

A Bill to Promote Clean Energy and Combat Climate Change

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The federal government shall invest in clean energy by establishing a Clean
2 Energy Grant Program and setting emissions standards. A Clean Energy
3 Grant Program within the Department of Energy (DOE) shall provide
4 funding for research and development of renewable energy technologies,
5 energy storage, and grid modernization. Within five years of enactment, at
6 least 50% of electricity sold in the United States must come from
7 renewable sources such as wind, solar, hydroelectric, or geothermal power.

8 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this Act:

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- 10 • (a) “Renewable energy” refers to energy sources that are naturally replenished,
11 including but not limited to solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal, and biomass
12 energy.
 - 13 • (b) “Emissions” refers to greenhouse gas emissions as defined by the
14 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
 - 15 • (c) “Clean Energy Grant Program” refers to the federal funding initiative to
16 support development of low-carbon energy.

17 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy (DOE) shall administer the Clean Energy Grant
18 Program and enforce the renewable energy requirement in Section 1. The
19 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall establish regulations to
20 monitor and verify compliance with the renewable energy targets.

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22 **SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws and parts of laws in
23 conflict with this Act are hereby declared null and void.

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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mountain Ridge High School.

A Bill to Regulate Profit from Federal Land

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All hardrock minerals that are taken from federal public lands, as defined in the General Mining Law of 1872, shall be subject to:

- A. A 5% royalty fee based on the gross value of the extracted materials
- B. A 2% reclamation fee based on the gross value of the extracted materials

SECTION 2. For clarity, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- A. Hardrock minerals are locatable minerals such as gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, uranium, and molybdenum. It does not include substances already subject to royalty fees under separate legislation.
- B. Gross value refers to the value of the minerals as they are when they are removed from the ground.
- C. Public lands include those lands owned by the federal government and overseen by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service.

SECTION 3. The Secretary of the Interior will be responsible for collecting and assessing royalties and reclamation fees gathered from this bill. Collected funds will be reallocated to cleaning and restoring public lands. Any mining company found to be in violation of this bill will be fined \$10,000 per violation and potentially temporarily (or indefinitely) lose their mining license.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2027.

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

A Bill to Require Reporting on State Grand Jury Decisions

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** State reporting entities are hereby required to release comprehensive documentation used in covered proceedings. Documentation should be submitted within 90 days of the proceeding and include:
- A. All categories of evidence presented to the Grand Jury
 - B. Accounts of all required forensic testing presented, including but not limited to, autopsy and toxicology reports.
 - C. Notice of the prosecutor's status as either the jurisdiction's regular prosecutor or an independent special prosecutor.
 - D. Any other documentation deemed pertinent to the case.
- SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this bill,
- A. State reporting entities refers to any state or local entity that benefits from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program.
 - B. Covered proceedings include grand jury proceedings that are convened under state law and result in a decision not to indict in cases involving death.
- SECTION 3.** Reports will be submitted to the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance.
- A. The DOJ's Bureau of Justice Assistance will publish an annual report to include each jurisdiction's compliance with this law.
 - B. Additionally, they will conduct annual reviews on randomly selected samples by comparing submitted reports to local and state records. This will be done to ensure compliance.
 - C. Jurisdictions found to be non compliant will lose 10% of their funding for the following fiscal year.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect exactly one year after this bill is signed into law.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Resolution to Enhance Mental Health Services for Military Veterans

- 1 **WHEREAS,** A significant number of United States military veterans suffer from mental
2 health challenges including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and
3 depression; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** Studies show that veteran suicide rates and untreated PTSD continue to be
5 at crisis levels, with far too many veterans lacking adequate access to
6 mental health care; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** Current funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) mental health
8 programs is insufficient to meet the demand for counseling and therapy
9 services; now, therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled urges the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
11 to allocate additional funding and resources to expand mental health
12 counseling, support groups, and treatment programs for veterans; and, be
13 it
- 14 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Department of Defense shall partner with the VA and
15 veterans service organizations to improve outreach, suicide prevention
16 training, and transition services for servicemembers reentering civilian life..

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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mountain Ridge High School.

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to a Semi-Presidential System

1 **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, the following article is
2 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which
3 shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when
4 ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within
5 seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

ARTICLE --

SECTION 1: The Senate shall dissolve on January 3 following the next congressional election, and cease to be a house of congress or a function of the legislative branch. Its powers shall be absorbed by the House of Representatives.

SECTION 2: The seats in the House of Representatives shall be divided equally among the population, not subject to state gerrymandering, and instead districted by an independent commission appointed by the congress.

SECTION 3: The electoral college shall be abolished, and the office of the President of the United States shall be popularly elected.

SECTION 4: The House of Representatives shall elect a Prime Minister through a simple majority vote following each regularly scheduled Congressional election.

SECTION 5: The Prime Minister shall assume the power to veto any legislation passed by the congress, and will presume the role of the Diplomat in Chief. The President shall retain all current powers, with the exception of passing legislation the Prime Minister chooses to veto.

SECTION 6: The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Westwood High.

A Bill to Reform the Immigration System and Strengthen Border Security

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall establish a new program
2 to allow eligible undocumented immigrants who arrived in the United
3 States as children or have resided in the country for at least 10 years to
4 apply for conditional permanent resident status. Applicants must pass
5 background checks, pay taxes, demonstrate basic English proficiency, and
6 show commitment to continuing education or military service. After five
7 years of conditional status, individuals shall be eligible to apply for lawful
8 permanent residency (green card).

9 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this Act:

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- 11 • (a) “Conditional permanent resident status” is a temporary legal status
12 permitting residence and work in the U.S. that may be converted to lawful
13 permanent residency upon meeting certain requirements.
 - 14 • (b) “DHS” means the Department of Homeland Security, including agencies
15 operating under DHS such as the United States Citizenship and Immigration
16 Services (USCIS) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP).
 - 17 • (c) “Dreamers” (referenced in historical context) refers to individuals who were
18 brought to the United States before the age of 18 and have lived continuously in
19 the U.S.

20 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security shall also receive increased
21 funding for border security and immigration processing. Specifically, DHS shall allocate
22 \$3,000,000,000 for enhanced border technology (such as surveillance drones and
23 sensors) and hiring additional Customs and Border Protection officers. These measures
24 aim to secure the border while expediting the processing of asylum claims and visas.

25 **SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect on the date of enactment. All laws and parts of
26 laws in conflict with this Act are hereby declared null and void.

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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mountain Ridge High School.

The Federal Bottle Bill

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

- SECTION 1.** To incentivize recycling on a wider scale, all states and territories must implement deposit and redemption systems for beverage cans and bottles, where a modest deposit is paid upon purchase and returned when the empty can or bottle is redeemed at a designated and authorized redemption center. States and territories may choose to exclude cans and bottles that contain dairy products and/or alcoholic beverages from their programs.
- SECTION 2.** Funds from uncollected deposits shall be recycled back into the state or territory's program to cover necessary expenses.
- SECTION 3.** Any states or territories that fail to implement bottle redemption programs that meet these minimum criteria shall lose eligibility for Solid Waste Management Assistance Grants until such time as compliance is reached.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2027.
- SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

The Promoting Accuracy in Elections by Prohibiting Electronic Recording (PAEPER) Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Electronic voting machines, digital ballot-marking devices (BMDs), optical scanners, and automated tabulation systems are hereby banned in all jurisdictions conducting federal elections. The tasks meant to be streamlined by these electronic devices must be carefully executed and rigorously accounted for by hand and by human tabulators.

SECTION 2. States and territories are strongly encouraged to enact similar legislation for elections at the subnational level.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

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