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A Bill to Compensate Prisoners Fairly

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All federal and state inmates shall be paid at least the federal minimum wage for any work that they perform while incarcerated. Money earned through prison labor will be deposited into an account that can be accessed by inmates and their designated family members.

SECTION 2. The minimum wage is the lowest wage permitted by law. The current federal minimum wage is $7.25 per hour.

SECTION 3. The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

A. The BOP will ensure that money earned by inmates is secured properly in a bank contracted with the federal government. The contracted bank will be prohibited from charging exorbitant fees for accessing or transferring funds from accounts.

B. Jails or prisons that fail to implement this legislation will be fined $1000 per inmate, per day until they are in full compliance.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2023.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dripping Springs High School*
A Bill to Revitalize Space Exploration

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) shall reallocate all money designated for federal subsidies to private space companies towards public research and development programs for space exploration.

SECTION 2. A. “Private space companies” is defined as privately owned partnerships or corporations that participate in space exploration, such as Blue Origin or SpaceX.

B. “Space exploration” is defined as the physical exploration of outer space, both by human spaceflights and robotic spacecraft.

SECTION 3. NASA shall be responsible for implementation of this legislation.

A. Annual audits will be carried out to ensure that research and development is making significant progress.

B. If it is determined that significant progress has not been made within 10 years of this legislation’s implementation, this legislation will be declared null and void.

SECTION 4. This bill will be implemented at the start of FY 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Seven Lakes High School
A Bill to Subsidize Broadband and Fund Fiber Optic Cable Infrastructure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The US Federal Government should subsidize broadband with internet service providers (ISPs) in rural areas and set up key “Internet Pipelines” to provide all Americans with adequate internet access.

SECTION 2. a. The subsidizing of the broadband industry shall be defined as the US Federal Government creating special contracts with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to make the internet accessible for constituents living in areas without coverage.

b. The setting up of “Internet Pipelines” shall be defined as the US Federal Government funding Fiber Optic Cable Infrastructure to bring faster and more reliable Internet to more Americans.

SECTION 3. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Department of the Treasury will oversee the fulfilment of this legislation.

A. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will oversee the implementation by creating contracts with ISPs for Section 2A of this Bill.

B. The Department of the Treasury will oversee the implementation by providing funds for Section 2B of this Bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect on Fiscal Year 2023

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by R.C. Clark High School
A Bill to Establish a National Infrastructure Bank

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The National Infrastructure Bank is established as a Government corporation subject to chapter 91 of title 31, United States Code by adding at the end the following: “(Q) the National Infrastructure Bank.” The purpose of National Infrastructure Bank shall be to facilitate efficient, long-term financing of infrastructure projects, business and economic growth, and new job creation in the United States.

SECTION 2. A. Bank—The term “Bank” means the National Infrastructure Bank established under section 4(a).

B. Infrastructure Project—The term “infrastructure project” means any transportation, energy, environmental, telecommunications, community development, or other infrastructure project for which a development plan is presented to the Bank for financing. It shall exclude military infrastructure.

SECTION 3. The Secretary of the Treasury shall take such action as may be necessary to assist in implementing the establishment of the National Infrastructure Bank, including obtaining a national bank charter.

A. An appropriation of $50,000,000 shall be allotted for FY 2022 and 2023.

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect at the beginning of FY 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Winston Churchill HS.
A Bill to Ban Private Military Companies (PMCs) from Conducting Independent Operations Without Federal Authorization

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall prohibit Private Military Companies (PMCs) from conducting independent operations without authorization from both Congress and the US Department of Defense (DoD).

SECTION 2. Private Military Companies shall be defined as any private organization providing armed militaristic operations for monetary profit, such as Blackwater, Vinell Corp, and MAG Aerospace.

SECTION 3. The Department of Defense and the US Congress shall be tasked with the implementation and enforcement of this bill. The Department of Defense (DoD) shall be tasked with the proper communication and collaboration of the PMCs.

A. Hereby, all PMCs shall be required to register with the Department of Defense.

B. The Department of Defense shall be tasked with the facilitation of communication between the United States government and PMCs in joint operations.

C. The United States Congress shall be tasked with the authorization of all PMC operations and interests.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall begin implementation January 1, 2023 and reach full implementation by February 1, 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Leander High School.
A Resolution to Establish Diplomatic Relations with Afghanistan

WHEREAS, The United States maintains relationships with several nations with problematic human rights records; and

WHEREAS, Ceding diplomatic influence in Afghanistan to nations such as China or Pakistan can have long-term negative geopolitical consequences throughout central Asia; and

WHEREAS, Afghanistan is rich in rare-earth metals, which are essential elements of many modern electronics; and

WHEREAS, Refusal to establish diplomatic relations with the current government of Afghanistan will diminish U.S. influence in the region; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the United States reestablish its embassy in Kabul; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States seek to establish formal diplomatic relations with the current governing authority in Afghanistan.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School
A Bill to Place Women’s Health Clinics on Federal Land to Reduce Undue Burden on Women

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Hyde Amendment is hereby repealed, and Women’s Health Clinics will be opened on Federal land in states that, in any way, restrict a woman’s right as guaranteed in Roe v. Wade.

SECTION 2. “Women’s Health Clinics” shall be defined as a medical facility that specializes in whole women’s health.

A. Whole women’s health shall include, but not be limited to: pre- and post-natal services, mammograms, pap smears, contraception, and family planning.

SECTION 3. The General Services Administration (GSA) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) shall work in tandem to enforce this legislation.

A. The GSA will be in charge of finding the locations for these clinics on existing federal land.

B. HHS will be in charge of staffing and operations of the clinic.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect on Jan 1, 2023.

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
A Resolution to End Our Commitment to Israel

WHEREAS, The nation of Israel commits various human rights abuses against the Palestinian people; and

WHEREAS, These human rights abuses include the violent destruction of Palestinian homes, lives, and the detainment and abuse of Palestinian children; and

WHEREAS, The Israeli state has repeatedly refused to cooperate with the Palestinians and has evaded responsibility for its cruel actions despite being denounced by the UN and various human rights organizations; and

WHEREAS, The United States provides arms and funds to Israel under obligations like the Memorandum of Understanding which was renewed in 2016 to last until fiscal year 2028; and

WHEREAS, These weapons sales amount to $3.8 billion a year towards Israel’s Iron Dome and military; and

WHEREAS, $25.25 in individual taxpayer money goes toward funding this suppression of a marginalized people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the United States cease all funding and aid to Israel.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Amarillo High School
A Bill to Reduce Military Spending to Aid Americans

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government shall cap the annual defense budget at $415 billion dollars and designate the additional $300 billion dollars from the defense budget for annual budgetary reprioritization initiatives.

SECTION 2. Budgetary reprioritization initiatives are defined as initiatives that provide funding for a $300/month universal child tax credit, the State Department, education programs, Medicare, and Medicaid.

SECTION 3. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the parliamentarians of the Senate and House will oversee the implementation of the provisions of this bill and ensure appropriate spending levels in accordance with Section 1.

A. The OMB may alter the amounts designated in Section 1 and Section 2 to conform with annual inflation rates in cooperation with the Department of the Treasury.

B. Defense appropriations proposed by the President and by Congress shall be regulated according to the limits set in Section 1 by the OMB and congressional parliamentarians.

SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect for the budgetary process of FY 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano Senior High School
A Resolution to Require a Majority Vote to Raise the Debt Limit

WHEREAS, Currently, Senate rules require a 60 vote majority to raise the debt limit; and

WHEREAS, The debt limit is a ceiling imposed by Congress on the amount of debt that the U.S. Federal government can have outstanding; and

WHEREAS, When the debt limit is reached, the U.S. Treasury exhausts its cash and extraordinary measures, and the Federal government loses any means to pay its bills and fund its operation; and

WHEREAS, if the debt limit is reached without being raised, the US economy will suffer sustained and completely avoidable damage; and

WHEREAS, Legislation to raise the debt limit has been used as a political weapon by legislators in the minority; and

WHEREAS, risking the full faith and credit of the United States is unconscionable; and

WHEREAS, a debt default would have severe consequences on not just the United States, but the economy of the entire world; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that raising the debt limit shall henceforth and forevermore require only a majority vote of each House of Congress.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Chapin High School
A Bill to Limit the Number of Hours Teens are Permitted to Work

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. American workers aged 13 to 16 will be limited in the number of hours worked each day to no more than 5 clock hours and no more than 25 hours per week. Said workers will have a minimum of one day off per workweek. Moreover, employers are prohibited from scheduling 13 to 16 year old students during the school day.

SECTION 2. A workweek is defined as the 7 day period beginning on Monday at 12:00 AM and ending on Sunday at 11:59 PM local time. A school day is defined as the hours a student is legally required to be in attendance at their educational establishment.

SECTION 3. This bill will be enforced by the Department of Labor and Labor Wage and Hour Division.

A. Companies found to be in violation will be fined $1,000 per day, per infraction,

B. Compensation in the amount of $100 per hour worked in violation, will be awarded to the employee subjected to the violation.

SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect January 1st 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pampa High School
The Douglass Commonwealth Admission Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. With the consent of the residents therein, the District of Columbia shall be proclaimed the Douglass Commonwealth.

SECTION 2. Douglass Commonwealth shall have the same status as the other fifty states, including representation, the number of which shall be determined by the Census and elected in the next national congressional election.

SECTION 3. The statehood process shall be guided by the District’s current leadership.

A. Within thirty days of the passage of this legislation, the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall conduct a plebiscite to be certified by the District of Columbia Board of Elections.

B. If a plurality vote indicates support for statehood, the state constitution (as approved by the Council of the District of Columbia on October 18, 2016) shall be adopted.

SECTION 4. This piece of legislation shall be enacted immediately upon passage.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by James Bowie High School*
A Resolution to Refocus the Prosper Africa Initiative to Solely Prioritize Sustainable Development

WHEREAS, The Prosper Africa initiative was launched in 2018 by the Trump Administration in an attempt to streamline US Aid to the continent; and

WHEREAS, Prosper Africa has pursued a variety of different avenues to promote economic growth across the region; and

WHEREAS, This lack of focus has diluted the economic impact of the program; and

WHEREAS, Developing nations suffer greater impacts from climate change, including increased food insecurity, extreme weather events, and resource depletion; and

WHEREAS, Sustainable development practices help countries grow in ways that adapt to the challenges posed by climate change; and

WHEREAS, The UN estimates that developing countries will need to spend $3.3 to $4.5 trillion per year to meet their Sustainable Development Goals; and

WHEREAS, The US has a direct interest in promoting stability across the world’s fastest-growing region, as it will directly affect long-running bilateral relationships; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here, assembled that the US government should refocus resources in the Prosper Africa initiative to focus solely on promoting sustainable development.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jack C. Hays High School
A Bill to Federally Mandate Paid Maternity Leave to Close the Gender Wage Gap

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The U.S. federal government shall hereby require businesses to offer their employees 12 weeks of paid maternity/paternity leave.

SECTION 2. Maternity/paternity leave shall be defined as protected time that an employee can take off to care for their newborn or newly adopted child.

SECTION 3. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) will handle the implementation and enforcement of this bill.

A. The DOL and DOC will ensure that all businesses with 1,500 employees or more offer 12 weeks of paid maternity/paternity leave annually.

B. Any business found to violate this law by the either the DOL or DOC will be fined $10,000 initially, with that number increasing annually by $2,000 until the policy is implemented.

SECTION 4. This bill will be implemented on January 1, 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Spring Woods High School
A Bill to Fund Infrastructure for Reservations

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of Interior in conjunction with the director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs shall develop a plan to expedite construction and the development of infrastructure on federally recognized reservations.

SECTION 2. Infrastructure shall be defined as roads, bridges, water, power facilities, and medical facilities.

SECTION 3. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Department of the Interior (DOI) will oversee the enforcement and implementation of this legislation.

A. All infrastructure building projects and plans shall be expedited and supervised by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

B. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Division of Facilities Management and Construction shall be expanded to include the construction, management, and maintenance of reservation infrastructure.

C. Funds shall be distributed based on square mileage of reservation, current funding toward infrastructure projects, and general necessity as assessed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

D. $7 billion shall be allotted for the implementation of this bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect October 1, 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Frenship High School.
A Resolution to Protect America’s LGBTQ+ Youth

WHEREAS, Minors are still developing their own sense of self and are vulnerable to manipulation and abuse based on their sexuality; and

WHEREAS, Conversion therapy, sometimes called “reparative therapy” is shown to be extremely damaging for mental health and has life-long effects on those who are subjected to it; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth are at a significantly higher risk than the general population to commit suicide because of discrimination against their sexuality; and

WHEREAS, Only 20 states and no territories have banned conversion therapy for minors; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth do not deserve to go through the incredibly traumatic process of conversion therapy and suffer from trauma for the rest of their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that ban gay conversion therapy for minors be banned in the United States of; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That Congress establish a fund to compensate victims that were subjected to conversion therapy as minors.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School
A Resolution to Impose Sanctions on Qatar

WHEREAS, In the past ten years, Qatar has embarked on an unprecedented building program, largely in preparation for the FIFA 2022 football tournament; and

WHEREAS, More than 6,500 migrant workers from India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka have died in Qatar since it won the right to host the World Cup ten years ago; and

WHEREAS, Qatari authorities have failed to investigate the deaths of thousands of migrant workers over the past decade, despite evidence of links between premature deaths and unsafe working conditions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the United States impose sanctions on the Country of Qatar for its role in the abuse of migrant workers for the development of the infrastructure for the FIFA 2022 football tournament.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jordan High School in Fulshear, Texas
A Bill to Designate Election Day as a Federal Holiday to Promote Democracy

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Election Day will be designated and recognized as a United States federal holiday.

SECTION 2. Election Day shall be defined as the day the federal government sets for federal elections.

A federal holiday shall be defined as a calendar date recognized as a holiday by the United States government.

A. All non-essential federal government offices are closed.

B. Every federal government employee shall be paid for the day.

SECTION 3. This bill will be enacted by the United States Congress in joint cooperation with the Federal Election Commission,

A. Additionally, $10 billion will be allocated to the Federal Election Commission in order to ensure the proper amount of voting stations throughout the country.

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect two months upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by W. B. Ray HS
A Bill to Enact a Deposit to Oil and Natural Gas Companies

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A. Companies will be required to place a deposit in the amount of $150,000 per well prior to the start of drilling for oil or natural gas. This money will be designated for use to cap an oil well in case of bankruptcy.

B. For companies with functioning wells, 1 percent of revenue will be deposited annually for the repair of environmental damage caused in the drilling, extraction, or transportation of the gas or oil.

SECTION 2. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will create a banking system for the purpose of keeping the deposits given by the companies.

A. If found in violation of this bill they will have their equipment and the oil well seized, sold, and the money will be used for the capping of the oil well. Their permit will also be terminated so that no new oil wells can be drilled by the same entity.

B. The FERC, in cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), will have control over the funds and distribution for the purposes of environmental repair and well capping.

C. If a company caps their well, they may withdraw the $150,000 capping deposit, but are not entitled to the return of the environmental damage deposit.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall go into effect on January 1st, 2023

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rock Hill High School
A Resolution to Financially Assist Single Parents

WHEREAS, Single parents are often criticized in public for not having any beam of support; and

WHEREAS, The financial challenges of raising children with only one source of income leads to damaged credits scores which makes it even more difficult to secure future loans; and

WHEREAS, Parents often prioritize their children’s educational budget more than retirement savings; and

WHEREAS, Childcare is notably expensive, yet it is even more expensive- comparatively for a single-income household; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Census, 25% of children in the US are living in a single income household; and

WHEREAS, Although the US has established programs and subsidies, there are still households who are above the poverty line that don’t make a steady amount to live comfortably; and

WHEREAS, Debt levels among single parents are up by 105% of 2014 when the poverty line was already issued; and

WHEREAS, Current Jobs aren’t providing many single parent families the security or income needed and are under constant financial strain; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled, that government assistance programs ought to double income maximums for single-parent households.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Plano East Sr. High
A Bill to Enact a Ranked Choice Vote

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) shall hereby be used in all federal congressional
district elections and presidential elections.

SECTION 2. The following definitions apply:

A. “Ranked Choice Voting” shall be defined as a method of achieving
proportional representation where voters rank their choices rather than just
voting for one candidate. A minimum quota of votes needed to win a seat
shall be set, based on the number of seats up for election.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission shall be tasked with the enforcement of this
legislation.

A. $2 billion shall be allocated to invest in the technology and infrastructure
necessary to implement RCV in elections.

B. $500 million shall be allocated to voter education programs aimed at
training voters to accommodate the RCV system.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect for the 2024 election period.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Village High School
A Bill to Create Special Visas for At-Risk Afghans

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A new Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) for at-risk populations in Afghanistan, including women, transgendered or gender non-conforming individuals, journalists, and social justice advocates, shall be created.

SECTION 2. Immigrant visas are issued to foreign nationals who intend to live permanently in the United States. The “Special Immigrant” category includes people who qualify for a green card, or permanent resident status, under the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) special immigrant program.

SECTION 3. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigrations Services (USCIS) will oversee the implementation of the new visa. The USCIS will establish more specific criteria for awarding the new special visas, but the intent is to be as inclusive as possible. The process will also be expedited, and new personnel and resources will be provided to avoid delays or backlogs.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage, and the USCIS will have two months to begin processing applications.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dripping Springs High School
A Bill to Raise Taxes on the Rich

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The top tax rate shall be increased for individuals with an income of $523,600 or more and $628,300 or more for married couples filing jointly from 37% to 45%.

SECTION 2. Federal Income Taxes shall be defined as the tax levied by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on the annual earnings of individuals and married couples.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be overseen by the Internal Revenue Service.
   a. Any action taken to evade an assessment of tax will earn an individual to five years in prison against not paying taxes.

SECTION 4. This shall be the effective tax rate for this income brackets starting in the 2022 tax year.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by R.C. Clark High School
A Bill To Initiate Universal Background Checks For Privatized Gun Sellers To Decrease Gun Violence In America

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Privatized gun sellers and businesses must conduct background checks for all buyers and report all background to the state government for review before selling any firearms.

SECTION 2. Privatized Gun Sellers are US citizens who are selling their own weapons and do not hold a license to sell firearms, issued by the State governments. This is legal under federal law and only becomes illegal when a privatized seller knowingly sells a firearm to a prohibited individual. Guns can be sold from individual to individual, at gun shows, online, etc.

SECTION 3. The background checks will be reported to each state’s Department of Public Safety.

A. This information will be transferred into a central database, and it will be reviewed for validation of the information,

   a. The specific department monitoring this process is the Department of Handgun Licensing in each state.

B. Local law enforcement can access this information at their disposal.

SECTION 4. Implemented at the start of Fiscal Year 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano East Sr. High
A Bill to Repeal Section 230 to Promote the Accountability of Big Tech Companies

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT

SECTION 1. Section 230 of Title 47 of United States Code shall be eliminated.

SECTION 2. Section 230 shall be defined as Section 230 of Title 47 of US code (47 U.S.C. § 230), enacted as part of the United States Communications Decency Act (CDA) of 1996. Section 230 states, “No provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be treated as the publisher or speaker of any information provided by another information content provider.”

SECTION 3. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) will oversee the enforcement of this bill. The Department of Justice (DOJ) will be responsible for the prosecution of corporations found to have broken federal law by hosting illegal content on their website(s).

A. The DOJ will not prosecute until 2023, allowing companies to reform their terms and conditions, oversight, and moderation rules.

SECTION 4. This bill would go into effect January 1, 2023

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jack C. Hays High School
A Resolution to Fund Lab Grown Coral to Help Reverse Coral Extinction

WHEREAS, Many factors such as disease, overfishing, pollution, and climate change have contributed to the extinction of coral reefs; and

WHEREAS, Coral reefs are essential to marine ecosystems as they provide a direct source of food, shelter, and protection for marine life.

WHEREAS, Due to the economic and social benefits that coral reefs provide like seafood, tourism, and even medicine, coral reefs are an outlet worth more than 30 billion dollars per year; and

WHEREAS, Coral reefs also help prevent coastal erosion and offer protection from storm surge; and

WHEREAS, As climate change has put coral reefs under stress, it causes bleaching, which has wiped out more than half of the entire coral population since 1980; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that government funding be provided for coral preservation and lab grown coral to ensure a decline in the rate at which coral reefs are dying.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Brandeis High School
Mars: 2030 Resolution

WHEREAS, The US initiative to explore space beyond Earth’s atmosphere and send humans to the Moon spurred technological innovations that changed the trajectory of mankind’s development; and

WHEREAS, Investment in the International Space Station led to breakthroughs in our understanding of human physiology, and provided opportunities for the advancement of international relations; and

WHEREAS, Every phase of our expansion of space exploration has been marked by the development of technology converted into commercial use; and

WHEREAS, Current plans to establish a human mission to Mars require the development of infrastructure on the Moon; and

WHEREAS, This infrastructure would allow for the commercial development of lunar resources and well as the refinement of technology for future space missions; and

WHEREAS, The obstacles to sending a manned mission to Mars are primarily financial, rather than technical; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the US government should guarantee full funding of NASA’s mission to send humans to Mars by 2030.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Katy Taylor High School
A Bill to Regulate Vaccine Mandates

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. No vaccine that has not been publicly available in the United States with full Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for 3 years may be mandated by any public or private entity in the United States.

SECTION 2. A mandate is defined as a requirement to get any type of vaccine in order to be allowed into public spaces, for travel, or employment.

SECTION 3. Those denied full access under the law due to a vaccine mandate that violates Section 1, shall have the right to sue for injunctive relief and, in cases where courts find the order to be in violation of the law, the harmed individual shall be entitled to damages of no less than $10,000 in addition to legal fees.

SECTION 4. A. This legislation will Take effect immediately and apply retroactively to all governmental vaccine mandates.

B. Companies have 60 days to amend corporate policies to comply with the law without the risk of damages.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rock Hill HS
A Bill to Link Federal Taxes to Net Worth to Simplify the US Tax Code

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All individual taxpayers will pay a tax equal to 2.5% of their positive net worth annually. Individual taxpayers with a negative net worth will pay no taxes. The current income based federal tax system for individual taxpayers will be abolished.

SECTION 2. Net worth is the value of all the non-financial and financial assets owned by an individual or institution minus the value of all its outstanding liabilities.

SECTION 3. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will oversee the enforcement of the bill.
   A. Individuals who violate will be subject to a penalty equal to 150% of the initial tax.
   B. Subsequent violations will be subjected to a 300% penalty and be placed in federal prison for no less than 6 months and no more than 5 years.

SECTION 4. This bill will be enforced on January 1st, 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pampa High School
A Bill to Ban Prescribed Fires

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Forest Service shall no longer conduct proceedings and measures related to prescribed burning and adopt alternative fire suppression and mitigation mechanisms instead.

SECTION 2. The following definitions apply:

A. “prescribed burning” will be defined as the process of executing a controlled burn under favorable weather conditions to reduce the probability of a larger fire occurring.

B. “alternative fire suppression and mitigation mechanisms” will be defined as any process that is intended to limit the probability of a fire occurring or its magnitude, including but not limited to: thinning, fire retardant, and water.

SECTION 3. The United States Forest Service shall be tasked with the enforcement of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Village High School