



A Bill to Compensate Prisoners Fairly

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All federal and state inmates shall be paid at least the federal minimum wage for any work that they perform while incarcerated. Money earned through prison labor will be deposited into an account that can be accessed by inmates and their designated family members.

SECTION 2. The minimum wage is the lowest wage permitted by law. The current federal minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour.

SECTION 3. The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

A. The BOP will ensure that money earned by inmates is secured properly in a bank contracted with the federal government. The contracted bank will be prohibited from charging exorbitant fees for accessing or transferring funds from accounts.

B. Jails or prisons that fail to implement this legislation will be fined \$1000 per inmate, per day until they are in full compliance.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2023.

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 Bill to Revitalize Space Exploration

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) shall reallocate all money designated for federal subsidies to private space companies towards public research and development programs for space exploration.

SECTION 2. A. "Private space companies" is defined as privately owned partnerships or corporations that participate in space exploration, such as Blue Origin or SpaceX.

B. "Space exploration" is defined as the physical exploration of outer space, both by human spaceflights and robotic spacecraft.

SECTION 3. NASA shall be responsible for implementation of this legislation.

A. Annual audits will be carried out to ensure that research and development is making significant progress.

B. If it is determined that significant progress has not been made within 10 years of this legislation's implementation, this legislation will be declared null and void.

SECTION 4. This bill will be implemented at the start of FY 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Seven Lakes High School



A Bill to Subsidize Broadband and Fund Fiber Optic Cable Infrastructure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The US Federal Government should subsidize broadband with internet service providers (ISPs) in rural areas and set up key "Internet Pipelines" to provide all Americans with adequate internet access.

SECTION 2. a. The subsidizing of the broadband industry shall be defined as the US Federal Government creating special contracts with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to make the internet accessible for constituents living in areas without coverage.

b. The setting up of "Internet Pipelines" shall be defined as the US Federal Government funding Fiber Optic Cable Infrastructure to bring faster and more reliable Internet to more Americans.

SECTION 3. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Department of the Treasury will oversee the fulfilment of this legislation.

A. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will oversee the implementation by creating contracts with ISPs for Section 2A of this Bill.

B. The Department of the Treasury will oversee the implementation by providing funds for Section 2B of this Bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect on Fiscal Year 2023

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by R.C. Clark High School



A Resolution to Establish Diplomatic Relations with Afghanistan

- WHEREAS,** The United States maintains relationships with several nations with problematic human rights records; and
- WHEREAS,** Ceding diplomatic influence in Afghanistan to nations such as China or Pakistan can have long-term negative geopolitical consequences throughout central Asia; and
- WHEREAS,** Afghanistan is rich in rare-earth metals, which are essential elements of many modern electronics; and
- WHEREAS,** Refusal to establish diplomatic relations with the current government of Afghanistan will diminish U.S. influence in the region; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States reestablish its embassy in Kabul; and be it
- FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the United States seek to establish formal diplomatic relations with the current governing authority in Afghanistan.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School



A Bill to Reduce Military Spending to Aid Americans

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall cap the annual defense budget at \$415 billion dollars and designate the additional \$300 billion dollars from the defense budget for annual budgetary reprioritization initiatives.
- SECTION 2.** Budgetary reprioritization initiatives are defined as initiatives that provide funding for a \$300/month universal child tax credit, the State Department, education programs, Medicare, and Medicaid.
- SECTION 3.** The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the parliamentarians of the Senate and House will oversee the implementation of the provisions of this bill and ensure appropriate spending levels in accordance with Section 1.
- A. The OMB may alter the amounts designated in Section 1 and Section 2 to conform with annual inflation rates in cooperation with the Department of the Treasury.
- B. Defense appropriations proposed by the President and by Congress shall be regulated according to the limits set in Section 1 by the OMB and congressional parliamentarians.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect for the budgetary process of FY 2023.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano Senior High School



A Bill to Limit the Number of Hours Teens are Permitted to Work

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. American workers aged 13 to 16 will be limited in the number of hours worked each day to no more than 5 clock hours and no more than 25 hours per week.

Said workers will have a minimum of one day off per workweek. Moreover, employers are prohibited from scheduling 13 to 16 year old students during the school day.

SECTION 2. A workweek is defined as the 7 day period beginning on Monday at 12:00 AM and ending on Sunday at 11:59 PM local time. A school day is defined as the hours a student is legally required to be in attendance at their educational establishment.

SECTION 3. This bill will be enforced by the Department of Labor and Labor Wage and Hour Division.

A. Companies found to be in violation will be fined \$1,000 per day, per infraction.

B. Compensation in the amount of \$100 per hour worked in violation, will be awarded to the employee subjected to the violation.

SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect January 1st 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pampa High School



A Bill to Federally Mandate Paid Maternity Leave to Close the Gender Wage Gap

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The U.S. federal government shall hereby require businesses to offer their employees 12 weeks of paid maternity/paternity leave
- SECTION 2.** Maternity/paternity leave shall be defined as protected time that an employee can take off to care for their newborn or newly adopted child
- SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) will handle the implementation and enforcement of this bill
- A. The DOL and DOC will ensure that all businesses with 1,500 employees or more offer 12 weeks of paid maternity/paternity leave annually
- B. Any business found to violate this law by the either the DOL or DOC will be fined \$10,000 initially, with that number increasing annually by \$2,000 until the policy is implemented
- SECTION 4.** This bill we be implemented on January 1, 2023
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Spring Woods High School



A Resolution to Impose Sanctions on Qatar

WHEREAS, In the past ten years, Qatar has embarked on an unprecedented building program, largely in preparation for the FIFA 2022 football tournament;
and

WHEREAS, More than 6,500 migrant workers from India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka have died in Qatar since it won the right to host the World Cup ten years ago; and

WHEREAS, Qatari authorities have failed to investigate the deaths of thousands of migrant workers over the past decade, despite evidence of links between premature deaths and unsafe working conditions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the United States impose sanctions on the Country of Qatar for its role in the abuse of migrant workers for the development of the infrastructure for the FIFA 2022 football tournament.

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



A Bill to Designate Election Day as a Federal Holiday to Promote Democracy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Election Day will be designated and recognized as a United States federal
3 holiday.

4 **SECTION 2.** Election Day shall be defined as the day the federal government sets for
5 federal elections.

6 A federal holiday shall be defined as a calendar date recognized as a
7 holiday by the United States government.

8 A. All non-essential federal government offices are closed.

9 B. Every federal government employee shall be paid for the day.

10 **SECTION 3.** This bill will be enacted by the United States Congress in joint
11 cooperation with the Federal Election Commission.

12 A. Additionally, \$10 billion will be allocated to the Federal Election
13 Commission in order to ensure the proper amount of voting stations
14 throughout the country.

15 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect two months upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by W. B. Ray HS



Mars: 2030 Resolution

- WHEREAS,** The US initiative to explore space beyond Earth's atmosphere and send humans to the Moon spurred technological innovations that changed the trajectory of mankind's development; and
- WHEREAS,** Investment in the International Space Station led to breakthroughs in our understanding of human physiology, and provided opportunities for the advancement of international relations; and
- WHEREAS,** Every phase of our expansion of space exploration has been marked by the development of technology converted into commercial use; and
- WHEREAS,** Current plans to establish a human mission to Mars require the development of infrastructure on the Moon; and
- WHEREAS,** This infrastructure would allow for the commercial development of lunar resources and well as the refinement of technology for future space missions; and
- WHEREAS,** The obstacles to sending a manned mission to Mars are primarily financial, rather than technical; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the US government should guarantee full funding of NASA's mission to send humans to Mars by 2030.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Katy Taylor High School