

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



A Resolution to Encourage Municipal Ownership of Internet Services

WHEREAS the U.S. Senate passed a bipartisan infrastructure package with \$65 billion for Internet connectivity; and

WHEREAS consumer advocacy groups argue that cities should build their own Internet services to expand connectivity nationwide; and

WHEREAS municipal broadband is that which is partially or fully owned by local governments; and

WHEREAS municipal broadband is not motivated by profits but by providing services to its residents; and

WHEREAS the original American Jobs Plan included the promotion of competition by eliminating “barriers that prevent municipally-owned or affiliated providers and rural electric co-ops from competing on an even playing field with private providers”; and

WHEREAS the digital divide must be narrowed; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED by the Congress here assembled that municipal development and ownership of Internet services should be encouraged and that individual states should support the efforts of municipalities, including, but not limited to, easing regulatory burdens or eliminating outright bans of municipal Internet ownership.



A Bill for Worldwide Vaccine Distribution

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. The United States will share 25% of its surplus vaccine stock through direct donations and share another 25% of its surplus vaccine stock through COVAX's multi-lateral pool.

SECTION 2. Surplus stock consists of vaccine supplies that are above-and-beyond that needed to fully vaccinate the United States' population with one or two shots, based upon the vaccine's dosage for full vaccination. Stock for a third booster shot may not be pulled from the portion of the surplus designated for donation.

SECTION 3. The Department of State and the Department of Health and Human Services will oversee the distribution of vaccine surpluses.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect immediately.

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



A Bill to Criminalize Ecocide

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Ecocide will be considered a federal offense. Acts of ecocide committed by a corporate entity will be investigated and, upon successful prosecution, corporate officials will be held responsible.

SECTION 2. Ecocide shall be defined as the act of destroying the environment, either through purposeful or negligent practices. Ecocide will include, but is not limited to, the dumping of harmful substances into a natural environment, or the over-extraction of natural resources that results in irreparable harm to the environment.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice shall work in conjunction with the United States Environmental Protection Agency to oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

A. If found guilty, corporate Chief Executive Officers, along with other high-ranking officers, will be penalized with personal fines of up to \$10 million and individual prison sentences of up to 10 years.

B. Severity of punishment shall be evaluated based on the magnitude of the environmental impacts of the offense and the level of negligence. The most severe punishments will be determined based upon intent and irreversible damage to natural environments.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect January 1, 2023.

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 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



A Bill to Provide Wildfire Aid

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Aid will be provided to Algeria, Greece, and Turkey to combat wildfires.

SECTION 2. \$10 billion in aid may be in the form of direct payments, firefighting supplies and equipment, personnel, or some combination thereof.

SECTION 3. The Department of State will oversee the distribution of funds and enforcement of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect immediately.

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



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



An Amendment on State Antitrust Venues

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** To amend title 28 of the United States Code to prevent the transfer of actions arising
3 under the antitrust laws in which a State is a complainant.

4 **SECTION 2.** Section 1407 of title 28 of the United States Code is amended 1) in subsection (g) by
5 inserting “or a State” after “United States” and 2) striking subsection (h).

6 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission and the United States Department of Justice will oversee
7 enforcement of this legislation.

8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect January 1, 2022.

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

Note: This bill mirrors H.R. 3460 and is currently under review by the judiciary committee.



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 Support Climate-Vulnerable Island Nations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Create an Island Nation Fund of \$100 billion for climate-vulnerable independent coastal
3 states to take active measures to repair damage and protect states from climate change disasters.

4 **SECTION 2.** The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and its 39 member states will submit funding
5 and action proposals to an Island Nation Congressional Committee.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State will oversee enforcement and distribution of the funds.

7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately.

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



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 approach; 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



A Bill to Regulate Graduate Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Establish caps for Grad Plus loan programs of \$50,000 for a master's degree and \$100,000 for a terminal degree (e.g., M.F.A, J.D. Ph.D).

SECTION 2. Eliminate loan forgiveness programs that waive remaining debt after a 20 to 25 year payoff period.

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

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect January 1, 2023. Forgiveness programs for those who took out loans prior to January 1, 2022 will remain intact.

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



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

