

**Congress Docket  
Cape Elizabeth High School  
January 10, 2014**

**1) A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Ban the Death Penalty**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT**

**RESOLVED**, By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress.

**ARTICLE**

1.     **SECTION 1:** The United States shall hereby be prohibited from punishing any
2.     criminals using lethal means.
3.     **SECTION 2:** The United States Congress shall have the power to enforce this
4.     with appropriate legislation.

*Submitted for Congressional Debate by Senator Quinn Stewart, SHS, Maine District*

**2) A Bill to Legalize Recreational Marijuana**

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

1.     **SECTION 1:** The United States shall hereby no longer prohibit the usage of
2.     recreational marijuana for individuals over the age of 21.
3.     **SECTION 2:** Marijuana shall be sold in a similar fashion to that of tobacco. It
4.     shall be kept in a secure location until an individual makes a request for its
5.     purchase.
6.     **SECTION 3:** A form of photo identification will be required at the time of
7.     purchase to ensure that the customer is of legal age.

8.     **SECTION 4:** If any individual under the age of 21 is found and convicted of
9.     using marijuana, they shall be fined \$500. Each subsequent offense shall result in
10.    \$1,000 being added to each previous fine.
11.    **SECTION 5:** If any individual is found and convicted of selling marijuana to
12.    someone under the age of 21, that person shall be fined \$2,500. Each subsequent
13.    offense shall result in \$2,500 being added to each previous fine and potential jail
14.    time to be decided by the court at the time of conviction.
15.    **SECTION 6:** The tax on marijuana shall be set at 38%, and it shall be distributed
16.    evenly among the state and federal governments.
17.    **SECTION 7:** The Department of Health and Human Services shall oversee this
18.    bill.
19.    **SECTION 8:** This bill shall go into effect 6 months from the date of passage.
20.    **SECTION 9:** All laws in conflict with this bill shall hereby be declared null and
21.    void.

*Submitted for Congressional Debate by Senator Quinn Stewart, SHS, Maine District*

### **3) A Resolution to Reduce Corn Subsidies**

1.    **WHEREAS,** the corn industry has grown considerably in recent years, and
2.    **WHEREAS,** the corn industry is extremely self sustainable and is no longer in
3.    need of subsidies from the United States government, and
4.    **WHEREAS,** the United States government sends considerable amounts of money
5.    to corporations for the mass production of corn, and
6.    **WHEREAS,** the money the United States is spending towards corn companies
7.    could easily be spent in other programs that could further benefit the United

8. States; so, therefore, be it
9. **RESOLVED**, by the Student Congress here assembled that the United States
10. looks for ways that each year, the amount of subsidies to the corn industry will
11. reduce by 10% until the subsidies no longer exist.

*Submitted for Congressional Debate by Senator Quinn Stewart, SHS, Maine District*

#### **4) A Resolution Regarding the Electoral College System**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Electoral College has been proven to undermine the vote of the
2. citizens of the United States, and
3. **WHEREAS**, there have been several instances in which a President has been
4. elected with the consent of the Electoral College while losing the popular vote,
5. and
6. **WHEREAS**, a reform in the current Electoral College system would ensure that
7. citizens votes do matter; so, therefore, be it,
8. **RESOLVED**, by the Student Congress here assembled that the United States
9. looks for ways to pass legislation to alter the Electoral College similar to that of
10. Maine and Nebraska's system of proportional representation.

*Submitted for Congressional Debate by Senator Quinn Stewart, SHS, Maine District*

#### **5) A BILL TO INCREASE SECURITY AT U.S. DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS**

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **SECTION 1.** Security minimums will be increased at all U.S Diplomatic Missions by
3. increasing the size of one detachment to the size of two, and requiring a mandatory
4. detachment of security at each U.S. Diplomatic Mission. A detachment is a group of CI-
5. Officers from many different branches that make up a security team assigned to each

6. location.
7. **SECTION 2.** Any U.S. Diplomatic Mission will be defined as an U.S. Embassy, Branch
8. Office, U.S. Consulate, or an U.S. Interests Section.
9. **SECTION 3.** This bill will be overseen by both the Department of Defense and The
10. Department of State.
11. **SECTION 3B.** All necessary funding for this legislation will be split between the
12. Department of Defense and The Department of State.
13. **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect on January 1st, 2016.
14. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced by I. Daigle, BHS, Maine District*

## **6) A BILL TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING IN AFGHANISTAN**

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

2. **SECTION 1:** This bill will supply 300 million dollars in funding to a new task force
3. Managed by the US Navy. This new task force will be dedicated to combating the trade
4. And production of illicit narcotics in Afghanistan.
5. **SECTION 2:** “Task force” will be defined as “is a military unit or formation established
6. To work on a single defined task or activity.”
7. **SECTION 3:** The Department of Defense will oversee the implementation of this bill.
8. **SECTION 4:** This bill shall go into effect six months after passage.
9. **SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted by Sen. Hagerty, BHS, Maine District*

## **7) A Resolution to Evaluate Military Assistance in Mexico**

- 1. WHEREAS**, regional stability has collapsed in northern Mexico due to the increased
2. Violence and strength of drug cartels; and
- 3. WHEREAS**, the Mexican government and military have failed to regain control of
4. Northern Mexico over many years; and
- 5. WHEREAS**, the United States shares the northern Mexico border with Mexico
6. leaving the violence in close proximity to the United States; and
- 7. WHEREAS**, this creates a major national security threat to the United States with
8. the possibility of violence spilling over the border and into the United States; now,
9. therefore, **Be it RESOLVED**, that the Congress here assembled will evaluate the
10. possibility of providing military assistance in Mexico to help combat the drug cartel
11. problem.

*Respectfully submitted by Sen. Hagerty, BHS, Maine District*

## **8) A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

- 1. WHEREAS**, Race should never be considered as a basis for classification
2. because special treatment for some means discrimination against others; and
- 3. WHEREAS**, the Civil Rights Movement and its leaders fought for a color
4. blind society where individuals are not judged by the color of their skin, but
5. by the content of their character; and
- 6. WHEREAS**, affirmative action has been established to rectify past injustices; and
- 7. WHEREAS**, the merit and qualifications of a person, rather than race,
8. nationality, sex, or age, should be the only factors considered when addressing
9. one's advancement; and
- 10. WHEREAS**, Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act states that it is unlawful to

11. adversely impact a person's status as an employee because of such individual's
12. race, color, religion, sex, or natural origin; now, therefore,
13. **Be it RESOLVED**, by the Student Congress here assembled that in order to
14. promote equality, all affirmative action programs be discontinued throughout the
15. United States of America.

*Respectively submitted by Sen. Hagerty, BHS, Maine District*

## **9) A BILL TO MAKE TORTURE ILLEGAL**

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **SECTION 1.** The practice of torture and enhanced interrogation by the United States
3. Government and its officials, is hereby banned.
4. **SECTION 2A.** "Torture" is defined as the action or practice of inflicting severe pain on
5. someone as a punishment or to force them to do or say something, or for the pleasure of
6. the person inflicting the pain.
7. **SECTION 2B.** "Enhanced interrogation" shall be defined as a policy which refers to the
8. USA's government program of systematic torture of detainees by the CIA, DIA, and
9. various components of the U.S. Armed Forces at black sites around the world. The
10. methods include the "five techniques"--prolonged stress positions, hooding, subjection to
11. deafening noise, sleep deprivation to the point of hallucination, deprivation of food and
12. drink--as well as waterboarding, walling, nakedness, subjection to extreme cold,
13. confinement in small coffin-like boxes, and repeated slapping or beating.
14. **SECTION 2C.** Five million dollars will be granted by the U.S. government to allow for
15. the research and development of humane methods to extract information from potential
16. terrorists or suspects.
17. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice shall oversee the execution of this legislation.
18. **SECTION 4.** This law shall take effect immediately upon passage.
19. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced by Senator Danby, BHS, Maine District*

**10) A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE SCIENCE GAP AND INCREASE R&D  
FUNDING**

1. **WHEREAS**, an increase in America's research and development and scientific funding
2. was granted in the years 2007 and 2010 under the America COMPETES Act, and;
3. **WHEREAS**, this funding was effect in re-focusing our goal and priorities towards
4. scientific discovery, and;
5. **WHEREAS**, making sure that the United States remains at the forefront of scientific
6. research is a goal on which politicians on both sides of the aisle can agree on, and;
7. **WHEREAS**, failure to fund the key basic research agencies will stunt any development
8. or breakthrough with clean energy or other potential discoveries, and;
9. **WHEREAS**, our economy needs this basic research as a driving force toward increase
10. prosperity, therefore, be it;
11. **RESOLVED**, by the Student Congress here assembled that Congress should come
12. together to reauthorize the America COMPETES Act of 2007 in a way that fits the
13. current circumstances and set our key basic research agencies on track to meet their
14. potential goals in the future, be it;
15. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should also repeal sequestration so that the
16. necessary appropriations can be made to the fields and areas specified in this resolution.

*Introduced by Senator Danby, BHS, Maine District*

## **11) A BILL TO FIGHT FRAUDULENT FISHING**

- 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
- 2. SECTION 1.** The United States Government shall allocate 500 million dollars to address
- 3.** seafood mislabeling and the importation of illegally caught fish.
- 4. SECTION 2A.** The money shall go towards an increase in inspectors on staff for the
- 5.** NOAA.
- 6. SECTION 2B.** It shall also go to initiate rulemakings as needed to make seafood in
- 7.** American markets verifiably legal and safe.
- 8. SECTION 2C.** “Seafood” is defined as any form of sea life regarded as food by humans.
- 9. SECTION 2D.** “Mislabeling” shall be defined as to label wrongly, incorrectly, or
- 10.** misleadingly
- 11. SECTION 3.** The EPA, NOAA, and the Department of Commerce shall oversee the
- 12.** execution of this legislation.
- 13. SECTION 4.** The money for the 500 million dollars shall be provided by a 4.6% tax on
- 14.** every pound of fish consumed in the United States for one year.
- 15. SECTION 5.** This law shall take effect immediately upon passage.
- 16. SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced by Senator Danby, BHS, Maine District*



## **12) A Bill to Eliminate Discriminatory Voting Restrictions**

- 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
- 2. SECTION 1.** Subcommittees of Senate Judiciary Committee and House Judiciary
- 3.** Committee shall be created to review voting restrictions and voter fraud in each state.
- 4. SECTION 2.** If one or both of the aforementioned subcommittees determines voting
- 5.** restrictions in a given state to be unnecessary for the negligently low levels of voter
- 6.** fraud in the state, particularly if the voting restrictions seem to discriminate against a
- 7.** certain demographic, the subcommittee that determined the lack of necessity of the
- 8.** voting restrictions shall propose legislation eliminating said voting restrictions.
- 9. SECTION 3.** Congress will oversee the implementation of this legislation.
- 10. SECTION 4.** This law shall take effect immediately.
- 11. SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced by Senator Eickmann, K.H.S., Maine District*

## **13) A Resolution to Reform the Head Start Program**

- 1. WHEREAS,** the current Head Start Program has proven ineffective; and
- 2. WHEREAS,** funding to the Head Start Program is relatively low; and
- 3. WHEREAS,** affordable preschool is necessary for the wellbeing of low income
- 4.** children; now, therefore, be it
- 5. RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled, that legislation shall be enacted to
- 6.** increase funding to the Head Start Program as a portion of the budget of the Department
- 7.** of the Education, also reapportioning funds from other federal departments for the Head
- 8.** Start Program if necessary.

*Introduced by Senator Eickmann, KHS, Maine District*

## **14) A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Abolish Capital Punishment**

1. **WHEREAS**, many states and the federal government continue to practice capital
2. punishment; and
3. **WHEREAS**, capital punishment has proven excessively expensive and ineffective;
4. therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, by two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the
5. following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the
6. United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution
7. when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years
8. from the date of its submission by the Congress:
9. **SECTION 1A.** Capital punishment shall be abolished throughout the United States, and
10. neither the states nor the federal government shall apply it.
11. **SECTION 1B.** Capital punishment is defined as the process whereby a person is put to
12. death as punishment for a crime.
13. **SECTION 2.** The United States Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by
14. appropriate legislation.

*Introduced by Senator Eickmann, KHS, Maine District*

## **15) An Act To Establish Ranked-choice Voting Nationally**

1. **SECTION 1:** The Ranked-Choice Voting method is hereby to be employed by the
2. following offices.
3. **SECTION 2:** Offices subject to the ranked-choice voting method will be the offices of
4. United States Senator, United States Representative to Congress, and President.
5. **SECTION 3:** "Ranked-choice voting method" being defined as a method of casting and
6. tabulating votes that simulates the ballot counts that would occur if all candidates

7. participated in a series of run-off elections and that allows voters to rank candidates for
8. an office subject to the ranked-choice voting method according to the voters' preferences.
9. **SECTION 4:** The Secretary of State in each state along with the U.S. Congress will
10. oversee the implementation of this bill.
11. **SECTION 5:** This act will take effect immediately upon passage.
12. **SECTION 6:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully introduced by Representative McGrath, CEHS, Maine District*