

# THE PENNSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH LEAGUE

BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY

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BLOOMSBURG, PA 17815

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## 2019 STUDENT CONGRESS HOUSE BILLS

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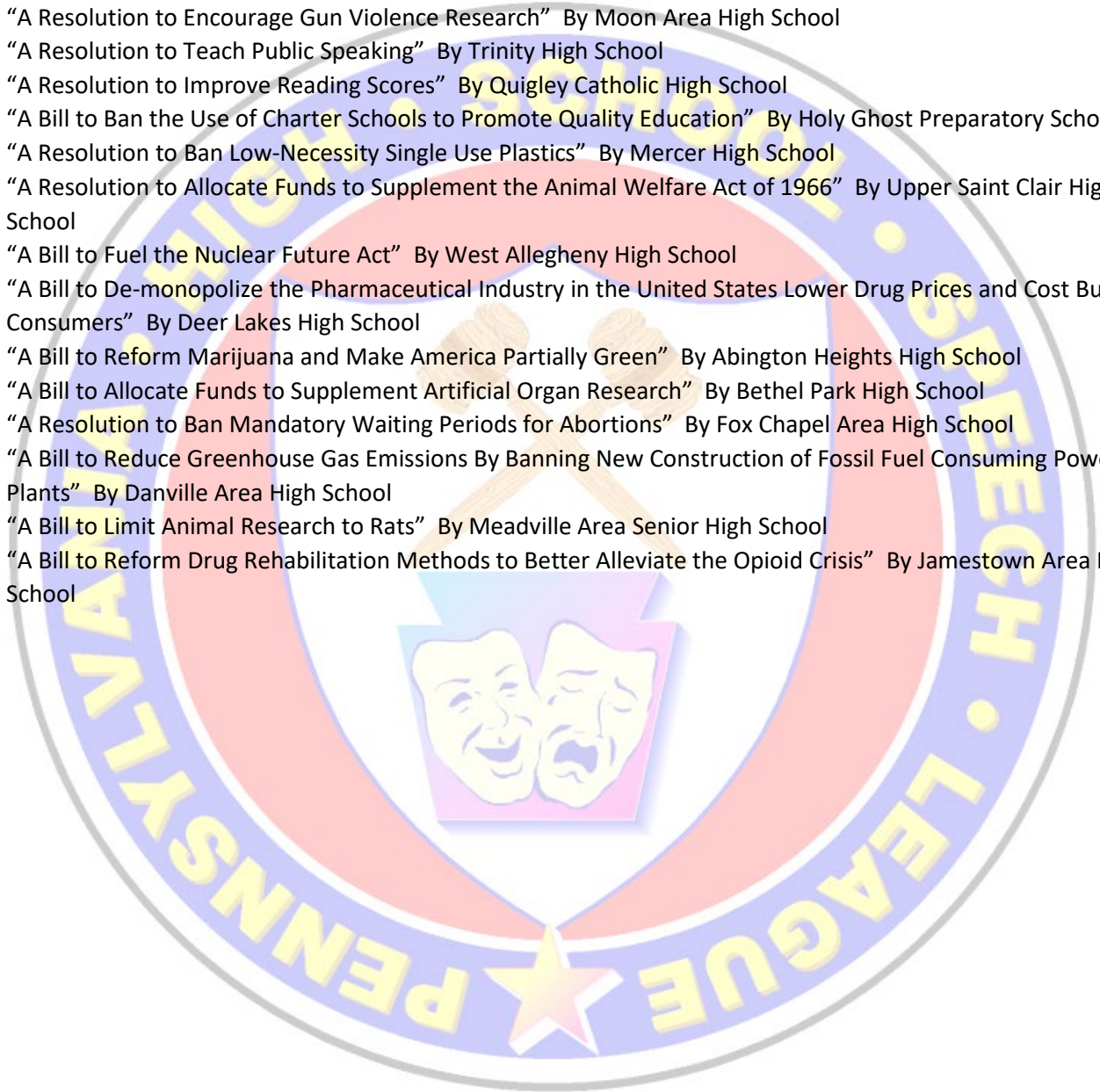
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COMMONWEALTH  
HOUSE

**A Resolution to Encourage Workforce Development for Non-Violent  
Criminals**

- 1 WHEREAS, Around 650,000 people are released from prison each year, in addition to  
2 11,000,000 people who cycle through jails each year.
- 3 WHEREAS, Unemployment is high among formerly incarcerated individuals.
- 4 WHEREAS, Recidivism is also very high among formerly incarcerated individuals.
- 5 WHEREAS, Economic hardships for formerly incarcerated individuals are a  
6 contributing factor to recidivism.
- 7 WHEREAS, A nonviolent criminal will be defined as a person whose crime(s) have not  
8 harmed another individual. Examples include but are not limited to:  
9 financial crimes, petty theft, possession of narcotics and other drugs, etc.
- 10 RESOLVED, Nonviolent criminals should be permitted to work at consenting businesses  
11 to get job training and money to ease their reinsertion into society.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Lakeview High School*

A BILL TO FUND KURDISH REBEL GROUPS  
TO IMPROVE HUMAN RIGHTS IN TURKEY

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** The United States of America will reallocate all current Turkish aid to
2. various Kurdish rebel groups in Turkey in order to promote and foster
3. democratic ideals and the expansion of civil rights. All the aid
4. budgeted for the 2018 fiscal year will be automatically renewed through
5. the 2021 fiscal year to aid the Kurdish forces. Aid may be spent on
6. humanitarian, military, and other democratic purposes.
7. **SECTION 2.** A. All Turkish current aid shall be defined as all aid going directly to the
8. Turkish government for a fiscal year.
9. B. Kurdish rebel groups shall be defined as groups that support the civil
10. rights of the Turkish people, regardless of ethnicity or gender. The
11. organization's activity must support democratic ideals. Groups may
12. include but are not limited to the Kurdish Workers Party, the
13. Peoples' Democratic Party, and the People's Protection Unit.
14. **SECTION 3.** This bill will be enforced by the Department of State and USAID. The
15. Department of State may choose to which groups the aid shall be merited,
16. based on cooperation with the United States.
17. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately after passage.
18. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Southern Lehigh High School*

# **A Bill to Discontinue Use of Capital Punishment in Federal Prisons**

In The Pennsylvania High School Speech League

by

Notre Dame High School

1. Be it enacted by the Pennsylvania High School Speech League Congress here assembled that
2. **SECTION 1.** Whereas, Capital Punishment, or the application of the death penalty, shall be discontinued in use from federal prisons in the United States of America because it is contrary to the protections afforded citizens from excessive and unusual punishment pursuant to the 8th amendment.
3. **SECTION 2.** Capital Punishment is the legally authorized killing of a person as punishment for a crime. These crimes include some of the following but not limited to: capital murder, the 41 federal crimes, treason, ex...
4. Capital murder is murder that it involves special circumstances, such as killing a police officer or firefighter while on duty, or committing a crime while committing another serious felony like rape or kidnapping. Federal prisons are prison facilities run by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP). Prisoners housed in these facilities are under the legal authority of the federal government. This excludes private facilities under exclusive contract with BOP.
5. **SECTION 3.** This bill shall be enforced by the Department of Justice.
6. **SECTION 4.** Implementation of this bill it will begin January 1 of the new year
7. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

**A RESOLUTION TO HALT NSA DOMESTIC SURVEILLANCE**

**WHEREAS,** The National Security Agency (NSA) currently implements widespread  
2 surveillance programs that infringe upon the rights of American citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** The NSA collects data about American citizens' telephone calls, text messages,  
3 and internet data without warrant or consent, infringing upon Americans'  
4 constitutional protection against unreasonable search; and

**WHEREAS,** NSA surveillance programs undermine both the intentions of the 1978 Foreign  
6 Intelligence Surveillance act and the privacy of United States citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** The NSA is able to gather records of individuals who are neither the target of any  
8 investigation nor an agent of a foreign power, constituting an overreach of power ;  
9 now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled make the following recommendation  
11 that the NSA halt surveillance programs that record data on American citizens;  
12 and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled repeal Section 215 of the  
14 United States Patriot Act  
15

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Rep. Giri Viswanathan*

*Shady Side Academy*

## **A Resolution to End Bail**

Whereas the US imprisons people at a higher rate than any other country in the world;

Whereas people who commit crimes should never have to sit behind bars because they cannot afford to pay while others who commit the same crime are allowed to be free until their trial because they can afford it;

Whereas in America, we are innocent until we are proved to be guilty;

Whereas according to the ACLU, poor people, people of color, and people with certain disabilities are disproportionately affected by the unfairness of bail;

Whereas according to the Quattrone Center for Fair Administration of Justice,

“Defendants who can’t make bail are more likely to be convicted and less likely to receive favorable plea deals. Those detained before trial committed more crimes after their release than similar defendants who paid bail and left”;

Whereas multiple studies have shown that billions would be saved in tax money and crime rates would actually decrease if bail for small offenses were simply eliminated; and

Whereas one of the purposes of bail is to guarantee that those accused of a crime will show up for a later court date. Cases show that even for those who have had their bail paid for them and would have no loss of money, 95-98% of defendants show up for court; now

Therefore, be it resolved by this PHSSL Congress assembled that bail for non-violent offenses be ended immediately.

Respectfully submitted

North Allegheny





**A BILL TO PROHIBIT INTERVENTION OF THE UNITED STATES IN FOREIGN  
COUNTRIES**

In The

Pennsylvania High School Speech League

by

E. L. Meyers High School

1 BE ENACTED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH LEAGUE

2 STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

3 **Section 1.** The sovereignty of the United States of America, free country and independent  
4 of all foreign power, is inviolable, and the principle of non-intervention is an invariable  
5 norm of the American international politics.

6 **Section 2.** The United States of America will agree to respect the sovereignty of all foreign  
7 countries.

8 **Section 3.** "Intervention" shall be defined as the interference with the government of a  
9 foreign nation.

10 **Section 4.** This bill will be enforced by the United States Department of Justice and United  
11 States Department of Defense.

12 **Section 5.** Without prejudice to the provisions of this law:

13 1) Any intervention, sanction or other decisions that the government has made before  
14 the issuance of this law will not be affected by it.

15 2) The United States shall only intervene in those nations whose own sovereignty is  
16 threatened.

17 **Section 6.** This bill will be in force immediately upon passage.

**A Bill to Mandate the Elimination of Solitary Confinement in Public and Private Federal Prisons**

In the

Pennsylvania High School Speech League

by

Academy at Palumbo

1. Be it enacted by the Pennsylvania High School Speech League Student Congress assembled that
2. Section 1. The inhumane use of Solitary Confinement programs in all Federal prisons, whether operated by the Federal government or private corporations, shall be discontinued.
3. Section 2. Solitary Confinement is any form of imprisonment distinguished by living in single cells with little or no contact to other inmates.
4. Section 3. This Bill will be enforced by the Federal Bureau of Prisons.
  - a. Companies with prison contracts that are found to be using solitary confinement after the indicated date will be fined \$500,000.00 and will lose their federal contracts in perpetuity.
  - b. Employees of government-run prisons who are found to be aiding in the use of solitary confinement after the indicated date will face immediate termination, a fine of \$10,000.00 and/or 6-12 months imprisonment.
  - c. Surprise spot checks will occur at least once a year and an anonymous tip line will be set up for witnesses to report the use of solitary confinement.
  - d. Monies for monitoring will be transferred from funds originally used for maintaining and staffing solitary confinement units.
5. Section 4. This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020.
6. Section 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

**A RESOLUTION TO RETHINK OUR STANCE ON EGYPT**  
In The  
Pennsylvania High School Speech League  
By McDowell High School

1           Whereas, the Sisi regime came to power in a military coup in Egypt; and

2           Whereas, The Sisi regime currently detains 60,000 political prisoners; and

3           Whereas, The U.S. gives Egypt \$1.3 billion in annual military aid that  
4 ineffective at both furthering human rights progress and combating threats faces in  
5 the Sinai Peninsula by terror groups; and

6           Whereas, U.S. aid to Egypt is based on decades old assumptions that are no  
7 longer relevant, therefore,

8 BE it resolved by the PA High School Student Congress assembled that the U.S.  
9 government will conduct a thorough review of military aid to Egypt so that aid  
10 reflects U.S. priorities on: human rights, counter-terrorism, and respect for the  
11 democratic process

## **A Bill to Better Enforce Trespassing Laws to Prevent Trespassing**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** All owners of private property will be required to place sufficient signs labeling the property as private.

**SECTION 2.** A sufficient sign shall be defined as any piece of material that is durable, fully intact, having legible writing, and being visible from 150 yards away.

**SECTION 3.** The Pennsylvania General Assembly shall oversee the implementation and execution of this piece of legislature.

- A. A representative of the Pennsylvania General Assembly shall visit owners of private land within a designated area per representative monthly, and will examine the sign(s) both on account of intactness and visibility.
- B. The repercussions of any such violation shall fall under jurisdiction of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania General Assembly.
- C. There shall be new penalties put in place in the case of the duties of the owner of such private property are violated.
  - a. For any such disputes regarding trespassing, if the owner of the sign is deemed to have an insufficient sign, said owner shall be fined \$300 for each occurrence.
  - b. For each failed monthly examination the owner of such property shall be fined \$150.
  - c. After three violation the owner of the property can receive repercussions ranging from \$1000 fines to the enforcement of eminent domain by the federal government.
- D. The Pennsylvania General Assembly shall receive in annual funding to carry out the contents of this legislation.

**SECTION 4.** This piece of legislation shall go into effect at the start of the 2020 fiscal year.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Knoch High School*

## **A Resolution to Review Future Drone Strikes to Increase Accountability and Effectiveness**

1 **WHEREAS,** Drone strikes can occur with little rationale in a largely secretive process  
2 and harm US influence in international regions; and

3 **WHEREAS,** hundreds of civilians are killed by US drones every year often outside war  
4 zones and against international law; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Numerous independent investigations have found that the Department of  
6 Defense and CIA drastically underestimate the number of civilians killed by  
7 airstrikes; and

8 **WHEREAS,** The rate of civilian casualties from US drone airstrikes has been steadily  
9 increasing under the Trump administration now, therefore, be it

10 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation for  
11 a Congressional panel to be established to review and report on the  
12 effectiveness of drone strikes and the accuracy of the reporting of civilian  
13 casualties; and, be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the CIA and Department of Defense make available to the  
15 public reports on each drone strike including casualties, rate of success, and  
16 civilian property damage, and be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the US develop necessary military technologies to  
18 decrease the loss of civilian life in drone strikes.

Respectfully Submitted By,

St. Joseph's Preparatory School

## **No. 5-The Anti-American Association Act**

Be it enacted by the Student Congress here assembled that:

**SECTION 1.** The United States shall take measures to reduce unnecessary aggression committed by members within the Saudi Arabian government.

### **SECTION 2.**

- A. The International Human Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) shall be authorized to identify violations of human rights and acts of premeditated harm on any United States citizen carried out by any Saudi Arabian government official and fully investigate and prosecute those connected with said human rights violations or acts of premeditated harm on United States citizens. They are further authorized to utilize any and all intergovernmental or international cooperation from any other agencies or nations.
  - a. Human rights violations shall be defined as anything in violation of the United Nations' human rights declarations and standards.
- B. The United States Ambassador to the United Nations shall make a motion to the United Nations Security Council to begin a formal investigation in the International Criminal Court into the human rights violations of any member of the Saudi Arabian government suspected of being in violation of human rights.
  - a. The United States Acting-Ambassador to the United Nations shall hold the same mandate should the position of United States Ambassador to the United Nations be vacant.
- C. The United States shall freeze any and all property and other assets owned by any Saudi Arabian official in the United States that is criminally connected with the premeditated harm of any United States citizen or of violating the Geneva Convention and any other human rights treaty on any person.
  - a. Premeditated harm includes but is not limited to government backed harassment, assault, battery, murder or any other violent action against any non-combatant.
- D. All military aid to Saudi Arabia shall be immediately suspended until such time as sustained evidence over the period of 5 years after the proven elimination of targeted killing of non-combatants occurs by Saudi Arabia
- E. Funding allocated for military aid spending towards Saudi Arabia and all fossil fuel subsidies shall be reallocated to additional tax credits for green energy and low-interest loans into the development into the improvement and/or expansion of green energy.
  - a. Fossil fuel shall be defined as a natural fuel formed by the formed in the geological past from the remains of living organisms.
  - b. Green energy shall be defined as methods of generating electricity using the sun, wind, moving water, the earth's heat, and radioactive material.

### **SECTION 3.**

- A. Section 2A shall be implemented by the Department of Justice
- B. Section 2B shall be implemented by the Department of State.
- C. Section 2C shall be implemented by the Department of State and the Department of the Treasury.
- D. Section 2D shall be implemented by the Department of Defense, Department of State and Department of Treasury
- E. Section 2E shall be implemented by the Department of Energy, Department of Treasury, and Department of Defense.
- F. Temporary funding shall be authorized from the overseas contingency operations of the necessary departments/agencies/branches as deemed required by the Congressional Budget Office until the next fiscal year's budget is approved by this congress which includes funding for the departments as appropriated by and for this legislation shall be placed into the budgets of the proper departments.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be enacted immediately.

**SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation shall be amended to be in accordance with this legislation.

*Respectfully Submitted by North Hills High School*

# **A Bill to Hold a Statehood Referendum in Puerto Rico**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1:** (a) The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall hold a referendum on the topic of the territory's statehood. (b) Should a simple majority is achieved in such a referendum in favor of statehood, then Puerto Rico shall henceforth be 51st state of the United States, with all of the rights and responsibilities granted to other states of the Union. (c) Should a simple majority not be counted in favor of statehood, Puerto Rico shall remain an unincorporated territory of the United States in perpetuity.

**SECTION 2:** (a) This referendum shall take place one year from the passage of this bill. (b) Should the people of Puerto Rico vote for statehood, admittance shall undergo one year from the date of the referendum.

**SECTION 3:** The United States Congress and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Pittsburgh Central Catholic*



**A BILL TO NASA'S SPACE EXPLORATION AND OPERATIONS BUDGET TO PRIVATE  
SPACEFLIGHT COMPANIES**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** NASA's space exploration and operations budget, along with the duties  
3 associated with that budget, shall be given to private companies in order to  
4 increase efficiency

5 **SECTION 2.** NASA's space exploration budget funds exploration research, systems  
6 development (e.g. Orion and SLS projects), and Commercial Spaceflight.  
7 NASA's space operations budget funds the ISS along with Space and  
8 Flight Support. Private companies are any spaceflight capable companies  
9 (e.g. SpaceX or Blue Horizon).

10 **SECTION 3.** NASA shall oversee the transfer of funds. When implemented, 10% of  
11 NASA's Space Exploration and Operations budget shall be delegated to  
12 private companies. After one year the cost efficiency of the private sector  
13 will be compared to that of the public sector by a congressional panel. If  
14 the private sector is deemed more cost-efficient twenty percent of NASA's  
15 remaining space exploration and operations budget shall be transferred  
16 every two years to the private sector.

17 A. The private companies chosen to receive the funding will be decided  
18 by NASA

19 B. Any companies chosen by NASA to fulfil its tasks must be approved  
20 by Congress.

21 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect January 1, 2020

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Unionville High School*

# KEYSTONE HOUSE

## **A Resolution to Privatize the Transportation Security Administration**

1 **WHEREAS**, The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is receiving \$7.7 billion in  
2 funding by the federal government for the 2019 fiscal year

3 **WHEREAS**, Canada and many European countries adopted a system of screening  
privatization

4 after the 9/11 attacks

5 **WHEREAS**, Travelers in the U.S. experience extremely long wait times for security  
screenings

6 **WHEREAS**, The TSA has extremely low morale and poor performance among employees

7 **WHEREAS**, The TSA fails to detect weapons, drugs, and explosives 80% of the time

8 **WHEREAS**, The United States has already begun a system of privatization known as the  
9 Screening Partnership Program, however, only 23 airports utilize this program

10 **WHEREAS**, Private screeners have improved efficiency and perform equally in detecting  
hazardous materials when compared to the TSA

11 **WHEREAS**, The cost of private screening is lower when compared to the TSA

12 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Transportation Security Administration is  
abolished and replaced with a government-contracted security organization in all government  
13 operated airports

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Mechanicsburg Area Senior High*

*District 6*

## A Bill to Regulate Telecommunication Identification

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PHSSL STATE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. Section 1: Any company or group that contacts a telephone number within the United
2. States must properly identify itself to the person they are contacting regardless
3. of the origin of the call. These companies or groups will be herein referred to as
4. Callers.
5. Section 2: Callers must allow their official registered name of business to appear on caller ID
6. and they must provide a valid return number.
7. Callers using an automated system must identify themselves within 30 seconds of
8. the call being answered.
9. Automated calls must include an option to be removed from the calling list at
10. some point during the call. An individual's number must then be removed from
11. the calling list within 30 days of the request.
12. Section 3: A. Any Caller who falsely uses the name of another company, group, or individual
13. will be subject to a fine.
14. B. Any Caller who provides an invalid contact number will be subject to a fine.
15. C. Any Caller using an automated system who does not provide proper
16. identification or an option to be removed from the calling list will be subject to
17. a fine.
18. Section 4: This law shall go into effect immediately upon passage.
19. Section 5: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) will be responsible for overseeing the
20. regulations and penalties. The FTC will utilize funds to increase security
21. measures of the telecommunications trade. The FTC will oversee fines not to
22. exceed \$10,000 per incident. Fines shall not exceed \$100,000 within a 30 day
23. period. If continued penalties are imposed over a period of more than six
24. months, the FTC can impose trade sanctions against those companies.
25. Section 6: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Somerset Area School District

## **A Resolution to Raise the Driving Age to 18**

1. WHEREAS: A US citizen is able acquire their license at age 16, and the California Department of Motor Vehicles stated that the crash rate for 16 year olds is "3.7 times higher than drivers of all ages," and the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety states that teen drivers in general have crash rates "three times those of drivers 20 and older per mile driven"; and
2. WHEREAS: CBS news stated that "More than 5,000 U.S. teens die each year in car crashes"; and
3. WHEREAS: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated that "In 2016, young people ages 15-19 represented 6.5% of the U.S. population. However, they accounted for an estimated \$13.6 billion (8.4%) of the total costs of motor vehicle injuries"; and
4. WHEREAS: A US citizen is not able to smoke, vote, or serve in the military until 18, and cannot drink alcoholic beverages until 21.
5. RESOLVED: The age at which a US citizen is permitted to acquire their drivers permit should be set at 18, and a limited hardship exemption should be put in place for purposes of transportation to education, employment, or personal/family help.

Respectfully Submitted,

Germantown Academy

## **A Bill to Implement a Ranked Voting System in Federal Elections**

In The

Pennsylvania High School Speech League

by

Holy Redeemer High School

1. Be it enacted by the Pennsylvania High School Speech League Student Congress assembled that
2. Section 1. A ranked voting system will be implemented in all federal elections.
3. Section 2. A “ranked voting system” shall be defined as a system in which voters will be allowed to rank as many candidates as they want in order of preference.
4. Section 3. The first step in the process of counting the votes is if candidate receives a majority (50%+1) of the first-choice votes cast for that office, that candidate will be elected. However, if no candidate receives a majority of the first choice votes cast, a process of elimination begins. The candidate who received the fewest first choice votes is eliminated. Next, each vote cast for that candidate will be transferred to the voter’s next-ranked choice among the remaining candidates. This process of elimination will continue until one candidate wins a majority and is chosen as the winner.
5. Section 4. This legislation will be overseen by the Federal Elections Commission.
6. Section 5. This legislation will be funded by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018.
7. Section 6. This bill shall go into effect in the 2020 fiscal year.
8. Section 7. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

## **A Bill to Increase the Federal Minimum Wage**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PHSSL STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

**SECTION 1:** The federal minimum wage is hereby raised to \$12.00 an hour.

**SECTION 2:** For those employees whose tips sufficiently supplement their wages,  
and for newly-hired employees under the age of 18, the minimum  
wage shall be set at \$5.00 an hour.

**SECTION 3:** The Secretary of Labor is empowered to enforce the provisions of this  
legislation by appropriate action.

**SECTION 4:** Each state shall remain empowered to raise the minimum wage for  
citizens of the said state, by appropriate legislation.

**SECTION 5:** All conflicts with this legislation are hereby declare null and void.

**SECTION 6:** This legislation shall be effective on October 1, 2019.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Bishop Canevin High School*

## **A Bill to Repeal the Minimum Wage**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- Section 1.** There shall be no federally mandated minimum wage.
- Section 2.** State will be able to set their own minimum wage.
- Section 3.** This bill shall be enforced by the Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division.
- Section 4.** This bill will immediately take effect.
- Section 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rep. Michael Quigley, La Salle College High School*



**A BILL TO END ALL PRODUCTION OF THE PENNY TO  
HELP WITH THE NATIONAL DEBT CALAMITY**

IN THE PENNSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH LEAGUE  
BY HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL

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

2 **SECTION 1.** This legislation will see that the United States Treasury ceases further production  
3 of the penny.

4 **SECTION 2. A.** Cease is defined as “to discontinue production” in regards to pennies.

5 **B.** Moving forward the penny shall continue to be recognized and accepted as a  
6 valid form of currency.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Engraving and Printing will oversee the enforcement of this bill,  
8 seeing as they already regulate production of US currency.

9 **A.** The United States Mint will follow this bill.

10 **B.** The U.S. Mint already produces over a billion pennies per month, so this will  
11 establish cost savings and increase productivity for other coins.

12 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be in effect for the next 10 years with further action being discussed  
13 at this point.

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

## **A Resolution to Attack the National Debt**

1 WHEREAS the United States of America has accumulated a massive national  
2 debt, over 21 trillion dollars, over the past ten years

3 WHEREAS Americans despise taxes, which could be used to pay off the  
4 national debt

5 WHEREAS the government needs to take action to establish an  
6 alternate revenue source to help pay off this astronomical national debt so that  
7 we do not continue down an endless spiral toward bankruptcy,  
8 lawlessness, and apocalypse

9 WHEREAS there is a bowling alley in the White House

10 THEREFORE be it resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that a  
11 Congressional Bowling League be established, broadcast on CSPAN, with  
12 merchandise, ticketing, and TV sales being directed to paying off the national  
13 debt

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Peters Township High School*

**A RESOLUTION TO STOP ABUSING THE DEBT LIMIT TO  
DECREASE POLITICAL GRIDLOCK**

1   **WHEREAS,**    Congress has the power to set an unachievable budget while barring the  
2                    president from borrowing required money to fulfil Congress' budget; and

3   **WHEREAS,**    This often leads to political situations where the budget is held hostage  
4                    such that Congress can make demands of the executive branch under  
5                    threat of financial ruin; and

6   **WHEREAS,**    Legislative bodies in similar nations automatically allow for the borrowing  
7                    of money for the sake of fulfilling their spending budget implicitly;

8   **RESOLVED,**   That the Student Congress here assembled allows the executive branch to  
9                    borrow money needed to fulfill congressional budgets upon their passing.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Gettysburg Area High School*

*A Bill Concerning Universal Draft Registration*

Be it enacted by this student congress that:

1 Section 1: There will be no gender-based restrictions on the requirement for  
2 registration with the Selective Service upon turning eighteen  
3 years of age.

4 Section 2: This applies to all individuals ages 18-25 years of age who meet  
5 the guidelines for registration currently in place for males.

6 Section 3: The Selective Service System and the U.S. Citizenship and  
7 Immigration Services (USCIS) of the United States Government  
8 will oversee the enforcement of this law per the current law. Any  
9 penalties for not registering will remain those currently in effect.

10 Section 4: This bill applies to all born after December 31, 2001.

11 Section 5: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null  
12 and void.

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Submitted By:

18

Greater Latrobe Senior High

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO LIMIT  
THE TIME SUPREME JUSTICES CAN SERVE TO TEN YEARS.

BE IT ENACTED IN CONGRESS THAT:

WHEREAS

Justices on the Supreme Court are bound to serve their positions  
for life.

WHEREAS

the same people should not be on the Supreme Court for such  
a long time.

WHEREAS

the United States Government will limit the maximum amount  
of years one can serve in Supreme Court to ten.

WHEREAS

this bill will be activated February 1, 2026.

RESOLVED

by two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that this

article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be  
valid to all intents and purposes as 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.

Respectfully,

Zoe Grabowski

Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School

## **A Resolution Concerning Campaign Finance**

1. Whereas the Supreme Court has ruled that the government cannot restrict a corporation's
2. right to advocate for political candidates, and
3. Whereas many of the corporations that would be allowed to advocate for political candidates
4. receive funds from the federal government through direct grants and government contracts,
5. and Whereas this gives those corporations undue influence over the actions of political
6. leaders, and
7. Whereas the federal government lacks the ability to directly regulate these corporation's
8. advocacy activities, and
9. Whereas the federal government can avoid this conflict of interest by not conducting business
10. with companies that advocate for the election of specific candidates,
11. Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that corporations that
12. advocate for the election of a specific candidate to federal public office may not receive
13. government funding or contracts.

Respectfully submitted,

Pine-Richland High School

# **A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Implement Congressional Term Limits**

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

2. **RESOLVED:** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is

3.                   proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which

4.                   shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when

5.                   ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven

6.                   years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

7. **SECTION 1.** The members of the United States House of Representatives and Senate will

8.                   have term limits imposed upon them. Henceforth, the House will have a

9.                   maximum of six terms and the Senate will have a maximum of three terms.

10. **SECTION 2.** Term limits shall be defined as a restriction upon the number of times one can

11.                  hold office in either the United States House of Representatives and the

12.                  Senate.

13.                 a.) Any person who has acted as Senator for equal to or more than three years

14.                   shall be unable to be elected more than two times.

15.                 b.) Any person who has acted as Representative for more than one full year shall be

16.                   unable to be elected more than five times.

17. **SECTION 3.** This shall will effect as of the 2020 election process. All current

18.                  Representatives and Senators that supersede the proposed limits will retain

19.                  their office until they to up for re-election.

20. **SECTION 4.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate

21.                  legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lake-Lehman High School

## **A Bill to limit United States House of Representatives to three consecutive terms**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Each member of the United States House of Representatives may be re-  
3 elected to his/her current seat no more than 2 (two) times in a ten year  
4 period.

5 **SECTION 2.** Representatives who have completed 3 (three) full terms in the House  
6 may not be eligible for re-election for the next three terms of office. If  
7 brought into office during a special election, the time period between the  
8 special election and next election will not be counted toward the 3 terms  
9 of office.

10 **SECTION 3.** Each state and commonwealth within the United States of America will  
11 be responsible for insuring that representatives, candidates, campaigns,  
12 and elections from that state/commonwealth adhere to the term limits.  
13 Representatives who have held a seat longer than three terms by the  
14 law's implementation date may serve out his/her term and are eligible to  
15 be elected for one term beyond their current term.

16 **SECTION 4.** This law will go into effect January 20, 2021.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Greensburg Salem High School*



STATE HOUSE

## A Resolution to Encourage Gun Violence Research

- 1   **WHEREAS,**    Research funds for gun violence have dropped by 96% since 1996; and
- 2   **WHEREAS,**    More Americans have been killed by guns since 1968 than in all U.S. wars;
- 3                    and
- 4   **WHEREAS,**    Research does not infringe upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights of citizens;
- 5                    and
- 6   **WHEREAS,**    The CDC has been wary to research gun violence due to past funding
- 7                    restrictions; and
- 8   **WHEREAS,**    the country deserves to understand how to prevent gun violence; now,
- 9                    therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,**   By the Congress here assembled that the Centers for Disease Control and
- 11                    Prevention should dedicate a sizeable amount of funds toward gun
- 12                    violence research.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Moon Area High School*

## A RESOLUTION TO TEACH PUBLIC SPEAKING

In The

Pennsylvania High School Speech League

by

Trinity High School #4

1. Whereas, PA school districts are increasing technology education, and
2. Whereas, school districts are emphasizing the STEAM curriculum to meet
3. the demands of the ever-changing workplace, and
3. Whereas, with Pennsylvania's new focus on career education, and
4. Whereas, Students are finding it difficult to find time in the school day for
- to take many electives which are outside of these areas, and
5. Whereas, The need for presentation skills is needed more than ever,
- 6.. Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pennsylvania High School Speech
- 7 League Congress assembled that Pennsylvania school districts are required
- to teach all students a minimum of nine weeks of structured Public
- Speaking student's high school career.

A RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE READING SCORES

In The

Pennsylvania High School Speech League

by

Quigley Catholic High School

1 Whereas, it is the fundamental goal of education teach and improve reading skills in  
2 the primary grades, and

3 Whereas, all children do not advance at the same rate as other children, and

4 Whereas, children with reading difficulties regress during the summer months, and

5 Whereas, that regression can put reading challenged students behind and below grade  
6 level, and

7 Whereas, reading ability determines success in many other academics areas, and

8 Whereas, reading challenged students would benefit from supplemental reading  
9 practice, therefore

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Pennsylvania High School Speech League Student

11 Congress here assembled that all schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

12 mandate and provide up to 150 hours of summer reading enrichment programs during  
13 the summer months.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all students up to the seventh grade level who test

15 at more than one year below reading level, be required to attend a mandated summer  
16 reading enrichment program.

**A Bill to Ban the Use of Charter Schools to  
Promote Quality Education**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**Section 1.** No additional charter schools shall be created in the United States. The additional charter school would receive no federal education funding and the institution (city and/or state) would lose 10% of infrastructure funding per new charter school opened.

**Section 2.** A Charter School shall be defined as a tax-supported school established by a charter between a granting body (such as a school board) and an outside group (as of teachers and parents) which operates the school without most local and state educational regulations so as to achieve set goals.

**Section 3.** The Department of Education shall oversee the enforcement of ending the expansion of charter schools. The Department of Transportation shall oversee the enforcement of the infrastructure funding penalty.

**SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect immediately after passage.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Holy Ghost Prep*

## **A Resolution to Ban Low-Necessity Single Use Plastics**

Whereas the overuse and waste of harmful, disposable plastic products is increasing every day;

Whereas of the 6.3 billion metric tons of all plastic produced has become waste, filling landfills, the wilderness, and the oceans;

Whereas 300 million tons of plastic are produced each year, mostly intended for single use;

Whereas projections indicate that more than 12 billion metric tons of plastic will be in landfills by 2050, causing greater magnitudes of dangerous chemicals to be released into the soil and water systems, and causing many animals to be harmed from various forms of both microdebris and macrodebris;

Whereas tiny plastic particles are now being found in our food and water supply;

Whereas action needs to be taken in order to reduce this harmful overproduction of plastic starting with the unnecessary overuse of items such as plastic drinking straws and microbeads (or “rollers” as some cosmetic companies have started to call them) that are used in face cleaners;

Whereas a study, published in *Science*, claimed that fish became “smaller, slower and more stupid” when exposed to tiny plastic fragments in the marine environment; and

Whereas microbeads have become so ubiquitous that an estimated 808 trillion pieces swirl down American drains every day. When this plastic-laden wastewater goes through treatment plants, about 99 percent of the beads settle into sludge, which is often used as fertilizer. Microbeads enter the water supply, from rain and runoff, and roughly 8 trillion microbeads are released directly into our waterways. That's enough plastic to cover 300 tennis courts; now

Therefore be it resolved by the PHSSL Student Congress here assembled recommends laws calling for the limitation of all single use plastics, starting with straws, microbeads and plastic bags. The use of microbeads in all cosmetic products must be banned; and

Be it further resolved that single-use plastic consumption, sale, production, and trade be banned.

Respectfully submitted by Mercer High School

## **A Resolution to Allocate Funds to Supplement the Animal Welfare Act of 1966**

**WHEREAS**, the Animal Welfare Act of 1966, enacted by President Lyndon B. Johnson, congressionally states in policy: § 2131: insurance that animals intended for use in research facilities or for exhibition purposes or for use as pets are provided humane care and treatment; to assure the humane treatment of animals during transportation in commerce.

**WHEREAS**, this outdated law does not adequately protect these animals from exploitation and cruelty for profit.

**WHEREAS**, industrial research factories and mills have not been insuring this humane treatment and have been manipulating and abusing these lenient laws.

**RESOLVED**, this bill will allocate an additional \$20 billion to the United States Department of Agriculture's annual budget of \$140 billion to supplement the creation of better conditions, environments, and resources for all animals used in research or for public entertainment.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Upper Saint Clair High School*

## A Bill To Fuel The Nuclear Future Act

1. **Whereas:** Solar power has shown benefits in the sustainable aspect, but
2. unfortunately, it has proven to be very impractical for large cities to
3. personal homes alike. With growing population of Americans, now is the
4. time to make the switch to a cleaner, sustainable energy source.
5. **Therefore, be it resolved** that states will hire researches to study the
6. effectiveness and practicality of the new nuclear plants. Research will be
7. Conducted to reduce costs and/ or discover new attributes of the nuclear
8. power plants. By the end of 2025, the full conversion from the fossil fuels
9. to nuclear energy will be made. Americans will be getting nearly 100%
10. Of their energy from the nuclear power plants.

Respectfully submitted,

West Allegheny



A BILL TO DEMONOPOLIZE THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES LOWER DRUG PRICES AND COST BURDEN ON CONSUMERS

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

2 SECTION 1. All pharmaceutical corporations in the United States will undergo a series  
3 of restructures in order to break the current monopolistic hold these corporations have  
4 over the American people.

5 SECTION 2. These pharmaceutical corporations such as Pfizer will be broken up into  
6 smaller companies in order to make the medicinal marketplace more competitive, thus  
7 reducing the prices of life-saving drugs such as insulin. The marketplace in the US is one  
8 dominated by companies such as Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, and Merck & Co. The  
9 restructure will break up these corporations into smaller companies to drive competition  
10 and innovation, which would bring new life-saving drugs into the market and reduce  
11 prices on current drugs.

12 SECTION 3. The US Department of Justice will be in charge of the breakup of the  
13 monopolies, working with the Department of Health and Human Services and the  
14 Department of Commerce to ensure a smooth transition.  
15 between the monopolistic industry into a more competitive industry.

16 SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect immediately after passage.

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

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Deer Lakes High School*



# A Bill to Allocate Funds to Supplement Artificial Organ Research

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1           **SECTION 1.**   A sum of \$7 billion will be allocated to the Advanced Tissue  
2           Biofabrication Manufacturing Innovation Institute (ATB-MII) to help bridge  
3           the gap between early research and artificial organ development.

4           **SECTION 2.**   The ATB-MII brings together for-profit and nonprofit  
5           organizations to accelerate innovation by investing in industrially relevant  
6           manufacturing technologies with applications in the Tissue Biofabrication  
7           Ecosystem.

8           **SECTION 3.**   The Department of Defense will oversee the enforcement of  
9           this bill.

10          A. \$3.5 Billion will be allocated from the budgets of both the Department  
11          of Defense and the National Institutes of Health.

12                a. The Funds from the DoD shall be appropriated by the following  
13                breakdown:

14                      i. \$700 million from the respective budgets of each branch  
15                      of the military (army, navy, coast guard, marine corps,  
16                      and air force)

17                b. The Funds from the NIH shall be appropriated by the following  
18                breakdown:

19                      i. \$750 million from each the National Cancer Institute and  
20                      the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases;

21                      ii. \$500 million from each the National Heart, Lung & Blood  
22                      Institute and the National Institute of General Medical  
23                      Sciences; and

24                      iii. \$250 million from each the National Institutes on Aging,  
25                      of Mental Health, of Neurological Disorders & Stroke,  
26                      and of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases.

**SECTION 4.**   This bill will be implemented within two years of enactment.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Christian McClaine.*

*Bethel Park*

## A Resolution to Ban Mandatory Waiting Periods for Abortions

- 1   **WHEREAS**, a mandatory waiting period for abortion is defined as a period that sees,  
2                   typically, at least 24 hours elapse between the counseling (initial  
3                   consultation with doctors over abortion) and the abortion itself; and  
4   **WHEREAS**, Pennsylvania currently has a 24-hour waiting period; and  
5   **WHEREAS**, the main intent of a waiting period is to discourage abortions in women  
6                   who have already decided they want an abortion; and  
7   **WHEREAS**, 91% of women say the waiting periods have no discouraging effect,  
8                   whatsoever, on the certainty of their decision, and 17% of those women  
9                   said that the waiting period actually made them more confident of their  
10                  decision, thus rendering them relatively ineffective in accomplishing their  
11                  main intention; and  
12   **WHEREAS** waiting periods serve to cause even more psychological trauma on women  
13                  going through the abortion process- a process that already provides an  
14                  abundance of trauma in and of itself; now, therefore, be it  
15   **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled recommends that these  
16                  mandatory waiting periods for abortions be banned in the Commonwealth.

*Introduced by Fox Chapel Area High School*

**A BILL TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY  
BANNING NEW CONSTRUCTION OF FOSSIL FUEL CONSUMING POWER PLANTS**

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

2 Article I: The United States federal government will prohibit the future construction  
3 of power plants that consume fossil fuels in order to reduce the amount of  
4 greenhouse gas emissions. All fossil fuel consuming power plants that are  
5 in operation on the date this legislation goes into effect shall be permitted  
6 to continue operations.

7 Article II: For the purpose of this legislation, “power plants” refers to industrial  
8 facilities that generate electrical power and “fossil fuels” shall be defined  
9 as coal, petroleum, and natural gas.

10 Article III: This policy shall go into effect on January 1, 2024.

11 Article IV: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in coordination with  
12 the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Department of Justice (DOJ)  
13 shall be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this  
14 legislation.

15 A. States with regulatory agencies that permit construction of fossil fuel  
16 consuming power plants beyond the implementation date, above, will  
17 be cut off from all DOE grants for a period of ten years.

18 B. The DOJ may file an injunction in U.S. district court to stop  
19 construction projects from proceeding.

20 Article V: All other laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and  
21 void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Danville Area H.S.  
Diocese of Scranton*

1 **A BILL TO LIMIT ANIMAL RESEARCH TO RATS**

2  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

4 Article I: All and any future living animals used in lab experimentation and animal research will  
5 hereby be limited to only rats. Furthermore, monthly spontaneous checkups are to be  
6 done at every animal research facilities.

7 Article II: Animal lab experimentation is defined as an animal test in any scientific experiment or  
8 test in which a live animal is forced to undergo something that is likely to cause them  
9 pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm.

10 Article III: This law should take effect on February 1st, 2019.

11 Article IV: The Environmental Protection Agency will oversee the enforcement of this bill.

12 Article V: All other laws in conflict with this new policy are hereby declared null and void.

13 *Respectfully submitted,*

14 *Meadville Area Senior High School*  
15  
16  
17  
18

A BILL TO REFORM DRUG REHABILITATION  
METHODS TO BETTER ALLEVIATE THE OPIOID  
CRISIS

By Jamestown Area High School

**1. Be it enacted by the Pennsylvania High School Speech League Student Congress assembled that:**

2. Section 1. The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SPBG)

3 shall receive an additional \$500 million annually for five years, with the  
4 additional funds reserved for rehabilitation programs focusing on the  
5 implementation of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT).

6. Section 2. The Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program will  
receive an

7 additional \$10 million in funding annually for five years. Drug courts

8 receiving grants must offer MAT. Prison sentences imposed by grantees

9 must not be longer than the initial prison sentence for the individual's

10 crime.

11. Section 3. Medication-Assisted Treatment shall be defined by  
Substance Abuse and

12 Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) guidelines.

13 Section 4. SAMHSA will implement §1A and the Department of  
Justice will

14 implements §1B. The CBP Office of Field Operations, Drug  
Enforcement

15 Agency, and Immigrations and Customs Enforcement will have their

16 budgets reduced respectively by \$1 billion, \$50 million, \$1.5 billion,

17 spread evenly over a five-year period to fund §1.

18. Section 5. This act will take effect on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019