

Congress Docket
Poland Regional High School
December 5, 2015

**1) A Bill to Reduce and Limit Cattle Farming for Change in
Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

- 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
- 2. SECTION 1.** All industries having to do with raising and grazing cattle are hereby ordered
- 3.** to reduce the number of cattle per capita in the United States by 1/4th.
- 4. SECTION 1A.** "Reducing" shall be defined as slaughtering.
- 5. SECTION 1B.** Every pound of beef resulting from these mass executions shall be shipped to
- 6.** foreign countries that cannot feed their own population due to agribusiness.
- 7. SECTION 1C.** "Limiting" shall be defined as corporate businesses to minimize their
- 8.** influence over agriculture and to terminate all government benefits, grants and loans to them.
- 9. SECTION 2.** These industries are also hereby ordered to minimize their control over lands
- 10.** in the Brazilian Amazon Rainforest because of agribusiness needs.
- 11. SECTION 3.** Agribusiness shall be defined as farming, mass production of agricultural
- 12.** goods, and grazing cows all for profit.
- 13. SECTION 4.** This bill will indeed reduce the United States greenhouse gas emissions and
- 14.** lower the overall damage significantly.
- 15. SECTION 5.** This bill shall take into effect on April 22, 2016.
- 16. SECTION 6.** The United States Department of Agriculture as well as the United States
- 17.** Department of the Interior shall oversee this bill.
- 18. SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rep. Bilal Hussein, Edward Little High School

2) A Bill to Ban Discrimination Against Secularists Running For Public Office

1. **Section 1:** *Whereas*, seven states prevent atheists and agnostics from holding public
2. office. Considering that this is blatant discrimination against secularists, these laws
3. will hereby be revoked.
4. **Section 2:** A secularist shall be defined as any individual who does not strongly
5. believe in a higher power. Public office shall be defined as anyone running for a
6. position of power in favor of the people.
7. **Section 3:** The United States Election Assistance Commission shall enforce this law.
8. Those who disobey this bill will receive a federal budget cut of 5%.
9. **Section 4:** This bill shall be made effective January 1st, 2016.
10. **Section 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted by Greely High School, Maine District

3) A BILL TO BAN DRILLING AND HYDRAULIC FRACKING IN NATIONAL PARKS

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **SECTION 1.** All drilling and hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking,” will be banned
3. indefinitely on land designated as “national parkland” within the United States, and licenses
4. allowing fracking will be suspended immediately.
5. **SECTION 2. A.** “Hydraulic Fracturing” is a technique that injects a mixture of water,
6. sand and chemicals into the ground under high pressure to crack rock and allow trapped
7. natural gas and oil to flow.
8. **B.** “National Parkland” is any land designated as such by the National Park Service and
9. the United States Department of the Interior.

10. SECTION 3. Oversight of this falls under the joint control of the United States

11. Environmental Protection Agency, United States Department of the Interior, and United

12. States Department of Homeland Security. Any company found drilling or fracking will be

13. fined \$2 million per offense.

14. SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect February 1, 2016.

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

Respectfully submitted by Sen. Sydney McDonald, Bangor High School, Maine District

4) A BILL TO BAN PRIVATE PRISONS

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

2. SECTION 1. Private prisons are hereby banned. The privatization of prisons by both the

3. takeover of existing public facilities as well as the building and operation

4. of new and additional prisons by for-profit companies is also banned.

5. SECTION 2. Private prisons, also known as for-profit prisons, are defined as places in

6. which individuals are physically confined or incarcerated by a third party

7. that is contracted by a government agency.

8. SECTION 3. The Federal Bureau of Prisons will oversee the enforcement of the bill.

9. SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect immediately.

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

Respectfully submitted by Sydney McDonald, Bangor High School, Maine District

5) A Bill to Provide Humanitarian Aid to Yemen

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

2. SECTION 1. The United States federal government shall provide 500 million dollars

3. annually for a period of five years in humanitarian support directly to the people of Yemen.

4. SECTION 2. Humanitarian aid shall be defined as the construction of rudimentary surface

5. transportation systems, well drilling and the construction of basic sanitation
6. facilities, medical assistance and the construction and repair of public facilities.
7. **SECTION 3.** USAID shall oversee the implementation of this piece of legislation.
8. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately.
9. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted by Sydney McDonald, Bangor High School, Maine District

6) The Healthier America Act of 2016

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1A:** The purchase of sugar-sweetened drinks in stores, restaurants, and public
2. venues shall be taxed one cent per fluid ounce in addition to any other taxes imposed by the
3. federal or state government.
4. **SECTION 1B:** The revenue generated by this tax shall be used to fund deficits in the
5. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and the remainder to fund existing
6. financial obligations of the United States government.
7. **SECTION 1C:** SNAP benefits may not be used to buy sugar-sweetened drinks.
8. **SECTION 2:** “Sugar-sweetened drinks” shall be defined as beverages with added artificial
9. sweeteners. Milk based drinks, drinks containing over seventy percent fruit juice, and
10. alcoholic beverages shall be exempt from this tax.
11. **SECTION 3:** The Internal Revenue Service and the Food and Drug Administration shall
12. oversee the enforcement of this legislation.
13. **SECTION 4:** This legislation shall be enacted 120 days after the date of passage.
14. **SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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

7) A Resolution to Reduce Nuclear Stockpiles

1. **WHEREAS**, China, Russia, and the United States are responsible for the majority of the
2. world's nuclear weapons; and
3. **WHEREAS**, These nuclear weapons and facilities pose serious threats if misused, attacked, or
4. handled poorly; and
5. **WHEREAS**, The United States has led previous efforts to successfully decrease nuclear
6. stockpiles domestically and abroad; now, therefore, be it
7. **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled encourages the United States to
8. enter into negotiations with Russia and China to reduce nuclear stockpiles significantly.

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

8) The Sustainable Energy Act of 2017

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1:** Any and all current subsidies currently being given to oil and coal industries
2. shall be reduced by 10% every fiscal year, until the subsidies are no longer in place.
3. **SECTION 1A:** The money being used to subsidize oil and coal industries shall instead be
4. used to subsidize alternative fuels.
5. **SECTION 2A:** "Oil and coal industries" shall be defined as companies or organizations with
6. existing rigs, mines, or refineries in the United States.
7. **SECTION 2B:** "Subsidies" shall be defined as money given by the United States government
8. to a particular industry with the hopes of that industry staying competitive.
9. **SECTION 2C:** "Alternative fuels" shall be defined as renewable energy sources. Examples
10. include but are not limited to solar, wind, and geothermal energy.
11. **SECTION 3:** The Department of Energy and the Department of the Interior shall oversee
12. legislation.

13. SECTION 4: This legislation shall go into effect one year from the date of passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Representative Thomas Vachon, SHS, Maine District

9) The Fair Wage Act of 2016

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. SECTION 1: The federal minimum wage shall hereby be increased to fifteen dollars an hour

2. over the next five years.

3. SECTION 2: “Federal minimum wage” shall be defined as the lowest hourly wage that can

4. provided from an employer to their employee.

5. SECTION 3A: The Department of Labor shall oversee this legislation.

6. SECTION 3B: The Department of Labor shall also determine the yearly rise in the minimum

7. wage.

8. SECTION 3C: The Department of Labor shall also, upon passage, create a list of any and all

9. potential exemptions from a raise in the minimum wage.

10. SECTION 3D: Each year after the five year increase in the minimum wage, the minimum

11. shall be adjusted according to the inflation rate from the Chained Consumer Price Index. If

12. inflation occurs, the wage shall be increased, and if significant deflation occurs, the wage

13. shall be lowered.

14. SECTION 4: This legislation shall take effect one year from the date of passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Sophia Lajoie, SHS, Maine District

10) The Financial Fairness and Stability Act of 2015

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1. SECTION 1:** A Financial Transaction tax of 1% shall be instituted on all large market
- 2. transactions.** In addition, a minimum one minute hold time will be imposed on all stock, bond,
- 3. and securities purchases.** Furthermore, the SEC will host a website with the most recent
- 4. financial data** to provide further information on market fragmentation, price synchronization,
- 5. and information dissemination.**
- 6. SECTION 2A:** “Financial Transaction Tax” shall be defined as a tax levied upon financial
- 7. transactions** such as the purchase of bonds, stocks, and securities.
- 8. SECTION 2B:** “Large Market Transactions” shall be defined as an exchange of capital larger
- 9. than 10,000 dollars** with the result being ownership of financial goods.
- 10. SECTION 2C:** “Minimum hold time” shall be defined as the minimum amount of time that
- 11. someone must hold onto** a bond, stock, or security before they sell them.
- 12. SECTION 3:** The CFTC, IRS, and SEC will oversee the implementation of this legislation.
- 13. SECTION 3A:** Any and all revenue generated by this legislation shall be divided as such:
- 14. Twenty-five percent** of the funds shall be placed in the budget for the Department of
- 15. Education,** twenty-five percent of the funds shall be placed in the Department of Health and
- 16. Human Services,** and fifty percent shall be used to fund the Highway Trust Fund.
- 17. SECTION 4:** This legislation shall take effect one year from the date of passage.
- 18. SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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

11) The Compassionate Access, Research Expansion, and Respect States Act

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

- 2. Section 1.** The United States government allows states to set their own medical
- 3.** marijuana policies.
- 4. Section 2.** The government reclassify marijuana as a Schedule 2 drug in the Drug
- 5.** Enforcement Agency's five category drug classification system.
- 6. Section 3.** The U.S. removes the CBD strains, used to treat epilepsy and seizure
- 7.** disorders, from the federal definition of marijuana.
- 8. Section 4.** The federal government allows doctors working for the Department of Veterans
- 9.** Affairs in states where medical marijuana is legal to recommend it for certain condition.
- 10. Section 5.** The government permit financial services and banking for marijuana
- 11.** dispensaries.
- 12. Section 6.** Public or private research that sanctioned by the government should be
- 13.** exempted from federal criminal laws concerning the use or possession of marijuana.
- 14. SECTION 7.** The Drug Enforcement Agency will oversee the implementation of this bill.
- 15. SECTION 8.** This law will go into effect on January 1, 2017.
- 16. Section 9.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted for Congressional debate by Senator Baldacci, BHS, Maine District

12) 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
5. And lottery money does not really benefit education;
6. **RESOLVED**, That the United States Congress look for ways to ban state-run lotteries.

Respectfully submitted by Senator Baldacci, BHS

13) A Bill to Ban the Inbreeding of Dogs

1. **Section 1: *Whereas***, Inbreeding of dogs has caused dogs to be born with mutations that
2. create severe detriment to their health, the inbreeding of dogs for sale by licensed breeders
3. will be banned.
4. **Section 2:** Inbreeding of dogs will be defined as the purposeful breeding of dogs who are at
5. most 3rd degree relatives.
6. **Section 3:** Those licensed dog breeders who fail to obey this bill would be given a 1,000
7. dollar fine and would be banned from breeding animals for sale.
8. **Section 4:** The department of agriculture shall enforce this law.
9. **Section 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby considered null and void.

Respectfully submitted by Representative Harrison of Greely High School, Maine District

14) A Bill to Eliminate Student Loan Debt

- 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
- 2. SECTION 1.** The United States will work to eliminate student loan debt through the
- 3.** following means.
- 4. SECTION 2:** Overturns the 2005 and 1976 amendments to the Bankruptcy Act.
- 5. SECTION 3:** Caps student loan payments, both public and private, at 10% of after-tax
- 6.** income.
- 7. SECTION 4:** Allows courts to wipe out debt in cases of:
 - A.** failure of lenders to discharge loans in cases of death and disability
 - B.** interest rates which cause necessary debt payments to exceed 3 times the aforementioned
10% limit
 - C.** failure to allow repayment flexibility in cases of proven financial difficulty
 - D.** default on loans to colleges with high dropout rates
- 8. SECTION 5:** Calls for the Congressional education committees to begin programs to educate
- 9.** prospective students on the intricacies of loans and on dropout rates.
- 10. SECTION 6:** All Legislation in conflict with this bill is hereby null and void.

Respectfully Submitted by Senator Mukai, Cape Elizabeth High School, Maine District

15) A Resolution to Advise and Increase in Funding for NASA

1. **WHEREAS**, The United states has fallen from it's position as a dominating power in
2. worldwide space exploration; and
3. **WHEREAS**, This decrease has lead to several costly launch failures in flights using private
4. space companies and has lead to the United States having to depend on Russia to send
5. astronauts to the International Space Station; and
6. **WHEREAS**, These costly launch failures and inability to compete with the rest of the world
7. in space exploration has decreased the innovation that is often found as a direct result of
8. space research as well as high losses from the recent rocket crashes; now, therefore, be it
9. **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled substantially increase funding for NASA in
10. the near future.

Respectfully submitted by Representative Cerabona, KHS, Maine District

16) A Bill to Reduce College Costs

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **SECTION 1.** The United States will work to hold constant college costs through the following
3. means:
4. **SECTION 2:** Reallocates 3% of the Military budget (FY15:17.5billion USD) to be invested in
5. the endowments of higher education institutions based on
 - I. size of endowments
 - II. an application, to be drafted in this congress, upon which consideration for funding is contingent, consisting of:
 - A. detailed descriptions of how the school will use/invest the money
 - B. current financial information consisting of but not limited to:
 1. current endowment
 2. tuition

3. total budget/overview of appropriations
4. average student debt of graduating students

C. The final joint decision of both the Senate and the House committees for education

6. based on the review of the aforementioned application for those with the most
7. perceived need in the enumerated areas; and given that:
8. Institutions use this investment in their endowments to fund their operating costs
9. Tuition and Student cost of attending is proven to be significantly reduced over a
10. period of time (5 years?)
11. Members of congress have the authority to call for audits of schools who take federal
12. investment to ensure that the funds are being used appropriately.
13. **SECTION 3:** Restricts the total budget for administrative personnel of Universities
14. receiving Federal aid to 7% of their total operating budget for the fiscal year and:
15. holds all federal funds contingent on schools maintaining a budget which is
16. reasonably within the realm of those prior to the institution of this policy.
17. limits required forms for colleges to a 50 page maximum.
18. **SECTION 4:** All legislation in direct conflict with this bill is hereby null and void.

Respectfully Submitted by Senator Mukai, Cape Elizabeth High School, Maine District