

**LEGISLATION
PACKET FOR
2023
COTTONWOOD
CONGRESS**

AM 1

A Bill to Create a Federal Law to Require Official Identification When Voting

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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SECTION 1. This bill will require all states to obtain official identification such as: a diverse license, state ID, a passport, or any other form of picture identification when voting in any government election.

SECTION 2. Identification in this bill refers to official paperwork with one's Name, Date of Birth, and Picture on said paperwork.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission will oversee the enforcement of states obtaining official identification from voting citizens in order for them to submit their election ballots in any government election.

- A. For electronic and mail-in ballots, voting citizens must submit to the state or local election office via in person or a digital form with proof of official identification. Once an electronic or mail-in ballot is submitted or sent out, they will be crossed off a list so they are unable to submit any alternative ballot.
- B. Each state will be authorized to put into effect their own system to follow this bill so long as they are obtaining every voting citizen's official identification when they go to vote.
- C. Each state will also be required to have a system that verifies that no voting citizen has the capability of voting twice. If someone opts to submit for an electronic or mail in ballot they must not be able to vote in person. If someone opts to do an in person ballot they must not be able to request a mail in or electronic ballot.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1 of the next presidential voting year after this bill is passed. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by V. Sue Cleveland High School.

Am 2

A Bill to Reduce Hidden Costs for College Students

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. SECTION 1. All colleges and universities shall cover the cost of any textbooks or other resources required for student participation.
3. SECTION 2. Each college or university may choose whether to require students to return materials at the end of each course or allow them to keep them.
4. SECTION 3. Any college or university found to be in violation of this legislation shall be fined an amount equal to three times the cost of the textbook(s) and/or resource(s) it failed to provide.
5. SECTION 4. This legislation will be overseen by the Department of Education.
6. SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2023, and shall apply only to semesters that begin after that date.
7. SECTION 6. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced by Navajo Preparatory School

A Resolution to Aid Ukraine

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS ASSEMBLED HERE TODAY THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States should protect endangered democracies across the world, and it should also prove that it has the capability to directly or indirectly fight other great powers.

SECTION 2. The ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine has seen thousands of casualties, and is expected to continue for an indeterminate period of time.

SECTION 3. The United States can increase its rapport amongst its European allies, as well as with the international community by protecting the sovereignty of Ukraine. Preserving peace in Eastern Europe is in the interest of the United States and its allies.

SECTION 4. The United States should compete with nations that are a threat to its interests while avoiding direct armed conflict with said nations.

SECTION 5. The aforementioned goals could be achieved by providing an additional \$50,000,000,000 in total aid to Ukraine by June 1, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School

A Bill to Nationalize Water Rights to Prevent Future and Current Water Shortages

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States government, using its power of eminent domain, seizes
2 usage rights to all privately held potable water in the United States of
3 America. All current right owners will be compensated at a fair market
4 value. All seized water shall be made available as a public service billed by
5 usage.
- 6 **SECTION 2.** Right owners will be defined as any non-governmental entity that has the
7 right to extract water from natural water sources including but not limited
8 to rivers, lakes, and aquifers.
9 Fair market value will be defined as a price at which buyers and sellers both
10 having reasonable knowledge of the property and being under no
11 compulsion are willing to do business.
- 12 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Agriculture shall receive all water rights
13 and shall provide water as a service.
14 A. USDA shall create regional water unions which have the responsibility
15 of distributing water to customers and setting prices in collaboration
16 with local municipal water authorities.
17 B. In event of a shortage, residential uses shall be prioritized and prices
18 may not be raised more than 10% of pre-shortage levels.
- 19 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in FY 2026.
- 20 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Los Alamos High School.

A Resolution to review the Peace Corps

AM 5

- 1 **WHEREAS** more than 240,000 U.S. citizens have served in over 140 countries since President Kennedy
2 signed the Peace Corps Act; and
- 3 **WHEREAS** the Peace Corps has not been reauthorized by Congress in 20 years; and
- 4 **WHEREAS** the Peace Corps impacts its diverse base of volunteers and the countries it has served in
5 many and various ways; and
- 6 **WHEREAS** the Peace Corps may be viewed as an exercise of soft power by the U.S. military; and
- 7 **WHEREAS** the Peace Corps holds bipartisan support; and
- 8 **WHEREAS** the Peace Corps has not seen a budget increase in seven years; and
- 9 **WHEREAS** Peace Corps volunteers once again return to other nations following COVID-19 restrictions;
10 therefore be it
- 11 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that now is the time to conduct an extensive review of the
12 Peace Corps, including whether the Peace Corps should alter its mission and vision,
13 reauthorize as currently constituted, reorganize under a different department of the U.S.
14 government, or completely discontinue operations.

A Resolution to Discourage Scottish Independence

Am 6

- 1 **WHEREAS** Scotland has for centuries been an integral part of the United Kingdom; and
- 2 **WHEREAS** Global geopolitics and the preservation of democratic ideals depends heavily on Scotland as
- 3 part of the United Kingdom and therefore as part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;
- 4 and
- 5 **WHEREAS** Scottish independence would surely encourage the further fracturing of the United Kingdom
- 6 and thus disrupt the political balance of Europe and beyond; now, therefore be it
- 7 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that this body condemns all efforts toward Scottish
- 8 independence and advises strongly for the continued unity of the countries that comprise
- 9 the United Kingdom; and
- 10 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress pledges its eternal support for the United Kingdom and all that
- 11 nation's efforts at maintaining sovereign rule over its constituent countries.

A Bill to Allow all Federal Employees the Right to Unionize

AM7

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All full-time employees of the United States Federal Government shall have the right to
3 unionize.

4 **SECTION 2.** The right to unionize shall be defined as an employee's right "to organize and bargain
5 collectively with their employers, and to engage in other protected concerted activity." A
6 federal employee is defined as a current employee of an agency, including but not limited
7 to current members of the Armed Forces or a Reserve of the Armed Forces (Reserves),
8 employees of the United States Postal Service, and seasonal and temporary employees.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor will oversee enforcement along with the National Labor Relations
10 Board.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Blake Congress Tab.

A Bill to Restrict the Retirement of All Former Congress Members

AM 8

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All members of congress having served two terms in the House or one term in the Senate
3 shall not attain employment in the private sector for 5 years after leaving office.

4 **SECTION 2.** The private sector is defined as organizations and entities that are not part of any
5 governmental structure. The private sector includes for-profit and not-for-profit, formal
6 and informal organizations, commerce, and industry.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Labor Department in conjunction with the Justice Department shall prosecute. If
8 former Congress members are found to have violated this law, they will lose all federal
9 benefits, be fined \$1,000,000, and / or serve a prison term of no more than 2 years with
10 probation of three years.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation
12 are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Blake Tab Staff.

AMI

A Resolution to Allocate Funding for NATO's Autonomous Weapon Systems (AWS) Research

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The state of the world and especially Eastern Europe becomes increasingly
2 unstable as time goes on; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Members of the European Union are bolstering their own defense research
4 and development budgets in response; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** Modern day warfare is devastating due to economic reasons and loss of
6 life; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The use of autonomous weapon systems in warfare would lower the loss of
8 life; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** Many members of the European Union are also members of NATO; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** NATO has already expressed that autonomizing is a priority; now, therefore,
11 be it
- 12 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled will allocate funding for the optimization
13 of autonomous weapon systems; and, be it
- 14 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That while these AI optimizations are under development, the
15 United States shall move towards creating international treaties for the
16 responsible use of such weapons and provide its non-military
17 developments in general AI technology for civilian use.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Los Alamos High School.

PM2

A Resolution for a Constitutional Amendment To Reinstate Prohibition

BE IT RESOLVED HERE BY CONGRESS TODAY THAT

Section 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all the territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Section 2. The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by $\frac{3}{4}$ the legislatures, or ratifying conventions, of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within five years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

Respectfully submitted for debate by Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School

Pm 3

A Bill to Ban Job Loss Due to Automation

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. SECTION 1. No employer, regardless of size, shall utilize automation or artificial intelligence in such a way that it leads to human workforce reduction.
3. SECTION 2. Any employer found to be in violation of this legislation shall be compelled to pay to the displaced worker an amount equal to the median income of an individual worker in the state in which the worker was employed. More than three violations within a 12-month period shall result in that employer being shut down.
4. SECTION 3. This legislation will be overseen by the Department of Labor.
5. SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.
6. SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced by Navajo Preparatory School

A Bill to Invest in the Trans-African Highway

PM 4

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall deliver \$10 billion to the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African
- 3 Union (AU), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) to support
- 4 the completion of the Trans-African Highway network.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** Congress directs the Department of State to work actively and aggressively to facilitate
- 6 cooperation among the nations involved in the construction of these highways so that they
- 7 may be completed as quickly and efficiently as possible.
- 8 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation shall be diverted from the Department of Defense budget.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the US Agency for International Development (USAID).
- 10 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year.
- 11 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Resolution to Reimburse Private Employers for Federal Holidays

PH 5

1 **WHEREAS** Federal employees, with some exceptions by law, are entitled to paid holiday time off when
2 excused from duty on Federal Holidays; and

3 **WHEREAS** private sector employees may or may not be entitled to paid holiday time off based upon
4 their employer's designated policies; and

5 **WHEREAS** all employees should have the opportunity to recognize the importance of Federal Holidays;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS** some employees are not able to take time off from Federal Holidays as they are designated
8 essential employees; and

9 **WHEREAS** private employers may be discouraged from offering paid holiday time off; therefore be it

10 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that a committee be formed to examine the compensation
11 of private employers for wages and benefits accrued during Federal Holidays, which may
12 include but are not limited to tax rebates, payroll tax relief, or direct payments to private
13 employers, including compensation of double-time payments for employees who are
14 required to work during Federal Holidays.

A Resolution to Discourage Social Media Use Among Elected Officials

PM6

- 1 **WHEREAS** Politicians at all levels have become over reliant on social media to argue and communicate
2 policy proposals online to niche audiences and platforms; and
- 3 **WHEREAS** Disruption in the social media space among Twitter, Facebook, TikTok, and other prominent
4 social media platforms has made credibility and trust a matter of public concern; and
- 5 **WHEREAS** The lack of fact-checking and mediation among nearly all social media platforms have
6 become inconsistent with the virtues of open communication with the public; and
- 7 **WHEREAS** Political figures of all types spend disproportionate time on social media platforms, either by
8 themselves or their designees, time that could be better spent governing and
9 communicating through other channels; and
- 10 **WHEREAS** Members of this Congress have proposed to ban TikTok from all government phones due to
11 concerns over data privacy; therefore be it
- 12 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that all holders of political office (federal, state, county,
13 municipal, and local) remove social media apps from their phones; and
- 14 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congressional and other political leaders will vow to discontinue their use of
15 public social media accounts so that public deliberation, policy implementation, and
16 enforcement no longer take place online but are a part of public debate on the floors of
17 their respective legislative bodies only.

A Bill to Protect Federally Employed Whistle Blowers

PM 7

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** All United States Federal employees will have complete protection from termination or
3 punishment when providing testimony or information of illicit activities to the legislative or
4 judicial branch.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** Illicit activities shall be defined as any activity defined unequivocally by the Law of the
6 Parties as incurring a criminal penalty.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor in conjunction with the Department of Justice and United States
8 Congress Office of Compliance.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with this legislation
10 are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Blake Congress Tab.

A Bill to Ban Tackling in Football and Rugby

PM 8

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Tackling is hereby prohibited in public elementary, middle, and secondary education sports
3 in football, rugby, and any other activities where tackling is standard practice within the
4 sport. The use of flags as a stand-in for tackling shall remain legal, and public and private
5 leagues at all levels are encouraged to embrace this humane adaptation.

6 **SECTION 2.** Tackling is defined as the intentional use of physical contact and force to arrest another
7 player's movement, bring that player to the ground, and/or compel that player to lose
8 possession of the ball.

9 **SECTION 3.** Any public school found to be allowing tackling sports without penalty shall be fined \$1,000
10 for each violation.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Department of Health and Human Services
12 and the Department of Education.

13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on August 1, 2025.

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