

The Colonize Mars Act

Section 1: NASA will work with private companies to create a Mars Colonization Program.

Section 2: The following clarifications will be provided:

- A. Over the course of the next ten years, \$20 billion annually will be delegated to the Mars Colonization Program.
- B. The program will be named the "Athena Program."
- C. Companies who participate in the Athena Program will be eligible to receive tax breaks, grants and other incentives.

Section 3: NASA will work in conjunction with the United States Military to oversee the private-public partnerships and implementation of this legislation.

Section 4: This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2018.

Section 5: All laws in conflict are hereby declared null and void.

This legislation is proudly introduced for debate by East Ridge High School.

A Bill to Raise the Budget of FEMA for Natural Disaster Prevention and Relief

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A sum of six billion dollars per year will be added to the budget of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

SECTION 2. a) This money will support FEMA's Federal Insurance & Mitigation Administration for natural disaster prevention.

b) Four billion dollars will be allotted for disaster relief in the year 2018.

SECTION 3. This bill will come into affect on January 1st, 2018

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

Introduced by Forest Lake Senior High School

The Plastic Bag Act

Section 1: This Congress shall ban the production and distribution of disposable plastic bags.

Section 2: The following clarifications are provided:

- A. Instead of plastic bags, people and companies shall use paper bags, cloth bags, or plastic container.
- B. Companies must provide other options either for free or for purchase.

Section 3: This legislation will be enforced by the Department of Commerce.

Section 4: This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2017.

Section 5: All laws in conflict are hereby declared null and void.

This legislation is proudly introduced for debate by East Ridge High School.

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution by Changing the 13th Amendment

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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

7 **ARTICLE --**

8 **SECTION 1:** The thirteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States
9 shall strike the phrase, "except as a punishment for crime whereof the party
10 shall have been duly convicted." It will now read, "Neither slavery nor
11 involuntary servitude shall exist within the United States, or any place
12 subject to their jurisdiction."
13

14 **SECTION 2:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate
15 legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eagan High School.

A BILL TO ABOLISH THE USE OF DRONES

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All use of drones by the United States Federal Government is hereby prohibited.

SECTION 2. The United States Federal Government may not contract with other countries nor private entities to conduct any sort of operations involving drones on the behalf of the United States Federal Government.

SECTION 3. Drones are defined as remote-controlled or autonomous aerial vehicles capable of deploying weapons or using surveillance technology.

SECTION 4. The Department of Defense will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

SECTION 5. This legislation will go into effect six months after the date of passage.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lakeville Congress

A Bill to Provide Early Release for Nonviolent Offenders

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Section 3624 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to
2 include the following:
3 in subsection (a), by inserting “at the early release date provided in
4 subsection (g), if applicable, or otherwise” after “A prisoner shall be
5 released by the Bureau of Prisons”; and
6 by adding at the end the following: (g) Early Release for Certain Nonviolent
7 Offenders. – Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, the Bureau of
8 Prisons, shall release from confinement a prisoner who has served one half
9 or more of his term of imprisonment if that prisoner – (1) has never been
10 convicted of a crime of violence; and (2) has not engaged in a violation,
11 involving violent conduct, of institutional disciplinary regulations.”
12 **SECTION 2.** “Term of Imprisonment” shall include any consecutive term
13 or terms of imprisonment.
14 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Bureau of Prisons shall oversee the
15 implementation of this legislation.
16 **SECTION 4.** This law shall be implemented within 90 days of passage.
17 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared
 null and void.

This Bill respectfully submitted for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School.

A BILL TO DEVELOP FIBER OPTIC NETWORKING INFRASTRUCTURE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States will grant 140 billion dollars in subsidies to invest in the implementation of a fiber optic networking infrastructure. If a state government fails to apply for a subsidy, a local governmental unit may separately apply. Preference will be given to networks that operate as a publicly owned utility.

SECTION 2. Fiber optics shall be defined as infrastructure in the form of cables that transmits data over bundles of glass rods (fibers). It includes, but is not limited to broadband connections, data transfer, etc. Networking is defined as the implementation of said cabling within a particular area.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Commerce will oversee the grant application and issuing process.

SECTION 4. All subsidies will be provided by the end of Fiscal Year 2018.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lakeville Congress

A Bill to Institute a Carbon Tax

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A set tax per ton of carbon content shall be levied on all fossil fuels in the United States. The tax shall begin at \$10 per ton of carbon and increase \$2 a year for 10 years, after which it shall remain at \$30 per ton of carbon, indexed to inflation. The tax shall be assessed at the moment fossil fuel is extracted or imported, and paid by the extracting or importing party. Revenue from this tax shall be distributed equally to all United States taxpayers in the form of an annual tax rebate.

SECTION 2. “Fossil fuels” are defined as naturally occurring combustible materials formed by the decay of prehistoric organisms.

“Ton of carbon content” is defined as the amount of carbon in a fossil fuel in its unburned state as reported by the United States Energy Information Administration.

“Extracting or importing party” is defined as the person or corporation that owns fossil fuel at the moment of extraction or import.

“Revenue from this tax” is defined as net revenue after exemptions.

“Indexed to inflation” is defined as being adjusted for inflation each year, with the rate of inflation determined by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Consumer Price Index.

SECTION 3. This act shall be enforced by the IRS. Failure to comply shall be treated as federal tax fraud.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective January 1, 2018.

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

Introduced by Forest Lake Senior High School