

**Congress Docket**  
**York High School**  
**January 9, 2016**

**1) A Bill to Move Election Day to Properly Recognize the Sacrifices Made by  
Members of the Armed Services**

- 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
- 2. SECTION 1.** All federally mandated elections shall be held on the eleventh of November.
- 3. SECTION 2. A.** All government offices shall be closed except for those necessary for the
- 4.** conduct of elections and maintenance of the public safety.
- 5. B.** All financial institutions shall be closed – including, but not limited to all banks, The New
- 6.** York Stock Exchange and the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated
- 7.** Quotations (NASDAQ).
- 8. C.** All non-essential employees must be granted a paid holiday.
- 9. D.** All essential employees must be paid double-time and be provided a three hour contiguous
- 10.** break sometime during the duration of polling hours.
- 11. E.** Early voting shall be strictly prohibited.
- 12. SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.
- 13.** The Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs shall ensure all public employers
- 14.** found to be in violation of Section 2, see an automatic ten percent reduction in allocated block
- 15.** grants during the next fiscal year.
- 16.** The Office of the Inspector General shall ensure all private employers found in violation of
- 17.** Section 2 are fined \$500,000.00 per employee.
- 18. SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect January 1, 2016.
- 19. SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced by Senator Hagerty, BHS, Maine District*

## **2) A Bill to Declare War on ISIL**

- 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
- 2. SECTION 1.** The United States of America shall declare war on the organization referring to
- 3.** itself as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).
- 4. SECTION 2.** This declaration of war authorizes the President of the United States, in his role as
- 5.** Commander in Chief of United States military forces, to engage in offensive and
- 6.** defensive military operations against ISIL.
- 7. SECTION 3.** Pursuant to this declaration of war this Congress shall provide funding necessary to
- 8.** carry out missions against ISIL. Funding for the war against ISIL shall be reviewed
- 9.** each year by this Congress.
- 10. SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced by Senator Hagerty, BHS, Maine District*

## **3) A Bill to Ban Solitary Confinement**

- 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED**
- 2. Section 1:** Solitary confinement shall be banned in all state, federal, and privately owned
- 3.** prisons.
- 4. Section 2:** Solitary confinement shall be defined as the practice of isolating a prisoner in
- 5.** a closed cell for 20-24 hours a day.
- 6. Section 3:** Disciplinary segregation may not occur for a period of longer than one week
- 7.** and may only be used to prevent violence from occurring.
- 8. Section 4:** Administrative segregation and involuntary protective custody shall hereby be
- 9.** entirely banned.
- 10. Section 5:** Supermax prisons shall hereby be banned.

11. **Section 6a:** All prisons currently designated as supermax prisons shall be required to
12. submit a plan to be approved by the Federal Bureau of Prisons concerning future
13. placement of prisoners by January 1, 2017. These plans shall begin to be implemented by
14. January 1, 2018, and must be fully implemented by January 1, 2020.
15. **Section 6b:** All prisons currently holding prisoners in solitary confinement shall be
16. required to submit a plan to be approved by the Federal Bureau of Prisons concerning the
17. placement and treatment of all prisoners concerned no less than six months from the
18. passage of this bill. These plans shall begin to be implemented by January 1, 2017, and
19. must be fully implemented by January 1, 2018.
20. **Section 7:** This bill shall be enforced by the Federal Bureau of Prisons.
21. **Section 8:** All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Representative Kathleen Dunn, BHS, Maine District*

#### **4) A Bill to Require Background Checks for Private Gun Sales**

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **Section 1.** Firearms may only legally be sold by parties with Federal Firearm Licenses.
3. **Section 2.** All federally licensed firearms dealers must conduct background checks in
4. accordance with the National Instant Criminal Background Check System for every sale of
5. firearms or ammunition.
6. **Section 3.** Firearms are defined for the purposes of this bill as they are defined in the Brady
7. Handgun Violence Prevention Act.
8. **Section 4.** Violation of Section 1 or Section 2 will be considered a level nine federal offense,
9. at the minimum.
10. **Section 5:** The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Justice shall

11. implement and enforce this legislation in conjunction with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
12. Firearms, and Explosives.
13. **Section 6:** This law shall take effect on February 1st, 2016.
14. **Section 7:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void. *Introduced by Senator Brautigam, Falmouth High School, Maine District*

### **5) The Equal Justice Amendment of 2016**

1. **WHEREAS,** Grand juries over the past few years have come under constant attack and
2. Criticism for its inability to accurately charge an individual with a crime; and
3. **WHEREAS,** The grand jury system no longer accurately represents the criminal justice
4. System nor does it provide for accurate indictments of individuals; now, therefore, be it
5. **RESOLVED,** By the Student Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed
6. As an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents
7. Purposes as a part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the
8. Several states within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress.

#### **ARTICLE**

9. **SECTION 1:** The phrase “grand juries” as stated in the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution
10. Of the United States shall be removed, and grand juries shall no longer be allowed to be used
11. As a manner of indictment for any criminal offense.
12. **SECTION 2:** The United States Congress shall have the power to enforce this article
13. Through appropriate legislation.

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

## **6) A Resolution to Increase Youth Activism and Political Awareness**

1. **WHEREAS**, The youth vote is becoming more and more important in elections across the
2. Country; and
3. **WHEREAS**, Younger Americans feel as if the federal government is not looking out for their
4. Beliefs and interests; now, therefore, be it
5. **RESOLVED**, By the Student Congress here assembled that a group of five individuals ages
6. 18-24 Be granted a place on the Presidential cabinet, to be chosen by the President and
7. Confirmed by the Senate; and be it
8. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That this board of individuals shall advise the President and
9. Cabinet members on issues which have specific interests and impacts on young voters.

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

## **7) A Resolution to Find Ways to Address Campaign Finance Reform**

1. **WHEREAS**, Since the Citizens United decision in 2010, many campaigns have been funded
2. By large corporations and Super-PAC's; and
3. **WHEREAS**, These large corporate contributions seek to devalue the voice of the American
4. People; and
5. **WHEREAS**, Campaign finance reform is a dire issue in the eyes of the American public and
6. Is in desperate need of reform; now, therefore, be it
7. **RESOLVED**, By the Student Congress here assembled that a task force shall be created that
8. Is outside and independent of the legislative, judicial, and executive branch to be chosen by
9. President and confirmed by the Senate to look for ways to deal, address, and propose ideas

10. and solutions to campaign financing; and be it

11. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That individuals on this task force chosen by the President must

12. Never have previously been involved in lobbying efforts or have contributed money into

13. A PAC or Super-PAC.

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

### **8) A RESOLUTION TO REEVALUATE AMERICA'S DAMS**

1. **WHEREAS**, many dams in America are outdated and ineffective and,

2. **WHEREAS**, these dams have been greatly impeding migratory fauna ability to breed

3. and proliferate and,

4. **WHEREAS**, extinction and endangerment of many species, such as salmon, are

5. imminent. Therefore be it

6. **RESOLVED**, that it is made mandatory for local governments to have to re-license the

7. dams with a local vote before January 1, 2017, and be it

8. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Army Corps of Engineers will both fund and carry out the

9. dismantling of any dams not relicensed.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rep. Beth Carroll, KHS, Maine District*

### **9) A Bill to Eliminate the Medicaid Expansion Gap**

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

2. **SECTION 1.** All states must expand their Medicaid programs to render Americans earning

3. up to 133% of the Federal Poverty Level eligible for Medicaid in accordance with the

4. provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

5. **SECTION 2.** Federal funding and grants for transportation for any state that does not

6. expand Medicaid coverage in the aforementioned manner will be reduced by 10% for each

7. year of noncompliance with this legislation.
8. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of
9. Transportation will oversee the implementation of this legislation.
10. **SECTION 4.** This law shall take effect ninety days after its passage.
11. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Sen. Caleb Eickmann, KHS, Maine District*

### **10) 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 United States,
6. which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by
7. the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its
8. 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 death
12. 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 for Congressional Debate by Sen. Caleb Eickmann, KHS, Maine District*

## **11) A Resolution to Condemn Presidential Candidates Who Exclude Silent Protesters from Campaign Events**

1. **WHEREAS**, the right of free speech is enshrined in the First Amendment as a hallmark of
2. American democracy, and
3. **WHEREAS**, the right to express one's views silently and peacefully is a concomitant part of
4. the freedom of speech, and
5. **WHEREAS**, candidates running for the Presidency of the United States should model
6. tolerance for peaceable, silent dissent at public events connected to their campaigns, and
7. **WHEREAS**, the Donald Trump campaign recently had police officers remove from a public
8. campaign event two silent dissenters who were protesting Trump's views equating Syrian
9. refugees and ISIS supporters; so, therefore, be it
10. **RESOLVED**, that the Congress here assembled condemns the Trump campaign for its
11. actions, and be it
12. **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Congress assembled strongly encourages the Trump
13. campaign as well as all other Presidential or Congressional campaigns to honor the right of
14. silent, peaceable dissent at public campaign events.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Shedd, Cape Elizabeth High School*

## **12) A Bill to Preserve the Security of the American Power Grid**

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **SECTION 1.** A sum of two billion dollars will be appropriated towards strengthening the
3. nation's power grid to minimize the damage from any source of electromagnetic pulse.
4. **SECTION 2A.** "Electromagnetic pulse" will be defined as a short burst of electromagnetic
5. energy that can arise from a variety of sources, such as lightning strikes, nuclear explosions,
6. or solar storms.
7. **SECTION 2B.** "Solar storm" will be defined as an eruption of magnetically charged



8. plasma from the sun's interior into space.
  9. **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation will be taken from the U.S. Department of Energy,
  10. which will oversee the implementation of this bill.
  11. **SECTION 4.** This law shall take effect immediately upon passage.
  12. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
- Introduced for Congressional Debate Senator Shedd, Cape Elizabeth High School*

### **13) A Bill to Scrutinize Social Media of Visa Applicants**

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **SECTION 1.** All applicants for visas traveling to the United States, or United States residents
3. traveling out of the United States, will undergo an analysis of their social media profiles in
4. order to determine whether or not they pose a risk of terrorism to the United States. Those
5. determined to pose a risk to the United States may have their visa or travel denied.
6. **SECTION 2.** Social media profiles may include, but are not limited to, postings on Facebook,
7. Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, Google+, and such foreign networks as Weibo. Analysis may
8. include, but is not limited to, such behaviors as posting anti-American sentiments,
9. associations with known terrorists, associations with terrorist groups or organizations, or
10. pictures indicating such.
11. **SECTION 3.** The Department of State will cooperate with the National Security Agency to
12. identify visa applicants or those wishing to travel out of the United States and to use stored
13. metadata to create a social media profile to determine risk. The Department of State will
14. make the final determination to approve or deny visa applications.
15. **SECTION 4.** Profiles will be compiled starting ninety days after passage.
16. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Maine District*

## **14) A Resolution to Support Private Space Companies**

1. **WHEREAS**, SpaceX has just succeeded in launching a rocket into space, delivering
2. satellites, and returning the rocket to earth; and
3. **WHEREAS**, NASA currently is not on track to develop their own reusable launch system; and
4. **WHEREAS**, a reusable launch system is key to American space independence and
5. furthering the life of the International Space Station; and
6. **WHEREAS**, private companies will be the future of American space travel; and
7. **WHEREAS**, current NASA funding will not be sufficient to build a new program; now,
8. therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled that NASA cease
9. operations on creating new reusable spacecraft and use an increased portion of its
10. budget to support private companies in the development of new launch technology.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Maine District*

## **15) A Bill to Reject the Paris Agreement**

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **SECTION 1.** All branches of the United States federal government, and departments
3. operating therein, are hereby barred from using any federal monies to comply with,
4. implement, or otherwise achieve the aims of the Paris agreement as outlined during the 2015
5. United Nations Climate Change Conference.
6. **SECTION 2.** Some of the aims of the Paris agreement include, but are not limited to,
7. limiting global warming to two degrees Celsius, and reducing carbon emissions as quickly as
8. possible.
9. **SECTION 3.** Each department and agency within the Executive Branch will be required to
10. submit a report to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology demonstrating

**11.** that they have not spent any federal monies on implementing the Paris Agreement. Failure to

**12.** comply will be considered contempt of Congress.

**13. SECTION 4.** This will take effect on passage. The first reports shall be due on July 1, 2016.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Maine District*