

Ohio Speech and Debate Association



December 2020 Legislation

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D1. A Resolution to Promote Ranked Choice Voting

1. **WHEREAS,** The United States primarily runs winner-take-all elections; and
2. **WHEREAS,** Winner-take-all elections make 3rd parties and independent candidates uncompetitive;
3. and
4. **WHEREAS,** Voting for a 3rd party candidate often causes voters to feel that they have wasted their
5. vote; and
6. **WHEREAS,** Americans voters would benefit from more competitive elections and choice; now,
7. therefore, be it
8. **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that ranked-choice voting be recommended for
9. elections around the country.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Oakwood High School

D2. A Resolution to Ban Felony Disenfranchisement

1. **WHEREAS,** A United States Citizen may lose their right to vote when charged with a felony
2. depending on what state they live in; and
3. **WHEREAS,** As of 2016 it is estimated that 6.1 million American have lost their right to vote due to
4. laws restricting voting rights to those who are convicted; and
5. **WHEREAS,** When a U.S citizen is tried for a crime, convicted, and released they do not lose their
6. citizenship or the rights that go along with it, so they should not lose their right to vote;
7. and
8. **WHEREAS,** The Eighth Amendment prohibits excessive sanctions and punishment, and denying
9. felons the right to vote is clearly an excessive punishment therefore violating the Eighth
10. Amendment; now, therefore, be it
11. **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that Felony disenfranchisement laws ought to be
12. repealed.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Medina High School

D3. The Warranted Patriotism Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** Legislation shall be enacted to limit the intrusion of government agencies into the personal
2. lives of Americans.
3. **SECTION 2.** INVESTIGATORY AGENCIES.— The term “investigatory agencies” refers to any federal agency
4. whose primary purpose is to investigate and/ or prosecute criminal wrongdoing.
5. A. DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES —The term “digital communications devices” refers
6. to any device that can be used to send and/or receive messages digitally.
7. B. DIGITAL SURVEILLANCE — The term “digital surveillance” refers to any investigation by
8. any federal agency involved in the collection of data using digital communications devices.
9. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice shall enforce this legislation
10. A. Any form of surveillance allowed under the Patriot Act must be authorized by a warrant
11. from a judge of the proper jurisdiction.
12. B. Any ongoing investigatory actions not previously authorized by a warrant are to be
13. immediately suspended until one can be properly obtained.
14. **SECTION 4.** The Legislation shall go into effect immediately.
15. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Louisville High School

D4. A Bill to Cut Government Funding to Internet Surveillance Programs to Increase Accountability within Intelligence Agencies

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** All funding to government programs and subsidies to surveillance programs that surveil
2. any person without a warrant shall be immediately ceased and all existing government
3. databases storing data obtained without a warrant be permanently destroyed.
4. **SECTION 2.** "Surveillance Program" shall be defined as a program that collects metadata, emails,
5. videos, photos, stored data, VoIP, file transfers, video conferences, username and
6. passwords to websites, social networking details, internet histories, and telephone call
7. information; "metadata" shall be defined as any data used to describe other data such as
8. but not limited to; creation date of the file, author of file, length of file, when the file was
9. last opened, and summary of the file; "database" shall be defined as a computer or
10. multiple computers that store large amounts of structured data.
11. **SECTION 3.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in coordination with the Department of
12. Justice (DOJ), Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and National Security Agency (NSA) shall
13. oversee the implementation and enforcement of this bill.
14. A. Any government run agency or commission found in violation of this bill will have its
15. budget cut by four percent and reduced a further two percent each month until congress
16. deems that the agency or commission in question has satisfied the standards.
17. B. "Authorization of a surveillance program" shall be a crime classified as a fourth degree
18. felony with a minimum sentence of 5 years in prison and a maximum of 60 years in
19. prison.
20. C. "Participation in a surveillance program" shall be a crime classified as a fifth degree
21. felony with a minimum sentence of 3 years in prison and a maximum of 50 years in
22. prison.
23. D. Any person found in violation of this law by authorizing or participating in a
24. Surveillance program shall be charged as such by the department of justice.
25. E. Any person convicted of one of these crimes shall be disqualified from employment
26. within the federal government or any employment that is provided through government
27. subsidies.
28. **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect 90 days after passage.
29. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Upper Arlington High School, Columbus District

D5. A Bill to Require Warning Labels on Electronic Cigarettes

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** All Electronic Cigarettes must have a warning label clearly displayed on the box due to
2. the numerous health risks that have recently been associated with the use of these
3. devices.
4. **SECTION 2.** Electronic Cigarettes include any product that contains a nicotine-based liquid that is
5. vaporized and inhaled such as JUUL's, Puff bars, RELX, and more.
6. **SECTION 3.** The Food and Drug administration shall oversee the enforcement by making it a
7. regulation to require electronic cigarette products to have health warning labels.
8. A. The health labels will display all of the health effects of using electronic cigarettes
9. that could harm the user.
10. B. If the company refuses to issue the warning label, they will receive a \$5,000 fine.
11. **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect at the start of the next Fiscal year
12. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austintown-Fitch High School, Youngstown District

D6. A Bill to Create Pay Scheduling For Incorporated Businesses

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** Businesses receiving incorporated status with personhood can only pay 30 dollars to the
2. highest paid employee for every one dollar paid to the lowest paid employee.
3. **SECTION 2.** Personhood meaning a corporation is separate from its owners and therefore eligible for
4. federal bankruptcy and bailout by taxpayer revenue. Pay being defined as hourly or
5. salary earnings/health insurance premiums paid by the business/stock options or
6. dividends paid by previously held stock.
7. **SECTION 3.** The Securities and Exchange Commision will be responsible for the enforcement of this
8. bill.
9. A. Businesses that do not possess personhood are exempt from this restriction.
10. **SECTION 4.** This law will go into effect on January 1st 2021
11. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Oakwood High School

D7. American Revitalization of Industry Act (A.R.I.A)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** The United States shall eliminate all corporate income taxes on unionized corporations
2. and place a 30% tariff on all goods entering the United States.
3. **SECTION 2.** Corporations shall be defined as any for-profit or non-profit entity registered with the
4. U.S. Secretary of State through Articles of Incorporation. Corporate income tax shall be
5. defined as tax levied on the profits of US corporations. Tariff shall be defined as a tax or
6. duty to be paid on imports. Unionized corporations shall be defined as corporations
7. belonging to, or having at least 75% of their body of workers belong to a labor union.
8. **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, and the Department of Labor
9. shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.
10. A. Representatives of the IRS, Department of the Treasury, and Department of Labor
11. shall testify once every twelve months before the House Ways and Means committee
12. and the Senate Finance Committee to report on compliance and the economic impacts
13. of this act.
14. B. The corporate tax rate for non-unionized corporations shall be lowered to 15%.
15. **SECTION 4.** This piece of legislation shall go into effect beginning in FY 2022.
16. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Revere High School

D8. A Bill to Implement a Universal Basic Income to Level the Playing Field

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** American citizens and permanent residents 18 years of age or older may elect to
2. participate in the program to receive a universal basic income of \$1,000 per month. To
3. be eligible, the resident's income must be below 200% of the median per capita income
4. for the resident's current county, as determined by the United States Census Bureau.
5. Funding for this bill will come from an Ultra-Wealth Tax.
6. **SECTION 2.** A. Universal basic income (UBI) shall be defined as unconditional cash payments of equal
7. amounts issued monthly to eligible individuals with the intention of ensuring the
8. economic security of recipients.
9. B. An Ultra-Wealth Tax shall be defined as the taxation of all households whose net
10. worth exceeds \$50 million. A 4% annual tax will be levied on assets above \$50 million.
11. For all households whose net worth exceeds \$1 billion, an additional 2% tax will be
12. levied on assets above \$1 billion. An exit tax will be implemented to prevent evasion.
13. C. Net worth shall be defined as the value of a household's liquid and illiquid assets
14. minus the value of all its outstanding liabilities/debts. No assets will be exempt from net
15. worth calculations.
16. D. The exit tax shall be defined as the confiscation of 40% of a person's total wealth over
17. \$50 million if citizenship is renounced.
18. **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Treasury Department shall oversee the implementation of the UBI. The IRS will
19. oversee the enforcement of the Ultra-Wealth Tax. \$70 million from the revenue
20. generated by the wealth tax will be allocated to the IRS for enforcement of this tax and
21. the appraisal of valuable items.
22. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on December 1, 2020.
23. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hawken School

D9. A Bill to Halt an Increase in Congressional Pay

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** An immediate halt will be put on all increases of pay for Members of Congress.
2. **SECTION 2.** Members of Congress will be defined as, "Anyone serving their state as a member of the
3. House of Representatives or Senate."
4. An increase in pay will be defined as, "any addition to Congressional salary beyond the
5. current congressional salaries set in 2009."
6. **SECTION 3.** The Department of the Treasury will oversee the implementation of this bill.
7. A. Any attempt to increase the pay of members of congress will be prohibited.
8. B. The only exception will be the automatic adjustment by cost of living as set by The
9. Government Ethics Reform Act of 1989.
10. **SECTION 4.** This Legislation will be implemented at the beginning of the Next fiscal year.
11. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Louisville High School.

D10. A Bill to Create A National Gun Registration Database

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** Whenever a firearm is purchased in the United States, the buyer's information will be
2. put into a database similar to one already in place within California, within 90 days of
3. purchase. States with their own firearm database already in place must submit their
4. information to the federal government as well.
5. **SECTION 2.** Information is defined as, but not limited to, names, addresses, type of weapon
6. purchased, serial numbers, and fingerprints of the buyer.
7. **SECTION 3.** The Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
8. will be in charge of keeping this database. Local police precincts and gun sellers will be
9. required to submit any information as well.
10. A. Both the FBI and the ATF will be given an additional three billion dollars in order to
11. implement this database.
12. B. If a police precinct or gun seller is found to have either withholding information or
13. otherwise failing to comply with this legislation, they will be charged a minimum of one
14. million dollars for each offense.
15. C. If an individual is found to have lied about their information, withheld relevant
16. information, etc. then they will be subject to a minimum of 15 years and prison and/or a
17. \$500,000 fine.
18. **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented in fiscal year 2024.
19. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Canfield High School, Youngstown District

D11. A Resolution to Ban Animal Experimentation in the Cosmetic Industry

1. **WHEREAS,** Animal experimentation is a commonly used practice in many American
2. industries; and
3. **WHEREAS,** 100 million animals are killed every year in U.S. laboratories, partially from cosmetic
4. testing; and
5. **WHEREAS,** Animal testing is an inhumane practice that deters companies from using natural
6. ingredients; and
7. **WHEREAS,** Many other leading nations already have banned animal testing in the cosmetic
8. industry; now, therefore, be it
9. **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that animal testing be outlawed in the cosmetic
10. industry of the United States.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by South Range High School

D12. A Resolution to Encourage the Adoption of the Wyoming Rule

1. **WHEREAS,** Less populated states are overrepresented in the House of Representatives and Electoral
2. College; and
3. **WHEREAS,** The votes of people in larger states are effectively worth less than those in less populous
4. states; and
5. **WHEREAS,** The average population of a congressional district is 710,000, while less than 600,000
6. people live in the least populous state, Wyoming, which has a representative and two
7. senators; and
8. **WHEREAS,** The limit of 435 representatives was arbitrary applied nearly a century ago, against the
9. design of the Founders; now, therefore, be it
10. **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the Wyoming Rule should be adopted for the sake
11. of representation in the House of Representatives and Electoral College.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Oakwood High School

D13. A Bill to Educate Students On Current Events

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** The State of Ohio will require that all public high schools offer a mandatory class where
2. students are taught about current events.
3. **SECTION 2.** Current events shall be defined as those with a sociopolitical impact on the students and
4. the world they inhabit, including but not limited to politics, foreign affairs, and any other
5. relevant news.
6. **SECTION 3.** The Ohio Board of Education will be tasked with the implementation and enforcement of
7. this legislation.
8. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect on June 31, 2021.
9. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Louisville High School

D14. A Resolution to Combat China's Illegal Fishing Fleet to Save the South China Sea

1. **WHEREAS,** China has been using their fishing fleets to illegally fish in other nation's waters in order
2. to stake their claim to the South China Sea; and
3. **WHEREAS,** Chinese illegal fishing violates the sovereignty that nations have over their own water
4. and the affect nation's economy; and
5. **WHEREAS,** If these illegal fishing fleets continue to operate without significant resistance to their
6. operations, then there's little doubt that the aquatic environment and the seafood
7. economy of the nations affected will deteriorate; and
8. **WHEREAS,** The United States of America and other nations affected by China's illegal fishing
9. operations (including, but not limited to Vietnam, South Korea, Japan and Taiwan) are
10. now resolved to create an official task force made up of coast guard units of the
11. respective nations to seek out and disable these vessels now, therefore, be it
12. **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States shall pursue the creation of a
13. force that will mitigate the expansion of China's illegal fishing fleet.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hawken School

D15. A Bill to Legalize Controlled Substances

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** Upon the execution of this bill, all drugs on the DEAs controlled substances list are to be
2. made fully legal on a federal level to anyone and everyone above the age of eighteen.
3. A. All drugs sold must be produced within the United States or a democratic country
4. deemed to lack ties to major criminal or terrorist organizations.
5. B. A twenty percent sales tax will be applied to all drugs sold and the funds from these
6. will be used to fund rehab and medical organizations.
7. C. Narcotics legalized by this bill may only be sold by parties approved by the FDA. The
8. standard to acquire this approval must be the same as the standards to acquire a
9. wholesale drug distributor license.
10. **SECTION 2.** *Produced* is defined as extracted, grown, processed, synthesized, or packaged.
11. A democratic country is a government in which the people hold the ruling power either
12. directly or through elected representatives.
13. **SECTION 3.** This bill will be implemented by the Drug Enforcement Agency.
14. A. Any individuals who have been imprisoned or otherwise detained for charges relating
15. to the sale, possession, use, or creation of legalized narcotics must have all charges
16. relating to narcotics offences pardoned.
17. **SECTION 4.** Schedule 5 drugs must be legalized by January 1st of 2025, schedule 4 drugs must be
18. legalized by January 1st of 2027, schedule 3 drugs must be legalized by January 1st of
19. 2029, schedule 2 drugs must be legalized by January 1st of 2031, and schedule 1 drugs
20. must be legalized by January 1st of 2033.
21. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Wauseon High School