



**AST/MAST Legislation
1st Semester, Fall 2019**

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A Bill to Make Voting in Federal Elections Compulsory

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Federal Election Commission will enforce compulsory voting in
3 federal elections for all eligible voters.

4 **SECTION 2.** Compulsory voting will be defined as a legal obligation to fill out an
5 election ballot. Donkey voting and informal voting will be permitted as
6 long as the voter fills out a ballot.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission will be tasked with enforcing
8 compulsory voting.

9 A. Federal election days will become federal holidays. Transportation
10 will be provided for those who are unable to reach voting facilities or
11 those within 50 miles or more of the nearest voting facility.

12 B. Failure to vote in federal elections will result in a \$50 fine, plus \$50
13 for each additional offense.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect in the 2020 Presidential election.

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

16 *Thank you to McNeil High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



A Resolution to Restore Aid to Honduras

1 **WHEREAS,** Poverty, gang violence, government corruption and instability have driven
2 increasing numbers of Honduran nationals to seek refuge in the United States;
3 and

4 **WHEREAS,** Large migrant caravans, comprised primarily of women, children, and families,
5 have strained US border resources and shifted agency focus and resources away
6 from counterterrorism, human trafficking, and drug interdiction; and

7 **WHEREAS,** US policy has played a substantial role in the current Honduran crisis; and

8 **WHEREAS,** The United States continues to have substantial economic and political interests
9 in Honduras; and

10 **WHEREAS,** The Trump Administration’s decision to suspend aid to Honduras will only
11 exacerbate human suffering in the region and further entrench narcotics
12 syndicates and government corruption; now, therefore, be it

13 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States should increase its
14 foreign assistance to Honduras through a combination of economic aid, trade,
15 and security assistance, and be it

16 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States should reinstate its aerial drug interdiction and
17 counternarcotic operations in coordination with Honduras and other Northern
18 Triangle countries.

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



A Bill to Mandate the Immunizations of School Children to Reduce Disease Outbreaks

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** States must hereby develop regulations requiring that following the birth of a
3 child doctors must provide the parent with the information approved by the
4 Centers for Disease Control of the immunizations the child is required by this
5 Act to have before enrolling in a school that receives federal funding.

6 **SECTION 2.** A child entering a school that receives federal funding must be immunized
7 against chickenpox, hepatitis-b, measles, meningitis, mumps, diphtheria, polio,
8 rubella, tetanus, and whooping cough.

9 **A.** Any child failing to receive these immunizations may not be allowed to
10 enroll in a school subject to Section 1 of this Act until they have received
11 their immunizations.

12 **B.** If a doctor deems that any of these immunizations will be life-threatening to
13 the child the person may sign a waiver that allows the child to attend
14 school.

15 **SECTION 3.** Section 1 of this bill will be enforced by the Department of Health and Human
16 Services. Section 2 of this bill will be enforced by the Department of Education.

17 **A.** Doctors that fail to comply with Section 1 of this act will be fined \$25,000
18 per violation.

19 **B.** States that fail to enforce this comply with this act will lose all federal
20 education funding.

21 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be enacted the January 2020.

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

23 *Thank you to Farwell High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



A Resolution to Protect Digital Privacy

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Digital privacy plays an increasingly important role as the world embraces
2 digital technology; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Digital privacy is under assault by companies and by governments, including the
4 government of the United States; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** The embrace of the third-party doctrine in the wake of *Katz v. United States* has
6 expanded the use of warrantless searches to a disturbing degree; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The exception to the third-party doctrine carved out by the Supreme Court in
8 *Carpenter v. United States* was narrowly tailored, and did not go far enough in
9 expanding digital privacy rights; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** Third-party collection of data by companies threatens personal privacy; now,
11 therefore, be it
- 12 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that Congress reject the third-party doctrine,
13 and extend that Fourth Amendment protections from unreasonable search and
14 seizure to digital information; and, be it
- 15 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That Congress craft legislation modeled on the European Union General
16 Data Protection Regulation to limit corporate collection of individuals' digital
17 information.
- 18 *Thank you to Tascosa High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



A Resolution to Improve Safety of Medical Devices

- WHEREAS,** The Food and Drug Administration has approved over 4,600 medical devices for export-only; and
- WHEREAS,** The lax regulatory procedures in place for approval or export-only medical devices has led to equipment that malfunctions, causes infection, and other serious issues; and
- WHEREAS,** Due to complications that arise from export-only devices occurring outside the United States, companies often fail to report serious complications arising from the use of these devices to the Food and Drug Administration; and
- WHEREAS,** A lack of international standards for identifying devices means it is difficult to know how many other troubled devices exist; and
- WHEREAS,** Devices that cannot be deemed suitable by the Food and Drug Administration for use by individuals in the U.S. should not be deemed suitable for use by individuals outside of the U.S.; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the Food and Drug Administration no longer be able to certify medical devices for export that are not approved for use in the United States.

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



A Resolution to Replace Existing Street Lighting with LED Adaptive Lighting Systems

1 **WHEREAS,** the United States contains an estimated 26 million streetlights that
2 consume as much electricity annually as 1.9 million households and
3 generate greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 2.6 million cars; and

4 **WHEREAS,** adaptive lighting systems effectively reduce the cost and extent of the
5 undesirable effects of current roadway lighting while maintaining safety
6 and usability; and

7 **WHEREAS,** LED adaptive street light provides falling prices, increased efficiency,
8 better light quality, reduced trespass and improved controllability; and

9 **WHEREAS,** in areas that have utilized LED lighting fixtures to replace traditional
10 lighting both energy costs and maintenance costs have been lowered;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that all existing traditional roadway
13 lighting on federally-maintained roadways be replaced with LED adaptive
14 street lighting.

15 *Thank you to Buffalo High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



A Resolution to Allow American Samoans to Attain Citizenship

1 **WHEREAS**, 55,600 American Samoans do not possess the right to attain citizenship

2 unless one of their parents is a citizen; and

3 **WHEREAS**, citizens of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana

4 Islands hold the right to attain such citizenship; and

5 **WHEREAS**, many American Samoans have neither the funds nor the means to make a

6 citizenship appeal in court; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the American Samoa military recruiting base is nationally and globally

8 ranked; and

9 **WHEREAS**, American Samoans relocate to the mainland like their Puerto Rican

10 counterparts to attain citizenship; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the American Samoans do not retain the right to vote in the upcoming 2020

12 Presidential election; now, therefore, be it

13 **RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled that American Samoans be granted

14 citizenship equal to their territorial counterparts.

15 *Thank you to Coram Deo Academy and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



A Resolution to Finance/Legalize Gene Editing in Embryos

1 **WHEREAS,** 7.9 million children, 6% of worldwide births, are born each year with a
2 serious birth defect; and

3 **WHEREAS,** Malformations and genetic disorders are the leading cause of infant
4 mortality in the US; and

5 **WHEREAS,** 20-30% of all infant deaths are due to genetic disorders and 30-50% of
6 post-neonatal deaths are due to congenital malformations, and

7 **WHEREAS,** Out of 523 cases; 180 (34.4%) deaths were due to malformations and
8 genetic disorders; and

9 **WHEREAS,** If we could safely and easily correct these errors at the embryonic stage it
10 would be possible to eradicate genetic diseases and malformations; and

11 **WHEREAS,** We could eradicate diseases such as cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia,
12 Tay-Sachs disease, phenylketonuria, color-blindness and down syndrome;
13 now, therefore, be it

14 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that we finance and/or legalize gene
15 editing in human embryos.

16 *Thank you to Hallsville High school and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



A Resolution to Name English and Spanish as the Official Languages of the United States

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States is one of few nations without an official language; and
- 2 **WHEREAS,** Most nations in the world have one or more official languages to create a
- 3 more efficient government. Having an official language will make
- 4 information easily accessible to all people; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** In the past, the United States has viewed itself as, “too diverse”, for an
- 6 Official Language to be possible; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** This idea has forced us to center around one language, English, and
- 8 ignore the languages spoken by the rest of our constituency; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** One in ten Americans are native Spanish speakers, while no government
- 10 agency is required to make documents available in any language other
- 11 than English; now, therefore, be it
- 12 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled, that English and Spanish be named the
- 13 official languages of the United States; and, be it
- 14 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** that all government documents that are made available to the
- 15 public, shall be available in both English and Spanish.
- 16 *Thank you to Pflugerville High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



A Bill to Subsidize Cell-Based Meat to Help Climate Change

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall hereby subsidize the research,
3 development, and production of cell-based meat, and will hereby cut any US agricultural
4 subsidies going to the slaughter of animals, including the crops produced to feed them,
5 by 5% the first year the cell-based meat is on the market, and 10% every year following
6 that.

7 **SECTION 2.** “Cell-based meat” shall be defined as ‘clean meat’ grown in a lab from the stem cells of
8 animals.

9 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Agriculture shall oversee implementation and enforcement of
10 this of this legislation by annually subsidizing researchers and manufacturers in the
11 amount of at least \$1.5 billion US dollars.

12 A. Subsidies will be given to researchers based on how much measurable progress is
13 made each year.

14 B. The manufacturers will not begin to receive subsidies until sufficient research has
15 been made for the cell-based meat to be ready to manufacture for market.

16 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go in to effect in the fiscal year 2020.

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

18 *Thank you to Grapevine High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



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



A Bill to Fund Infrastructure to Conserve Natural Gases

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Fracking industry wastes \$1 billion a year in gas flaring, equivalent to
3 1.028 trillion BTU. These natural gases are important for the United States economy as
4 an alternative fuel, and the conservation of natural resources.

5 **SECTION 2.** Fracking shall be defined as the process of injecting liquid at high pressure into
6 subterranean rocks, boreholes, etc. to force open existing fissures and extract oil or gas.
7 Infrastructure shall be defined as pipe, roads and wells used by the oil industry to
8 conserve natural resources. Gas Flaring shall be defined as the practice of burning
9 natural gases.

10 **SECTION 3.** The United States government shall allocate \$750 million to the oil and gas industry, to
11 better assist the conservation of finite resources.

12 **SECTION 4.** The Bureau of Land Management will oversee the implementation of this legislation.
13 A. Corporations that do not comply with these demands shall be fined \$75,000 per
14 month until they comply.

15 **SECTION 5.** This piece of legislation shall take place as of the fiscal year 2021.

16 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void

17 *Thank you to San Angelo Central High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



A Resolution to Extend Asylum to Syrian Refugees

1 **WHEREAS,** Since March of 2019 roughly 5.7 million Syrians have fled the country and
2 6.1 million have been displaced internally; and

3 **WHEREAS,** Countries like Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan extended asylum to the most
4 refugees in the fiscal year 2018; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Refugees that are currently being displaced have been denied asylum trapped
6 into a cycle of poverty; and

7 **WHEREAS,** The United States is a highly developed country with an abundance of
8 resources; and

9 **WHEREAS,** The United States' influential role on the global stage will promote other
10 countries passing similar policies; and

11 **WHEREAS,** The United States only permitted 22,491 refugees into the U.S in 2018; and

12 **WHEREAS,** The current administration is slowly closing our doors to asylum seekers; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States Shall extend asylum to
15 refugees at a higher rate.

16 *Thank you to Hebron High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



5 *Thank you to Byron Nelson High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*



A Bill to Reaffirm our Commitment to International Fusion Power Research

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States should increase investment in the ITER project to \$2 billion annually.
- SECTION 2.** ITER shall be defined as the 35-country collaboration building a commercially feasible experimental fusion reactor in southern France. Fusion power shall be defined as producing electricity through the fusing of atoms.
- SECTION 3.** The amount of funding appropriated for ITER shall be increased from \$115 million annually to \$2 billion a year, and an additional \$5 million shall be appropriated as needed for logistics and oversight. If the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Energy finds that the entire project is no longer on a serious path to completion, the funding will be pulled after holding a Congressional hearing.
- SECTION 4.** The bill will go into effect at the beginning of the next fiscal year after passage.
- 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 Ban Solitary Confinement

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Solitary confinement shall be prohibited at all Federal Prisons across the
3 United States.

4 **SECTION 2.** Solitary confinement is defined as a prisoner who is kept away from other
5 prisoners as a form of punishment.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) shall oversee the enforcement of
7 this bill.

8 A. The Federal Bureau of Prisons shall receive \$1 billion to overhaul the
9 system.

10 B. Yearly audits shall be mandated across all businesses to ensure this
11 bill is being implemented properly.

12 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be enacted immediately upon passage.

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

14 *Thank you to Sandra Day O'Connor High School and the Texas Forensic Association for authoring this legislation*