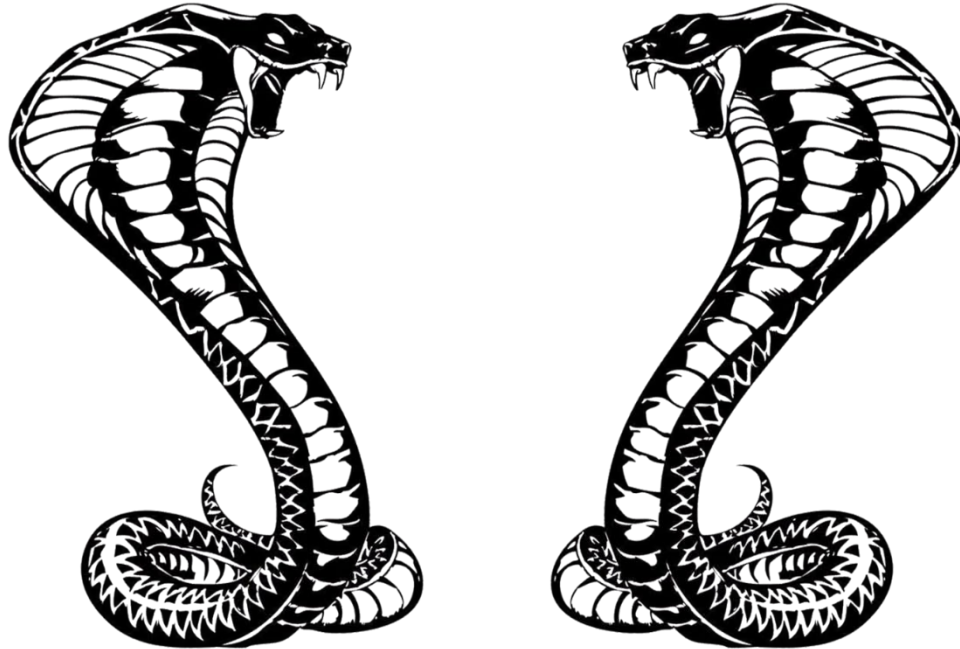


Blacksnake



2023

Congressional Debate

Sponsored by Jared Cooke and Jeff Stoppenhagen

January 6-7, 2023

Hosted on the Idaho State University Campus

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A Bill to Enforce Harsher Repercussions for Drunk Driving

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** **SECTION 1.** A bill to enforce a minimum \$1,000 fine and 48 hours jail
2 sentence, as well as a minimum five year suspension of the offender’s
3 license across the country. any individual found to be operating a vehicle
4 on public roads with a BAC higher than .08 will receive a DUI charge.

5 **SECTION 2.** This bill will not pertain to charges against minors.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice alongside state police departments will oversee
7 the enforcement of the bill as well as the delivery of the following penalties

8
9 A. A minimum \$1,000 fine and 48 hour jail sentence, as well as a
10 minimum five year suspension of the offender’s license across the
11 country for first time offenders.

12 B. A minimum \$1,250 fine and 96 hour jail sentence, as well as a minimum
13 7 year suspension of the offender’s license across the country for each
14 subsequent offense.

15 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on May 12, 2024.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Madison High School.

A Bill to Instate a Standardized Speed Limit on All Interstates

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All United States rural interstates will have a standardized speed limit of
3 70 mph and all Urban interstates will have a standardized speed limit of
4 65 mph unless marked otherwise on concerns of safety.

5 **SECTION 2.** Interstate is defined as one of a system of expressways covering the 48
6 contiguous states. A rural interstate is defined as an interstate highway
7 outside an urbanized area of 50,000 or more population. A Urban
8 interstate is defined as an interstate with connections through and
9 around cities.

10 **SECTION 3.** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) will oversee
11 enforcement in which any state who fails to change or remove current
12 signs set over the standardized limit will be fined 5000 dollars per sign for
13 each fiscal year the change hasn't been met. The NHTSA will also provide
14 \$1.5 million dollars towards the purchase of replacement signs.

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2025. All laws in conflict with this
16 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rigby High School.

A Bill to increase information standards internet communications

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** Wide reaching posts and videos will be under the same restrictions of
2 factualness as news sites.

3 **SECTION 2.** Far-reaching posts include any and all tweets, Facebook messages,
4 personally run sites, and other internet information dispensations that
5 reach or exceed ten-thousand viewers.

6 **SECTION 3.** This bill will be overseen by The Federal Communications Commission
7 A. Violators will be fined fifty dollars and forced to either remove their
8 post or mark it as misinformation.

9 B. Repeat offenders will have their account flagged and then taken down.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on July 7th, 2024. All laws in conflict with
11 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Idaho Falls High School.

A Bill to Require A License For The Ownership Of Firearms

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** In order to purchase and own a firearm of any type, an individual will be
2 required to have either a gun owner's license or permit. Current owners
3 of guns without a license are required to obtain a license or permit within
4 six months after enactment. Failure to do so will result in a fine. This
5 legislation will take effect in every state.
- 6 **SECTION 2.** Firearms being defined as every type of gun including muzzleloaders.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The DMF, (Department of Firearms), will be the new government agency
8 created to enforce this law. Much like the DMV, the DMF is where you
9 would turn to in order to acquire a gun owner's license or permit.
- 10 A. One who has purchased a gun without a license or permit is required to
11 return their purchase within a month or they will be fined and their
12 gun(s) will be taken.
- 13 B. One in possession of a gun without a license or permit will be fined and
14 if they own said gun, they will have a month to obtain a license or
15 permit or their gun(s) will be taken.
- 16 **SECTION 4.** Funding for the legislation will come from a \$25 fee for a license and a
17 \$15 fee for a permit as well as from fines violaters of this law will pay.
- 18 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on 9/1/2023.
- 19 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Madison High School.

A Resolution to Recommend that the Death Penalty and Life Sentence be Interchangeable by Choice of the Defendant Once Convicted Guilty

1 **WHEREAS,** As it stands the rest of a defendants life, and end there-of, is put in the
2 hands of a randomly elected jury or judge without any input or choose
3 thereof by the defendant; and

4 **WHEREAS,** Because both sentences are life defining without the consideration of the
5 choice over one's own autonomy, considering both further determines
6 the remaining course of where and how a person's body will be treated
7 without self-input; and

8 **WHEREAS,** Considering over 4% of death Row inmates have been found to be
9 innocent this would allow the innocent on death row to advocate and
10 have their cases appealed; This also corrects the fact that each person
11 who is not given this decision is denied their freedom of autonomy and
12 refused the ability for correction; now, therefore, be it

13 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled shall advocate unto the states to
14 change sentencing policies regarding a life sentence and the death
15 penalty to allow a convicted individual the choose between the two
16 sentences upon sentencing in a court of law; and

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That Congress shall implement the policy into all federal courts
18 under its jurisdiction.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rigby High School.

A Bill to Illegalize Lobbying to Help Limit Biased Governmental Decisions

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** Lobbying will no longer be legal in the United States of America - this new
2 bill would apply to all forms of office and government, in that no politician
3 would not be allowed to accept type of lobbying in any way, shape, or
4 form.

5 **SECTION 2.** Lobbying is defined as seeking to influence (a politician or public official) on
6 an issue, usually through monetary means.

7 **SECTION 3.** Each state would be responsible for monitoring the lobbying within its
8 boundaries.

9 A. If proof of lobbying has been shown, the accused will be fined the
10 amount involved with the lobbying act, along with a 25% penalty on
11 top.

12 B. Each following offense after the first will have the penalty rise by 5%

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with
14 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Idaho Falls High School.

A Bill to Establish Mandatory Public Service

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Each U.S. Citizen born after January 1, 2006, must complete at least two years of public
3 service by the time of their 30th birthday.

4 **SECTION 2.** This requirement may be satisfied through two full years of service in one of the following:
5 the Armed Forces (including the National Guard), the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, or the
6 National Health Service Corps.

7 **SECTION 3.** The penalties for failing to meet this requirement shall be identical to those that
8 accompany failure to register for the Selective Service when required to do so.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Selective Service System.

10 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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

A Bill to Subsidize Flood Insurance

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall direct \$1 billion annually to the Federal Emergency Management Agency
3 (FEMA) to pay the premiums of any homeowners whom FEMA requires to purchase flood
4 insurance and whose household income is less than 400% of the federal poverty level as
5 determined by the Department of Health and Human Services.

6 **SECTION 2.** Congress shall work with FEMA on a year-to-year basis to determine and implement any
7 necessary adjustments to the amount of this funding to more appropriately meet the need
8 outlined by this legislation.

9 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation shall be sourced from a 1% tax increase on annual fossil fuel
10 industry revenue.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by FEMA, with the exception of Section 3, which shall be
12 overseen by the Internal Revenue Service.

13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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

A Bill to Close All Foreign Military Bases

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Within ten years of the passage of this legislation, all U.S. military bases situated within
3 foreign countries shall be closed, their troops and personnel returned to the U.S., and their
4 land and facilities returned unconditionally to each respective nation.

5 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Defense.

6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

7 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Transition the United States to the Metric System

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall end its official usage of United States customary units and transition
3 toward the International System of Units, commonly referred to as the metric system, as
4 defined by the General Conference on Weights and Measures.

5 **SECTION 2.** All future documentation and reports produced by U.S. government agencies and entities
6 at all levels shall immediately begin utilizing metric units. They may present U.S. customary
7 units parenthetically alongside metric units for five years from the date of passage, at
8 which point U.S. customary units shall be prohibited on government documents and
9 reports.

10 **SECTION 3.** Within two years of the date of passage, all outside organizations doing business with U.S.
11 government agencies and entities at all levels must begin utilizing metric units in any
12 government interactions. This includes items sold in U.S. markets that are regulated by a
13 U.S. government agency, such as motor vehicles.

14 **SECTION 4.** Units on government signage, including signage erected by the Federal Highway
15 Administration (FHWA) and other Department of Transportation (DOT) agencies, shall be
16 switched to metric gradually whenever individual signs need to be replaced. Within twenty
17 years of the date of passage, any signage that does not yet feature metric units shall have
18 metric units added. Signage of unique historic or cultural value is exempt from these
19 requirements.

20 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall be overseen by all relevant agencies. The National Park Service shall
21 serve in an advisory role for Section 4.

22 **SECTION 6.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

23 **SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Require Follow-up and Closure in Media Coverage of Alleged Crime

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Any media outlet that runs a story on an alleged crime and in doing so mentions the name
3 of, or otherwise clearly identifies any alleged perpetrators, must provide timely and
4 proportional follow-up and closure on the story as soon as any developments become
5 publicly available. Specifically, media outlets must report dropping of charges against an
6 alleged perpetrator and explain the circumstances that led to the false accusation.

7 **SECTION 2.** A media outlet is defined as a company or organization that reports the news to the public
8 via any format, including but not limited to, print distribution, television and radio,
9 podcasts, websites, and social media. In the context of this legislation, timely means within
10 72 hours of the news having become public, unless the next publication or broadcast would
11 not occur within that timespan, in which case the news must be reported whenever the
12 next publication or broadcast does occur (and within 72 hours via the outlet's social media
13 accounts). In the context of this legislation, proportional means with the same prominence
14 and duration as the outlet gave in its initial reporting on the story.

15 **SECTION 3.** Any media outlet found to be in violation of this legislation shall be fined \$100,000 for each
16 infraction and shall be liable to civil action from any individual or individuals whose
17 reputations were maligned by the media outlet's failure to comply. Any media outlet found
18 to have violated this legislation three or more times shall have its license to broadcast or
19 publish news revoked.

20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Communications Commission.

21 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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

A Bill to End Distracted Driving

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall allocate \$100 million per year to fund research into technology that can
3 determine with a high degree of certainty (with a margin of error of no more than 1 in
4 10,000) whether a driver is manually using a mobile electronic device such as a cell phone
5 while operating a motor vehicle and which will immediately alert law enforcement of this
6 fact so that local prohibitions on distracted driving may be more consistently enforced.

7 **SECTION 2.** Once this technology has been developed, the fund shall be re-diverted to states,
8 territories, and the federal district to be used to subsidize installation of devices that track
9 and report this behavior in all registered motor vehicles. States, territories, and the federal
10 district shall have five years from the date of this funding transfer to ensure that all
11 registered motor vehicles within their jurisdiction have this technology installed and
12 functioning. Any that fail to comply shall lose federal highway funding until such time as
13 compliance is reached.

14 **SECTION 3.** Within two years of this funding transfer, all motor vehicles sold within the United States
15 will be required to have this technology installed and functioning. Any vendor that sells a
16 motor vehicle without this technology after this deadline shall be fined \$10,000 per
17 infraction.

18 **SECTION 4.** If this technology has not been developed within three years of the passage of this
19 legislation, a report will be issued to Congress detailing progress and next steps to be
20 considered.

21 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Transportation.

22 **SECTION 6.** This legislation shall take effect June 1, 2023.

23 **SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Bolster the Nigerian Military to Quell Boko Haram Insurgency

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall reinforce its commitment to instilling regional peace
3 in West Africa by conducting joint operations with the Nigerian military
4 against insurgent attacks. The United States Federal Government shall
5 provide 5 billion dollars annually in aid toward Nigerian bottom-up
6 stabilization programs and conflict mitigation systems.

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

8 **A.** Bottom-up stabilization programs will be defined as programs that
9 restore local governance, eliminate local security threats, or ensure the
10 safe distribution of services or resources to communities susceptible to
11 insurgent recruitment.

12 **B.** Conflict mitigation systems will be defined as military systems that
13 pursue the demobilization, deradicalization, rehabilitation, and
14 reintegration of individuals affiliated with Boko Haram.

15 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Aid and the U.S. Department of Defense will work in
16 coordination with the government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to
17 oversee proper allocation and implementation of funding.

18 **A.** The U.S. Department of Defense will submit an annual report on the
19 efficacy of counter-insurgent programs and joint operations to Congress.

20 **B.** The U.S. Department of Aid may propose re-evaluation of this legislation
21 dependent on the findings from the Department of Defense's annual
22 report.

23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with
24 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Change the Draft Eligibility

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Section 1-101 of the Military Selective Service Act will be amended to read:

3 “All citizens of the United States and residents in the United States, unless
4 exempted by the Military Selective Service Act, as amended, who were born
5 on or after January 1, 1960, and who have attained their eighteenth birthday,
6 shall present themselves for registration in the manner and at the time and
7 places as hereinafter provided.”

8 **SECTION 2.** The Selective Service System will be in charge of implementing this bill. The
9 SSS is already preparing for an expansion but will receive a \$5 million budget
10 increase for the next fiscal year for increased registration management. All
11 language within the Military Selective Service Act will be amended slightly to
12 include all citizens and residents in the United States. Those who newly
13 qualify under Section 1 will have until January 2024 to register.

14 **SECTION 3.** This bill will go into effect on June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with this
15 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Eliminate Insider Trading by Members of Congress

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** All members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate must abide
3 by the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** If a member of Congress violates the STOCK Act, on the first violation, said
5 member will lose any leadership positions in Congress. On the second
6 violation, said member will lose any and all committee assignments. On the
7 third violation, said member will be expelled.
- 8 **SECTION 3.** Enforcement will be through the House and Senate Ethics committees.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately. All laws in conflict with this
10 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Implement Automation in Hospitals to Aid with Understaffing in Healthcare

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A. The United States Department of Health and Human Services shall
3 make \$10 billion in grants available to understaffed public and
4 nonprofit hospitals.

5 **B.** These grants will be used to apply for the implementation of robotics and
6 automation at no cost to the facilities.

7 **C.** Each facility will be allocated an amount of money depending on size
8 and location. The maximum allocation per facility shall be \$400,000.
9 Facilities who are eligible for this grant and will be selected based on
10 need by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

11 **SECTION 2.** A. Automation is defined as systems that are able to operate or
12 accomplish tasks without human intervention.

13 **B.** Understaffed Hospitals are defined as public or nonprofit hospitals that
14 exceed a nurse to patient ratio of 1:5 and/or public or nonprofit hospitals
15 that do not meet a doctor to patient ratio of 1:14.

16 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Health and Human Services shall oversee
17 the implementation of this legislation.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with
19 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Establish Green Belts to Prevent Urban Sprawl

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Cities would be required to establish green belts within 50 miles of its city
3 limits.

4 **SECTION 2.** The term “green belt” shall be defined as land designated for agriculture or
5 natural forestry that will ban the construction of residential and commercial
6 buildings.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Land Management and the Environmental Protection Agency
8 shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

9 **A.** The Environmental Protection Agency shall hereby be granted the
10 authority to establish green belts.

11 **B.** All cities in non-compliance with this legislation shall hereby become
12 ineligible to receive federal grants.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with this
14 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Rebuild the Americas

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall reaffirm its commitment to development and
3 partnership with Latin America.

4 **A.** The United States shall invest an additional \$6 billion dollars per year into
5 the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

6 **B.** The USIDFC annual budget shall be increased by \$3 billion dollars starting
7 fiscal year 2023.

8 **C.** Caribbean countries are hereby authorized as eligible for USIDFC
9 initiatives.

10 **D.** A minimum of 35% of the USIDFC budget shall be dedicated to Latin
11 America and the Caribbean for a 10-year period following
12 implementation.

13 **E.** Within one year following passage, the Secretary of State shall develop
14 and implement an interagency strategy to increase economic
15 competitiveness, increase American business investments, promote
16 democracy, advance sustainable development, and combat corruption.
17 This plan shall be reported to Congress.

18 **SECTION 2.** “Caribbean countries” is hereby defined as all Caribbean countries not
19 sanctioned by the United States.

20 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of State, U.S. International Development Finance
21 Corporation shall be responsible for the implementation of this legislation.

22 **A.** The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations shall oversee
23 implementation of Section 1 Part E.

24 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on immediately upon passage. All laws in
25 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Repeal Section 230 to Promote Accountability of Big Tech

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Section 230 of Title 47 of United States Code shall be eliminated.

3 **SECTION 2.** Section 230 shall be defined as Section 230 of Title 47 of US code (47 U.S.C. §
4 230), enacted as part of the United States Communications Decency Act
5 (CDA) of 1996. Section 230 states, “No provider or user of an interactive
6 computer service shall be treated as the publisher or speaker of any
7 information provided by another information content provider.”

8 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) will oversee the enforcement of this bill.
9 The Department of Justice (DOJ) will be responsible for the prosecution of
10 corporations found to have broken federal law by hosting illegal content on
11 their website(s).

12 **A.** No legal action shall be taken until the law is passed to allow for a
13 reformation of terms and conditions and moderation rules.

14 **B.** All websites are responsible for removing content that may break federal,
15 state, or local statutes in 48 hours after original publication.

16 **SECTION 4.** This bill would go into effect June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with this
17 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Resolution to Remove the Seat Time Requirement in All 50 States and Consider Competency Based Learning

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The seat time requirement in public education values the quantity over the
2 quality of the education; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** The amount of time in a classroom does not guarantee a student’s
4 understanding of a subject; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** The seat time requirement makes it far more difficult for schools to
6 experiment and offer flexibility with their scheduling; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** With the online education used during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is shown
8 that there is less of a need to be in school as many online alternatives exist
9 that could affect school attendance; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** There are many more productive alternatives to enforce student attendance
11 if competency-based learning was set in place; now therefore, be it
- 12 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that a Department of Education commission
13 will establish a committee and make a plan to effectively remove the current
14 seat time requirement and move toward competency based learning by the
15 2027-2028 school year.

A Bill to Restrict Tax Exemption from 501(c)3 Organizations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT

2 **SECTION 1.** Registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations with any employee making
3 incomes more than \$250,000 through their nonprofit organization shall no
4 longer be able to have tax exemptions and their tax-exempt privileges per
5 their 501(c)3 status shall be revoked.

6 **SECTION 2.** Employees shall be defined as paid workers under contract.

7 **SECTION 3.** The IRS shall oversee the implementation of this bill.

8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with
9 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Ban Red Light Cameras to Make American Roads Safer

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (23 C.F.R. § 655(f)) will be
3 updated to prohibit the installation and use of red light cameras in the
4 United States.

5 **SECTION 2.** Red light cameras are defined as a traffic enforcement camera which is
6 capable of producing recorded images of motor vehicles entering an
7 intersection while the traffic light indicates a red signal. The Manual on
8 Uniform Traffic Control Devices will be modified to reflect this definition.

9 **SECTION 3.** The United States Federal Highway Administration (FHA) in conjunction with
10 state agencies will oversee the implementation of this bill.

11 **A.** The use of red light cameras shall be fully phased out by five years after
12 the date of passage.

13 **B.** Photographs and videos captured using red light cameras can no longer
14 be brought up as evidence before a jury.

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage. All laws in
16 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Repair and Renovate American School Buildings

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall establish a need-based grant program to fund
3 upgrades and improvements to public school facilities.

4 **A.** School districts will apply to the Department of Education for grant
5 funding, which will be approved based on the district's need.

6 **B.** The Department of Education will establish standards for the quality of
7 school facilities that participating districts must meet.

8 **SECTION 2.** Public schools are defined as educational institutions teaching students in
9 grades K-12. Improvements will include, but are not limited to, heating,
10 cooling, ventilation, air conditioning, lighting, walls, windows, and renewable
11 energy installation.

12 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Education, in conjunction with state education
13 departments, shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

14 **A.** The Department of Education will allocate 150 billion dollars to this grant
15 in the fiscal year 2022 budget.

16 **B.** For the next five years, 5 billion dollars will be allocated to the grant per
17 year. The Department of Education will then evaluate the effectiveness of
18 the grants and determine whether to allocate additional funds.

19 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with
20 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Require a Stronger Check on the National Emergencies Act to Protect Our Checks and Balances

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT

2 **SECTION 1.** Section 201(a) of the National Emergency Act of 1976 shall be amended to
3 state: "To declare a National Emergency, 60% of both houses of Congress
4 must vote to approve the declaration of a National Emergency before the
5 President may exercise powers under the National Emergency Act of 1976."

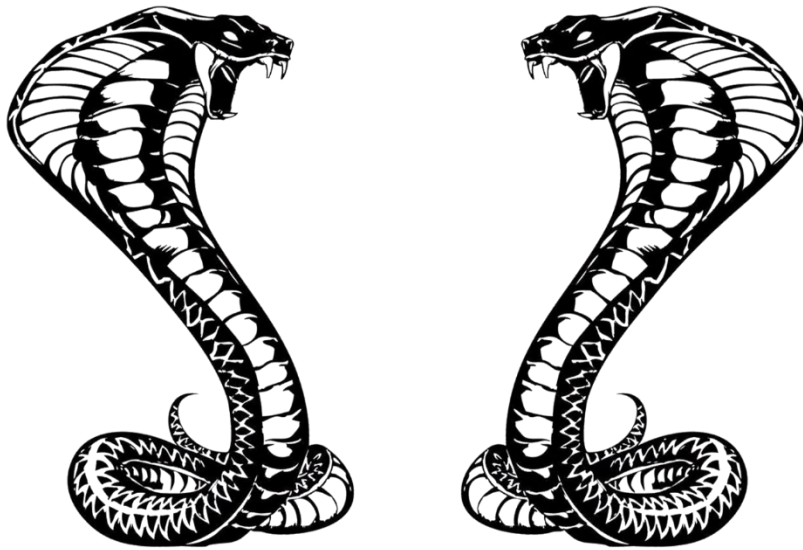
6 **SECTION 2.** If Congress is in recess, the President may declare an Emergency for up to 30
7 days pending renewal by congress.

8 **A.** The declaration may not be renewed without Congressional approval.

9 **B.** The President may not reallocate funds in excess of \$10 million or enact
10 permanent policy until Congress approves the emergency.

11 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will take effect immediately. All laws in conflict with this
12 legislation shall hereby be declared null and void.

Blacksnake



2023

Congressional Debate

SUPERS Legislation Packet

Sponsored by Jared Cooke and Jeff Stoppenhagen

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The Infectious Disease Outbreak Prevention Act of 2022

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** To curb and mitigate the spread of infectious diseases, and the turmoil they
3 have spread both to the United States and the world, funding shall be
4 increased by 50% to critical public health agencies. In addition, Medicare
5 shall be made available to all U.S. citizens, and all U.S citizens, except in the
6 case of health constraints, shall be required to have all FDA-approved
7 vaccines.

8 **SECTION 2.** Public health agencies that shall receive such funding will include the SNS,
9 CDC, HHS, and PHEMCE.

10 **SECTION 3.** The IRS, SNS, CDC, HHS, PHEMCE, DOJ, and FDA shall oversee the
11 implementation of this legislation.

12 **A.** Funding will come from a wealth tax, 3¢ on every dollar of wealth over
13 \$50 million, increasing to 5¢ over \$1 billion.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with this legislation
are hereby declared null and void.

Puerto Rico, Guam, and D.C. State Admission Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Puerto Rico, Guam, and the District of Columbia will all be admitted into the
3 United States as states and granted the correlating liberties.

4 **SECTION 2.** State admission: congressional action in compliance with the Northwest
5 Ordinance to integrate territories to the United States

6 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission (FEC), Department of Revenue (DOR), and
7 US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will oversee this legislature.

8 **A.** The FEC will allocate 2 senate seats, 3 electors, and 2 voting delegates to
9 D.C.; 2 senate seats, 5 electors, and 5 voting delegates to Puerto Rico;
10 and 2 senators, 2 electors, and 1 voting delegate to Guam. Additionally,
11 D.C. and Guam’s current nonvoting delegates will be given voting status.
12 This means there will now be 106 senators, 545 electors, and 443
13 representatives total. Population based representatives will be subject to
14 change in accordance with the census data.

15 **B.** The DOR will implement a federal income tax, earned income tax credit,
16 and additional child tax credit as applicable within the new states.

17 **C.** The USCIS will review the state constitutions and grant state citizenship
18 to all current citizens of the territories upon approval.

19 **D.** The United States flag will be immediately repealed awaiting a new flag
20 proposal that integrates the 3 new stars.

21 **E.** \$500,000 will be taken from the general Congressional discretionary fund
22 to be used as needed to implement the legislature.

23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect upon presidential approval. All laws in conflict
24 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Construct a High-Speed Rail Line in the Northeast U.S. to Create Economic Growth

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** As a result of the decaying Amtrak infrastructure in the northeast, which is
3 home to over 50 million people, the nation is not at its full economic
4 potential.

5 **SECTION 2.** The United States shall construct and maintain a high-speed rail line in the
6 northeast United States in order to promote economic growth and reduce
7 the time between cities in the region.

8 **SECTION 3.** The northeast United States shall be defined as the region from Boston to
9 Northern Virginia. The high-speed rail line will at first include one train stop
10 in each of the following places: Northern Virginia, Washington, D.C.,
11 Baltimore, Wilmington, Philadelphia, New York, Providence, and Boston.

12 **A.** Tracks will be built in such a way that additional stops can be added after
13 completion if demand warrants.

14 **B.** High-speed rail shall be defined as rail that averages above 200 miles per
15 hour and that has a wide curve radius in order to maximize that speed.

16 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Transportation shall oversee construction and use
17 existing right-of-ways as well as eminent domain to the land needed for the
18 project.

19 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect in fiscal year 2024 for a completion date of
20 fiscal year 2030. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared
21 null and void.

A Bill to Implement a National Standard for Paid Parental Leave

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Individuals who have become legal guardians of a dependent in the four
3 months preceding their leave are guaranteed a minimum 16 weeks of job-
4 protected parental leave, 12 of which must be paid at 100% of the
5 individual's salary at the time of leave.

6 **SECTION 2.** Legal dependent: natural born and adopted children, special needs
7 individuals, household members covered by a conservatorship or
8 guardianship, and elders living in household claimed on tax returns as
9 dependents. Job-protected leave: time away from work wherein an
10 individual is not at risk of losing employment due to their absence.

11 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Labor's National Labor Relations Board will oversee
12 implementation of this legislation.

13 **A.** Employees can charge employers with noncompliance to this standard,
14 and the NLRB will investigate and conduct an informal trial to render a
15 decision regarding the matter. Employers or employees dissatisfied with
16 NLRB's decisions may file opposition with a court of appeals and
17 ultimately the U.S. Supreme Court.

18 **SECTION 4.** The law will go into effect October 1, 2025. All laws in conflict with this
19 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Implement a Nationwide Tax on Sugar-Sweetened Beverages

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A national tax shall be implemented on all beverages that contain added
3 sugars, as defined in Section 2.

4 **SECTION 2.** ‘Sugar-Sweetened Beverages’ shall be defined as “beverages with sugars that
5 are added during processing, including but not limited to, carbonated and
6 non-carbonated soft drinks, fruit drinks, and sports drinks that contain added
7 caloric sweeteners, such as high fructose corn syrup, sucrose, or fruit juice
8 concentrates.”

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services will oversee the
10 implementation of this bill. The revenue from this bill will be allocated to this
11 department.

12 **A.** A tax of one cent per ounce shall be levied on beverages containing
13 between 7.5 grams and 30 grams of added sugars per 12 ounces.

14 **B.** A tax of two cents per ounce shall be levied on beverages containing
15 more than 30 grams of added sugars per 12 ounces.

16 **C.** No tax shall be levied on beverages containing less than 7.5 grams of
17 added sugars per 12 ounces.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with
19 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Legalize the Possession and Sale of Marijuana in the United States

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** This bill shall make California Proposition 64 known as the Adult Use of
3 Marijuana Act, national law.

4 **SECTION 2.** California Proposition 64 also known as the Adult Use of Marijuana Act
5 shall be defined as the legislation that legalized the possession,
6 consumption and retail sale of marijuana, and was passed on November
7 9th 2016. National law shall be defined as federal law as well as in each of
8 the 50 states.

9 **SECTION 3.** The enforcement will be carried out by the Department of Justice, who
10 will oversee coordination of implementation in individual states, as well
11 as the resentencing, sentencing relief, release and clearing records, and
12 reparations.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be implemented immediately.

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

A Bill to Instill a Maximum Cost of College Attendance

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All public colleges will institute a ceiling on the cost of attendance of \$30,000
3 per year.

4 **SECTION 2.** Cost of attendance includes, tuition, fees, room and board.

5 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will oversee the implementation of this bill.

6 A. Schools which fail to adhere to this ceiling shall not receive Federal loans
7 or grants.

8 **SECTION 4.** Implementation of the bill will begin at the commencement of the 2023-24
9 academic year.

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

A Bill to Disarm Patrol Officers

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** This bill shall prohibit patrol officers from carrying and/or using a firearm.

3 **SECTION 2.** "Patrol officers" shall be defined as police officers that are assigned to a
4 specific geographic area, also known as a "beat cop". "Firearm" is
5 defined as a rifle, pistol or any other portable gun.

6 **SECTION 3.** The enforcement will be through the Department of Justice

7 A. If a state or local law enforcement agency does not abide by this
8 law, they will lose all federal funding for law enforcement.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be implemented immediately.

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

A Bill to Ban Privatization of Prisons

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Bureau of Prisons shall be prohibited from contracting with, or utilizing
3 services provided by, a private prison or any corporation engaged in the
4 private prison industry.

5 **SECTION 2.** A private prison is considered an institution that is owned or operated by a
6 non-government entity.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will be responsible for overseeing the closure of
8 all privatized prisons, the divesting of all contracts with private prison
9 corporations, and the opening of all new prisons.

10 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Justice will have fifteen years to complete the closure of
11 all privatized prisons from the date this bill is passed.

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

A Bill to Close the Gender Wage Gap

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government shall hereby work to close the gender wage gap through
3 making equal pay mandatory and providing pension credits for individuals who have left
4 the workforce to provide childcare.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. Equal pay shall be defined as the concept that individuals in the same workplace be
6 given equal pay, dependent on the profession and job position.

7 B. Pension credit shall be defined as an income-related employment benefit that
8 women who served in the capacity of a primary child care provider can claim once they
9 reach the age of 66.

10 1. For single pensioners with a weekly income (including pension) below
11 \$250.00, a pension credit will be awarded up to the amount needed to
12 close the gap between weekly income and the \$250.00 ceiling.

13 2. For heterosexual couples, if the pensioner and their legal partner have a
14 joint weekly income (including pension) that is below \$350.00, a
15 pension credit will be awarded up to the amount needed to close the
16 gap between weekly income and the \$350.00 ceiling.

17 3. For female-gendered same-sex couples, if the pensioner and their legal
18 partner have a joint weekly income (including pension) that is below
19 \$450.00, a pension credit will be awarded up to the amount needed to
20 close the gap between weekly income and the \$450.00 ceiling.

21 C. Childcare shall be defined as the daily care of a minor for a year or more.

22 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Labor shall oversee the implementation of this bill to ensure
23 equal pay is carried out in the workplace and pensions are carried out.

24 A. All businesses that fail to comply shall be fined 4% of their annual profits and shall
25 increase by 3% for every consecutive infraction.

26 B. Inspections of all business shall occur annually to ensure the proper implementation
27 of this bill.

28 C. All employed childcare providers shall receive $\frac{1}{4}$ of their monthly wage, while taking
29 parental leave.

30 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect the beginning of next year.

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

Congressional Debate Sponsors

Novice Congressional Debate was sponsored by Hillcrest High School Alumni Jared Cooke

Varsity Congressional Debate was sponsored by BSU Alumni and Current Speech, Debate and Congressional Coach Jeff Stoppenhagen