

YALE UNIVERSITY
INVITATIONAL
17TH EDITION

OCTOBER 2-4, 2009

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE
INFORMATION PACKET

FOR CONTESTANTS, JUDGES, AND
COACHES

IN THE STUDENT CONGRESS TAB ROOM

Director

Mr. Michael Vigars joined the Yale Invitational Student Congress tab staff six years ago and just keeps coming back for more. By day, he is the Director of Debate at Trinity Preparatory School in Winter Park, Florida, co-coordinating its nationally competitive forensics program. Mr. Vigars has served as a tournament official and parliamentarian at the Congress Tournament of Champions, the NCFL National Tournament, and the Harvard National Congress. He also directs Legislative Debate tabulation at the New York City Invitational. His students were the recipients of the Dr. Paul E. Ward Student Congress Award at the 2008 NCFL Tournament. Mr. Vigars is the Student Congress Coordinator for the North Florida CFL, and has served previously as a Regional Director in the New York State Forensics League.

Tabulation Staff

Returning to assist in Congress tab this year is **Mr. William Cooper**. Mr. Cooper recently assumed the position of Director of Debate at Manchester Essex Regional HS in Manchester, MA. Until this year Mr. Cooper was the founding coach at Arthur L. Johnson HS in Clark, NJ. While at Johnson, Mr. Cooper's team reached NFL Nationals, CFL Grand Nationals, and the TOC—in multiple events. In addition to serving as the Congress Director at the NJ District NFL qualifiers since 2003, Mr. Cooper has directed Congress tab at Princeton since 2002. He joined both the Yale and Bronx congressional debate tab staffs last year.

Joining the Yale Congress tab staff this year is **Ms. Jennifer Kwasman**. Graduate of The University of Florida in 2004 with a major in Drama Education and Minor in Dance, she has been teaching at St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and serving as its Director of Forensics for four and a half years. She is thrilled to be helping in the tab room at the first national tournament of the year. "I am so proud of my team and what they have accomplished. I value the time I spend with my students, these trips create a special bond between the students and myself. These memories will last forever!"

STUDENT CONGRESS TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Friday, October 2nd

| | | |
|--------------|--|---------------|
| 2:30-4:00 pm | Debate Registration | Dwight Chapel |
| 7:00-8:00 pm | Speech- and Congress-only Registration | Dwight Chapel |

Saturday, October 3rd

| | | |
|---------------|---|----------|
| 8:00-8:30 am | Student Congress Opening Meeting | Site TBA |
| 8:45-11:30 am | Student Congress Session One | |
| 12:45-3:30 pm | Student Congress Session Two | |
| 4:00-6:45 pm | Student Congress Session Three | |
| 8:30 pm | Semifinal Session Competitors Announced | |

Sunday, October 4th

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| 8:00 am | Judges' Meeting – Elimination Rounds | Site TBA |
| 8:30-11:15 am | Student Congress Semifinal Session | |
| 12:30-2:45 pm | Student Congress Final Session | |
| 3:30 pm | Awards Assembly | |

OFFICIAL PROCEDURAL RULES

The rules contained herein are designed to promote procedural unity among the chambers. They are subject to change by the staff at any time, but they may **NOT** be altered or ignored through a suspension of the rules by the chamber.

--**DECORUM**: Each preliminary chamber is designated as a HOUSE or SENATE. A member of the House of Representatives is always referred to as "Representative," while a member of the Senate is always referred to as "Senator." The Presiding Officer of a House of Representatives is addressed as "Mister/Madame Speaker," while the Presiding Officer of a Senate is addressed as "Mister/Madame President." The Presiding Officer is responsible for enforcing proper decorum in the chambers.

--**LEGISLATIVE DAY**: A legislative day is one session; speaker order (recency) resets after each session.

--**RECOGNITION OF SPEAKERS**: The RECENCY system, as explained by the National Forensic League, is the required method for recognizing speakers at this tournament. Presiding Officers are required to use this form of recognition. Individual recency is to be used at all times; other systems are prohibited!

--**QUESTIONING**: A MANDATORY two minute questioning period follows all AUTHORSHIP, SPONSORSHIP, and SPONSORSHIP ON AMENDMENT speeches. The Presiding Officer recognizes legislators who wish to ask a question of a speaker; the speaker MAY NOT perform this function him/herself. Suspensions of the rules to create a PERMANENT questioning period or to ABOLISH all questioning periods are not permitted. Speakers have a right to refuse to yield to questions, except in the cases of AUTHORSHIP, SPONSORSHIP, and SPONSORSHIP ON AMENDMENT speeches. The PO has an obligation to rule "two-part," misleading, or irrelevant questions OUT-OF-ORDER. Important note: this tournament does **NOT** utilize the National Forensic League's mandatory one-minute questioning period following each speech from the floor.

--**AGENDA ORDER**: Each chamber determines its own agenda order based on the legislation assigned to it by this packet. All legislation assigned to a chamber **must** be debated before the chamber may proceed to legislation assigned to another chamber. In addition, the minimum cycle rule as outlined below applies to all legislation debated by a chamber.

--**MINIMUM CYCLE RULE**: Once a chamber adopts a B/R for consideration, opportunities for the authorship/sponsorship speech, the first negative speech, and a subsequent non-authorial affirmative speech are guaranteed. Motions to table the legislation or call the previous question are OUT-OF-ORDER until the chamber completes the minimum cycle.

--**LEGISLATION WITHOUT AN AUTHOR:** If the author of a bill or resolution is not present in the chamber, withdraws from the tournament, or waives service as the author, a SPONSORSHIP speech is in order. Sponsorship is determined by recency. The sponsor becomes accountable for the mechanics of the bill and **must** yield to two minutes of questioning from the chamber.

--**VOTING:** The PO determines the method of voting on each question that comes before the chamber, EXCEPT:

1. For final votes on legislation, amendments, and motions to appeal the chair, a recorded vote must be taken.
2. On all other votes, "voice voting" is acceptable. A recorded vote must follow if any member asks for a division.
3. When a member of the chamber moves for a roll call vote and the motion is agreed to by $\frac{1}{5}$ of the chamber.

ALL simple majority votes are based upon the number of legislators PRESENT and VOTING in the chamber; therefore, the PO may not call for or count abstentions. For all votes requiring a fraction of the chamber to agree to a motion or question ($\frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{5}$, etc.), the chair determines whether the chamber agrees with the motion/question using the number of legislators PRESENT in the chamber. Because of this system, the PO must track the number of legislators in the chamber at all times.

--**AMENDMENTS:** Legislators submit amendments to the PO in writing. A motion to amend is necessary to consider the written amendment; such a motion is in order anytime after the chamber completes the "MINIMUM CYCLE." Once the motion is made, the PO decides if the amendment is germane. The PO may consult with the Parliamentarian to make this decision. If the amendment is found NOT germane, the chair rules it OUT OF ORDER and the amendment process stops. If the chair rules the amendment germane, the chamber considers the amendment. In this case, the PO reads the amendment to the chamber. A $\frac{1}{3}$ second of the members PRESENT in the chamber is required to debate the amendment. If the chamber votes a second, debate on the amendment commences immediately. There is no minimum cycle requirement for amendments, so legislators may make a motion to table or call the previous question on the amendment at any time. The first speech on the amendment is a SPONSORSHIP speech. The chair determines speaker recognition for the SPONSORSHIP speech on the basis of recency; the author of the amendment is NOT guaranteed the sponsorship speech. The sponsor accepts responsibility for the mechanics of the amendment and yields to two minutes of questioning. All amendment speeches receive a score and count towards recency. A majority vote is necessary for the chamber to adopt the amendment.

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION FORMAT

This year's Congressional Debate division features six chambers. Chambers are designated as either a *Senate* or a *House of Representatives*. Please see the *Procedural Rules* above for decorum rules related to this designation.

There are three sessions of debate in the *Preliminary Competition*. Each session consists of 2 and three-quarter hours of floor debate. There is one elected Presiding Officer in each session. For purposes of this Student Congress, one complete session is a legislative day. Priority for speaking resets at the end of each legislative day. *Thus, all legislators will have zero speeches at the start of each session.*

Any member of the chamber may run for Presiding Officer but no legislator may serve in that office for more than one session. Elections are conducted by secret ballot, with a majority vote required to elect a candidate. Service as Presiding Officer counts as the first two speeches of the session for purposes of speaking priority.

Each chamber is evaluated by a *Parliamentarian* and one *Scorer*. The *Parliamentarian* remains in the chamber throughout the preliminary competition, while the *Scorers* rotate to different chambers throughout the tournament. The *Scorers* evaluate every speech that is given in a session, rating them on a scale of 1 to 6 (1 is low; 6 is high). The points awarded by a *Scorer* for a given speech can thus be used to determine NFL points for that speech. The *Parliamentarian* keeps notes on the overall performance of each legislator, but will not write formal ballots. The *Parliamentarian* will, however, write an evaluation for each Presiding Officer, awarding him/her up to 12 NFL points on the basis of his/her performance during a given session.

At the end of each session, the *Scorer* and the *Parliamentarian* will each independently nominate eight students for *Best Legislator* during the session. The first three competitors on the *Scorer's* nomination form and the first three *unique* (not appearing among the *Scorer's* top three) competitors on the *Parliamentarian's* nomination form comprise a slate that is revealed to the chamber. A *preferential ballot* election follows, with each legislator in the chamber casting one vote. The *Parliamentarian* also votes on the slate of nominees, and his/her ballot is used to break any ties. The winner of the preferential ballot election in each session advances to the Semifinal Round. After each session, each *Scorer's* nomination form is converted into credits by the Tabulation Staff with the 1st place legislator receiving 8 credits, the 2nd place legislator receiving 7, and so on. Those students who were not ranked by the *Scorer* will receive zero (0) credits from that *Scorer*. The three students from each chamber who have earned the highest number of judge credits and have not advanced in the preferential balloting held during the three sessions will advance to the Semifinal Round. Finally, at the conclusion of the third session, each *Parliamentarian* ranks the top 10 students in the chamber on the basis of their overall legislative performance during the course of preliminary competition. The highest-ranking student on this record (*Parliamentarian's Preferential Rating*) who has not advanced from preferential balloting or judge credits will then advance to the Semifinal Round. Thus, seven legislators qualify for the Semifinal Round, as follows:

1. 3 students on the basis of *preferential balloting* (1 per session)
2. 3 students on the basis of *total judge credits*
3. 1 student on the basis of *Parliamentarian's Preference*

ELIMINATION ROUND FORMAT AND RULES

Forty-two (42) contestants will advance to a Semifinal Round, which will feature two chambers of competition. Each of these chambers will be adjudicated by a panel of two Scorers and a Parliamentarian.

At the conclusion of the Semifinal Round, each of the two Scorers and the Parliamentarian in each chamber will independently rank the top eight students in the session on the basis of *Best Legislator*. The rankings by the Scorers and the Parliamentarian will be converted by the Tabulation Staff using a credit system as in the Preliminary Competition, with 1st place earning 8 credits, 2nd place earning 7 credits, and so on through the 8th place legislator who will receive 1 credit. The thirteen legislators whose names do not appear on a given rank form receive zero (0) credits from that Scorer. Four students will be selected for the Super Session from each Semifinal chamber on the basis of these judge credits. One student will also advance to the Super Session on the basis of the Parliamentarian's preference for *Best Legislator* in each chamber.

Independent of the above process, a *preferential ballot* election will be held from a slate of six candidates as determined by the rankings of the Scorers. Each legislator will cast one vote in this election, as will the Parliamentarian (whose ballot will be weighted at 3 student votes and will also serve as a tie-breaker). The top three students in the preferential balloting will advance to the Super Session.

Thus, eight students will advance to the Super Session from each Semifinal Chamber as follows:

1. 3 students on the basis of *preferential balloting*
2. 4 students on the basis of *total judge credits*
3. 1 student selected as *Best Legislator* by the Parliamentarian

Sixteen (16) students will advance to the Yale Invitational Super Congress.

A panel of five Scorers and one Parliamentarian will evaluate the Super Congress. At the conclusion of the Super Congress, each will independently complete a ranking form for *Best Legislator* listing a maximum of eight competitors. Two scorers will be designated as Scorer A; with the Parliamentarian, their selection of *Best Legislator* will automatically be placed into contention as one of the top six legislators at the Yale Invitational. The ranking forms of the Scorers will be converted by the Tabulation Staff into a credit system as outlined in the section on the Semifinal Round above. Those three legislators who receive the highest number of credits and who were not the first choice of the Parliamentarian or Scorer A critics will complete the top six contestants at the Yale Invitational. *At no time will the slate of six contenders for Champion be revealed prior to the Awards Assembly.* Each legislator as well as the Parliamentarian will complete a blind preferential ballot at the conclusion of the Super Congress that includes the names of each competitor in the Super Congress. The Tabulation Staff will also convert each Scorer's ranking form into a preferential ballot; along with the Parliamentarian's ballot, each of these will carry a weight of 3 student votes. These preferential ballots will then be used to determine the Champion of the Yale Invitational, with the Parliamentarian's ballot being a tie-breaker.

ELIMINATION ROUND TOPICS

Topic Areas – Semifinal Round

Four topic areas for the Semifinal Round legislation will be announced via the Yale website on or around Monday, September 28. The full text of the legislation for the Semifinal round will be available to all competitors during the course of the Preliminary Competition. Contestants should arrive – with research – prepared to debate legislation within these four topics.

Legislation – Super Congress

Legislation for the Super Congress will be released to contestants by the conclusion of the preliminary competition.

YALE UNIVERSITY INVITATIONAL

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE CHAMBER ASSIGNMENTS

General Information for Contestants

- ❖ Find your name on one of the following pages.
- ❖ Be sure you take note of whether your chamber is a Senate or a House for the purposes of decorum.
- ❖ Remember to use the code that is associated with your name (your coach will receive this at registration) at all times when speaking from the floor during Preliminary and Elimination sessions of the Congress. *Do **not** use your school name to identify yourself during the course of any session of the Congress.*

Legislative Calendar

- ❖ Each piece of legislation has been assigned to the same chamber as its author.
- ❖ All legislation assigned to a chamber must be debated before the chamber may debate legislation assigned to a different chamber. Legislation assigned to a chamber *may not* be tabled for the purposes of moving forward to another chamber's legislation.
- ❖ In the event that a chamber completes its entire agenda, it may debate legislation assigned to *one and only one* additional chamber.
 - Senate A will debate items from the agenda of House A.
 - Senate B will debate items from the agenda of House B.
 - Senate C will debate items from the agenda of House C.
 - House A will debate items from the agenda of Senate A.
 - House B will debate items from the agenda of Senate B.
 - House C will debate items from the agenda of Senate C.

Senate A

Alicia Barroso
Aparna Bhattacharya
Zak Bickel
Andrew Block
Michelle Chang
Jared Feldman
James Huffnagle
Yassy Issapour
Giani LaTange
Jeffrey Limoncelli
Shivam Patel
Brennan Robbins
Max Rodier
Matthew Schaffer
Ross Slaughter
Mariah Trisch
Anna Tsiotsias
William Vazquez
Brendan Zahra

Senate B

Erik Arntsen
David Bibeau
Colleen Creeden
Diarra Edwards
Kyle Egan
Jacob Gilson
Scott Mason
Sophia Mo
Chris Reuther
Frances Rodriguez
Benjamin Rogers
Zachary Sawyer
Jena Speiser
Michael Stechschulte
Sarah Teitelman
Rehan Virani
Evan Wescott
Sean White
Alex Young

House A

Brandon Adler
Molly Blessing
Sal Corasaniti
Brian Dorfman
Nikolai Doytchinov
Hannah Esquenazi
Michael Gabrieli
Ethan Grant
Charles Gress
Alexandra Henriques
Robert Hill
Christian Kane
Tom Kappil
Brennan Kent
Blaise Koncsol
Ian Rohde
Gregory Sweetman
Audrey Tiew
Wes Wright
Claire Yao

House B

Andrew Bryk
Nicolette Chasse
Christina Colon
Nick D'Angelo
Nick DelMaestro
Emilia Gambardella
Rodrigo Gil
Will Jennings
Jarik Laporte
Marc Lewkowitz
Hayley Margules
Christian May
Nicole Narea
Matt O'Sullivan
Martin Page
George Philopose
Joseph Puma
Dhruv Ranadive
Bardia Vaseghi

Senate C

Sainath Badugu
Erik Bakke
Geoffrey Block
Maddy Bortes
Joe Brenner
Ryan Buzzanca
Danneile Davis
Jacob Dorfman
Leslie Hill
Whitney Hoyos
Cameron Isaacs
Caroline Kitchener
Pamela Levy
Morgan Lochhead
Oliver Moll
Joseph Perretta
Julia Rephen
Jack Rogers
Ben Scarafoni

House C

Jessica Brunelle
Neal Chandra
Colin Cook
Nicholas Dover
Ray Escobar
Peter Farlow
Luke Heaney
Rebecca Ledesma
Lauren Malotra-Gaudet
Jessica Morris
Michael Moske
Amar Mukunda
Neil Patel
Indira Puri
Sam Schraer
Andrew Smith
Alex Smyk
Christian Widmer
Connor Winn

SENATE A LEGISLATION

Author: Sarah Teitelman (Randolph High School)
Sponsor: Zachary Bickel (Randolph High School)

AN ACT TO SET MINIMAL STANDARDS FOR A NATIONAL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULM

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

PREAMBLE, Whereas school districts make their own curriculums, and whereas the curriculums vary from towns, counties, and states denying children the state of purpose of equal education standards, to improve educational standards the United States Congress hereby implements a national minimum standard of curriculum for publicly funded middle and high schools.

SECTION 1: The set minimum curriculum for publically funded middle schools grades six, seven, and eight will be three years of all core subjects which are English, Social Studies, Math, and Science; three years of Physical Education, and one year of a Fine Arts class are required for the grades listed above.

- a. School districts reserve the right to decide what specific classes can be offered to students under each of these said topics.

SECTION 2: The set minimum curriculum for publically funded high schools grades nine, ten, eleven, and twelve will be four years of any English, Math, and Physical Education course; three years of any Science and Social Studies course, two years of any Foreign Language Course, and one year of any Fine Arts class.

- a. School districts reserve the right to decide what specific classes can be offered to students under each of these said topics.

SECTION 3: The following standards quoted above in Sections One and Two are the absolute minimum standards for each school's curriculum; however I strongly support and encourage schools to go above and beyond this minimum level state in Sections One and Two.

SECTION 4: This bill will be enacted at the beginning of the next new school year.

A Bill Increasing Pigovian Taxes

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Taxes on commercially sold taxable fuel shall increase by 40 cents per gallon, and increase five cents per gallon for the next 12 years.

SECTION 2. All revenue collected from this bill shall be given as grants to private, American companies who are researching carbon capture technology.

SECTION 4. A. Commercially sold taxable fuel shall be defined as any petroleum product, regardless of refining, or natural gas to be used in internal combustion engines.

B. Carbon capture technology shall be defined as any technology that actively removes carbon from the atmosphere.

SECTION 5. The Department of Energy and Department of Transportation shall be responsible for the enforcement of this bill. This tax shall be repealed if America enters an economic depression.

SECTION 6. This bill shall go into effect on January 1, 2010.

SECTION 7. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced by Andrew Block

Trinity Prep School

A Resolution to Redirect Funding for Alternative Fuel Sources to Solar Power

Whereas: Natural gas, clean coal and nuclear technologies are taking long to develop,

Whereas: Gas and coal, clean or unclean, are nonrenewable resources and

Whereas: Solar Power technology is already developed and only needs investment to make
it more widely available and

Whereas: Investment in the technology will inevitably bring down the cost of solar power
for American citizens and

Whereas: Solar power is the one of the safest, if not the safest, available sources of energy,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The United States redirect a portion of its funds going to alternative
fuel sources to solar power.

Respectfully Submitted,
Syosset High School

A Bill to Define Crimes Against Homosexuals As Hate Crimes

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **Section 1:** Majority of times a homosexual individual is attacked, it is due to
3. the attacker's bigotry of their sexual orientation. In Washington DC alone,
4. they made up 29 of the 43 hate crime incidents in 2005; 36 of 53 in 2006; 26 of 37 in 2007; and 13 of 17 in 2008.
5. The FBI's Uniform Crime Reports for 1997 show that almost 14 percent of all hate crimes occur because of the victim's sexual orientation.
6. **Section 2:**
7. **Section 3:** The *Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor* will be in charge of
8. enforcing this bill & ensuring that said individuals, victims to hate crimes because
9. of their sexuality, will receive proper treatment regarding their case in the court of
10. law & an equal chance at justice.
11. **Section 4:** Said bill should go into effect January 2010.
12. **Section 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null & void.

The Berkeley Carroll School

A Bill Concerning Health Insurance Benefits

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA) shall be amended to qualify citizens above the age of 50 years old for continuation health insurance coverage of up to 24 months.

SECTION 2. The Department of Labor shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

SECTION 3. This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

*Introduced by Ridge High School
Sen. Shivam Patel*

A Bill to Define Traffic Violations as Breaches of The Peace in The District of Columbia

1 Be it enacted by this Student Congress here assembled that:

2 **Section 1.** Traffic violations from here on considered breaches of peace in The District of
3 Columbia

4 **Section 2.** Members of Congress are subject to arrest while traveling to and from sessions
5 of Congress for traffic violations committed in the District of Columbia.

Respectfully submitted,
Max Rodier
Manchester-Essex

A Resolution Regarding the Cuban Embargo

| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Whereas the embargo harms Cuban citizens and gives the Cuban government |
| 2 | an excuse for their policy failures, |
| 3 | Whereas increased trade with the United States has led to greater freedoms for |
| 4 | the citizens of other countries with communist governments, such as China and |
| 5 | Vietnam, |
| 6 | Whereas the president has already lifted some travel restrictions and plans to |
| 7 | “open up greater communication to the island,” |
| 8 | Whereas according to the 2008 United States Department of State’s Country |
| 9 | Report on Human Rights, Cuba is a totalitarian state with a government that |
| 10 | denies its citizen basic human rights, |
| 11 | Whereas in 2009 there is estimated to be at least 205 political prisoners in |
| 12 | Cuba, |
| 13 | Whereas the United States does not believe in supporting brutal dictatorships, |
| 14 | Therefore be it resolved that the United States should gradually lift the Cuban |
| 15 | trade embargo over a period of ten years on the condition that a policy is |
| 16 | pursued with the leaders of Cuba that insists upon freedom, democracy, and |
| 17 | human rights. |
| 18 | Be it further resolved that all diplomatic ties with Cuba should be renewed if the |
| 19 | Cuban government is willing to make the reforms as demanded by the United |
| 20 | States. |

Respectfully Submitted,
Mariah Trisch
Gwynedd Mercy Academy

A Bill to Fund Random Drug Testing

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government shall provide block grants to states for the purpose of random drug testing in schools.

SECTION 2. Schools shall include those receiving public funding.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Treasury will be responsible for enforcement.

A. The United States Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education Subcommittee will calculate the amount of money that States will receive and also regulate the amount of money that States will distribute to individual school districts.

B. Upon passage of this bill, all states will be automatically applied for this policy.

SECTION 4. This bill shall take full effect 90 days after passage.

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

Introduced by William M. Vazquez of American Heritage School of Boca/Delray

A BILL TO IMPLEMENT TORT REFORM

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. From hereafter there shall be a \$250,000 cap on non-economic malpractice lawsuits.

SECTION 2. From hereafter there shall be a cap on attorney's fees in malpractice lawsuits.

SECTION 3. A plaintiff's attorney fees would be limited to 50% of the first \$50,000 recovered; 40% of the following 50% recovered; 30% of any amounts exceeding \$100,000.

SECTION 4. The Department of Health and Human Services will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

SECTION 5. This bill would go into effect immediately upon passage.

SECTION 6. Any states who fail to comply with this legislation by FY2010 will face the elimination of federal funding for their Medicare and Medicaid programs.

SECTION 7. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Monsignor Farrell High School

HOUSE A LEGISLATION

Federal Security Act

Be it enacted by this Student Congress assembled here that:

1 **Section 1:** The Department of Homeland Security is hereby abolished, and a standing
2 subcommittee shall be created to determine the distribution of former DHS
3 organizations among other cabinet departments.

4 **Section 2:** A. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall be
5 defined as the cabinet department created by the Homeland Security Act
6 of 2002.

7 B. Organizations shall be defined as Agencies formerly under the
8 jurisdiction of the DHS, including but not limited to the Coast Guard,
9 Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Secret Service.

10 **Section 3:** All funds currently allocated to the Department of Homeland
11 Security shall be diverted proportionally to Cabinet Departments receiving
12 agencies from the former DHS.

13 **Section 4:** This bill shall take effect upon the beginning of the 2010 fiscal year.

14 **Section 5:** All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act shall hereby
15 be null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Salvatore Corasaniti

Loyola Blakefield High School

A Bill to Give Tax Incentives to Companies that do not Outsource Jobs

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. Section 1. Companies who keep jobs in America will receive funding based on the
3. number of people employed.
4. Section 2. The tax incentive will be equal to the cost of keeping the jobs in America.
5. Section 3. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will oversee the enforcement of this
6. bill
7. A. The house sub-committee of Commerce, Trade, and Consumer
8. Protection will decide upon a proper amount of Monetary Incentives to
9. give to these companies based on their size and ability to outsource jobs.
10. SECTION 4. This bill shall be implemented immediately upon passage.
11. Section 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced by Hannah Esquenazi

American Heritage (Plantation)

A RESOLUTION TO MILITARIZE THE U.S.-MEXICAN BORDER

1 **Whereas:** Drug Cartels have used violence as a way to destabilizing local and
2 national law enforcement; and
3 **Whereas:** This disruption has pushed Mexico to the brink of becoming a
4 failed state; and
5 **Whereas:** The collapse of the Mexican government and economy will
6 destabilize an already permeable U.S.-Mexico border, and
7 **Whereas:** The destabilization of the U.S.-Mexico border will drastically
8 increase the potential for a national security threat, therefore
9 **Be it Resolved:** by the Student Congress here assembled that President Obama
10 strongly consider militarizing the US border with Mexico and the
11 US National Guard.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Gabrieli

Holy Ghost Preparatory School

A Resolution to Reform the Federal Reserve

1 **Whereas,** The Federal Reserve System of the United States has been wrongly
2 mislead into supremacy in certain areas of financial regulation; and
3 **Whereas,** The Federal Reserve was arguably at the root of the ongoing economic
4 crisis and continues to broadly exercise its independence while failing to be
5 completely transparent; and
6 **Whereas,** The financial well-being of all Americans is greatly affected by the
7 decisions that the Federal Reserve has made and continues to have the power to
8 make; and
9 **Whereas,** Actions such as granting excessive bailouts have not only increased the
10 Fed's risk, but also have hampered the Fed's ability to conduct its central mission
11 – monetary policy; now, therefore, be it
12 **Resolved,** That the Student Congress here assembled require the Government
13 Accountability Office to initiate a complete audit of the Federal Reserve; and, be it
14 **Further Resolved,** That the Student Congress here assembled explore a solution
15 to effectively break up the Federal Reserve System, dividing the monetary policy
16 and regulatory functions into smaller, unique branches.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charles Gress
Saint Joseph's Preparatory School

A Bill to Repeal the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Congress will declare the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 null and void.

SECTION 2. This legislation will come into effect immediately upon passage.

SECTION 3. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced by Our Lady of Lourdes Academy

Security Contractor Accountability Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Any person who, while employed under a federal agency contract placing them close to an armed forces contingency operation, engages in conduct that would constitute an offense punishable by imprisonment for more than one year if engaged in within U.S. jurisdiction shall be punished as provided for that offense.

SECTION 2. The Department of Justice (DOJ), namely the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), will oversee the enforcement of the bill.

A. The Inspector General of the DOJ shall report to Congress on the status of the department's investigations of violations alleged to have been committed by contract personnel and findings and recommendations about the Department's capacity and effectiveness in prosecuting misconduct by contract personnel.

B. The Director of the FBI shall ensure, through the creation of Theater Investigative Units, that there are adequate personnel to investigate allegations of criminal violations by contract personnel.

C. Theater Investigative Units are defined as units of the FBI that investigate and prosecute criminal misconduct by contracted or enlisted individuals.

SECTION 3. If the DOJ or the FBI do not fully comply with the demands of this law, the Congress shall allocate only one half the amount of funding it currently allocates to the above agencies.

SECTION 4. This bill shall be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced by: Robert Hill, Nova High School

A Bill to Legalize Marijuana for Medicinal Purposes in the United States

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Marijuana is to be legalized for consumption by persons who have a medical need for it in the United States of America.

SECTION 2. Marijuana is defined as the plant Cannabis (*Cannabis Sativa*).

Medical need is defined as a prescription from a licensed physician.

SECTION 3. The mandate will be carried out by the Food and Drug Administration which will be given the jurisdiction to regulate marijuana along the guidelines used for all other prescription drugs.

SECTION 4. This mandate shall go into effect in 2012.

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

Introduced by Gregory Sweetman, Delbarton School

A Bill to Halt Russian Military Expansion in the Caucasus

| | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Article I: The United States Congress hereby issues a warning to the government |
| 2 | of the Russian Federation to cease their military expansion into the |
| 3 | Caucasus region, specifically the Georgian territories of South Ossetia |
| 4 | and Abkhazia. |
| 5 | Article II: If Russia does not reduce troop levels in these areas to 500 personnel |
| 6 | at maximum, foreign direct investment to Russia will be cut off. |
| 7 | Article III: This legislation will go into effect on January 1 st , 2010. |
| 8 | Article IV: The Department of Commerce will be responsible for the enforcement of |
| 9 | this legislation. |
| 10 | Article V: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and |
| 11 | void. |

Respectfully Submitted,
Wes Wright
Unionville High School

SENATE B LEGISLATION

A Resolution to Lift the Embargo on Cuba

1 **Whereas**, in the post-Cold War Cuba poses no threat to the United States, and
2 **Whereas**, the embargo on Cuba has failed to promote democratic principles and to
3 punish Cuban dictator Fidel Castro, and
4 **Whereas**, the embargo prevents millions of Cubans from receiving essential
5 pharmaceuticals and other medical necessities, and
6 **Whereas**, the potential for a successful trade partnership has been thwarted by a failed
7 policy. Now, therefore;
8 Be it resolved by this Student Congress here assembled that the United States lifts any
9 and all economic sanctions heretofore imposed on Cuba.

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Arntsen
Manchester Essex Regional HS

A Bill to Strengthen US-Indonesia Economic Ties

1. BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS HERE
2. ASSEMBLED THAT:
3. Section 1: The United States will forgive \$300 million of Indonesia's debt.
2. Section 2: \$100 million will be paid to the U.S. Commercial Service to
3. find and train potential local representatives for American business in
4. Indonesia.
5. Section 4: \$200 million will be paid to support the Indonesian healthcare
6. system under the direction of the World Health Organization.
7. Section 5: All laws in conflict with this piece of legislation shall be
8. declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Creeden
Needham High School

A Bill to Create a National High School Exit Exam to Ensure the Preparedness of Graduating Seniors

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A National High School Exit Exam will be necessary for students to graduate high school.

SECTION 2. The Exam will test students on the knowledge of math, reading, science and civics skills needed to be an informed citizen able to function in society and the workforce.

SECTION 3. This Law will be enforced by the Department of Education. Infringements of the law will be investigated by the DOE and tried in federal courts.

A. Cases of fraud, defined as the intentional misreporting of student scores, will be tried in federal court. Punishment is a minimum fine of \$1000 for the individual responsible up to Three years in prison.

B. In cases of cheating scores will be canceled and the student will have to retake the test the following year.

C. Schools that receive federal funding and in which 50% or more who take the test fail, will be audited by an agent of the DOE and granted the amount of funding deemed necessary to improve the school, after making the changes in administration the auditor has suggested.

SECTION 4. This bill will be in effect for the classes of 2011 to 2021

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

Introduced by The Berkeley Carroll School

A Bill to Maximize Rehabilitation of Prisoners

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **Section 1:** All prisons receiving federal prison construction grants shall require inmates to perform a total of 48 hours of work per week.
3. **Section 2:** The aforementioned prisons shall require all inmates without high
4. school diplomas to pass the General Education Development Tests before release.
5. **Section 3:** The aforementioned prisons shall require all detainees sentenced to one or
6. more years in prison to complete at least one technical training course before release.
7. **Section 4:** Any prisoner failing to abide by the guidelines in Sections 2 and 3 shall be
8. denied permission to participate in recreational activities, access body building
9. equipment, and deviate from prison uniform standards.
10. **Section 5:** Exceptions to sections 2, 3 and 4 shall be made for prisoners with medical
11. certification of a disability that would render prison work or education impractical.
12. **Section 6:** All parole violators and nonviolent prisoners commencing prison sentences on
13. or after January 1, 2010 shall be redirected to community corrections programs in lieu of
14. serving time in prison, provided that the community corrections program is within a 50
15. mile radius of the said prison.
16. **Section 7:** This legislation shall take effect immediately after passage.
17. **Section 8:** All laws in conflict with this legislation shall hereby be declared null and void.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sophia Mo

Westford Academy

A Bill to Reform the International Atomic Energy Agency

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall eliminate all funding to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

SECTION 2. Funding to the IAEA will end until the agency terminates all funding of state sponsors of terrorism.

A. The state sponsors of terrorism will be determined by the State Department.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Respectfully Submitted
Senator Frances Rodriguez
St. Thomas Aquinas High School

A RESOLUTION TO HELP DEVELOP NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR THE UAE

1 **WHEREAS**, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) wants to rely on nuclear energy as its
2 primary source of energy in the future; and,

3 **WHEREAS**, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) supports the UAE's
4 decision to enrich uranium for civilian purposes under its jurisdiction; and,

5 **WHEREAS**, nuclear energy is more viable than petroleum because it is cleaner and
6 cheaper; and,

7 **WHEREAS**, the United States withdrew from its nuclear cooperation agreement
8 with the UAE. Thus, stalling the development of nuclear energy;

9 **WHEREAS**, the UAE does not constitute a threat or danger to the US and, therefore,

10 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Student Congress here assembled that the United States
11 resume the nuclear cooperation agreement with the United Arab Emirates promoting
12 nuclear energy as a viable source of energy in the Persian Gulf and Middle East; and,

13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLEVED** that the United States and the UAE create a business
14 and diplomatic partnership for future nuclear energy endeavors both at home and abroad.

Introduced by,
Benjamin Rogers
Holy Ghost Preparatory School

Author: Sarah Teitelman (Randolph High School)
Sponsor: Zachary Bickel (Randolph High School)

AN ACT TO SET MINIMAL STANDARDS FOR A NATIONAL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULM

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.**

PREAMBLE, Whereas school districts make their own curriculums, and whereas the curriculums vary from towns, counties, and states denying children the state of purpose of equal education standards, to improve educational standards the United States Congress hereby implements a national minimum standard of curriculum for publicly funded middle and high schools.

SECTION 1: The set minimum curriculum for publically funded middle schools grades six, seven, and eight will be three years of all core subjects which are English, Social Studies, Math, and Science; three years of Physical Education, and one year of a Fine Arts class are required for the grades listed above.

- b. School districts reserve the right to decide what specific classes can be offered to students under each of these said topics.

SECTION 2: The set minimum curriculum for publically funded high schools grades nine, ten, eleven, and twelve will be four years of any English, Math, and Physical Education course; three years of any Science and Social Studies course, two years of any Foreign Language Course, and one year of any Fine Arts class.

- b. School districts reserve the right to decide what specific classes can be offered to students under each of these said topics.

SECTION 3: The following standards quoted above in Sections One and Two are the absolute minimum standards for each school's curriculum; however I strongly support and encourage schools to go above and beyond this minimum level state in Sections One and Two.

SECTION 4: This bill will be enacted at the beginning of the next new school year.

B/R #: _____

A Bill to Lower the Corporate Income Tax Rate

1. Be it enacted by the Student Congress here assembled that:
2. Article I: The Corporate Income Tax Rate is hereby decreased to 30%.
3. Article II: Corporate Income Taxes shall be defined as: “Taxes imposed by public
4. authorities on the incomes of corporations.”
5. Article III: This bill shall take effect 60 days after passage.
6. Article IV: The Internal Revenue Service shall enforce the provisions of this
7. legislation.
8. Article V: All laws in conflict with the provisions of this bill are hereby declared
9. null and void.

Respectfully submitted,
Rey Virani
Trinity Preparatory School

A Resolution Concerning North Korea

- 1 **Whereas:** North Korea has taken an interest in nuclear weapons in recent years,
2 and has been dedicated to arming themselves.
- 3 **Whereas:** North Korea has carried out tests of nuclear weapons that were
4 frowned upon by many nations.
- 5 **Whereas:** The possession of nuclear weapons by North Korea poses a threat to
6 national and international security alike.
- 7 **Whereas:** Increasingly strict sanctions by the UN are further damaging the
8 already weakened North Korea.
- 9 **Whereas:** In recent months, diplomacy with North Korea has proven to be an
10 effective way to communicate with the nation's leaders.
- 11 **Whereas:** Multilateral negotiations with other nations and active diplomacy may
12 help to avert the threat posed by North Korea.
- 13 **Therefore Be It Resolved:** By this Congress here assembled that the executive
14 branch, including the State Department, be encouraged to actively pursue
15 multilateral talks with North Korea on various topics, including Global Security,
16 Human Rights, and Nuclear Proliferation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Evan Wescott
Saint Joseph's Preparatory School

HOUSE B LEGISLATION

A Bill to Increase Oversight of Military Research Projects

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Article I: Money spent inefficiently on military research could be given back to |
| 2 | taxpayers or used for more pressing domestic projects. |
| 3 | Article II: A century of conventional warfare has given way to limited engagements |
| 4 | with low-tech guerilla forces. |
| 5 | Article III: Our current level of military technology is more than adequate for dealing |
| 6 | with this new kind of warfare. |
| | Resolved: That all research subsidized by the Department of Defense must be |
| | evaluated at intervals determined by the Senate Armed Services Committee. |
| | Further Resolved: The Senate Armed Services Committee will have the power to |
| | reduce or eliminate funding for projects that have exceeded their projected budget or |
| | timeframe, or deemed to be superfluous to United States security. |

Respectfully Submitted,
Holy Ghost Prep

A Resolution to Redirect Funding for Alternative Fuel Sources to Solar Power

Whereas: Natural gas, clean coal and nuclear technologies are taking long to develop,

Whereas: Gas and coal, clean or unclean, are nonrenewable resources and

Whereas: Solar Power technology is already developed and only needs investment to make
it more widely available and

Whereas: Investment in the technology will inevitably bring down the cost of solar power
for American citizens and

Whereas: Solar power is the one of the safest, if not the safest, available sources of energy,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The United States redirect a portion of its funds going to alternative
fuel sources to solar power.

Respectfully Submitted,
Syosset High School

A Bill to Place a Trade Ban on Venezuela

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Government shall place a trade ban on Venezuela

- A. The ban shall be removed by the Department of State whenever it deems it necessary.

SECTION 2. No Venezuelan exports shall be purchased by the United States.

- A. Venezuelan exports shall include all the range of goods produced, or manufactured Venezuela.

SECTION 3. The State Department shall be in charge of enforcement of this bill.

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

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

*Respectfully submitted by Rodrigo Gil Kessler
from American Heritage School (Plantation)*

A Bill to Reinstate the Line Item Veto Act of 1996

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall reinstate the line Item veto act of 1996

SECTION 2. The line item veto act enacted the use of the line-item veto for the Federal government of the United States. A line item veto is the power of an executive to nullify or cancel specific provisions of a bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced by Nova High School

Senator Jarik Laporte

A Bill to Allocate Funding to the Armed Forces of the United States

1 Be it enacted by this Student Congress here assembled that:

2 **Section 1.** This legislation will allocate \$100 million to the technological and
3 infrastructural advancement of the United States armed forces.

4 **Section 2.** Advancement shall be defined as, the enhancement of any outdated
5 infrastructure or obsolete weaponry.

6 **Section 3.** This legislation shall be governed by the Department of Treasury.

7 **Section 4.** This legislation shall take effect immediately after passage. Should the armed
8 forces not abided by the above guidelines, the funds will be frozen.

9 **Section 5.** All legislation in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and
10 void.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Christian May
Suncoast High School

A Resolution to Allow Openly Non-heterosexuals to serve in the military

1. **Whereas**, about 13,000 openly non-heterosexual service members have been
2. discharged on grounds of homosexual conduct, and,
3. **Whereas**, polls show that a majority of Americans believe that the openly non-
4. heterosexual men and women should be allowed to serve in the military.
5. **Therefore be it resolved by this Student Congress assembled here** that openly
6. non-heterosexual men and women shall hereby be allowed to serve in all branches
7. of the U.S. military.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martin Page
Brennan Robbins
Milton Academy

A Bill About Restructuring Aid to Developmental Institutions

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Multilateral Development Banks can receive \$5 billion if they adopt the principles of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

SECTION 2. The Department of State will oversee the funding of the legislation.

A. The State Department will oversee whether the principles of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative are instituted in the banks.

SECTION 3. This legislation will be implementing on January 1, 2009.

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

Introduced by Dhruv Ranadive, Trinity Preparatory School

A Bill to Promote Loans from Small Banks

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Selected small banks will be eligible for federal funding based on criteria made by the appropriate governmental agencies.

SECTION 2. The appropriation of funds will be based on the small banks' need for fiscal assistance, financial significance, and managerial staff. Small banks must have under 500 employees.

SECTION 3. The Small Business Administration will oversee the implementation and appropriation of funds.

- A. Small banks that are interested in the federal funding program will submit their company records and plans to the Small Business Administration, which will then evaluate them. The Small Business Administration will allocate the money from a fund of 50 million dollars.
- B. After the money in the fund is depleted, no further grants will be given.
- C. These selected banks will each receive an initial federal grant of up to \$30,000 and subsequent grants will be given based on qualification for them.
- D. The Small Business Administration will ensure that each bank survives and fulfills their loan requirement by requiring all small banks to submit their records.

SECTION 4. This bill will be passed immediately upon passage, and banks will be able to submit their records in the next five years.

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

*Introduced by
Bardia Vaseghi
Ridge High School*

SENATE C LEGISLATION

A Bill to Ensure the Protection of Constituent Privacy

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Department of Homeland Security shall be prohibited from seizing personal property of U.S. citizens at U.S. borders, when the totality of the circumstances does not support a reasonable suspicion that criminal activity may be afoot.

SECTION 2. Totality of the circumstances shall be defined as all of the facts, circumstances, and observations that DHS officials use to reach to a reasonable suspicion that criminal activity may be afoot. Reasonable suspicion shall be defined as an objectively justifiable suspicion that is based on specific facts or circumstances and that justifies stopping and sometimes searching (as by frisking) a person thought to be involved in criminal activity at the time.

SECTION 3. The Department of Homeland Security shall allow a monthly audit of the seizures by the GAO to ensure that reasonable suspicion of criminal activity was present at the time of the seizures.

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

*Respectfully Submitted,
Maddy Bortes
American Heritage School*

A Resolution to Consign Sanctions upon the Nation of South Korea

- 1 **Whereas:** The Nation of South Korea is now taking the warm relations which it
- 2 possesses with the United States for granted,
- 3 **Whereas:** South Korea is now instigating the nation of North Korea and
- 4 therefore, forcing the hand of the North Koreans,
- 5 **Whereas:** South Korea is not a vital nation in the United States Trade picture,
- 6 **Whereas:** The South Korean nation is dependent on the United States for its
- 7 protection and therefore, will listen to the demands of this congress,
- 8 **Therefore, Be It Resolved:** That this congress here assembled do consider and
- 9 recommend the implementation of sanctions against the nation of South Korea

Respectfully Submitted,
Joseph Brenner
Saint Joseph's Preparatory School

A Resolution to Redirect Funding for Alternative Fuel Sources to Solar Power

Whereas: Natural gas, clean coal and nuclear technologies are taking long to develop,

Whereas: Gas and coal, clean or unclean, are nonrenewable resources and

Whereas: Solar Power technology is already developed and only needs investment to make
it more widely available and

Whereas: Investment in the technology will inevitably bring down the cost of solar power
for American citizens and

Whereas: Solar power is the one of the safest, if not the safest, available sources of energy,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The United States redirect a portion of its funds going to alternative
fuel sources to solar power.

Respectfully Submitted,
Syosset High School

A Bill to Redevelop the Drug Industry in America

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS, HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Congress change patent laws to favor the production of generic drugs.

SECTION 2. The U.S. Patent Office and the Food and Drug Administration will oversee the enforcement of this bill.

- A. The premier patent holder for any pharmaceutical drug will be given an exclusive patent for 15 years.
- B. Patent extensions for pharmaceutical drugs are prohibited.
- C. Patent renewals will only be granted for chemical changes to the drug
- D. All current patents for pharmaceutical drugs will remain until their expiration date and will have no chance for renewal.
- E. 15 million dollars will be allocated for the research and development of new drugs.

SECTION 3. This Bill shall take effect on January 1, 2010

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Senator Cameron Isaacs
Nova High School

A Resolution to Federally Mandate the High School Math and Science Curriculum

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1:** All United States public high schools will require each student to take
3 four years of math classes and four years of science classes before graduation.

4 **SECTION 2:** Required math classes for all students include Geometry,
5 Algebra II/ trigonometry, Pre-Calculus and Calculus.

6 **SECTION 3:** Required science classes include Physics, Biology and Chemistry.

7 **SECTION 4:** If a student has completed one or more required courses before
8 entering high school, that student must still complete four years of both high school
9 math and science, but may enroll in more advanced courses.

10 **SECTION 5:** If a student has not yet completed Algebra I upon entering high
11 school, that student must either take two math classes simultaneously or take one
12 class over the summer.

13 **SECTION 6:** All high schools must offer advanced sections of all math and science
14 classes (honors sections and/ or Advanced Placement sections).

15 **SECTION 7:** Students with special needs will be examined by state or federal
16 officials in order to be exempted from this curriculum mandate.

17 **SECTION 8:** If states do not subscribe to this mandate, a portion of federal funding
18 for state public works will be withheld.

Respectfully submitted:

Caroline Kitchener
Convent of the Sacred Heart, Connecticut

The Security Derivatives Regulation Act of 2009

1. Be it enacted by this student congress here assembled:
2. Section 1: The Commodity Exchange Act of 1936 and The Commodity Futures –
3. Modernization Act of 2000 are hereby amended as follows:
4. Section 2: a. All over-the counter derivatives will be cleared through the Commodity
5. Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) before offered as final contracts.
6. b. Derivatives traded in the United States shall incur a dedicated levy at one-
7. tenth (1/10; 0.1) of one percent (1%; 0.01) per exchange for the express
8. purpose of direct investment in the Social Security trust fund.
9. c. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission shall be restructured to
10. include its current five commissioners, a representative from the
11. departments of Treasury, Commerce, Energy and Agriculture as well as
12. one from the Federal Reserve who will each retain the right to one vote.
13. Section 3: The Department of Treasury, in coordination with the CFTC, will oversee the
14. implementation of this legislation to take effect at the start of fiscal year (FY)
15. 2011 (October 1, 2010) and expire at the conclusion of fiscal year 2021
16. (Sept 30, 2022).
17. Section 4: All laws or portions of laws in conflict with this legislation are declared null
18. and void.

Submitted by Joe Perretta

Independent

A Resolution to Require Senior Citizens to Retake their Driving Exam

1. WHEREAS, senior citizens are causing chaos on the road
2. WHERAS, seniors are 4 times more likely to be involved in and accident
3. WHEREAS, careful drivers are being harmed in car accidents due to reckless driving by seniors, be it
4. RESOLVED, that the student congress is assembled to make a recommendation to the United States department of road safety for all citizens over the age of 65 to retake their driving exam.

The Berkeley Carroll School

A Bill to Decrease Government Spending on Embryonic Stem Cell Research

WHEREAS Embryonic stem cell research involves the use of the human embryo to obtain stem cells for medical research, which destroys the embryo in the process, and

WHEREAS Such embryo destruction violates fundamental American values such as the respect for life and the integrity of scientific research, while yielding negligible scientific benefits,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The amount of government spending on embryonic stem cell research should be decreased by at least fifty percent from FY 2009-2010 levels.

SECTION 2. This mandate will be carried out by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which will be required to decrease spending on any activity involving embryonic stem cell research.

SECTION 4. This mandate shall go into effect on January 1, 2010.

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

Introduced by Jack Rogers, Delbarton School

A Bill to Extend School Services into the Summer

1 Be it enacted by this Student Congress here assembled that:

2 **Section 1.** School lunch programs and physical education classes will be
provided in all

3 schools in high-poverty districts during the summer.

4 **Section 2.** These summer classes will be available to all students attending the
school.

5 **Section 3.** These summer programs will be put in place within two years of the
passage

6 of this bill.

7 **Section 4.** After two years, the Department of Education will inspect all such
programs.

8 Failure of the inspection will result in the school's loss of funding.

9 **Section 5.** High-poverty districts are those in which at least one-half of registered

10 students receive free or reduced price lunches.

11 **Section 6.** \$50 Million Dollars Is Appropriated For The First Year Of This
Program.

12 **Section 7.** Any and all laws in conflict with this bill are hereby null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Scarafoni
Manchester Essex Regional HS

HOUSE C LEGISLATION

B/R #: _____

A BILL TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR MISSILE DEFENSE

1 Be it enacted by the NFCFL Student Congress here assembled that:

2 Article I: The United States will increase funding for missile defense
3 systems and research for the next 5 years.

4 Article II: A. Half of the designated funds shall be used to restore programs
5 that were cut in the last budget.

6 B. The other half shall be used for the continual pursuit of a missile
7 defense system in Eastern Europe.

8 Article III: This bill will go into effect at the beginning of the 2011 fiscal year.

9 Article IV: The Department of Defense will oversee the use of the additional
10 funding and the extra funds will come from a \$1 sin tax on all
11 tobacco products.

12 Article V: All other bills and laws in conflict with this piece of legislation
13 will be declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,
Colin Cook
Trinity Preparatory School

A Bill to Strengthen Russia-US Relations

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A biannual congressional delegation from the United States will be sent to Russia to discuss foreign policy and growing relations and an increase of free trade through agreements.

SECTION 2. Free trade is characterized as multilateral trade between both countries without tariffs.

SECTION 3. The Department of State will work with Russian government officials and the Senate to organize the congressional delegations and free trade agreements.

SECTION 4. This piece of legislation will take full effect on December 1, 2009.

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

*Respectfully Submitted
Senator Raymond Escobar
St. Thomas Aquinas High School*

A Bill to Promote the Usage of Bicycles

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS ASSEMBLED HERE THAT:

1. Section 1: States shall be allowed to claim up to \$50 million apiece to
2. facilitate commuter travel by bicycle to places of employment.
3. Section 2: The states shall use this funding to improve travel by creating bike
4. lanes and other means of improved transport for people choosing to ride their
5. bicycles.
6. Section 3: Funding for this bill shall come from a .25% tax increase on luxury
7. vehicles.
8. Section 4: This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of
9. Transportation.
10. Section 5: All laws in conflict with this legislation shall be declared null and
11. void.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Farlow
Needham High School

A Bill to Enact a Fat Tax on Sugary Drinks

1. Be it enacted by the Student Congress that:
2. Section I: A Fat Tax be established on sugary drinks.
3. Section II: The tax revenue obtained will be funded towards prevention and
4. outreach programs of Obesity, Diabetes, and other health related
5. Symptoms.
6. Section III: A. By implementing this fat tax, By at least three cents, we resolve to
7. not only curve our nations obesity crisis, but facilitate investment
8. towards Health Care.
9. B. The cost will thus be reduced, helping to fund President Barack
10. Obama's massive health care expansion.
11. Section IV: This Bill shall go into effect three months after it approval.
12. Section V: The U.S Department of Treasury will oversee the quantity and
13. distribution of said Taxes.
14. Section VI: All laws or prohibitions in conflict with this Bill shall hereby be
15. Declared null and void.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Ledesma

A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PRISONS AND IMPLEMENT PREVENTATIVE REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

1. WHEREAS: Prisons require too much governmental funding, and
2. WHEREAS: These prisons costs are having a negative effect on our
3. economy, and
4. WHEREAS: Preventative programs for rehabilitating minor criminals have
5. been proven to be both effective and cost less then prisons, therefore,
6. BE IT RESOLVED, By this student congress here assembled that upon
7. resolution passage the Department Of Justice begins closing prisons and
8. implementing rehabilitative prevention programs.

Introduced by The Berkeley Carroll School

A BILL TO REINSTATE THE “CASH FOR CLUNKERS” PROGRAM

ARTICLE 1: The “Cash for Clunkers” program will be reinstated.

ARTICLE 2: Congress shall allocate 1 billion dollars to fund this program.

ARTICLE 3: Once the 1 billion dollar fund has run out, Congress shall reassess whether or not to allocate more funds to continue the program.

ARTICLE 3: This legislation shall go into effect on January 1, 2010.

ARTICLE 4: The Department of Transportation will oversee the implementation of this bill.

ARTICLE 5: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby null and void.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sam Schraer
Ridge High School

A Resolution Urging Free Trade Negotiations with Brazil

| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | WHEREAS , Free trade enables more goods and services to reach American |
| 2 | consumers at lower prices, thereby substantially increasing the |
| 3 | standard of living; and |
| 4 | WHEREAS , Free trade promotes innovation and competition; and |
| 5 | WHEREAS , Free trade agreements would further strengthen relations between |
| 6 | the United States and Brazil; and |
| 7 | WHEREAS , Brazil is continuing to rise as an economic power; and |
| 8 | WHEREAS , Brazil could play an important role in helping the global economy |
| 9 | recover; and |
| 10 | WHEREAS , Free trade agreements with Brazil will help facilitate support in Latin |
| 11 | America for the Free Trade Area of the Americas; and now therefore |
| 12 | be it |
| 13 | RESOLVED , That the Student Congress here assembled encourages the |
| 14 | President to negotiate free trade agreements with the nation of Brazil. |

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Smith
Saint Joseph's Preparatory School

A Bill to Establish The American Pharmaceutical Open Source Research Center

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The American government will create both the physical and online infrastructure necessary for a pharmaceutical Open Source Research program and provide it financial resources for compensation to contributors.

SECTION 2. A government-sponsored pharmaceutical Open Source Research program is a universally accessible drug discovery apparatus in which the state defines medicinal needs and professionals in the private sector contribute to a central, government-administered database. Fellow experts and state actors test the viability of contributions and depending on the input's quality and relevance, government agents allot compensation. The manufacture of the drugs will be contracted to private companies, with the products being sold at 110% the cost-of-production.

SECTION 3. The Center for Disease Control will define the pharmaceutical needs, subgoals and tests for the program. It will also determine and dispense effective compensation and choose the private companies to which contracts will be awarded.

SECTION 4. This program will be created at the beginning of the FY 2011

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

Respectfully Submitted
Alex Smyk
Ridge High School

A Bill to Regulate the Cellular Telephone Industry

1 Be it enacted by this Student Congress here assembled that:

2 **Section 1.** Cellular telephone carriers shall be required to abide by the same regulations
3 regarding internet network neutrality as broadband providers do. Any device
4 shall be able to run any applications

5 **Section 2.** Device-carrier exclusivity agreements are hereby prohibited.

6 **Section 3.** Carriers shall be required to more clearly explain, in plain English, their terms
7 of service, and changing terms of service for active subscribers during the lifetime
8 of their contracts shall be prohibited.

9 **Section 4.** Carriers shall be required to increase transparency for the consumer regarding
10 their charging practices.

11 **Section 5.** Carriers which violate this act shall suffer a fine of \$1,000 per customer, per
12 offense. Repeat offenders shall have their FCC operating licenses suspended for
13 a period of up to one year.

14 **Section 6.** Any and all laws in conflict with this bill are hereby null and void.

Respectfully submitted,
Connor Winn
Manchester Essex Regional HS