

**A BILL TO ESTABLISH A PRESIDENTIAL YOUTH COUNCIL TO
ENGAGE YOUNG AMERICANS IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The President of the United States shall establish a Presidential Youth Council by
3 means of an Executive Order. The Council will consist of 24 most intelligent, young minds who
4 will design solutions to some of America's most imperative issues where the best ideas would be
5 brought to Washington D.C.

6 **SECTION 2.** The council can be defined as any civic-minded individual who is be appointed the
7 leadership of Democratic and Republican parties and is under the age of 24 years old.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education shall oversee the implementation of this bill.

9 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented 2 years after its passage.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Bensalem High School

**A BILL TO IMPOSE A CARBON TAX TO
CONFRONT CLIMATE CHANGE**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** A carbon tax of 15.56 2015 dollars per metric ton will be imposed on all
3 powerplants.

4 **SECTION 2.** A carbon tax is defined as a tax levied by the federal government on entities based
5 on the amount of carbon dioxide each entity produces. Powerplant is defined by
6 42 U.S.C. § 8302 (a)(7).

7 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of the Treasury and the Environmental Protection
8 Agency will jointly administer the implementation of this bill.

9 A. The United States Department of the Treasury will collect the carbon tax.

10 B. The Environmental Protection Agency will implement a system of
11 tracking the amount of carbon dioxide powerplants produce.

12 C. Any other tasks are under the supervision of both the United States
13 Department of the Treasury and the Environmental Protection Agency.

14 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented on January 1st, 2017.

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

Respectfully submitted,

BISHOP SHANAHAN HIGH SCHOOL

**A BILL TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF
COSMETICS CONTAINING PLASTIC MICROBEADS**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Section 601 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 361) is
3 amended by adding at the end the following:

4 *(g) If it contains synthetic plastic microbeads.*

5 **SECTION 2.** The above amendment shall apply beginning January 1, 2018.

6 **SECTION 3.** Enforcement of this ban will occur through the United States Food and Drug
7 Administration and funding will be through normal means.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Gwynedd Mercy Academy

**A RESOLUTION TO BAN THE DISTRIBUTION OF ASSAULT WEAPONS IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, Assault weapons have caused the death of many innocent lives in the United
2 States; and
- 3 **WHEREAS**, Assault weapons are completely unnecessary for someone to own and are the easy
4 choice in weaponry when it comes to mass shootings; and
- 5 **WHEREAS**, Mass shootings such as the one at Sandy Hook would not have occurred if there
6 were no assault rifles; and
- 7 **WHEREAS**, Assault weapons are not necessary for a citizen to have in their home to defend
8 themselves; and
- 9 **WHEREAS**, The extended magazines and extra firepower that killed 323 people in 2012 is used
10 for the main reason of massive shootings; now therefore be it
- 11 **RESOLVED**, That the student congress here assembled ban the distribution and usage of assault
12 rifles in the United States of America.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holy Ghost Preparatory School

A BILL TO ELIMINATE PRIVATE PRISONS

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

2 **SECTION 1.** all facilities housing prisoners or detainees in the custody of the Federal
3 Government shall be under the direct, operational control of the Federal
4 Government.

5 **SECTION 1.** all facilities housing prisoners or detainees in the custody of the State or local
6 government shall be under the direct, operational control of a State or local
7 government

8 **SECTION 3.** core correctional services at each such facility shall be performed by employees
9 of the Federal, State, or local government.

10 **SECTION 4.** The terms “facility” and “facilities” in this legislation do not include community
11 treatment centers, halfway houses, restitution centers, mental health facilities,
12 alcohol or drug rehabilitation centers, or other community facilities not within the
13 confines of a jail or prison. The term “prisoners” in this legislation does not
14 include individuals sentenced to home confinement.

15 **SECTION 5.** All Federal, State, and local governments must comply no later than 2 years after
16 enactment. The Attorney General may waive compliance for a period not longer
17 than 1 additional year.

18 **SECTION 6.** The United States Department of Justice will enforce this legislation.

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

Respectfully submitted,

La Salle College High School

A Resolution to Raise the Gas Tax in Order to Fund Our Nation's Infrastructure

1 **WHEREAS:** The United States has regularly underinvested in its infrastructure, and

2 **WHEREAS:** The gas tax has not been raised since 1993, and

3 **WHEREAS:** The Highway Trust Fund is running low on revenue and no short term

4 Or long term solutions have been found;

5 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** That this Congress here assembled raise the gas tax and
6 use the generated revenue to fund the Highway Trust Fund until a more
7 permanent solution can be found.

Respectfully submitted,

Pennsbury High School

**A BILL TO INVEST IN RESILIENCE PROGRAMS TO REDUCE THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY
NATURAL CATASTROPHES**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will allocate \$50 billion to be used to bolster and expand
3 resilience programs to allow communities to better withstand the effects of natural
4 disasters.

5 **SECTION 2.** Natural disasters shall be defined as major adverse events resulting from natural
6 processes of the earth, including, but not limited to, floods, hurricanes,
7 earthquakes, wildfires and tornadoes. Resilience programs shall be defined as
8 efforts to make vital infrastructure such as shelters, roads, electrical grids, and
9 water-treatment facilities more resistant to storm damage.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security shall oversee the implementation of this
11 legislation.

12 A. Funds will be allocated by the Department of Homeland Security to
13 individual states for distribution and allocation towards different projects.

14 B. States shall receive such funding after submitting an application for a
15 requested amount, and undergoing a careful review.

16 C. Funding will be drawn from the Department of Defense budget.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation goes into effect January 1, 2017.

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

Respectfully submitted,

St. Joseph's Preparatory School

**A RESOLUTION TO GRANT FULL SOVEREIGNTY TO
ALL FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES**

1 **WHEREAS**, The United States has failed to recognize and sufficiently make reparations for the
2 forced removal of American Indians; and

3 **WHEREAS**, American Indian Tribes have been restricted by the United States Government
4 where they cannot continue their traditional way of life; and

5 **WHEREAS**, The Western genocide of the American Indians has never been fully recognized
6 and still has lasting effects on the living standards of Indian people; now,
7 therefore, be it

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

ARTICLE 1

14 SECTION 1: The United States should grant full sovereignty to federally
15 recognized American Indian tribes and create a framework for the
16 further incorporation of traditional lands into these nations.

17 SECTION 2: The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by
18 appropriate legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Noah Pallmeyer

Strath Haven High School

**A BILL TO AUTHORIZE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS TO RUN AS A
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall require a total of three academic tests with a minimum of
3 30 questions each in order to run in the election as a presidential candidate.

4 **SECTION 2.** Three academic tests are defined as a general standardized academic exam, an
5 exam on the political history of the United States, and another exam on the political, law, and
6 justice system of the United States.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission and the Senate will be in charge of the
8 implementation of this bill.

9 A. The Senate will form the three academic tests, and have it approved by the House of
10 Representatives.

11 B. The Federal Election Commission will oversee the results of the tests to decide who is
12 eligible for candidacy.

13 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect at the start of the next presidential election season.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Bensalem High School

**A RESOLUTION TO REGULATE PAYDAY LOANS TO
STOP PREDATORY LENDING PRACTICES**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, People are getting loans that they simply can't repay; and
2 **WHEREAS**, Right now there are almost no regulation on these loans, allowing the lenders to
3 take advantage of the borrowers; and
4 **WHEREAS**, This is inducing a lack of trust from both the borrowers and national banks; and
5 **WHEREAS**, This lack of trust hurting not only these borrowers but our economy as a whole;
6 now, therefore, be it
7 **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled make the recommendation that the
8 federal regulations set forth by the Consumer Financial Bureau.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rep. Anton Peschansky
Holy Ghost Preparatory School*

**A BILL TO ENACT THE HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM TO
FIGHT HOMELESSNESS MORE EFFECTIVELY**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States federal government shall enact a program similar to the
3 "Housing First" program enacted by the State of Utah. This program shall provide
4 federally funded housing to any person who is homeless who applies for
5 assistance or is recruited by a program employee.

6 **SECTION 2.** Homelessness shall be defined using the Department of Housing and Urban
7 Development's definition, as 1) literally homeless; 2) imminent risk of
8 homelessness; 3) homeless under other Federal statutes; and 4) fleeing/attempting
9 to flee domestic violence.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Housing and Urban Development shall oversee the
11 implementation of this bill.

12 A. Program participants shall contribute \$50 or 30% of their income (whichever
13 is greater) to the program's funding.

14 B. Any savings in other programs resulting from a decrease in homelessness
15 shall also be transferred to the program.

16 C. Up to \$38.5 billion shall be provided to HUD in addition to funding provided
17 by program participants and savings from other areas.

18 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Sarah Myers

Strath Haven HS

A BILL TO GUARANTEE TWO YEARS OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States federal government will subsidize tuition costs for the first
2 forty-eight credits of post-secondary education taken at non-profit institutions
3 which issue accredited degrees, certificates, or diplomas.

4 **SECTION 2.** The terms of this bill are defined as follows:

5 A. Tuition costs refers to only the amount paid to the institution for course in
6 which the student is enrolled. Books, fees, room, and board are not covered by
7 this legislation, but are still eligible for other federal grants or loans.

8 B. Forty-eight credits is calculated based upon models of credit calculation in
9 which one credit is roughly equivalent to fourteen hours of post-secondary
10 instruction.

11 C. Accredited degrees, certificates, or diplomas are those issued by institutions
12 classified by the by the Department of Education as having proper accreditation.

13 D. Post-secondary education is schooling that takes place after the completion a
14 high school diploma or its equivalent with the aim to earn an accredited degree,
15 certificate, or diploma.

16 **SECTION 3.** The Office of Postsecondary Education within the United States Department of
17 Education will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

18 A. Funds will be provided through the normal fiscal year 2017 budgeting process.

19 **SECTION 4.** This law shall go into effect in the fiscal year 2017.

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

21 *Submitted for Congressional Debate by York Catholic High School*

A Bill to Improve the Infrastructure of America's Roadways

1 **BE ENACTED BY THIS CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**

2 **SECTION 1:** The Department of Transportation will be granted \$170 billion to oversee
3 the repair and reconstruction of America's roadways to the point
4 those roadways are up to standards set and yet to be determined by the
5 Federal Highway Administration.

6 **SECTION 2:** The repair and reconstruction of America's roadways will be defined as
7 the restoration of our streets and highways to operational soundness.

8 **SECTION 3:** The implementation of this bill will be overseen by the Department of
9 Transportation.

10 A. The repairs will begin with major interstate highways and continue
11 from that point until all major roadways have been repaired to the
12 standards set by the Federal Highway Administration. B. The federal gas
13 tax will be raised to account for the cost of repair and reconstruction of
14 America's roadways.

15 **SECTION 4:** This bill will be implemented at the start of the fiscal year of 2017.

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

17 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dallastown Area High School*

A Bill to Strengthen the Bond of Families and Improve Lives for American Families

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1: The United States will guarantee workers at least fourteen weeks off of work for new parents, this leave applies to both the public and private sectors and workers must be paid for this time off.

Section 2: The United States will also guarantee at least seven days of paid sick leave for all workers. This applies for both the public and private sectors.

Sub-Section A: For severe medical conditions the worker must see a doctor to confirm their condition. If a worker cannot see a doctor his/her employer must give the worker full access to medical treatment to see if a leave is necessary. This leave will last as long as the doctor permits that the leave should go.

Section 3: All workers in the United States shall be granted at least ten days of paid vacation time.

Section 4: The United States shall mandate pre-school and Kindergarten for all American children through the public school systems.

Section 5: These programs shall be paid for by an insurance program, similar to social security, that will be taxed at .02 percent and a raise in the estate tax to 45 percent for estates valued between \$3.5 million and \$10 million. The rate on estates worth more than \$10 million and less than \$50 million will be 50%. A surtax of ten percent will be added for those making over a billion dollars.

Section 6: The payment rate for the leaves will be 66 percent of a worker's monthly salary.

Section 7: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully Submitted,

Noah Musto

Abington Heights High School

A Bill to Require a Yearly, Automatic Increase in the Federal Minimum Wage

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE TODAY THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The federal government of the United States shall automatically increase the
3 minimum wage by 50 to 100 cents each year until it reaches 15 US Dollars, and
4 will undergo reevaluation for the need of continuation of this systematic increase.

5 SECTION 2. Minimum wage is defined by the FLSA at \$7.25 an hour. The reevaluation
6 mentioned will be done by members of the Department of Labor by looking at the
7 economic status of the middle classes, lower classes, and poverty rates, in
8 addition to employee surveys.

9 SECTION 3. The Department of Labor shall oversee the implementation of this bill.

10 A. If after the reevaluation it is deemed necessary to continue the increase of the
11 federal minimum wage, there will then be similar reevaluations every two years of
12 approval.

13 B. Along with the increase of minimum wage, the DoL will also overlook and
14 regulate employee hours as needed (requiring a minimum of 30 hours a week),
15 and require racial diversity in all businesses.

16 SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect at the start of the next fiscal year.

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

18 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dallastown Area High School.*

A Resolution to Increase Funding for the Space Industry

Whereas, the United States has lost its position as the world's leader in space exploration; and,

Whereas, other countries have stepped forward to expand their own role in moving their countries and the human race forward and further into space; and

Whereas, the US FY budget for 2016 provides an insufficient amount of money to meet the needs of reestablishing the US primacy in space.

Whereas, the space industry employs approximately 1,200,000 workers, and if these workers were to be laid off, there would be an influx in the unemployment rate; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that federal funding for NASA and other government agencies that have relevance to outer space be increased by \$5 billion in order to spur on research in space exploration

Respectfully submitted,

Perkiomen Valley School District

A Bill to Increase Energy Independence in the United States

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall begin domestic drilling and fund research for
3 renewable sources of energy.

4 **SECTION 2.** Domestic drilling will be defined as the drilling of oil and natural gases
5 within the United States that the Bureau of Land Management and
6 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have regulations for. Renewable
7 sources of energy are defined as energy from a source that is not
8 depleted when used, such as wind or solar power.

9 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Treasury will remove \$4 billion from the defense budget and
10 distribute it to the EPA and the Bureau of Land Management.

11 A. The Bureau of Land Management from the U.S. Department of
12 Interior will oversee the set-up of domestic drilling sites.

13 B. The EPA will commit to a check-up on drilling sites every six months
14 to ensure that damage to the environment is limited.

15 a. If a drilling site is deemed to be causing significant damage to
16 the environment, the site will be temporarily shut down until
17 the matter is resolved.

18 C. The EPA will fund research for renewable sources of energy.

19 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect six months after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by William Tennent.

A Bill to Promote the Rebuilding of Infrastructure within the United States

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will begin the (re)development of its infrastructure.

3 **SECTION 2.** Infrastructure shall be defined as the basic equipment and structures
4 (such as roads and bridges) that are needed for a country, region, or
5 organization to function properly.

6 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Treasury will be in charge of allocating \$2 billion every year from
7 the defense budget to the Office of Infrastructure Protection.

8 A. Office of Infrastructure Protection will oversee the restoration,
9 demolition, and (re)building of our infrastructure.

10 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect six months after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by William Tennent.

A Bill to Ban the Sale of High Capacity Firearm Magazines

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The sale, manufacturing and transporting of High Capacity Firearm
3 Magazines in the United States will be illegal.

4 **SECTION 2.** A High Capacity Firearm Magazine will be defined as “any magazine for
5 any firearm that contains more than 10 round of ammunition”.

6 **SECTION 3.** The United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Tobacco will
7 oversee the implementation and enforcement of this bill.

8 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented exactly 30 days after the passing of the
9 legislation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cameron Sauers of Notre Dame GreenPond High School

Resolution to Repeal Affirmative Action Laws in order to Promote True Equality

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The policy of considering the race of potential beneficiaries
2 disproportionately benefits upper and middle class racial minorities at
3 the expense of poor Caucasians; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** Since a larger proportion of minorities are poor than Caucasians, class-
5 based Affirmative Action would help poor racial minorities more than it
6 would help poor Caucasians. Affirmative Action can disproportionately
7 harm certain minority groups while benefiting others. Thus Affirmative
8 Action Laws go against their original intent of promoting racial equality in
9 the various areas; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** Affirmative Action laws are dividing society even further rather than
11 eliminating the division of race. Inherently, these laws are
12 counterproductive to their nature; and
- 13 **WHEREAS,** Use additional “whereas” clauses to elaborate rationale for the problem
14 that needs to be solved; now, therefore, be it
- 15 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
16 for solution that all current laws at all levels regarding the subject of
17 Affirmative Action shall be classified as null and void; and, be it
- 18 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this resolution shall go into effect for the year 2016.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jared Levinson.

A Bill to Establish an Official Language in the United States to Promote the English Language in America

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States will establish English as its official language.

SECTION 2. By establishing English as the official language, all documents authored by the United States government will be written in English only.

SECTION 3. The implementation of this legislation will be overseen by the U.S. Department of State.

SECTION 4. The implementation of this bill would take place immediately after passage.

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

*Respectfully Submitted,
Cameron Hines
Southern Lehigh*

A Resolution to More Clearly Define What a Religion is to Prevent the Abuse of Tax Exemption and Evasion of Criminal Charges by Fabricated Religious Organizations

- 1 **WHEREAS,** It is particularly facile to establish a religion; and
- 2 **WHEREAS,** The tax-exempt status of religious organizations can be abused; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Some religions already take advantage of this status and make substantial
- 4 amounts of money that should be going to the government; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** The establishment of such religions allows these religions to justify the
- 6 committing of crimes; therefore be it
- 7 **RESOLVED:** That the Student Congress here assembled clarify and limit the definition
- 8 of what a religion is; and, be it
- 9 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That institutions that follow religions that do not fit these
- 10 guidelines be taxed accordingly.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Benjamin Becker

Southern Lehigh HS