

# **Florida Gulf Coast Catholic Forensics Leage**



## **Student Congress Docket FGCCFL 2, Newsome High School**

## A BILL TO OPTIMIZE SOLAR PANEL USAGE BY UTILIZING PARKING LOTS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Article I: To mandate the installation of solar panel canopies across large commercial parking lots and federal government owned parking lots in the United States, for the dual purpose of advancing national renewable energy capacity and improving environmental conditions in urban and suburban areas.

Article II: Large Parking Lot — Any paved surface used for vehicle parking that exceeds 25,000 square feet or contains more than 100 parking spaces.

Solar Panel Canopy — A raised structure designed to hold photovoltaic (PV) panels above a parking lot, providing both renewable energy generation and physical shade for the area beneath.

Article III: This legislation will take effect on July 1, 2026.

Article IV: The Department of Energy (DOE), in coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), shall oversee the implementation and enforcement of this legislation.

A. Enforcement shall occur through permitting, compliance inspections, and fines assessed against non-compliant commercial property owners after a 2-year grace period.

B. Federal government-owned parking lots shall transition under the direct management of the General Services Administration (GSA).

C. Funding for the national solar canopy rollout shall be derived from a 1% annual income contribution from households in the top 10% of earners in the United States.

Article V: All other laws in conflict with this new policy shall hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Hemish Mora*

*Strawberry Crest High*

## **A BILL TO PROVIDE PAID MATERNITY LEAVE FOR FULL TIME WORKERS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 Article I: All full-time employees who give birth shall be granted twelve weeks of maternity leave,  
3 consisting of eight weeks of paid leave and 4 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave.

4 Article II: A. While it will be a large business's job to allocate money towards paid maternity leave,  
5 small businesses will receive full government support when providing paid leave.

6 B. "Small businesses" shall be defined as an employer with fewer than twenty-five  
7 workers and/or less than 7.5 million dollars in annual receipts.

8 C. Full-time employees shall be any worker for thirty-five or more hours per week for  
9 more than six consecutive months prior to the date of leave.

10 Article III: This legislation will take effect on July 1, 2027.

11 Article IV: A. The Department of Labor shall oversee compliance and enforcement of this Act.

12 B. The Social Security Administration shall administer wage replacement for employees  
13 in small businesses.

14 Article V: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Cassandra Bonilla Llanes*

*Admiral Farragut Academy*

## **A BILL TO ISSUE DRIVER’S LICENSES TO UNDOCUMENTED PERSONS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 Article I: All states shall allow undocumented persons to obtain a state driver’s license.

3 Article II: The term “undocumented person” refers to all immigrants who reside in the United States  
4 without legal status.

5 Article III: A. The Department of Homeland Security shall be tasked with maintaining a database  
6 that stores records of all driver’s licenses issued to undocumented persons.

7 B. This act shall be enforced by the Department of Justice, which shall have the authority  
8 to determine and assign penalties for violations.

9 Article IV: The provisions of this bill shall take effect on January 1st, 2027.

10 Article V: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Fergie Escobar*

*Hillsborough High School*

## **A BILL TO IMPROVE HEALTHCARE IN FEDERAL PRISONS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 Article I: The federal government shall provide increased funding to federally managed prisons to  
3 ensure prisoners receive adequate healthcare.

4 Article II: “Adequate healthcare” shall be defined as the services necessary to ensuring inmates  
5 overall wellbeing and health.

6 Article III: A. The United States Department of Justice shall be responsible for enforcing the  
7 provisions of this bill.

8 B. The federal excise tax on cigarettes shall be raised to \$1.50, with one fifth of all  
9 revenue raised through this tax being delegated to the provisions of this bill.

10 C. The Department of Justice shall work in conjunction with the National Institute of  
11 Health to determine guidelines all prisons must follow when implementing the federal  
12 funding they receive.

13 D. After six months from this legislation’s effective date, the Federal Bureau of Prisons  
14 shall begin to conduct inspections ensuring prisons are following the guidelines  
15 established by the department of justice and the National Institute of Health.

16 E. All prisons who fail to meet these guidelines shall be subject to increased oversight  
17 and the termination and/or replacement of key staff members.

18 Article IV: The provisions of this bill shall take effect 1 year after passage.

19 Article V: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Sharan Penta*

*Robinson High School*

## **A RESOLUTION TO ABOLISH QUALIFIED IMMUNITY**

- 1   Whereas:     The doctrine of Qualified Immunity allows government officials to avoid liability in civil  
2                   cases unless violations of rights were “clearly established”; and
- 3   Whereas:     This doctrine allows law enforcement officers to blatantly violate citizens’ rights; and
- 4   Whereas:     Qualified Immunity limits accountability and trust in law enforcement; and
- 5   Whereas:     Abolishing the Qualified Immunity doctrine would allow those whose rights have been  
6                   violated more reasonable access in seeking justice, reinforcing the protection of  
7                   constitutional rights.
- 8   Therefore,    be it resolved by this FGCCFL Student Congress here assembled that the doctrine of  
9                   Qualified Immunity be hereby abolished.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Nikhil Khanna*

*Robinson High School*

**A BILL TO ESTABLISH A CARBON TAX TO MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE AND  
PROMOTE A CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Article I: A federal carbon tax shall be implemented on the production, distribution, or import of fossil fuels and other high-emission products in the U.S. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and incentivize a transition to renewable energy.

Article II: Carbon Tax: A tax levied on carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, measured by the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) produced from burning fossil fuels. Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Emissions from carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and other gasses contributing to climate change, measured in CO<sub>2</sub>e. Renewable Energy: Energy derived from sources that are naturally replenished, including wind, solar, hydro, and geothermal.

Article III: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall administer and oversee the carbon tax as follows:

A. \$75 per metric ton of CO<sub>2</sub>, rising \$10 annually until carbon neutrality.

B. Applied at fossil fuel extraction/import and to major carbon-heavy industries.

C. The EPA shall track emissions through greenhouse gas monitoring systems, and failure to report or misreporting shall incur fines equal to twice the owed carbon tax.

Article IV: The provisions of this bill shall take effect 1 year after passage.

Article V: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Noam Weitzman*

*Newsome High School*

## **A BILL TO ABOLISH PRISONS TO REDUCE CRIME**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 Article I: Federal prison infrastructure shall be evaluated and re-outfitted to establish rehabilitation  
3 centers for nonviolent offenses in roughly 90% of facilities, with 10% of capacity  
4 reserved for long-term confinement of violent offenders and those deemed to pose  
5 excessive risk of violent recidivism.

6 Article II: A. Federal prison infrastructure shall be evaluated and re-outfitted to establish  
7 rehabilitation centers for nonviolent offenses in roughly 90% of facilities, with 10% of  
8 capacity reserved for long-term confinement of violent offenders and those deemed to  
9 pose excessive risk of violent recidivism.

10 B. Violent offenses shall be judged as under 18 U.S. Code § 16.

11 C. Funding for this initiative shall be allotted from the long-term reduction of CO hours  
12 and force as well as population reduction through rehabilitation.

13 Article III: The Department of Justice, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of  
14 Education in each state will enforce this bill.

15 Article IV: The provisions of this bill shall take effect on January 1, 2030.

16 Article V: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Rachel Vo*

*Sarasota Military Academy*



## **A BILL TO REGULATE AMMUNITION TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 Article I: The simultaneous ownership of more than one un-labelled bullet, shell, or cartridge for  
3 the operation of a firearm by an unlicensed firearms dealer shall be banned, punishable  
4 by imprisonment or a fine not to exceed \$100,000 per unit; otherwise, the regulation of  
5 projectile firearms shall be delegated entirely to the states, with all federal laws pertaining  
6 to gun ownership superseded by state regulations.

7 Article II: A. Un-labelled bullets, shells, and cartridges shall be understood to include any medium  
8 designed and sold to be fired from a firearm, as defined under 18 U.S.C., § 921(a)(3), not  
9 bearing the name of the legal purchaser legibly in permanent ink or engraving.

10 B. Unlicensed firearms dealers shall include those not registered with the Federal  
11 Firearms Licensing Center (FFLC) or not having fulfilled all relevant training and fees  
12 for the maintenance of said licensure.

13 Article III: The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms shall enforce this bill.

14 Article IV: The provisions of this bill shall take effect on January 1, 2030.

15 Article V: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Rackel Urrestta*

*Sarasota Military Academy*

## **A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE MARCH EIGHTH A FEDERAL HOLIDAY**

- 1   Whereas:     The United States workforce enjoys less federally recognized holidays than other  
2                   Democracies; and
- 3   Whereas:     The total days in between President’s Day, the third Monday in February, and the next  
4                   federally recognized holiday Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, is the longest  
5                   period each year without a federally recognized holiday; and
- 6   Whereas:     March 8<sup>th</sup>, being the 67<sup>th</sup> day of a non-leap year calendar, falls in-between President’s  
7                   Day and Memorial Day each year; and
- 8   Whereas:     Adding another federally recognized holiday for everyone to enjoy is based.
- 9   Therefore,    be it resolved by this FGCCFL Student Congress here assembled that March 8<sup>th</sup> will be  
10                 hereby be recognized as “67 Day,” a federally recognized holiday.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*FGCCFL Committee*