A Bill to Amend Federal K-12 Education Funding on the Completion of a Civics Course

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1 The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is hereby amended to include provisions requiring high school students to complete a course focusing on government and politics for at least one semester. States that fail to meet this requirement shall be ineligible for up to ten percent of federal funding under ESSA.

SECTION 2 Courses original to the high school must be approved by their state's Department of Education, respectively. Classes not originating in the high school do not need to be approved. Such courses include but are not limited to:

a) Advanced Placement (AP)
b) International Baccalaureate (IB)
c) Dual Enrollment (with an accredited college or university)

SECTION 3 Courses must include at least 2 of the following topics:

a) Elections and Political Parties
b) The Constitution
c) The Branches of Government
d) Federalism
e) History of American Democracy

SECTION 4 A total of 20 billion dollars will be authorized in total for the completion of this legislation. The U.S. Department of Education (DoE) shall calculate the relative totals for each state, proportionate to each state population, respectively. Funding shall be given over the course of 3 years after passage.

SECTION 5 This legislation will go into effect immediately after passage. Students one academic year prior to their first year in high school and every following class is subject to this legislation.

SECTION 6 Any laws in conflict with this piece of legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jacob Goldstein, Syosset High School, NY.

A Bill to Secure Senate Primary Elections

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. For any and all persons, proper and valid government-issued identification must be presented to staff at any location conducting a primary election for a candidate for U.S. Senate. Failure to produce such identification prohibits said person from casting a ballot until they produce valid identification.

SECTION 2. Every current and future polling location that is properly registered with their respective local and state election authority must include training for polling staff on how to properly recognize adequate identification.

SECTION 3. A) “proper and valid government-issued identification” is defined as: photo identification and personal details matching and confirming the identity of the person attending the polling location. This can include but is not limited to: driver’s licenses, passports, military IDs, or non-driver’s state ID.

B) “primary election for a candidate for U.S. Senate” is defined as: elections held to determine the candidate who is representing their respective party in the general elections to determine the seat. This legislation includes runoff elections.

SECTION 4. A total of $1,000 shall be allocated by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to each polling location that conducts the U.S. Senate primary elections for the express purpose of training polling staff to comply with this piece of legislation.

SECTION 5. This legislation will take effect January 1 2027. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jacob Goldstein, Syosset High School, New York

A Bill to Authorize the Creation of the Keystone XL Pipeline

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1 The South Bow Corporation shall be granted all necessary federal permits for cross-border construction to complete the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline.

SECTION 2 The Keystone XL Pipeline is a proposed extension of the Canadian-American crude oil pipeline designed to transport crude oil from the Canadian Sedimentary Basin in Alberta to U.S. refineries in cooperation with foreign commerce requirements.

SECTION 3 A total of 500 million USD shall be allocated over the course of 3 years dedicated specifically to aid in the construction of the pipeline. Failure to comply with these provisions will result in the revocation of the allocation. Any future corporation that owns, regulates, or maintains rights to the pipeline is also subject to the funding provided under this legislation.

SECTION 4 Implementation and enforcement of this legislation shall be overseen by the Department of State, the Department of Energy, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Any violations of environmental protection policies shall be stopped and punished in accordance with current environmental protection regulations.

SECTION 5 This legislation will go into effect immediately upon passage. Any and all laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jacob Goldstein, Syosset High School, NY

A Bill to Prohibit Prescription Drug Advertisements

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All direct-to-consumer advertisements of prescription pharmaceutical drugs shall be prohibited in the United States.

SECTION 2. **i.** "Direct-to-consumer advertisement" shall be defined as any paid public communication, including television, radio, print, digital, social media, and outdoor media, that promotes a prescription pharmaceutical drug to the public rather than to licensed health care professionals.

ii. "Prescription pharmaceutical drug" shall be defined as any drug that can only be provided with a prescription from a licensed health care provider.

iii. This prohibition shall not apply to public health announcements issued by federal, state, or local agencies, or to ones targeted exclusively towards licensed health care professionals.

SECTION 3. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall oversee the enforcement of this legislation as a reworking of its already existing Office of Prescription Drug Promotion. Pharmaceutical manufacturers, as well as advertising companies, found in violation of this legislation shall be fined up to $250,000 per advertisement on a first offense and up to $500,000 per advertisement on every further offense.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2028. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Chaminade High School.

An Amendment to Abolish the Electoral College and Establish a National Popular Vote for Presidential Elections

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1: The Electoral College shall be abolished, and the President and Vice President of the United States shall be elected by a nationwide popular vote. Every eligible voter's vote shall count equally toward the national total, regardless of the state in which the voter resides. The presidential ticket receiving more than 50% of the valid votes cast nationwide shall be declared the winner.

SECTION 2: The constitutional provisions establishing and governing the Electoral College, including Article II, Section 1, and the Twelfth Amendment, shall be amended or repealed as necessary through the constitutional amendment process. Presidential elections shall instead be determined by the total number of valid votes received nationwide, rather than by the allocation of electoral votes among the states.

SECTION 3: If no presidential ticket receives more than 50% of the valid votes cast nationwide, a runoff election shall be held between the two tickets receiving the highest number of votes in the initial election. The runoff shall take place on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in December. The ticket receiving the greater number of valid votes in the runoff shall be declared the winner. Federal and state election officials shall establish procedures to prepare for and administer the runoff in a timely manner. Once the winning ticket of the popular vote is established the member of the ticket nominated for the presidency shall be the president and the member of the ticket designated for the office of the vice president shall be elected vice president.

SECTION 4: The federal government shall establish uniform standards for counting, recounting, and certifying votes in presidential elections. These standards shall include procedures for determining ballot validity, conducting recounts when required, protecting election security, and establishing deadlines for reporting and certifying results. States shall administer their elections in accordance with these standards to ensure that votes are counted accurately and consistently. The federal government shall provide guidance to state election officials to support the fair and effective implementation of the national popular vote system.

SECTION 5: This legislation shall take effect following the ratification of the constitutional amendment necessary to abolish the Electoral College. Congress shall establish any additional laws necessary to implement the national popular vote system, including procedures for

resolving election disputes and certifying the final results. All federal and state laws that conflict with the amended constitutional provisions shall be revised accordingly.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Christopher Padula, Kellenberg Memorial High School.

Federal Offensive for the Elimination of the Illegal Importation and Manufacturing of Fentanyl Bill

A BILL

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1.

This Act may be cited as the "Federal Offensive for the Elimination of the Illegal Importation and Manufacturing of Fentanyl Bill".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- **Sec. 1.** Short Title.
- **Sec. 2.** Table of Contents.
- **Sec. 3.** Findings and Purpose.
- **Sec. 4.** Permanent Scheduling of Fentanyl-Related Substances.
- **Sec. 5.** Enhanced Criminal Penalties for Illicit Importation and Manufacturing.
- **Sec. 6.** Precursor Chemical Tracking and Border Interdiction.
- **Sec. 7.** Counter-Narcotics Technology and Infrastructure Upgrades.
- **Sec. 8.** Targeting Illicit Financing and Cartel Supply Chains.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) Findings.—Congress finds the following claims:

1. Illicitly manufactured fentanyl and its synthetic analogues have sustained an unparalleled public health and national security threat to the United States of America.

2. Synthetic opioids are predominantly manufactured using precursor chemicals sourced internationally, synthesized in clandestine laboratories, and smuggled across United States borders.
3. Abolishing the supply chain of illicit fentanyl requires a unified federal offensive combining the criminal justice system, international sanctions, a more comprehensive system for border security, and a fiscally responsible budget.

(b) Purpose.—The primary purpose of this Act is to systematically disrupt and dismantle the global illicit production and the illegal importation of fentanyl and related synthetic opioids in an effort to disrupt and dismantle the domestic distribution networks responsible for the current epidemic.

SEC. 4. ENHANCED CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR ILLICIT IMPORTATION AND MANUFACTURING.

(a) Mandatory Minimum Sentences for Manufacturing and Importation.—Section 401(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(b)(1)(A)(vi)) is amended—

1. by striking "400 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl] propanamide" and inserting "10 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl or any fentanyl-related substance"; and
2. by striking "10 years" and inserting "30 years".

(b) Aggravating Factors.—Section 419 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 860) is amended as follows:

"(i) *Manufacturing or Importing Near Critical Infrastructure or Schools.*—Any person who knowingly manufactures, imports, or distributes a fentanyl-related substance within 300 feet of a school, university, public park, or port of entry shall be subject to twice the maximum penalty otherwise authorized."

SEC. 6. PRECURSOR CHEMICAL TRACKING AND BORDER DISRUPTION.

(a) Enhanced Border Screening.—

1. **Mandatory Scanning.**—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) shall ensure that 100 percent of commercial cargo containers and express consignment packages entering the United States from any-risk origin points are screened using high-energy non-intrusive inspection (NII) technology.
2. **K-9 Deployment.**—CBP shall double the deployment of specialized drug-detection canine units trained specifically to detect low-concentration synthetic opioids at all major land ports of entry and international mail facilities.

SEC. 7. COUNTER-NARCOTICS TECHNOLOGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES.

(a) Grant Program for Advanced Detection.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a grant program to award funds to state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies for the acquisition of—

1. Handheld Raman spectrometers and field-testing devices capable of safely identifying synthetic opioids without exposing officers to toxic substances.
2. Advanced personal protective equipment (PPE) for field officers and first responders responding to clandestine laboratory scenes.

(b) Authorization of Appropriations.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $250,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2031.

SEC. 8. TARGETING ILLICIT FINANCING AND CARTEL SUPPLY CHAINS.

(a) Financial Intelligence Task Force.—The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) shall establish a specialized task force focused on tracking cryptocurrency transactions, trade-based money laundering, and shell

companies used by transnational criminal organizations to purchase precursor chemicals.

(b) Sanctions Mandate.—The President shall impose blocking sanctions pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) on foreign persons, entities, or financial institutions knowingly involved in the international trafficking or chemical precursor supply chains for illicit fentanyl production.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jaxson O'Connor, Kellenberg Memorial High School