A Bill to Set a Maximum on the Caseload for Public Defenders

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Public defenders shall not concurrently work on more than 60 misdemeanor cases or 20 felony cases. If a public defender is handling misdemeanor and felony cases simultaneously, they shall be restricted to 40 cases, with fewer than 10 being felony cases.

SECTION 2. "Misdemeanor" is defined as a crime punishable by fines or short terms of imprisonment in local jails. "Felony" is defined as a crime punishable by long terms of imprisonment in a federal or state prison.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice (DOJ) will be responsible for the enforcement and implementation of this bill.

A. The DOJ will collaborate with local and state public defense systems to hire more public defenders.
B. The budget of the DOJ will be increased by $1 billion annually, until FY 2030, when the funding will be reevaluated.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect beginning FY 2028.

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

A Resolution to Support the Syrian Arab Republic

WHEREAS, The newly-minted government of Syrian Arab Republic is fragile and at increasing risk of devolving into another civil war; and,

WHEREAS, The weakened legitimacy of regional powers has presented the U.S. with a unique opportunity to bring stability to the war torn nation while also reasserting our interests in the Middle East; and,

WHEREAS, A return to war would lead to yet more loss of civilian life, put U.S. servicemembers in harm's way, and bolster the geostrategic position of our adversaries; and,

WHEREAS, The United States must act decisively and quickly to avoid further destabilization; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled, that the United States shall offer immediate material assistance in the form of humanitarian, economic, and military aid to the Syrian Arab Republic. The State Department shall also be directed to foster friendly relations with the new Syrian government by any means necessary, and to immediately begin the process of negotiating a bilateral defense agreement between the United States and Syria.

The Better Seed Initiative Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Government shall invest in initiatives that strengthen public seed systems, public funding for non-patented open-source seed breeding, and a comprehensive database showing IP rights of different plant varieties.

SECTION 2. "Public seed systems" shall include but is not limited to university breeding programs, USDA research stations, and public-private partnerships focused on open-source, non-patented seed development. "Open-source non-patented seed development" will hereby be defined as development of seeds that are free from Intellectual Property Restrictions.

SECTION 3. The USDA shall oversee the implementation and enforcement of the legislation. The USDA Agricultural Marketing System shall monitor results of this legislation and the creation of the database within their current systems.

A. Creates a database aimed at consolidating information related to IP rights associated with a particular plant variety that is easily accessible and updated frequently within the Plant Variety Protection Office database current managed by the Agricultural Marketing Service or AMS.
B. Increases investment in public seed systems and plant breeding through a grant system for public institutions to release cultivars with the intention to better aid small and mid sized seed companies, developing seeds more resistant to climate change, and create a more decentralized seed market.
C. Public grants per institution will not exceed $2 billion per year.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect starting FY 2028.

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

The Wind Investment and Development (W.I.N.D.) Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The U.S. Government shall restart the leasing and permitting of all future and ongoing wind farm projects, both onshore and offshore, particularly pertaining to those impacted by the January 20th, 2025 executive order. Additionally, the federal government shall allocate a total of $2 billion to fund investment in and future research of both onshore and offshore wind projects with a goal of revitalizing affordable green energy.

SECTION 2. "Investment" refers to opening a grant program for wind energy companies to help combat high startup costs and fund other necessary developments like construction and employee training that the Department of Energy deems fit.

SECTION 3. This bill will become effective at the start of FY 2028.

SECTION 4. The Department of Energy (DOE) shall be the lead agency in overseeing the advancement of research and shall manage the disbursement of grants.

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