Congress Bills Rocket Invitational 2018



**A Bill to Ban Fracking in the United States by the Year 2028**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**Section 1**. All fracking activities in the United States will be required to cease by January 1, 2028.

**Section 2**. Fracking is the process of injecting liquid at high pressure into subterranean rocks, boreholes, etc., so as to force open existing fissures and extract oil or gas, and it has become an increasingly popular method of energy extraction in the United States. Its use has profound negative environmental impact.

**Section 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency will oversee the implementation of this policy.

A. Any company or individual found to be in violation of this policy after January 1, 2028 will be fined $20,000 per injection site monthly.

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

***Introduced for Congressional Debate by Libby Foster of North Oldham High School***

**A Resolution to Amend the Constitution To Prohibit Federal Judges to**

**Hold Office After The Age of 80**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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

 **ARTICLE—**

**SECTION 1**: Article III of the Constitution currently grants federal judges life tenure “during good behavior”.

**SECTION 2:** Federal judges usually serve until death, holding an important federal judgeship for years even after the onset of dementia, Alzheimer's, and other mental infirmities that would render them unfit for office.

**SECTION 3:** The average age for the onset of dementia is around 80 years old.

**SECTION 4:** There is no shortage of potential appointees that are eminently qualified to serve on every level of the federal courts.

**SECTION 5:** Setting a mandatory retirement at 80 will prevent many judgeships from being held by persons that are no longer fit for office.

**SECTION 6**: The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

*Respectfully submitted by Michael Paulson, Beechwood High School.*

**A Bill to Sanction Uzbekistan Cotton to Prevent Forced Labor**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
1 SECTION 1. The United States will place sanctions on the Uzbek cotton industry,
2 preventing all US manufacturers from buying Uzbek cotton and retailers from selling any
3 products made with Uzbek cotton.
4 SECTION 2.

5 A. Uzbek cotton is any cotton that is grown and harvested in the country of Uzbekistan.
6 B. Sanctions refer to a total embargo on the purchase of or sale of Uzbek
7 cotton from any American entity or entity that does business in America.
8 SECTION 3. The Department of Treasury will enforce these sanctions.
9 A. Entities purchasing Uzbek cotton or products containing Uzbek cotton
10 will be fined no more than $1,000,000 per offending purchase and be
11 held in contempt of Congress.
12 B. Entities selling products with Uzbek cotton will be fined the total price
13 of the sale and be held in contempt of Congress.
14 SECTION 4. This bill will take effect 1 month after passage.
15 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted by Beechwood High School.*

**A Bill to Ban the Use of Bump Fire Stocks**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
1 SECTION 1. The manufacture, sale, and possession of bump fire stocks is hereby
2 prohibited by federal law.
3 SECTION 2. "Bump fire stock" shall refer to any accessory for a firearm that has the
4 effect of converting a semi-automatic weapon to one capable of fully
5 automatic fire by utilizing the force from a gun's recoil to depress the
6 trigger in rapid succession.
7 SECTION 3. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives shall oversee
8 this legislation.
9 A. Bump fire stocks -- and any firearms equipped with them -- shall be
10 treated by law as analogous to automatic machine guns, pursuant to the
11 National Firearms Act of 1934 and the Firearm Owners' Protection Act
12 of 1986, and subject to the restrictions and penalties of same.
13 SECTION 4. This bill shall take effect within 30 days of passage.
14 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted by Tanvi Brar, Beechwood High School*

**A Bill to nullify the decision to repeal “net neutrality” regulations**

**SECTION 1**. This Congress hereby nullifies the decision of the FCC to repeal “net neutrality” regulations.

**SECTION 2**. This legislation will block the decision made on December 14th, 2017 by the FCC to remove the regulations under Sec. 254. [47 U.S.C 254] of the Title II Order of the 1934 Communications Act.

                           A.   Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are considered common carriers under this Act.

                                      a.   A common carrier is defined as any carrier for hire for communication by wire or radio or transmission of energy, except where reference to common carriers are made in the Act.

**SECTION 3.** The FCC will enforce this legislation upon themselves.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tanner Stacy of Beechwood High School*

**Bill to Abolish the Electoral College**

Be it enacted by the Congress assembles here that:

1. Section 1: The United States of America will abolish the electoral college.
2. Section 2: The US Presidential election will be decided by the majority popular vote.
3. Section 3: If there is a tie, the House of Representatives will vote to break the tie.
4. Section 4: If a majority is not reached, the House will vote for the president.
5. Section 5: This legislation will go into effect in the 2020 Presidential election.
6. Section 6: All other laws that conflict with this legislation will be null and void.

*Respectfully submitted by George Rogers Clark High School*

**A Resolution to Extend the Protection of Wild and Scenic Waterways for Whitewater and Other Recreation Purposes**

**Whereas** Valuable reactional whitewater waterways lack protection from Dams, Locks, and other barriers that remove the capacity for the waterway to be used in any meaningful way for those seeking white water recreation; and

**Whereas**  The United States objectively possess many whitewater rivers that are valuable to the sport due to their flows, scenery, technicality, history and et cetra, and

**Whereas**  The wild and scenic nature of these waterways presents and enhances opportunities beyond that of whitewater recreation for activities such as backpacking, angling and other fishing methods, camping among others, and also presents a habitat and ecosystem that is necessary for animals such as trout and salmon to survive, therefore it shall be

**Resolved** That the Congress gathered here today pass legislation that cements the wild and scenic nature of these rivers and guarantees freedom from unnavigable and flow interrupting and other synthetic developments both within the waterway and in its surrounding shoreline, and in order for this motion to be viable let it be hereby,

**Further Resolved** That the congress shall pass on enforcement powers to conservation bodies including but not limited to, The United States Forrest Service, The National Park Service, and The Environmental Protection Agency.

*Respectfully submitted by George Rogers Clark High School*

**A Bill to Legalize Prostitution**

1. Be it enacted by the Student Congress here assembled that:
2. **Section 1:** The United States of America will decriminalize the act of prostitution.
3. **Section 2:** Prostitution is defined as the practice or occupation of engaging in sexual
4. activity with someone for payment.
5. **Section 3:** This bill does not legalize the illicit sex trade or human trafficking.
6. Anyone found committing the above crimes will be held liable and tried in a court of
7. law.
8. **Section 4:** There are no costs involved with this bill other than the costs involved
9. with this act.
10. **Section 5:** This legislation will go into effect immediately.
11. **Section 6:** All laws in conflict with this legislation with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by George Rogers Clark High School.*

**A Bill to Grant Statehood to Puerto Rico**

1. **Section 1:** Puerto Rico becomes the 51st State in the Union.
2. **Section 2:** All citizens of Puerto Rico are granted all rights promised to them
3. by the Constitution and all current laws; this includes the right to vote.
4. **Section 3:** After the 2020 census, seats in the House of Representatives will
5. be allocated to Puerto Rico regarding the Puerto Rico’s population.
6. **Section 4:** Two Senate seats are formed for Puerto Rico.
7. **Section 5:** The elections to fill the new Congressional seats will be held in
8. 2020.
9. **Section 6:** Electoral college votes will be granted to Puerto Rico in regard to
10. the amount of Congressional seats Puerto Rico holds.
11. **Section 7:** All other laws that conflict with this legislation will be null and
12. void.

*Respectfully submitted by George Rogers Clark High*

**Resolution to Recognize North Korea as a More Prominent Threat than Terrorist Groups Focused in the Middle East**

*Be it enacted by the Congress here assembled that:*

1. **Section 1:** The United States make appropriate shifts in policy to adhere to the
2. acceptance that North Korea is a more credible threat than the terrorist groups
3. that currently work out of the Middle East.
4. **Section 2:** The aforementioned policy shifts should do what is necessary to defend the
5. United States against the threat.
6. **Section 3:** This Resolution will remain until a more prominent threat arises in the eyes of
7. the country.
8. **Section 4:** All previous laws that contradict this legislation will be null and void.

*Respectfully submitted by George Rogers Clark High*

A Bill to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine and create a supervising Bureau within the FCC.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. As stated in the original document, radio and television broadcasters will be required to: (1) cover important, controversial issues and (2) provide opportunity for contrasting viewpoints to be presented on such issues.

SECTION 2: A bureau will be added to the FCC that will be in charge of enforcing the Fairness Doctrine. The bureau will be composed of half the members of the dominant party and half from the minority party.

SECTION 3: This bill will go into effect 1 year after passage.

SECTION 5: Any legislation conflicting with this bill is hereby rendered null and void.

Submitted by North Oldham High School

**A Resolution to Encourage the President to Sign the Paris Climate Agreement**

**WHEREAS**, The president's decision to remove the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement has caused international backlash and embarrassment; and

**WHEREAS**, The United States is the only country in the world that has refused to sign the agreement since Syria signed in early November; and

**WHEREAS**, Climate change is a danger for our people, planet, and country; and we must treat this threat accordingly; and

**WHEREAS**, This refusal to sign the agreement will also leave the United States behind in renewable energy resources for future sustainability; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled strongly recommend the president to sign the Paris Climate Agreement.

**A Bill to Increase the Public Health Emergency Fund**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**Section 1**. The Public Health Emergency Fund shall hereby be increased by by $1.7 billion each year for the next ten years.

**Section 2**. The Public Health Emergency Fund is a section of the Disaster Relief Fund that is dedicated to human health emergencies, most notably and recently is the opioid crisis.

**Section 3.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

1. The funds will come from ceasing maintenance of vacant federal buildings.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect on January 1st, 2019.

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

*Introduced by Trinity High School.*

**A Bill to prohibit the use of standardized testing to better our education system**

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. SECTION 1. Whereas the reliance upon standardized testing by school systems and colleges/universities as the primary success criteria of overall student performance has resulted in teaching curricula targeted primarily to the achievement of high test scores rather than a well-balanced education, the use of standardized testing shall be prohibited as the primary standard of student success.
3. SECTION 2. Standardized testing is defined as any test or other assessment created by an entity not associated with the school system or college/university performing the testing or assessment that is made available to schools or school systems nationwide
	1. This legislation does not include tests and assessments created by classroom teachers and professors for individual classes.
4. SECTION 3. The Department of Education shall oversee this legislation and its implementation.
5. SECTION 4. This legislation will be in effect by January 1st, 2019
6. SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ben Taylor of Trinity High School.

A Bill to Apply Term-Limits To All Elected Federal Offices

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION I:   This legislation will apply term limits to all positions in the federal government which are filled usually through direct election.

SECTION II:  This will apply to Senators, Congressional Representatives, and, if such a case occurs that would need enforcement, the Vice Presidency. Figures appointed to these offices due to its unexpected vacancy will also be confined to these limits, but appointed officials in offices that do not have elections will not be bounded as such. Senators and Vice Presidents shall have two terms, and congressmen shall have 4, due to the brevity of their terms in comparison to their colleagues.

SECTION III: The Federal Election Committee shall oversee this via the strict prohibition of funding to any reelection campaigns for candidates who are past the term limit.

SECTION IV: This shall be enacted by the date of November 8th, 2020

SECTION V: All other laws in conflict with this new policy shall hereby declared null and

Void.

 Respectfully submitted,

 W.S.Compton,

 Bowling Green High School

**Bill To Increase The Federal Gasoline Tax To Fund Infrastructural Improvements**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT

Section 1: The federal excise tax on both gasoline and diesel fuel will be increased.

Section 2a: The tax will entail a 15 cent per gallon increase on gasoline (38.4 cents per gallon) and a 20 cent per gallon increase on diesel fuel (44.4 cents per gallon).

Section 2b: 40 percent of funds will be allocated towards improving the federal highway system through the Highway Trust Fund. 60 percent of the funds will be allocated towards infrastructural systems rated D+ or lower by the ASCE.

Section 3: No funding will be necessary for this legislation. Specific allocation of funds to governmental agencies will be outlined in the 2018 Congressional Budget. The Internal Revenue Service will oversee enforcement of this bill by both gasoline suppliers and proper usage of funds by various governmental agencies as outlined in the Budget.

Section 4: This bill will take effect upon release of the 2018 Congressional Budget.

Section 5: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby rendered null and void.

Authored By

Christian Butterfield

Bowling Green High School

**A Resolution To Impose Economic Sanctions Against The Philippines**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Duterte's War on Drugs has led to a myriad of human rights abuse; and

WHEREAS, The lives of 7,000 supposed drug abusers have been lost in the Philippines due to unjust governmental or vigilante killings without any sort of due process; and

WHEREAS, Those arrested in the Philippines are put into extremely inhumane living conditions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the United States will enforce strict economic sanctions against the Philippines until marked improvement regarding human rights violations can be objectively shown; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States government will encourage it’s allies to support any economic sanctions against the Philippines.

Authored By

Christian Butterfield

Bowling Green High School

A Bill to Award Financial Incentives to Businesses Hiring Ex-Convicts

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION I: Any business whose workforce is composed of 15% Class D felons  will

receive 5% off of its total federal income tax.

SECTION II: If the employer fires the employee on the grounds of suspicion of illegal

activity, then a report must be filed with the local police station detailing the grounds on which the employee was fired and the identity of the employee.

1. To prevent tax fraud, any business applying for tax incentives must provide a report detailing all of its employees; felons listed in this report must be designated as such, so that the state can validate that 15% of the business’ workforce is comprised of convicted felons.
2. Convicted felons still may not be hired to positions that are currently restricted to them.
3. Any rape or sodomy will be a Class A felony; sexual assault or any other sexual offense will be a Class C felony.

SECTION IV: This bill will take effect January 1st, 2019.

SECTION V: All other laws in conflict with this new policy shall hereby declared null and

Void.

 Respectfully submitted,

 Hannah Burt and Cole Rubin,

 Bowling Green High School

A Bill To Abolish The Use Of Capital Punishment

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS CONGRESS THAT

Section 1: The use of capital punishment in the United States will be abolished and all who are currently on death row will have their sentence commuted to life in prison.

Section 2: Capital punishment is defined as the execution of criminals as retribution for their crimes.

Section 3: The Department of Justice will oversee both the enforcement and the timely awareness of this bill by prison officials. No funding is required for this bill.

Section 4: This bill will be made effective immediately after it’s passing.

Section 5: All other laws that are in conflict with this legislation shall hereby be declared null and void.

*Submitted By*

*Christian Butterfield*

*Bowling Green High School*

**A Bill to Limit Purchases and Possession of All Guns to Individuals Over 21**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1**. No person under the age of 21 shall hereafter legally purchase or possess a gun, whether purchased from a licensed or unlicensed seller. Possession includes both open and concealed carries, and any exceptions to possession laws shall be determined by individual states. However, no exception shall cover any individual under the age of 16, nor any juvenile with a criminal record.

**SECTION 2**. A gun is defined as any variety of firearm, including both handguns and long guns such as rifles and shotguns.

Viable exceptions for possession are occupational needs such as hunting and farming.

**SECTION 3.** The change will be overseen by The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives within the Department of Justice.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented by January 1st, 2018.

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

Respectfully submitted by

Abby Adams-Smith

Bowling Green High School

**A Bill to Ensure Linguistic Competence**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION I: All public elementary schools will be required to teach a foreign language to students beginning in kindergarten.

SECTION II: Foreign languages to be taught may include but are not limited to:

Spanish, French, Mandarin, Arabic, and German as these are the most used

languages in the world aside from English.

SECTION III: The U.S. Department of Education shall oversee enforcement of this legislation.

A. Any school that refuses to act upon this legislation will have its government funding reduced by 10% each year it fails to cooperate.

SECTION IV: This legislation shall take effect in August of 2020, giving schools enough time to

establish a foreign language department if needed.

SECTION V: All other laws in conflict with this new legislation shall hereby be declared null

and void.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lauren Cravens,

Bowling Green High School

A Resolution to Add Seats to the House of Representatives

1. **WHEREAS,** The current House district system severely under represents voters in

2. more populous districts; and

3. **WHEREAS,** The United States of America was founded under and is governed by the

4. sovereign principles of democracy; and

5. **WHEREAS,** The current system also negatively impacts representation in the Electoral

6. College, causing further representative deficiencies; now, therefore be it

7. **RESOLVED,** By this Congress that: the U.S. should seek to equally proportion

8. seats in the House of Representatives by adding seats according to

9. the Wyoming Rule to decrease the discrepancies between district

10. populations.

*Introduced by Henry Clay High School*

A Resolution to Advance Rehabilitation Programs in Prisons

1. **WHEREAS,** The enormous U.S. prison population drains $80 billion annually; and

2. **WHEREAS,** The nation’s current policy of punitive correction has only increased that

3. population and its recidivism rate; and

4. **WHEREAS,** These funds are not being used to improve lagging American education,

5. healthcare, or infrastructure, nor are the prisoners able to contribute to

6. American society; and

7. **WHEREAS**, Evidence has indicated that prisoner rehabilitation programs, such as drug

8. rehab and work programs, reduce recidivism, corrections expenses, and

9. crime rates; now, therefore, be it

10. **RESOLVED,** by this Congress that: the U.S. should increase corrections funding

11. to prisoner rehabilitation in order to create a more effective

12. corrective system.

*Introduced by Henry Clay High School*

**A Resolution to Protect the United States from the Forces Which Act Against Us**

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THIS CONGRESS THAT:

1. **WHEREAS**, China poses an inevitable threat to the United States with
2. its burgeoning military capabilities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, China’s ultimate goal is to dominate Asia, and its aggressive
4. expansion into the South China sea has made a US-Sino war
5. inevitable; and
6. **WHEREAS**, Inaction by the U.S. allows China to continue its aggressive
7. action in the South China Sea; and
8. **WHEREAS**, To allow China to continue to grow its military is to open
9. ourselves up to an inevitable strike from the Chinese, resulting
10. in mass suffering and loss of life of the American people; now,
11. therefore, be it
12. **RESOLVED**, By this Congress that: the United States should preemptively
13. initiate war with China.

*Introduced by Henry Clay High School*

**A Bill to Allow Death with Dignity in The United States**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**Section 1**. Upon passage, physicians shall be allowed without fear of prosecution to assist terminally ill patients who wish to die with dignity.

**Section 2**. Terminally ill is defined as a diagnosis of death within 6 months or less. Said diagnosis to be determined by two independent physicians.

**Section 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall be responsible for the changes in policy.

1. Patients wishing to participate in death with dignity must bear the cost of said services, as insurance companies will not be required to provide coverage for any such services or medication necessary.
2. Physicians will not be required to participate in or offer services related to death with dignity.
3. Participants must undergo a psychiatric evaluation to ensure he/she is voluntarily making this decision, is not acting under duress, and retains the mental capacity to make this decision.

**SECTION 4.**  This shall take effect on July 1, 2018

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austin Huff, Knott County Central High School.*

**A Bill to Reinstate Voting Rights of All Felons**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**Section 1**. The United States shall reinstate the voting rights of all felons over the age of 18, both in prison and out of prison.

**Section 2**. A felon is defined as any United States citizen that has either pleaded guilty to or been convicted of a felony in the United States.

**Section 3.** The United States Department of Corrections shall oversee the implementation of this legislation, including:

1. Establishment of a committee to oversee reinstatement of the voting rights of any United States citizen over the age of 18 that has pleaded guilty to or been convicted of a felony PRIOR to the passage of this legislation, and,
2. Establishment of a committee to oversee the voting rights of any United States citizen that pleads guilty to or is convicted of a felony AFTER the passage of this legislation.

**SECTION 4.** The Department of Justice will regularly audit on an annual basis the Department of Corrections to ensure this policy is properly enforced.

**Section 5.** This legislation will go into effect January 1, 2019.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dylan Chapman, Knott County Central High School*

**A Bill to Oblige Insurance Companies to Supply Birth Control Pills.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**Section 1**. Insurance companies shall not have the right to deny an insured birth control, for any reason.

**Section 2**. Upon the passage of this bill, insurance companies will only be obligated to supply birth control bills, which will not include IUD’S and other implants

**Section 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall be responsible for the changes in policy.

**SECTION 4.**  This shall take effect on July 1, 2018

**Section 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.*ntroduced for Congressional Debate by John Keaten Combs.*

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*SECTION 3. The Department of Health and Human Services shall be responsible for the changes in policy.*

*A. Patients wishing to participate in death with dignity must bear the cost of said services, as insurance companies will not be required to provide coverage for any such services or medication necessary.*

*B. Physicians will not be required to participate in or offer services related to death with dignity.*

*C. Participants must undergo a psychiatric evaluation to ensure he/she is voluntarily making this decision, is not acting under duress, and retains the mental capacity to make this decision.*

*SECTION 4. This shall take effect on July 1, 2018*

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austin Huff, Knott County Central High School*

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austin Huff, Knott County Central High School*

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austin Huff, Knott County Central High School*

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austin Huff, Knott County Central High School*