt ceiling at the earliest practical opportunity.
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Super Session Legislation
WHEREAS, Afghanistan is currently undergoing a severe humanitarian crisis, including mass food insecurity and the inability to pay civil servants or maintain basic government services; and

WHEREAS, The United States, along with other Western nations, has frozen billions of dollars in Afghan government funds since the Taliban takeover of the country; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. has currently pledged nearly $500 million in humanitarian aid through the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID); and

WHEREAS, This funding would be largely obviated and outstripped by the simple and expedient step of releasing to Afghanistan its own money; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the United States should seek to unfreeze Afghan assets held in its financial institutions.
A BILL TO INSTITUTE A CARBON TAX

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. (A) Congress shall levy a tax on electricity companies, oil refiners, and other power generating companies at a rate of $20 per ton of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) emitted. This tax rate shall increase by 4% each year for ten years after implementation.

(B) 50% of all revenues gained from this tax shall be allocated to investments in solar energy, wind energy, hydropower, and other viable renewable energies.

SECTION 2. A “power-generating company” is an energy producer that emits over 100,000 tons of CO2 annually.

SECTION 3. (A) The Department of Energy and the Department of Treasury shall jointly enforce Section 1A.

(B) The Department of Energy shall allocate the funds provided in Section 1B and shall determine the most viable renewable energies.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect at the start of the fiscal year 2023.

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
A BILL TO EXPAND TITLE IX TO PROTECT GENDER IDENTITY

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 shall be edited to read:

“No person shall, on the basis of sex, gender identity, or transgender status, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance…”

SECTION 2. This bill shall go into effect one year from the date of passage.

SECTION 3. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.