

**Congress Docket  
Maranacook Community High School  
November 14, 2015**

**1) A Bill to Encourage Domestic Oil Drilling in the Gulf of Mexico**

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

1. **SECTION 1:** The United States will encourage further drilling of oil in the Gulf of
2. Mexico through the following means.
3. **SECTION 1A:** The United States will remove all limitations on the location of
4. oilrigs in the Gulf of Mexico.
5. **SECTION 1B:** Permits for all new rigs will be reviewed within 60 days of having
6. been submitted.
7. **SECTION 1C:** The government will subsidize 15% of the cost to build any new rigs,
8. provided that the oil extracted shall be refined and American refineries.
9. **SECTION 2:** Oil rig locations in the Gulf of Mexico shall be limited to the maritime
10. boundaries of the United States.
11. **SECTION 3:** The United States Department of the Interior shall oversee this bill..
12. **SECTION 4:** This law shall take into effect on June 1, 2016.
13. **SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rep. Sophia Lajoie, SHS, Maine District*

**2) A Resolution to Stabilize America's Financial System**

1. **WHEREAS,** The large banks in the United States have an extensive history of risky
2. activity in the financial sector; and
3. **WHEREAS,** These risky activities have been a leading cause for the 2008 recession;
4. And **WHEREAS,** Proper regulation must be put in place in order to keep the

5. financial system on equal footing with the rest of the world and to ensure true
6. stability; now, therefore, be it
7. **RESOLVED**, By the Student Congress here assembled that Congress propose
8. Legislation to enact a one minute hold time on all major financial transactions and to
9. enact a 1% financial transaction tax on all transactions above 10,000 dollars.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Quinn Stewart, SHS, Maine District*

### **3) A Bill to Reauthorize the Export-Import Bank**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**

1. **SECTION 1.** The United States government will hereby reauthorize the Export
2. Import Bank.
3. **SECTION 2.** This law will go into effect immediately.
4. **SECTION 3.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and
5. void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rep. Baldacci, BHS, Maine District*

### **4) A Resolution to Ban State-Run Lotteries**

1. **WHEREAS**, The lottery is addictive and can contribute to gambling problems;
2. **WHEREAS**, The lottery disproportionately targets the poor;
3. **WHEREAS**, and Governments should not be in the business of gambling
4. **WHEREAS**, States have not used revenue from lottery games responsibly and lottery
5. money does not really benefit education;
6. **RESOLVED**, That the United States Congress look for ways to ban state-run
7. lotteries.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rep. Baldacci, BHS, Maine District*

## **5) A Bill To Remove the Pledge of Allegiance**

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

1. States may not require schools to recite the Pledge of Allegiance daily.
2. **Section 1:** Any school or student that wishes to do so may still recite the Pledge of
3. Allegiance.
4. No school may require a student to say the Pledge of Allegiance or stand for the
5. Pledge if the school elects to recite it.
6. **Section 2:** This bill will be carried out by the Department of Education.
7. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
8. This bill shall go into effect at the beginning of the next school year.

*Submitted by Representative Kathleen Dunn of Bangor High School*

## **6) A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Ban Capital Punishment**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**

1. **RESOLVED**, That upon approval of two-thirds of the chamber of this Student
2. Congress here assembled, the following Constitutional
3. amendment be sent to the state legislatures for approval:
4. **SECTION 1:** The death penalty shall not be imposed by the United States,
5. or by any State, Territory, or other jurisdiction within the United States.
6. **SECTION 2:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by
7. appropriate legislation subject to approval of 3/4 of the states.

*Introduced by Representative Flotten, BHS, Maine District*

## **7) A Resolution to Enforce Taxation on Churches**

1. **WHEREAS**, Churches that file as religious organizations are exempted from all
2. taxes; and **WHEREAS**, Churches own \$300-\$500 billion in untaxed property that
3. costs state and federal governments millions each; and
4. **WHEREAS**, The Constitution sets a clear precedent for separation of church and
5. state and no guidelines for what qualifies as a religion; now, therefore, be it
6. **RESOLVED**, By the Congress assembled here that all churches and “religious
7. organizations” shall be taxed according to the property that they own.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Hagerty, BHS, Maine District*

## **8) A Bill to Improve America’s Infrastructure Funding**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**

1. **SECTION 1.** The following changes and programs shall be adopted:
  2. **A.** The excise tax placed upon gasoline and diesel fuel shall be raised from 18.4
  3. cents per gallon to 30 cents on the gallon on gasoline, and from 24.4 cents
  4. per gallon to 36 cents per gallon on diesel fuel with 90% of the revenues
  5. allocated to the Highway Trust Fund.
  6. **B.** Adopt and implement a national freight investment program funded using
  7. mechanisms decided on by each individual state accompanied by 10% of the
  8. revenues from the gas tax.
9. **SECTION 2.** A national freight investment program shall be defined as a program
10. designated to both manage and invest in repairing and development of new freight
11. infrastructure in the United States
12. **SECTION 3.** The US Department of the Treasury shall be tasked with allocating

13. revenues from the gas tax to the Highway Trust Fund
14. A. State Treasuries shall be tasked with deciding on a funding mechanism for
15. the created freight investment program and allocating the funding generated to
16. projects of their choice.
17. B. Said projects shall then be approved by the US Department of Transportation
18. before funding commences.
19. **SECTION 4.** The gas tax shall be progressively raised, reaching its peak value of 30
20. and 36 cents respectively on January 1, 2018; the national freight investment program
21. shall commence implementation and adoption on January 1, 2018.
22. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and
23. void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Hagerty, BHS, Maine District*

## **9) A Bill Forbidding The Draft**

1. **Section 1:** The draft will be forbidden from government use in times of peace or
2. in war.
3. **Section 2:** The draft will be defined as forced military service enacted by the
4. government.
5. **Section 3:** The Department of Defense will oversee this bill. Citizens will no
6. longer need to register with the military in case of potential need for a draft. The
7. United States Military will be made up of a volunteer army, navy, marine, and air
8. force.
9. **Section 4:** All laws in conflict will hereby be declared null and void.

*Rep. Brundige, Maranacook, Maine District*

## **10) A Resolution to Remodel the Presidential Voting System**

1. **Whereas**, The current voting system discourages smaller parties from being elected,
2. and **Whereas**, The citizens of the United States aren't being equally represented in the
3. elections and,
4. **Whereas**, smaller political parties have little to no chance against the Democratic and
5. Republican party. Now, therefore,
6. **Be it Resolved**, that the current 'first past the post' voting system will be replaced
7. with an 'alternative vote' system for government elections.

*Rep. Brundige, Maranacook, Maine District*

## **11) A Resolution to Replace the Electoral College with the First-Person-Past-The-Post Voting System**

1. **Section 1: *Whereas***, candidates for President of the United States must win
2. 270 Electoral College votes to win the presidency of the United States. To
3. prevent the imbalance of the value of a vote that the Electoral College
4. creates, it shall be abolished and replaced with the First-Person-Past-the-
5. Post voting system. Residents of United States Territories and the District
6. of Columbia may also be able to have their vote counted and used in all
7. presidential elections.
8. **Section 2:** The Electoral College shall be defined as the system by which
9. the United States President is selected on a system based upon the number
10. of Electoral Votes a state has. The First-Person-Past-the-Post voting system
11. shall be defined as the system by which citizens cast one vote that is
12. directly given to the candidate he or she votes for. Voters shall be defined

13. as individuals over the age of 18 who are not disqualified from voting by
14. local laws.
15. **Section 3:** The United States Election Assistance Commission shall enforce
16. this law. Failure by any state to transition to the First-Person-Past-the-Post
17. voting system by 2024 will result in that state not being able to influence
18. the result of the 2024 election.
19. **Section 4:** The bill shall be made effective June 7, 2024.
20. **Section 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null
21. and void.

*Respectfully submitted by Senator Brouder of Greely High School, Maine District*

## **12) The Citizenship Act of 2016**

1. **Section 1:** *Whereas*, legal entry into the United States requires the passing of a
2. government issued civics test, and considering that this test does not fairly or
3. accurately evaluate those taking the test, it shall hereby be abolished.
4. **Section 2:** The aforementioned government issued civics test shall be defined
5. as any civics exam which aims to evaluate applicants for citizenship based on
6. their knowledge of United States government, geography, history or culture.
7. **Section 3:** United States Citizenship and Immigration Services shall enforce
8. this law.
9. **Section 4:** The bill shall be made effective January 1, 2016.
10. **Section 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null
11. and void.

*Respectfully submitted by Senator Brouder of Greely High School, Maine District*

### **13) A Bill to Ban Criminal Record Questionings on Job Applications**

1. **Section 1:** *Whereas*, job applicants must specify whether or not they have been
2. convicted of a criminal offence. This means that rehabilitated criminals have trouble
3. finding jobs and reentering society, so let it be **resolved** by this student congress that
4. the following shall be enacted:
  - A. The congress shall federally ban the criminal record question on job applications
  - B. Background Checks may still be performed by employees, but only after the interviewing process is completed.
5. **Section 2:** A criminal record will be defined as having been convicted of a crime
6. **Section 3:** The Department of Labor will enforce this bill.
7. **Section 4:** This Bill will take effect 90 days after passage.
8. **Section 5:** Any laws in conflict are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted for Debate by Rep. Craig, Greely HS, Maine District*

### **14) The Free Voting Act**

1. **Section 1:** No state or the District of Columbia may bar felons who have completed
2. Their sentence, parole and probation from participating in elections.
3. **Section 2:** A felon shall be defined as an individual who has committed a felony.
4. Although the definition of a felony may continue from state to state, the general
5. definition of a felony shall remain as a crime more serious than a misdemeanor.
6. **Section 3:** The United States Election Assistance Commission shall enforce this law.
7. **Section 4:** The bill shall be made effective January 1, 2018.
8. **Section 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted by Senator Brouder of Greely High School, Maine District*

**15) A Resolution to Expand and Recognize the District of Columbia as  
New Columbia**

- 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
- 2. WHEREAS,** the New Columbia Admission Act set forth that the Mayor of the
- 3. District of Columbia** submit propositions for statehood and adoption of a state
- 4. constitution; and**
- 5. WHEREAS,** The mayor of the District of Columbia proclaims for the first elections
- 6. for two Senators and one Representative of New Columbia; and**
- 7. WHEREAS,** the President of the United States must announce and admit New
- 8. Columbia into the Union as a state; therefore be it**
- 9. RESOLVED,** By the Student Congress here assembled that the United States moves
- 10. forward with legislation to not only recognize the District of Columbia as New**
- 11. Columbia, but also for New Columbia to reclaim the neighboring cities of Alexandria**
- 12. and Arlington so that the territory it covers, would be a geometric diamond as it was**
- 13. when D.C was founded in 1790.**

*Respectfully submitted by Bilal Hussein, Edward Little High School, Maine District*