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.

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