



**AST/MAST Legislation
1st Semester, Fall 2020**

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A Bill to Transition the US Dollar to a Digital Currency

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government will incentivize a transition towards a
3 digital currency over a 5-year period by defining physical tender as obsolete

4 **SECTION 2.**

5 A. “Digital currency” will be defined as any form of a monetary transaction
6 through an established financial firm via digital means.

7 B. “Physical tender” will be defined as bills and coins that have been federally
8 minted.

9 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of the Treasury will work in conjunction with state and local
10 governments to oversee the implementation of this bill.

11 A. The FDIC will receive \$500 million to issue federal debit cards to citizens
12 under the poverty line lacking access to bank accounts in return for
13 surrendered cash.

14 B. \$1 billion will be reallocated from the DoD budget to subsidize adequate
15 technologies for small businesses to accept digital payments.

16 C. Banks will be tasked with accepting cash and issuing the monetary
17 equivalent in digital currency and surrendering money to the FRS.

18 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect FY 2021.

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

Thank you to The Village High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Bill to Enact Comprehensive Police Reform

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government will eliminate the 1033 Program for
3 transferring surplus military arms to civilian law enforcement agencies and
4 reform the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

5 **SECTION 2.** Reforms to the JAG Program shall include:

6 A. Any state, tribal, or local government receiving JAG funds must create an
7 independent civilian review board to investigate complaints of police
8 misconduct.

9 B. Funding will be conditioned on ongoing compliance and non-interference
10 with both federal and civilian review board investigations into police
11 misconduct.

12 C. Governments or organizations receiving JAG funds must implement a law
13 requiring body camera usage by all law enforcement agencies under their
14 jurisdiction.

15 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense and Department of Justice Office of Justice
16 Programs shall oversee the implementation of this bill.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect on January 1, 2021.

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

Thank you to Winston Churchill High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Bill to Provide Microloans to Financially Empower Women in Egypt

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall delegate \$20 million in microloans to aid women below the
3 poverty line who are attempting to create businesses in Egypt. The loans will be granted
4 through a loan process controlled by several nonprofit microlenders. Each loan will be
5 maxed at \$2000 with no interest rate.

6 **SECTION 2.** Microloans are defined as a sum of money lent to a new business. A “nonprofit
7 microlender” will be defined as a nonprofit entity that is a part of the Small Business
8 Administration’s Microloan Program. They are responsible for the management of
9 microloans and are required to provide necessary assistance to Microborrowers. These
10 entities will verify whether an individual is “attempting to create a business” through
11 the guidelines under the Microloan Program.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Small Businesses Administration in conjunction with the Bureau of International
13 Labor Affairs shall oversee the implementation of this legislation

14 A. The International Labor Affairs will work with the Small Businesses Administration
15 and release a report on the microlenders every 5 years.

16 B. If the report concludes that a microlender is in violation of any portion of the
17 Microloan program, their services will be terminated, and all funding will be
18 retracted.

19 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect in the fiscal year 2022.

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

Thank you to A&M Consolidated High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Bill to Increase Funding to the United States Space Force

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Defense shall receive \$10 billion in
3 additional funding for the United States Space Force to increase research
4 and development for military space systems.

5 **SECTION 2.** “Military space systems” are defined as both offensive and defensive
6 space mechanisms, such as advanced satellites, used for the purposes of
7 deterring threats from U.S. forces and national interests.

8 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Defense will oversee implementation of
9 this legislation to ensure the proper allocation of funds.

10 A. Biennial audits will be carried out to ensure that funds are being
11 utilized effectively and that research and development is making
12 reasonable progress.

13 B. If it is determined reasonable progress has not been met after 15
14 years, funding will be diverted to private entities under federal
15 government guidance.

16 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect FY 2021.

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

Thank you to Seven Lakes High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Resolution to Join the Paris Climate Agreement

- 1 **WHEREAS,** After President Trump’s decision to leave the agreement, the United
2 States is not on track to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius; and;
3 and;
- 4 **WHEREAS,** US withdrawal will trigger a shift in political dynamics that could cause
5 other countries to withdraw; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** UN Secretary-General António Guterres stated that efforts made by the
7 US and other countries are not doing enough to curb disastrous climate
8 change; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** With the Trump administration’s constant efforts to scale back domestic
10 regulation on greenhouse gas emissions and federal mandates on the use
11 of fossil fuels, overarching regulation is necessary; and
- 12 **WHEREAS,** The US and the Paris Climate Agreement are both necessary to curb
13 global greenhouse gas emissions; now, therefore, be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States commit to rejoin
15 the Paris Climate Agreement and take additional measures to curb
16 greenhouse gas emissions to stay below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Thank you to Dripping Springs High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Resolution to Decrease the Usage of Private Military Contractors inside Latin America

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Private Military Contractors in Latin America will no longer be utilized by
3 the US Department of Defense.

4 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions will apply:

5 A. Private Military Contractors (PMCs) will be defined as companies that
6 engage in armed security services. These armed security services
7 include, but are not limited to, combat missions, provision of
8 protective services, security advice and planning, prison
9 administration, interrogation, and intelligence.

10 B. Latin America will be defined as the collective group of countries in
11 Central and South America.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Congressional Armed Service Committee shall oversee the passage of
13 this bill.

14 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented at the start of 2021.

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

Thank you to Obra D. Tompkins High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Bill to Create Nuclear Waste Storage Sites at Yucca Mountain

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will construct and operate a permanent nuclear waste
3 repository at Yucca Mountain for the transfer and storage of spent
4 nuclear fuel (SNF).

5 **SECTION 2.** Spent Nuclear Fuel shall be defined as Nuclear reactor fuel that has been
6 used to the extent that it can no longer effectively sustain a chain
7 reaction.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy shall oversee the enforcement of this bill.

9 A. The existing Nuclear Waste Fund will be used to fund this project.

10 B. 5% of the Nuclear Waste Fund shall be made available to benefit host
11 communities, not limited to education and public services.

12 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect immediately upon passing.

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

Thank you to Vines High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



2020 Affordable Housing Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** To combat homelessness in urban centers across America, the federal
3 government will subsidize state and local homeless initiatives.

4 **SECTION 2.** Subsidies include but are not limited to, grants, increased funding, or tax
5 incentives for private organizations working with government initiatives.
6 Programs and initiatives can include housing and unemployment
7 programs, or any programs HUD deems appropriate.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will be
9 charged with implementation in the following ways:

- 10 A. \$15 billion will be distributed among different state and local
11 programs who are facing the greatest need.
12 B. An additional \$5 billion will be given to HUD to distribute across
13 federal programs.
14 C. HUD will allocate \$5 billion across various nonprofit organizations
15 working to combat homelessness nationwide.
16 D. HUD will establish an application system to determine which areas
17 are facing the greatest need, and which nonprofits are the most
18 efficient.

19 **SECTION 4.** This Legislation will be enacted at the beginning of the 2022 fiscal year.

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

Thank you to Pflugerville High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Resolution to Fund the Offshore Wind Industry to Create Clean Energy

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States has a large offshore wind energy resource that is ready
2 to be utilized; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** US shores currently possess a power potential of over 2000 gigawatts or
4 nearly double the nation’s current electricity usage and will be able to
5 generate electricity for more than 115 million US households; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** Offshore wind energy has the potential to deliver large amounts of clean
7 reliable energy and reduce pollution oil spills; and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** Funding this industry will result in more than 200,000 jobs being created
9 which is about twice the number of jobs being created by other sources
10 of energy such as offshore drilling; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** Offshore wind energy will also help create more jobs in the shipbuilding
12 and manufacturing industry further fueling the US economy; and
- 13 **WHEREAS,** Wildlife and marine ecosystems are positively impacted by offshore wind
14 farms due to the fact that they act as effective marine reserves; and
- 15 **WHEREAS,** Wind farms can act as artificial reefs and protection from fishing
16 pressures creating extremely positive effects; now, therefore, be it
- 17 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States shall fund the
18 offshore wind industry to create clean energy.

Thank you to Northland Christian School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Bill to Allow U.S. Territories to Elect Voting Members to Congress to Give All Americans a Voice

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Elected representatives of the United States' territories will hereby be
3 granted full voting privileges in the United States House of
4 Representatives.

5 **SECTION 2.** U.S. Territories include: American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S.
6 Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

7 **SECTION 3.** This bill will be enacted by the United States Congress and elections will
8 be overseen by the Federal Election Commission with assistance from the
9 Election Assistance Commission.

10 A. Guidelines and procedures will be the same as those federal elections
11 held within the fifty states of the United States.

12 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented by the 2022 election cycle.

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

Thank you to Hereford High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Resolution to Ratify the Convention on Biological Diversity

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The Earth is currently in the midst of the largest mass-extinction event humanity
2 has ever seen; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Current extinction rates are at least 1000 times higher than what would
4 naturally be expected absent human behavior; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** Continued loss of biodiversity will lead to widespread ecosystem collapse; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** The Convention on Biological Diversity (the Convention) aims to unite the world
7 in an attempt to stem the loss of biological diversity; and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** The Cartagena Protocol to the Convention further outlines important protocols
9 to ensure the safe use and development of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs);
10 and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** The Nagoya Protocol to the Convention helps to ensure the fair and equitable
12 sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources; and
- 13 **WHEREAS,** While the United States is one of the greatest contributors to pressure on
14 biological diversity, it has not ratified the Convention; now, therefore, be it
- 15 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States ratify the Convention on
16 Biological Diversity; and, be it
- 17 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That Congress also ratify both the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols to
18 the Convention.

Thank you to Tascosa High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Bill to Tax Automation to Fund Welfare Programs

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government shall hereby implement a 20% tax rate on
3 businesses substituting human workers with automated equipment for
4 the purpose of funding welfare programs.

5 **SECTION 2.** Automated equipment shall be defines as industrial machines used for
6 the purpose of fulfilling the jobs a human worker would perform. Welfare
7 programs shall be defined as both welfare programs, including but not
8 limited to Medicaid and SNAP, and entitlement programs such as Social
9 Security.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Treasury, the Internal Revenue Service, the United
11 States Social Security Administration, and the Department of Health and
12 Human Services shall work together when implementing this bill.

13 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2022

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

Thank you to Spring Woods High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Bill to Implement a Carbon Tax to Dissuade Carbon Emissions Among Companies

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government will implement a \$100 carbon tax
3 for every metric ton of carbon emitted by a Fortune 500 company.

4 **SECTION 2.** Fortune 500 is an annual list of the top 500 US companies by revenue. A
5 carbon tax is a tax on carbon emissions from the result of burning fossil
6 fuels.

7 **SECTION 3.** The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Internal
8 Revenue Service (IRS), and Department of Energy (DOE) will work in
9 conjunction to enforce, implement, and oversee this legislation.

10 A. The DOE will conduct audits on companies every 18 months.

11 B. 10% of the carbon tax revenue will go directly to the EPA's funding.

12 C. The IRS will be responsible for collecting and ensuring that all tax is
13 accounted for.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect by fiscal year 2022.

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

Thank you to Theodore Roosevelt in San Antonio and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Resolution to Ratify US Membership in the International Criminal Court

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States is one of only 7 nations that are not a member of the
2 International Criminal Court (ICC); and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** The ICC operates as the only global entity currently existing to hold
4 individuals responsible for heinous crimes against humanity, genocide,
5 war crimes, and other crimes of aggression; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** The ICC is only able to indict individuals found guilty in its proceedings if
7 the individual's country of origin is willing to cooperate; and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** The ICC has begun an investigation into alleged war crimes committed by
9 US Officials and the CIA in Afghanistan; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** The lack of US cooperation on is pushing the ICC to instead pursue lesser
11 atrocities with greater potential for successful prosecution; and
- 12 **WHEREAS,** The US will lose international credibility because of their lack of
13 cooperation with the ICC's probe into the war crimes in Afghanistan; and
- 14 **WHEREAS,** The US has an obligation to defend International Humanitarian Law, and
15 the UN Declaration of Human Rights; now, therefore, be it
- 16 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled the United States should ratify its
17 membership in the ICC.

Thank you to Jack C. Hays High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Bill to Prohibit Members of Congress from owning Stock

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall hereby enforce that all
3 members of Congress, their staff, and their household must sell any stock
4 before entering office and that ownership of any stock while in office,
5 with the exception of index funds and diversified mutual funds, is
6 prohibited.

7 A. Members of Congress, their staff, and their household may not begin
8 trading stock until 12 months have elapsed since they left office.

9 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions apply:

10 A. “stock” is defined as ownership share of a company.

11 B. “members of Congress, staff and household” are defined under
12 Section 6 of the STOCK of 2012.

13 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission shall oversee the
14 implementation of this bill.

15 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented one month upon its passage.

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

Thank you to Obra D. Tompkins High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.



A Resolution to Implement a Comprehensive US-UK Free Trade Agreement

1 **WHEREAS,** The United Kingdom’s withdrawal from the European Union has created
2 a unique opportunity to establish a new trade framework between the
3 United States and the UK; and

4 **WHEREAS,** The United States and Great Britain already share similar standards on
5 non-trade related issues such as labor standards and environmental
6 issues, thus paving the way for easier negotiations; and

7 **WHEREAS,** The US and UK have similar monetary regulation standards; and

8 **WHEREAS,** The recent mutual recognition agreement between the US and the UK
9 could be a starting point for further negotiation; and

10 **WHEREAS,** A Free Trade Agreement would be mutually beneficial to both countries;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the US and the United Kingdom
13 should negotiate and implement a binding Free Trade Agreement; and

14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** The US-UK Free Trade Agreement should include an
15 accession clause that would allow other countries to join under the same
16 terms by mutual consent.

Thank you to James E. Taylor High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation.