

# KEYSTONE HOUSE

## **A Bill to Correct the Partisan Bias in the Electoral Districts**

1. BE IT ENACTED by the PHSSL State Student Congress here assembled that:
- 2.
3. Section 1: In light of the recent Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling that all the
4. current Pennsylvania State Assembly and Congressional Districts are
5. unconstitutional, this bill shall establish new criteria for the redistricting
6. of all Pennsylvania electoral districts.
- 7.
8. Section 2: According to the Pennsylvania Constitution, Article II, Section 16, the
9. current criteria for Pennsylvania redistricting are:
10. A. Compactness: : Having the minimum distance between all the parts of
11. constituency.
12. B. Contiguity: Having the minimum distance between all the parts of a
13. constituency.
14. C. Preservation of Counties and Other Political Subdivisions.
- 15.
16. Section 3: The added criteria will be as follows:
17. A. Preservation of Communities of Interest.
18. B. Protection of Incumbents.
19. C. Competitiveness: Districts having relatively even partisan balance,
20. making competition between the two major parties more intense.
21. D. Prohibition on Using Partisan Data.
- 22.
23. Section 4: The government agencies that will oversee the enforcement of this
24. legislation is the Pennsylvania Bureau of Commissions, Elections, and
25. Legislation and the Federal Election Commission.
26. A. Any governmental agency or individual who violates and/or prohibits
27. the integration of this legislation will be subject to a fine of 75,000
28. dollars and/or ten years in prison.
- 29.
30. Section 5: This legislation will be put in effect immediately upon passage.
- 31.
32. Section 6: All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and
33. void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lake-Lehman Jr/Sr High School

## **A Bill to Institute A Universal Basic Income in the United States**

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **Section 1:** A universal basic income program will be instituted in the United States.
3. **Section 2:** A. The universal basic income (UBI) will be defined as an unconditional living  
4. stipend which all citizens above the age of 18 will receive.  
5. B. Each American adult will receive \$1000 per month.
6. **Section 3:** The implementation of this piece of legislation will be overseen by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The Dept. of Health and Human Services shall reallocate \$3 trillion of funding for this bill.
7. **Section 4:** This legislation will be implemented over a 5 year period, with the first year paying out \$200 per month and increasing by \$200 each year. The first payments shall take place the beginning of the fiscal year after passage.
8. **Section 5:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by  
Jackie Feffer  
State College Area High School*

**A BILL TO IMPLEMENT PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE FOR THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will enact paid family and medical leave for employees.

**SECTION 2.** This would provide eligible government and private sector workers eight weeks of partially paid (50% of salary) leave during time they take off for care-taking.

- A. A student conducted by the State Department of Labor and Industry found that 78% of worker's and 56% of employer's support paid family and medical leave.
- B. Five other states, California, Washington, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and New York have enacted paid-leave programs. 14 others states have introduced paid-leave programs since 2002.

**SECTION 3.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*La Salle College High School*

**A Bill to Ensure Progress in the Area of Renewable Energy**

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED
2. THAT:
3. **SECTION 1.** The United States will get 80% of its power from renewable
4. sources by 2050.
5. **SECTION 2.** Renewable sources shall be defined as sources that are not
6. depleted by their use.
7. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and
8. Renewable Energy shall be charged with the implantation of this bill.
9.           I. The Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and
10. Renewable Energy's budget will be doubled by 2020.
11.           II. Loans, grants and educational programs will be implemented to
12. encourage the widespread use of renewable energy.
13.           III. Research into renewable energy and the best ways to
14. encourage use of renewable energy will be funded.
15. **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect within two years after its
16. enactment.

Proposed by Siegrid Tuttle, Fairview High School

# A Resolution to Reform Welfare

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**WHEREAS,** Welfare is routinely exploited and abused in the current system.

**WHEREAS,** Welfare is an inherent drain on the US economy and taxpayer, costing hundreds of Billions of dollars a year.

**WHEREAS** The goal of welfare has always been to lift americans out of poverty.

**WHEREAS,** Government employment programs have been proven effective since the Works Progress Administration and into the current era.

**RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled begin shifting welfare services for those capable to work toward Government funded jobs.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Patrick Adams of St. Joseph's Preparatory School*

## **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE START TIME FOR HIGH SCHOOLS**

1. WHEREAS, many students are falling asleep during their morning classes, and
2. WHEREAS, sleeping during classes causes the students to perform poorly in those classes, and
3. WHEREAS, an extra hour or two of sleep in the morning would make the difference between a tired student and a well-rested student, and
4. WHEREAS, scientific studies show that teenage Circadian Rhythms are such that their sleep hormone does not make them ready for sleep until 11:00 or 11:30 pm, and
5. WHEREAS, it is recommended that teenagers receive a minimum of 8 hours of sleep per night, and
6. WHEREAS, this sleep deprivation is causing the quality of teenagers' lives to suffer, and
7. WHEREAS, students do not have time to eat in the morning with the current early school start times, and
8. WHEREAS, students perform optimally when they are well fed and well-rested,
9. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
HERE ASSEMBLED, THAT:
10. School districts in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should explore the possibility of moving the start time for high schools to a later time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic High School

# A Bill to Force an Ultimatum on the DPRK to Stabilize the Korean Peninsula

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby notify North Korea that they need to disarm  
2 and destroy all ballistic missile assets deemed a threat by the Department  
3 of Defense and allow an independent group to verify the destruction of  
4 ballistic assets or face a declaration of war. Upon verification  
5 of compliance, all economic sanctions against North Korea shall be  
6 lifted.

7 **SECTION 2.** A. Ballistic missile assets shall be defined as a missile with intentions of  
8 destruction, an arcing trajectory, that is initially powered guided and falls  
9 under gravity onto its target.

10 B. Economic Sanctions shall be defined as commercial and financial  
11 penalties applied by the United States against the North Korean  
12 government, North Korean businesses or specific North Korean citizens.

13 **SECTION 3.** An independent group shall be selected by the United Nations and act as an  
14 intermediary to ensure the complying of US demands.

15 **SECTION 4.** The US Department of Defense shall be in charge of determining which  
16 ballistic missiles pose a threat to any US interests and shall be in charge of  
17 deploying any military and intelligence assets if North Korea does not  
18 comply with this ultimatum.

19 **SECTION 6.** This bill shall take effect immediately after passage.

20 A. North Korea shall have one week to make their final decision

B. North Korea shall have three years to fully comply with the demands in this  
legislation.

**SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted for Congressional Debate

Southern Lehigh HS



**RESOLUTION**

In the

Pennsylvania High School Speech League

by

Academy at Palumbo

1       **WHEREAS**, The continuing prejudice against gender non-binary and gender  
2       non-conforming individuals is still widespread, as seen in the countless acts of  
3       harassment and hate crimes committed against them; and

4       **WHEREAS**, As a result, over 41 percent of trans men and women are estimated  
5       to have attempted suicide — a rate that's nearly nine times as high as the rate of  
6       cisgender Americans; and

7       **WHEREAS**, Many transgender people are physically assaulted in gender  
8       specific bathrooms, suffering physical injury and emotional and psychological  
9       damage; and

10       **WHEREAS**, In addition to the danger of suicide and self-harm, extreme  
11       physical, emotional, and psychological distress interferes with a student's ability  
12       to learn and perform successfully in school; and

13       **WHEREAS**, Forcing students to be identified by the bathroom they choose is  
14       major source of the problem; now, therefore be it

15       **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled make the following  
16       recommendation for all public schools to have exclusively gender neutral  
17       bathrooms.

## **A Bill To Eliminate Paper Currency**

BE IT ENACTED by the PHSSL State Student Congress here assembled that:

Section 1. The United States shall stop using paper currency in an effort to reduce crime.

Cash is an untraceable means of exchange that enables a criminal economy.

Section 2. Paper currency or cash is defined as money in coins or notes, as distinct from checks, money orders, or credit.

Section 3. The only forms of currency that may be used would be credit and debit cards and cryptocurrency that is able to be traced. Individuals holding any form of currency other than those mentioned must exchange it at a bank for their money to have value.

Section 4. This bill shall go into effect on January 1, 2020.

Section 5. The US Department of Treasury shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

Section 6. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Shady Side Academy

**PHSSL Congress Bill**  
**Submitted by: Harriton High School**

Redistricting Congress and the Legislature

1. **Whereas:** Congressional districts are determined by an act of the General Assembly
2. with no input by the public in any way.
3. **Whereas:** This arrangement has resulted in partisan gerrymandering where one party
4. controls both branches of the General Assembly and the governorship as was the case
5. when the current congressional districts were created after the 2010 census.
6. **Whereas:** While, this plan complied with the U.S. Supreme Court's "one person, one
7. vote rule, it ignored traditional redistricting criteria, including preservation of local
8. government boundaries.
9. **Whereas:** One small municipality was divided into four congressional districts, essen-
10. tially depriving it of real representation, and when this plan was appealed to the US
11. Supreme Court, it allowed the districts to stand, over strong opposition by the minority
12. in the 5-4 decision.
13. **Whereas:** Legislative districts are drawn by a bipartisan commission that has been so
14. dysfunctional the last 2 times that the legislative commission was unable to agree on the
15. selection of a non-partisan chair and one had to be appointed by the PA Supreme Court.
16. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by this PHSSL Student Congress here assembled:
17. **That** The Pennsylvania Constitution will be amended to require an independent
18. commission comprised of individuals not currently employed by local, state, or federal
19. government, to redistrict both legislative and congressional districts.
20. **That** the agreed to standards are (in rank order): adhere to all Constitutional and Voting
21. Rights Act requirements; promote competitiveness and partisan fairness, respect politi-
22. subdivisions and communities of interest; encourage geographical compactness and
23. respect for natural geographical features and barriers.

# A Resolution to Annex Canada

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**WHEREAS:** Canada is a large country with underutilized land and resources.

**WHEREAS:** The United States is continuously growing and in need of land and resources.

**WHEREAS:** The opportunity for the annexation of Canada to the United States would be beneficial to both Canada and the United States.

**WHEREAS:** No harm will come by the annexation of Canada by the United States.

**WHEREAS:** It will boost the economic status for the peoples of both nations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation the United States enter into immediate negotiations with Canada for the purpose of accomplishment of annexation of Canada to the United States.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dylan Housenick*

*E.L Meyers HS*



## **A Resolution to Drastically Reduce the Funding of Welfare Programs**

- 1   **WHEREAS,**   According to the Cato Institute, the US now spends over a trillion dollars  
2                   every year on 126 different welfare programs; and
- 3   **WHEREAS,**   Welfare incentivizes low income citizens to work less and discourages  
4                   independence from the state; and
- 5   **WHEREAS,**   Since the 1960's War on Poverty by President Lyndon B. Johnson, the  
6                   poverty rate has remained essentially the same despite trillions of dollars  
7                   being put forth; and
- 8   **WHEREAS,**   Welfare has obviously not been effective and continues to waste  
9                   government spending in a negative way; and
- 10 **RESOLVED,**  By the Congress here assembled that the US Drastically Reduce the  
11                   Funding of Welfare Programs.

*Introduced by Moon Area High School*

# A Bill to Make Euthanasia an Option

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **Section 1.** Euthanasia shall be made an option for all terminally ill patients who wish to die with  
3 dignity.

4 **Section 2.** Euthanasia, or "assisted suicide," is defined as the practice of intentionally ending a  
5 person's life to relieve pain and suffering.

6 **Section 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall oversee the compliance of this  
7 legislation.

8 A. All states must submit a yearly report detailing the number of patients who  
9 choose to die with dignity. Reports must be submitted by January 25<sup>th</sup> of the  
10 following year.

11 B. Patients will only be eligible for euthanasia if he or she meets the following  
12 requisites:

13 a. Patient is at least 18 years of age.

14 b. Patient is of sound, conscious mind as deemed by a licensed physician  
15 or licensed psychologist

16 c. Patient has been diagnosed with a terminal illness that will cause death  
17 within twelve (12) months as deemed by at least two (2) licensed  
18 physicians.

19 C. Patients who meet all prerequisites must make two oral requests to their primary  
20 physician, separated by at least 30 days. A written request must also be  
21 submitted with the signature of at least two witnesses. Only at this time may the  
22 physician prescribe the lethal medications.

23

24 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on October 20, 2018

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

26 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Nicholas Allis of Sayre High School.*

## **A Resolution to Expand the Use of Youth Courts in the American Juvenile Justice System**

1 WHEREAS, Large numbers of young Americans American encounter early contact with the  
2 justice system and are at greater risk for future, more serious contact as adults; and  
3 WHEREAS, Early negative exposure to the justice system may affect and limit their  
4 opportunities to contribute to society as adults, threatening significant costs to communities; and  
5 WHEREAS, Research demonstrates that the adolescent brain is not fully matured, which may  
5 contribute to bad choices and behavior; and  
6 WHEREAS, Diversion programs help young people make better choices and decrease contact  
7 with juvenile/criminal justice systems  
8 WHEREAS, Youth courts have already been shown to be a cost-effective and successful  
9 diversionary program in many states; and  
10 WHEREAS, Youth courts employ positive peer pressure to correct disruptive behavior; and hold  
11 offenders accountable; and  
12 WHEREAS, Youth courts keep at-risk youths in school, where they continue their education and  
13 are less likely to enter the formal justice systems; and  
14 WHEREAS, increased deployment and utilization of youth courts and the creation of more youth  
15 courts could result in greatly reduced recidivism and corrections costs and, now therefore be it  
16 RESOLVED that the Student Congress here assembled supports the expansion of youth courts in  
17 the American justice system.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Hampton High School*

## **A Bill to Ban School Vouchers**

**Whereas** school vouchers are offered in DC and 13 other states (Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Utah, and Vermont), and

**Whereas** President Trump has mentioned vouchers as a priority for education reform and his Secretary of Education is a supporter, and

**Whereas** using public funds to subsidize religious schools violates the separation of church and state (First Amendment), and

**Whereas** 85% of voucher students in Milwaukee attended religious schools and each Catholic School accepting voucher students received about \$1 million taxpayer dollars, and

**Whereas** school vouchers take money away from already struggling public schools, and

**Whereas** school vouchers showed no positive effect on education in Louisiana, Milwaukee, and Indianapolis according to studies.

**Now, therefore be it enacted by this student congress that all government funded school voucher programs will be eliminated and declared illegal.**

All portions of law in conflict with this one are now declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

William Tennent HS



## **A Bill to Dissolve All Existing Affirmative Action Legislation**

1.     WHEREAS,            The existing Affirmative action legislation
2.                            does not promote absolute equality;
3.     WHEREAS,            it is creating even greater division within
4.                            the country, and encourages further
5.                            racial tensions amongst its people
6.     WHEREAS,            It is essential to health and unity of our nation,
7.                            to promote the equality that our country was
8.                            founded on;
9.     THEREFORE,         be it resolved by this Student Congress here assembled that
10.                           all current affirmative action requirements be suspended
11.                           effective January 1, 2018.

*Respectfully submitted by Slippery Rock Area High School*

Synonyms for equality  
- Level playing field