

**Congress Docket – State Championships
Bangor High School
January 27, 2018**

1) A Bill to Adjust New England Time Zones

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1:** New England will leave the Eastern time zone and move into the Atlantic
2. time zone.
3. **SECTION 2:** New England shall be defined as Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.
4. **SECTION 3:** Both the Daylight savings time act of 1918 and the standard time act of
5. 1918 are hereby repealed.
6. **SECTION 4:** New England shall take up Atlantic time year round
7. **SECTION 5:** The National Institute of Standards and Technology and the states of
8. Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire shall oversee this piece of legislation.
9. **SECTION 6:** This legislation will take effect on March 11th, 2018.
10. **SECTION 7:** All laws against this bill are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Brunswick High School, Maine District

2) A Bill to Fund CHIP

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **SECTION 1:** The Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) shall hereby be renewed and
3. funded through 2022
4. **SECTION 2:** The renewable of CHIP shall be funded by the following:
5. **SECTION 3A:** Cutting \$6.3 billion from the Prevention and Public Health Trust Fund [over
6. 5 years].
7. **SECTION 3B:** Increasing the amount of Medicare beneficiaries pay on premiums by 35%

8. [over 5 years].
9. **SECTION 3:** The Department of Health and Human Services shall oversee the
10. implementation of this legislation.
11. **SECTION 4:** This legislation shall go into effect on July 4, 2018.
12. **SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by ELHS, Maine District

3) A Bill to Abandon the “One China Policy”

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. **SECTION 1:** The State Department is hereby ordered to re-establish diplomatic relations
3. with the Republic of China henceforth be known as Taiwan.
4. **SECTION 2:** The U.S. Embassy shall be erected in Taipei with a construction budget of \$1
5. million USD.
6. **SECTION 3:** U.S. Military personnel shall be stationed in Taipei to supervise the transition.
7. **SECTION 4:** The Department of Defense and State Department shall oversee this piece of
8. legislation
9. **SECTION 5:** This legislation shall be made effective January 28, 2018.
10. **SECTION 6:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by NSDA and ELHS, Maine District

4) A Resolution to Recognize Catalonia

1. **WHEREAS,** Catalonia has long considered itself a nation within a hostile state and,
2. **WHEREAS,** the history of its self-government has been repeatedly disrupted through acts of
3. war and dictatorships imposed by Central Spain and,
4. **WHEREAS,** the United States has enormous leverage in the situation between Spain and an

5. emerging Catalonia and,
6. **WHEREAS**, in October 2017, Catalans passed a referendum for Catalonia to become an
7. independent state in the form of a republic now; Therefore be it
8. **RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled work to recognize Catalonia as independent
9. from Spain.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by NSDA and ELHS, Maine District

5) A Resolution to Allow Foreigners to Run for President and Vice President

1. **WHEREAS**, Immigrants have been productive members of our nation and,
2. **WHEREAS**, people who are not native to this country are barred from running for President
3. and Vice President; now, therefore be it
4. **RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed as an
5. amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and
6. purposes as a part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the
7. states within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress.

ARTICLE

8. **SECTION 1:** The phrase “natural born citizen” as stated in Article II, Section I of the
9. Constitution of the United States shall be replaced with “naturalized citizen”
10. **SECTION 2:** The United States Congress shall have the power to enforce this article
11. through appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by ELHS, Maine District

6) 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
5. doesn't 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 HS, Maine District

7) A Resolution to Make Elections Fairer

1. **WHEREAS**, The *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* Supreme Court case
2. allows Super PACS and other outside groups to spend an unlimited amount of money in
3. elections; and
4. **WHEREAS**, This case has given the wealthy the power to have more influence in
5. elections than regular Americans; and
6. **WHEREAS**, Elections in our country should be determined by votes and not dollars;
7. now, therefore, be it
8. **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled find ways to overturn the *Citizens*
9. *United* case.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Baldacci, Bangor HS, Maine District

8) A Bill to Discourage the Oppression of the Rohingya Minority

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** The United States shall impose economic and political sanctions
3. and halt all foreign aid to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar until the
4. oppression of Rohingya people ends.
5. **SECTION 2.** The sanctions shall include the freezing of all assets held by the
6. government of Myanmar.
7. **SECTION 3.** The Department of State will be responsible for the implementation of the bill.
 - A. Sanctions shall be lifted and aid shall be resumed once the Rohingya people are granted citizenship with all associated rights.
 - B. If lifted, sanctions will be re-implemented in the case that the oppression of the Rohingya resurfaces.
8. **SECTION 4.** The bill shall be implemented upon the passage of this legislation.
9. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Baldacci, Bangor HS, Maine District

9) A Bill to Amend the National Minimum Drinking Age Act of 1984

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** States shall allow the purchase or public possession of alcoholic beverages as
2. low as the age of 18.
3. **SECTION 2.** States may maintain a higher drinking age.
4. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Transportation will oversee the implementation of this bill.
5. The Department of Transportation shall withhold funds if the state is not in compliance.
6. **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect 180 days after passage.
7. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Representative Kieswetter, Falmouth High School

10) A Resolution Regarding Oil Subsidies

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **WHEREAS**, the United States reliance on fossil fuels will become more problematic as
3. current reserves become depleted, and,
4. **WHEREAS**, the development of electric cars presents an opportunity to decrease
5. reliance on fossil fuels, and,
6. **WHEREAS**, the fossil fuel industries within the United States currently receive
7. substantial subsidies from the United States government, and,
8. **WHEREAS**, the United States must continue to promote environmentally sustainable
9. innovation, therefore, be it
10. **RESOLVED**, by the congress here assembled that 50% of the subsidies currently granted
11. to the fossil fuel industry to the electric car producing divisions of automobile
12. manufacturers by the year 2020.

Respectfully Submitted by Cole Cerabona, Kennebunk HS, Maine District

11) A Bill to Remove The United States Embassy from Cuba

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** The United States embassy hereby will be removed from Havana, Cuba.
2. **SECTION 2.** Removal entails the full evacuation of all diplomatic personnel and property.
3. **SECTION 3.** The Department of State shall oversee the execution of this bill.
 - A. Any information or property not containing or associated with sensitive information shall be donated to charity in the United States.
4. **SECTION 4.** This action will go into effect three months after this bill goes into effect.
5. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Janosick, Falmouth High School

12) A Bill to Implement a Carbon Tax

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** There shall hereby be a fee applied to each tonne of carbon emitted.
2. **SECTION 2.** Carbon shall be defined as carbon dioxide gas that is released into the
3. atmosphere as a result of fossil fuel burning. Emit shall be defined as releasing this carbon
4. dioxide gas into the atmosphere. These emissions will be measured in metric tons, or tonnes.
5. **SECTION 3.** There is hereby a fee of \$5.00 applied to each ton of carbon emitted. This fee
6. will be paid by the emitter of the carbon, whether this be a citizen or a corporation.
 - A. A citizen shall only be required to pay this tax if they as an individual make more than \$82,501.
 - B. When filing jointly for taxes as a married couple, citizens will only be required to pay this tax if they collectively make \$165,001.
7. **SECTION 4.** The Internal Revenue Service and the Environmental Protection Agency will
8. oversee the enforcement of this bill. A new section shall be added to tax forms for citizens to
9. calculate their emissions and calculate the tax they must pay. Corporations shall also be
10. subject to this tax, and they shall pay it in the same manner as citizens.
11. **SECTION 5.** This bill shall be implemented at the beginning of FY 2020.
12. **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced by Mount Desert Island High School

13) The Immigration Reform Act of 2018

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1:** A law enforcement agency or law enforcement official shall no longer detain,
2. Continue to detain, arrest, or search any individual solely on the basis of an individual's
3. Citizenship status or an individual's immigration status, or an immigration detainer or a

4. Non-judicial immigration warrant.
5. **SECTION 1A:** 500 million dollars shall be allocated in the next fiscal year to modernize and
6. Update immigration courts.
7. **SECTION 2:** “Law enforcement agency” shall be defined as an agency of the federal, state,
8. or local unit of government charged with enforcing State, county, or municipal laws and
9. managing custody of detained individuals in the State.
10. **SECTION 2A:** “Law enforcement official” is defined as any individual charged with the
11. Power to arrest or detain individuals, including law enforcement officers, county corrections
12. Officers, and others employed or designated by a law enforcement agency.
13. **SECTION 2B:** “Immigration detainer” shall be defined as a document issued by an
14. Immigration agent that is not approved or ordered by a judge and requests a law enforcement
15. Agency or law enforcement official to provide notice of release or maintain custody of a
16. Person.
17. **SECTION 2C:** “Non-judicial immigration warrant” is defined as any immigration warrant
18. that is not approved or ordered by a judge.
19. **SECTION 2D:** “Immigration courts” shall be defined as an administrative court that
20. oversees removal and deportation proceedings.
21. **SECTION 3:** The Department of Justice will oversee the implementation of this legislation.
22. **SECTION 4:** This legislation will go into effect in the next fiscal year.
23. **SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Ibrahim Chand, SHS, Maine District

14) A Bill to Impose Sanctions on the Philippines

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1:** The United States of America shall immediately impose economic sanctions on

2. The Philippines, and will eliminate all military aid given to the country.
3. **SECTION 2:** “Economic sanctions” shall be defined as the blockade of the importation or
4. Exportation of consumer products.
5. **SECTION 3:** The Department of State shall oversee the implementation of this legislation,
6. **SECTION 3A:** Sanctions may only be removed through a two-thirds vote in both houses of
7. Congress if the following terms have been met: Representatives of the Philippines have
8. Delivered to the President of the United States a plan for future improvement in protecting
9. Human rights, and Amnesty International and/or Human Rights Watch report that the
10. Philippines has made significant improvement in its human rights record.
11. **SECTION 4:** This legislation shall go into effect immediately.
12. **SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Seth Delisle, SHS, Maine District

15) The Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2018

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1A:** Any person who is not prohibited by federal law from possessing,
2. transporting, shipping, or receiving a firearm, who is carrying a valid identification document
3. containing a photograph of the person, and who is carrying a valid license or permit which
4. allows the person to carry a concealed firearm in the State which the person resides, may
5. possess or carry a concealed handgun in all fifty States.
6. **SECTION 1B:** A person may not be arrested or detained in relation to the concealed carry of
7. a handgun so long as the conditions outlined in Section 1A have been fulfilled. A person may
8. be arrested or detained if conditions outlined in Section 1A have not been fulfilled or if any
9. other crime has been committed.
10. **SECTION 2:** A person who is legally concealing a handgun may carry on all public lands,

11. including post-secondary educational institutions which receive federal funding.
12. **SECTION 3:** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms shall oversee this legislation.
13. **SECTION 4:** This bill shall take effect 120 days after the date of passage.
14. **SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Scarborough High School, Maine District

16) A Bill to Modify Russian Sanctions

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1:** Prior to lifting, reducing, or providing relief on sanctions with respect to the
2. Russian Federation, the President of the United States must submit a report to the appropriate
3. Subcommittees that explains the proposed actions, while certifying that the Russian Federation
4. Has ceased all territorial claims in Ukraine, and has ended all cyberattacks against either
5. citizens or the government of the United States.
6. **SECTION 2:** After the report has been submitted, the House of Representatives and the
7. Senate have three months following the date of submission to hold hearings on the report, and
8. must vote on a Resolution of Approval.
9. **SECTION 2A:** If the Resolution of Approval is passed by both the House and Senate, the
10. President may take actions outlined in the report with respect to Russian sanctions.
11. **SECTION 2B:** If the Resolution of Approval fails in either the House or Senate, the
12. President may not act on sanctions for 90 days, in which the President must submit another
13. report.
14. **SECTION 2C:** The President may not act on sanctions during the three month period where
15. Congress is reviewing the report.
16. **SECTION 3:** Responsibility of enforcement of this legislation shall be delegated to the
17. appropriate subcommittees which the President submits the report to.

18. SECTION 4: This legislation shall go into effect immediately.

19. SECTION 5: All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Seth Delisle, SHS, Maine District

17) The Prison Reform Act of 2018

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1. SECTION 1:** Private prisons are hereby banned. The privatization of prisons by both the
- 2.** Takeover of existing public facilities as well as the building and operation of new prisons by
- 3.** For-profit companies is also banned.
- 4. SECTION 2:** “Private prisons” shall be defined as places in which individuals are physically
- 5.** Incarcerated or confined by a third party contracted by a government agency.
- 6. SECTION 3:** The Department of Justice and Bureau of Prisons shall oversee this legislation.
- 7. SECTION 3A:** The Bureau of Prisons will immediately halt current and future construction
- 8.** Projects of private prisons on the state and federal level and will cancel the contracts given to
- 9.** Third party companies for the construction, maintenance, and operation of these prisons.
- 10. SECTION 3B:** The Bureau of Prisons must also mandate that all private prisons be moved
- 11.** From private to public facilities by January 1, 2020. If this is found to have a negative impact on
- 12.** prison overcrowding, the federal and state governments will either assume control of current private
- 13.** facilities, or must complete construction of new public prisons by January 1, 2022.
- 14. SECTION 4:** This bill shall go into effect immediately.
- 15. SECTION 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Scarborough High School, Maine District

18) A Resolution 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 costly and ineffective; therefore, be

4. it **RESOLVED**, by two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is
5. proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to
6. all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-
7. fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission by the
8. Congress:
9. **SECTION 1A.** Capital punishment shall be abolished throughout the United States, and
10. neither the states nor the federal government shall practice 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 amendment
14. through appropriate legislation.

Respectfully submitted by Rep. Eickmann, Kennebunk HS, Maine District

19) A Resolution to Protect Low-Income Children

1. **WHEREAS**, the current Head Start Program has proven unsuccessful; and
2. **WHEREAS**, funding to the Head Start Program is relatively low; and
3. **WHEREAS**, affordable preschool is necessary for the wellbeing of impoverished families
4. and their children; 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 to the Head Start
8. Program if necessary.

Respectfully submitted by Rep. Eickmann, Kennebunk HS, Maine District

A Bill to Repeal Blue Laws

Whereas, bills shouldn't be passed with religious institutions and concepts in mind, and

Whereas, these bills have proved to be too old fashioned

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** The following bills shall be repealed:
 - a. (Title 17, Chapter 105, Subchapter 1: §3205,)
 - b. (Title 17 Chapter 105, Subchapter 1: §3207)
 - c. (Title 17: Chapter 105: Subchapter 1: §3203.)
 - d. (Title 28-A: Part 1: Chapter 1: §4)
2. in Maine Revised Statutes
3. **SECTION 2.** Blue laws being defined as bills that were passed to discourage activities on
4. days that are considered holy by a religion, like those stated up above
5. **SECTION 3.** Legislation will oversee the repealing of this bill.
6. **SECTION 4.** At the passing of the bill
7. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted by Lincoln Academy, Maine District

A Resolution to Abolish the Death Tax

WHEREAS, the "Death Tax" has been identified as destructive to job opportunity and expansion, especially to family farmers and minority entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, the "Death Tax" causes severe hardship to growing family businesses and family farming operations often to the point of partial or complete forced liquidation thereby depriving state and local Governments of an important ongoing source of revenue.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** Congress of the United States permanently repeal the Federal Unified Gift and
2. Estate Tax effective immediately.
3. **SECTION 2.** Unified Tax Credit being defined as a tax credit that is afforded to every man,
4. woman and child in America by the IRS. This credit allows each person to gift a certain
5. amount of their assets to other parties without having to pay gift, estate or generation-
6. skipping transfer taxes.
7. **SECTION 3.** Tax and Fiscal Policy will oversee the passing of this legislation
8. **SECTION 4.** At the passing of this legislation
9. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted by Lincoln Academy, Maine District

Resolution on Criminal Justice Fines and Fees

WHEREAS, excessive criminal justice financial obligations can contribute to unnecessary incarceration, and

WHEREAS, excessive reliance on overly punitive fines and fees can encourage law enforcement and corrections decisions to be made on grounds other than public safety, while undermining public confidence in the integrity of the criminal justice system.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** It Resolved that when imposing bail the offender's ability to pay should be
2. taken into account as one factor and arrangements such as discharging financial obligations
3. through payment plans and community service should be offered; and that all jurisdictions
4. should be fully transparent when it comes to the types and amounts of fines and fees they
5. impose, the mechanisms used and costs involved in collections, and how the money collected
6. is spent and percentage of the municipal budget; and therefore, that failure to pay a financial

7. obligation should not be grounds for revoking a person's probation or parole if the person
8. lacks sufficient earnings and assets to make such payments.
9. **SECTION 2.** Bail being defined as imposing fines and fees
10. **SECTION 3.** The Criminal Justice Reform will oversee the passing of this legislation
11. January 1, 2019.
12. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted by Lincoln Academy, Maine District

A Bill to Abolish Plea Bargaining in a Court of Law

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** Plea bargaining by a defendant in a court of law is hereby abolished.
2. **SECTION 2.** "Plea bargaining" shall be defined as any agreement in a criminal case
3. between a prosecutor and defendant in which the defendant agrees to plead guilty to a
4. particular charge in return for some concession from the prosecutor.
5. **SECTION 3.** Any defendant that admits to a federal offense in a court of law shall receive
6. nothing less than the full sentence given by a judge.
7. **SECTION 4.** The Department of Justice shall oversee the enforcement of this legislation.
8. **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall go into effect on February 1st, 2018.
9. **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted by Lincoln Academy, Maine District