

Congress Docket
Thornton Academy
January 7, 2017

1) A Bill to End the Excessive Militarization of Local Police

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** All federal programs and grants that assist local police in obtaining
2. automatic or semi-automatic weapons or APCs shall hereby be prevented from doing
3. so; this bill will not apply to local SWAT teams.
4. **SECTION 2.** Federal programs and grants that assist local police in obtaining
5. automatic or semi-automatic weapons or APCs include but are not limited to the
6. 1033 program and the Department of Justice's Byrne JAG Program. APCs are
7. defined as Armored Personal Carriers.
8. SWAT teams shall be defined as a group of elite police marksmen who specialize in
9. high risk tasks.
10. Local police forces shall be defined as municipal, county, tribal, and regional police
11. forces that derive authority from the local governing body that created them.
12. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice, the Department of Defense, and the
13. Department of Homeland Security shall collaborate in implementing, enforcing, and
14. abiding by this legislation.
15. Federal agencies that do not comply with this legislation shall lose 50% of their
16. federal funding.
17. **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 31, 2017.
18. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Sydney McDonald, Bangor High School

2) A BILL TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN AID TO YEMEN

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1. SECTION 1.** The United States federal government shall provide 500 million dollars
- annually for a period of five years in humanitarian support directly to the
- people of Yemen.
- 4. SECTION 2.** Humanitarian aid shall be defined as the construction of rudimentary surface
- transportation systems, well drilling and the construction of basic sanitation
- facilities, medical assistance and the construction and repair of public facilities.
- 7. SECTION 3.** USAID shall oversee the implementation of this piece of legislation.
- 8. SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately.
- 9. SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Sen. Sydney McDonald, Bangor High School

3) A Resolution to Establish an Embassy in Iran

- 1. WHEREAS,** The United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran have not had official foreign
- relations since 1980; and
- 3. WHEREAS,** The lack of cooperation with Iran has contributed to the quagmire in the
- Middle East; and
- 5. WHEREAS,** An embassy would allow better and more meaningful relations with Iran; and
- 6. WHEREAS,** An embassy would play a large part in protecting U.S. citizens and U.S. NGOs
- in Iran; now, therefore, be it
- 8. RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the recommendation to the
- Department of State to enter negotiations to establish an embassy in Tehran and to extend an
- invitation to Iran to establish an embassy in Washington, D.C.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Sen. Sydney McDonald, Bangor High School

4) A BILL TO BAN TURNPIKES ACROSS THE U.S.

- 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
- 2. SECTION 1:** Turnpikes are hereby outlawed in the 50 United States and existing territories.
- 3. SECTION 1A:** “Turnpike” shall be defined as a barrier set across such a highway to stop
4. passage until a toll has been paid.
- 5. SECTION 2:** Any state that does not comply shall lose all federal funding.
- 6. SECTION 3:** The Department of Transportation shall oversee this piece of legislation.
- 7. SECTION 4:** This piece of legislation shall be made effective on January 31, 2017.
- 8. SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by ELHS, Maine District

5) A Resolution to Provide Paid Family Leave

- 1. WHEREAS,** The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 does not cover many American
2. families;
- 3. WHEREAS,** Which shrinks our nation’s economy as well as worker’s incomes;
- 4. WHEREAS,** The United States is the only industrialized nation in the world that doesn’t
5. have paid leave;
- 6. RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled look for ways to provide paid family and
7. medical leave.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Baldacci, Bangor High School

6) Venezuelan Human Rights and Democracy Protection Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1. SECTION 1.** The President of the United States shall impose asset blocking sanctions and
2. the Secretary of Homeland Security shall impose U.S. exclusion sanctions against any
3. person, including a current or former official of the government of Venezuela or a person

4. acting on behalf of such government, who has perpetrated or is responsible for assisting or
5. directing acts of violence or human rights abuses against individuals.
6. **SECTION 2.** The Departments of State and Homeland Security will oversee the
7. enforcement of this bill.
8. **SECTION 3.** The President and the Department of Homeland Security will compile and
9. send a list of the Venezuelans who have been sanctioned to Congress within six months of
10. this legislation passing.
11. **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect on January 31, 2017.
12. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted by Senator Baldacci, Bangor High School

7) A Resolution to NOT Build a Wall Along the Mexico/United States Border

1. **WHEREAS**, President-elect has stated numerous times that he's going to commission a solid
2. concrete wall along the Mexico/United States border, to try to prevent illegal immigrants
3. from entering; and
4. **WHEREAS**, Most illegal immigrants come over to the U.S and over stay their visas and
5. many do not “border jump”; and
6. **WHEREAS**, The land, environment, and the people's property around the area of the
7. planned construction of the wall will be massively effected; therefore it be
8. **RESOLVED**, by the Congress assembled here today, to halt an unnecessary and costly
9. construction of a wall along the Mexico/United States border, and seek a much more cost
10. effective ways of immigration control.

Introduced by Marcus Spear, Deering High School, Maine District

8) A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Abolish the Electoral College

1. **WHEREAS**, The Electoral College allows a President to be elected without a majority of
2. Voters; and
3. **WHEREAS**, The Electoral College allows electors to disregard the will of the people; and
4. **WHEREAS**, A democracy should be based off of the will of the majority; now, therefore, be
5. It
6. **RESOLVED**, that by a vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ of these Houses and $\frac{3}{4}$ of the State Legislatures that the
7. Following amendment be added the to the Constitution:

AMENDMENT XXVIII

8. **SECTION 1:** The Electoral College is hereby abolished.
9. **SECTION 2:** On a date designated by Congress, voters shall vote for the President and Vice
10. President on a singular ballot.
11. **SECTION 3:** The winner of the election will be the one who receives the most amount of
12. Votes.
13. **SECTION 4:** The Department of Justice shall establish voter eligibility and voting
14. Procedures which must be implemented in all states.
15. **SECTION 5:** Congress shall have the right to enforce this amendment with appropriate
16. Legislation.
17. **SECTION 6:** All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

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

9) The Military Accountability Act of 2017

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1. SECTION 1:** Private military contractors (PMCs) shall no longer be utilized by the
2. US Department of Defense.
- 3. SECTION 2:** Private Military Contractors (PMCs) shall be defined as companies that engage
4. In armed security services. These armed security services include but are not limited to
5. Combat missions, provisions of protective services, security advice and planning, prison
6. Administration, interrogation, and intelligence gathering.
- 7. SECTION 3:** The Congressional Armed Services Committee in conjunction with the US
8. Department of Defense shall oversee implementation of this bill.
- 9. SECTION 3A:** The Armed Services Committee shall cut any funding to the Department of
10. Defense that was taken up by PMCs.
- 11. SECTION 4:** This bill will go into effect January 31, 2017.
- 12. SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

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

10) A Bill to Fight Fraudulent Fishing

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1. Section 1.** The United States Government shall allocate 500 million dollars to address
2. seafood mislabeling and the importation of illegally caught fish.
- 3. Section 2A.** The money shall go towards an increase in inspectors on staff for the NOAA.
- 4. SECTION 2B.** It shall also go to initiating rule makings as needed to make seafood in
5. American markets verifiably legal and safe.
- 6. SECTION 2C.** “Seafood” is defined as any form of sea life regarded as food by humans.
- 7. SECTION 2D.** “Mislabeling” shall be defined as labeling wrongly, incorrectly, or

8. misleadingly.
9. **Section 3.** The EPA, NOAA, and the Department of Commerce shall oversee the execution
10. of this legislation.
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 by Senator Shedd, Cape Elizabeth HS, Maine District

11) A Resolution to Enforce Taxation on Churches

1. **WHEREAS**, Churches that file as religious organizations are exempted from all taxes; and
2. **WHEREAS**, Churches own \$300 to \$500 billion in untaxed property that costs state and
3. federal governments millions each; and
4. **WHEREAS**, The Constitution sets a clear precedent for separation of church and state and
5. no guidelines for what qualifies as a religion; now, therefore, be it
6. **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation that
7. all churches and religious organizations should be taxed according to the property that they
8. own.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Shedd, Cape Elizabeth HS, Maine District

12) A Resolution to Implement a Safe Zone in Syria

1. **WHEREAS**, The conflict between parties in the Syrian Civil War has caused the destruction
2. Of lives; and
3. **WHEREAS**, Currents policies by the United States have only escalated the current crisis
4. Ongoing with Bashar Al-Assad, the Islamic State, and the Syrian refugees; now, therefore, be
5. It **RESOLVED**, By the Student Congress here assembled that the President of the United
6. States, granted authorization by Congress, establishes a safe zone and no-fly zone in
7. Northern Syria; And be it
8. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the US Department of State, in conjunction with USAID

9. shall provide 100% of the funds necessary to create this safe zone, and the United States shall
10. also send in 10,000 troops, with the addition of 10,000 troops from NATO to enforce this
11. safe zone.

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

13) A RESOLUTION TO ABOLISH THE TSA

1. **WHEREAS**, the current budget of the Transportation Security Agency is extremely costly and,
2. **WHEREAS**, the TSA has never actually stopped or prevented a terrorist attack and,
3. **WHEREAS**, security screenings and checkpoints seem to consume a majority of the time of
4. travelers; Therefore be it
5. **RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled work to discontinue funds given to the
6. Department of Homeland Security to foster the TSA (FY16: \$7.3 billion) and reallocate these
7. funds to more time efficient and cost effective methods to stop and prevent terrorist attacks via
8. aircraft.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by ELHS, Maine District

14) 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 children;
4. now, therefore, be it
5. **RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled, that legislation shall be enacted to increase
6. funding to the Head Start Program as a portion of the budget of the Department of the
7. Education, also reapportioning funds from other federal departments for the Head Start
8. Program if necessary.

Introduced by Senator Eickmann, KHS