

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

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Item 1. A Bill to Upgrade the US Water Infrastructure

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All water utility districts in the United States serving populations of 10,000 or
3 more will be required to replace all water mains and secondary piping
4 containing lead as well as aging water mains that have reached the end of their
5 useful lives by 2040.

6 **SECTION 2.** All water districts will be required to develop and implement long-term plans for
7 the regular replacement of water mains which exceed their expected 90-year
8 life cycles.

9 **SECTION 3.** Under the direction of the US Environmental Protection Agency, Congress will
10 allocate a minimum of \$2 billion per fiscal year in the form of state and
11 municipal grants to aid in the upgrade process. Priority for these grants will be:

12 **A.** Water districts which serve impoverished communities who would be
13 significantly impacted by higher water bills needed to pay for required
14 upgrades, and

15 **B.** Utilities serving populations of 10,000 or less.

16 **SECTION 4.** This law will take effect beginning in fiscal year 2018.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by James E. Taylor High School

1

Item 2. A Bill to Incentivize Income Equality in American Corporations

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

3 **SECTION 1.** Certain large corporations will now be levied higher corporate tax rates. The tax
4 increase shall be applied as follows:

5 A. An increase in the corporate tax rate by 2.5 percentage points if the highest
6 paid executive earns more annually than 50 times the yearly income of the
7 median worker.

8 B. An increase in the corporate tax rate by 5 percentage points if the highest
9 paid executive earns more annually than 100 times the yearly income of the
10 median worker.

11 C. An increase in the corporate tax rate by 10 percentage points if the highest
12 paid executive earns more annually than 150 times the yearly income of the
13 median worker.

14 D. No change in the corporate tax rate if the corporation meets none of the
15 previously mentioned conditions.

16 **SECTION 2.** A “large corporation” shall be defined as any public corporation operating
17 primarily in the United States that employs more than 75,000 workers in total.

18 **SECTION 3.** The Securities and Exchange Commission shall work with the Internal Revenue
19 Service to collect necessary data and levy the additional taxes.

20 **A.** The SEC shall provide the IRS with the data collected from Item 402(c)(2)(x)
21 of Regulation S-K, as established by recent reforms to the Dodd-Frank Wall
22 Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

23 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented by FY2018.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano West Senior High School

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Item 3. A Bill to Curtail Military Spending

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All federal funding allocated to the United States military shall be
3 reduced in specific areas.

4 **SECTION 2.** **A.** The United States Department of Defense shall have six months after
5 passage of this legislation to terminate the employment of 100,000
6 civilian personnel.

7 **B.** The Department of Defense shall have five years after the passage of
8 this bill reduced the number of foreign military bases by a minimum of
9 twenty-five percent.

10 **C.** The Department of Defense shall limit non-competitive contracts to
11 twenty-five percent of total contracts issued.

12 **D.** Senate Bill 327, the Audit the Pentagon Act of 2015, will be brought to
13 the floor for an up or down vote.

14 **E.** All funding allocated to the F35 program is hereby eliminated, with the
15 only exception being funding needed to maintain F35 aircraft already in
16 service.

17 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense will oversee the enforcement of the bill
18 along with the specific enforcement mechanism in the specified
19 timeframe, in conjunction with Congressional oversight.

20 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect immediately upon enactment.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Clements High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 4. A Bill to Phase out Fracking to Ensure a Safer and Cleaner America

1 E IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States federal government will begin to phase out fracking nationally.

3 **SECTION 2.** The United States federal government will coordinate regulations and penalties
4 through the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, and
5 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Phasing out is defined as
6 incrementally reducing the quantity of natural gas produced through fracking
7 from each state, resulting in a complete elimination of the practice by the year
8 2050. The phase out program shall be adjusted proportionally by state size and
9 production so as to stagnate production at a constant rate nationally, despite
10 differing quantities produced per state in the status quo.

11 **SECTION 3.** There will be a three strike program, meaning that every corporation producing
12 natural gas through fracking has an allowance of three violations before said
13 corporation must correct practices to the nationally set standard as provided in
14 this piece of legislation. For every violation following the third strike, a 5%
15 increase in corporate income tax will be imposed on the corporation violating
16 the phase out program.

17 **SECTION 4.** Fracking shall be completely phased out by 2050.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lamar High School.

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 5. The Puerto Rico Relief and Recovery Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Congress will implement the following reforms for the
3 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in order to address the current debt crisis.

4 **A.** Reform Chapter 9 of the United States Bankruptcy Code to allow the
5 territorial municipalities of Puerto Rico to declare bankruptcy.

6 **B.** Section 936 of the Internal revenue Service Code will be reenacted
7 In Puerto Rico.

8 **C.** Amend US Code Chapter 48 Section 745 to gradually allow Puerto
9 Rican bonds to be taxed by the federal government.

10 **D.** Amend the Jones Act to allow non-American ships to engage in
11 trade with Puerto Rico.

12 **SECTION 2. A.** A territorial municipality is the smallest electoral division in Puerto
13 Rico.

14 **B.** The Jones Act prevents foreign flagged ships from between the
15 mainland and Puerto Rico from carrying cargo.

16 **SECTION 3.** The US Departments of Treasury and Commerce and the IRS will be
17 responsible for the implementation of this bill.

18 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect January of 2017, and Section 1.C. will be
19 implemented at the discretion of the Department of the Treasury.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano Senior High School.

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Item 6. A Resolution to Cease Freedom of Navigation Operations in the South China Sea

1 **WHEREAS,** The United States is currently carrying out Freedom of Navigation
2 Operations (FONOPS) in the South China Sea; and

3 **WHEREAS,** The operations threaten the stability in the region and have not
4 discouraged China’s expansionary policies; and

5 **WHEREAS,** These operations harm our relationship with China and threatens the
6 stability of an already volatile region; and

7 **WHEREAS,** The FONOPS impede the ability of the United States to successfully and
8 diplomatically resolve the increasingly dangerous situation in the South
9 China Sea; now, therefore, be it

10 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
11 that the Department of Defense immediately cease all Freedom of
12 Navigation Operations with the intention of challenging China in the
13 South China Sea.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cypress Creek High School

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Item 7. A Resolution to Appropriate Funds to Guarantee Child Migrants Legal Counsel in Deportation Proceedings

1 **WHEREAS,** This government frequently initiates immigration court proceedings against child
2 migrants but does not guarantee them legal counsel; and

3 **WHEREAS,** Children who cannot afford counsel or find a pro bono attorney are forced to
4 navigate the complex immigration system on their own, even though the
5 government is always represented by a trained attorney; and

6 **WHEREAS,** In 91,000 deportation cases involving child migrants processed over the last
7 decade, 46 percent have involved children representing themselves; and

8 **WHEREAS,** The unsurprising fact that ninety Percent of these cases end in deportation is a
9 gross violation of immigration laws and 5th amendment rights to due process;
10 now, therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation for
12 solution (a call for action); and, be it

13 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled shall appropriate necessary funds to
14 the Department of Justice in order to cover the costs of legal services for child
15 migrants.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pflugerville High School.

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 8. A Bill to Reduce Concussions in the National Football League

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The National Football League, and its member teams, will implement the
3 reforms outlined in this legislation to further minimize the incidents of
4 concussions.

5 **SECTION 2.** The following changes will be made to all practices, preseason, regular season
6 and post season games in the National Football League.

7 **A.** Eliminate the kickoff (including onside kicks and free kick following a safety).

8 After a touchdown or a field goal the opponent receives the ball at their
9 own 20 yard line. After a safety, the opponent receives the ball at their own
10 35 yard line.

11 **B.** Eliminate the three and four point stance. All offensive and defensive
12 linemen (except the center) will line up in a standing position (hands on
13 knees optional).

14 **C.** Each team in the National Football League shall purchase and begin using
15 the Dynavision D2 Visual Motor Training System at their team facility.

16 **SECTION 4.** All changes will be implemented prior to the start of the 2017 National Football
17 League season. Failure of the National Football League or any of its member
18 teams to enact all changes in this legislation will result in the loss of the anti
19 trust exemption that currently applies to the National Football League.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bellaire High School.

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 9. A Resolution to Recognize the Republic of Somaliland to Stop the Growth of Terrorist Organizations in the Horn of Africa

1 **WHEREAS,** Terrorist activity is growing in the seeming anarchy of the Federal Republic of
2 Somalia and

3 **WHEREAS,** Groups like Al-Shabaab and ISIS have become threats to US security interests;
4 and

5 **WHEREAS,** The Somaliland Government has been able to provide economic stability and
6 security in its power held; and

7 **WHEREAS,** US military aid to the FRS has been ineffective in trying to curb terrorists under
8 the grasp of the government

9 **WHEREAS,** The Republic of Somaliland has been one of the only regimes able to provide a
10 system of democracy in the region

11 **WHEREAS,** The government of Somalia has not been able to help the US apprehend the
12 terrorists in its area; now, therefore, be it

13 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled recognize the Republic of Somaliland to stop
14 the growth of terrorist organizations in the Horn of Africa

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Katy High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 10. A Resolution to Eliminate Plant Biotechnology Patents

1 **WHEREAS,** Monsanto, DuPont, Syngenta and other corporations currently own more
2 than 50% of the Global Seed Patents; and

3 **WHEREAS,** Monsanto and Co. require that farmers with possession of seeds must
4 get rid of the seeds after seasons ends and can sue farmers if seeds are
5 kept in possession; and

6 **WHEREAS,** Products of Biotechnology have proven potential to help alleviate current
7 global problems such as hunger; and

8 **WHEREAS,** There have been several instances where Monsanto has sued farmers
9 due to "Patent Infringement"; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Farmers are being sued for "Patent Infringement" and for possession of
11 seeds; now, therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the recommendation that Plant
13 Biotechnology Patents be eliminated.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Klein High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 11. A Resolution to Authorize the Deployment of the Terminal High Altitude Air Defense in South East Asia to Protect ASEAN Nations

1 **WHEREAS,** Increased aggression by People’s Republic of China in the South China Sea
2 represents a real and legitimate threat to regional stability across South East
3 Asia; and

4 **WHEREAS,** Recent purported tests of thermonuclear hydrogen weapons by the Democratic
5 People’s Republic of Korea, combined with its increasingly sophisticated missile
6 technology, legitimize the need for a strong missile defense system across South
7 East Asia; and

8 **WHEREAS,** Most member states of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)
9 have high populations, but do not possess the military technology to adequately
10 defend themselves from potential missile attacks; and

11 **WHEREAS,** The Terminal High Altitude Air Defense system (THAAD) is an effective platform
12 that is proven capable in the defensive mission of missile interception in and out
13 of the atmosphere; now, therefore, be it

14 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled allocate \$1.5 billion to provide ASEAN with
15 THAAD missile systems.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School

Item 12. A Bill to Fund the Creation of a Smart Grid to Modernize the Electric Grid

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall oversee the creation of a smart
3 grid for the United States.

4 **SECTION 2.** Smart Grid shall be defined as an electrical grid which includes a variety of
5 operational and energy measures including smart meters, smart appliances,
6 renewable energy resources, and energy efficiency resources.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

8 **A.** 600 billion dollars shall be allocated for the Department of Energy to
9 distribute in the form of grants to fund the creation of Smart Grid in the US.

10 **B.** 160 million dollars shall be allocated to the Department of Energy's Federal
11 Energy Regulatory Commission to oversee the creation of the Smart Grid.

12 **C.** 10 billion dollars shall be allocated to the further development of
13 cybersecurity and infrastructure within the smart grid.

14 **SECTION 4.** By January 1, 2030, a power meter must be situated in all homes in the United
15 States and by January 1, 2040, the smart grid must be created and by January 1,
16 2050, all homes must be connected to the grid.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by A&M Consolidated High School

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Item 13. A Bill to Repeal the 2014 Farm Bill

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall repeal the 2014 Farm Bill, including its Price Loss
3 Coverage and Agriculture Risk Coverage programs.

4 **SECTION 2.** The 2014 Farm Bill expands subsidies for crop insurance, costing the government
5 \$90 billion over ten years, an increase of \$7 billion from the 2008 Farm Bill.

6 **A.** The bill disproportionately helps insurance companies and wealthy
7 agribusinesses while providing significantly less funds to lower- income farmers.

8 **B.** The bill's farm crop insurance encourages the overproduction of food on
9 marginal farmland and the excessive use of pesticides and fertilizers which can
10 contaminate water systems.

11 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture shall oversee enforcement.

12 **SECTION 4.** This law shall become effective January 1, 2017.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Richard King High School

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Item 14. A Resolution to Withdraw from the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP)

- 1 **Whereas,** The Trans Pacific Partnership currently is resulting in an excessive loss of jobs,
2 companies, and products produced within the US, due to the competition
3 between foreign companies who can afford low-pay; and
- 4 **Whereas,** this is forming economic damages within the US and is resembling the same
5 agreements, conflicts, and damages that NAFTA and the Chinese trade
6 agreement have caused; and
- 7 **Whereas,** the TPP can expatiate the release of greenhouse gases into the environment,
8 contributing to global warming; and
- 9 **Whereas,** the Trans Pacific Partnership is a harm to the US; now, therefore, be it
- 10 **Resolved,** that the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation that the
11 US withdraw from the Trans Pacific Partnership in order to resolve further
12 economic complication and to prevent further environmental issues and
13 concerns.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cypress Springs High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 15. A Bill to Ban Firearms on Post-Secondary Educational Premises

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All firearms will be banned on all Post-Secondary Educational Premises.

3 **SECTION 2.** Educational Premises pertains to any premises that provide post-secondary
4 educational opportunities, both on private and public premises. A pro-gun
5 movement has forced some post-secondary campuses in states such as
6 Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, Oregon, Utah, Texas and
7 Wisconsin to allow the carrying of firearms on their premises.

8 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Education will oversee the implementation in
9 coordination with the education boards of the states.

10 **SECTION 4.** The Bill will be implemented over the next year.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Grapevine High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 16. A Resolution to Militarily Engage Boko Haram

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Boko Haram’s brutality and casualty count is escalating; and
- 2 **WHEREAS,** The scope of their operations include guerilla warfare, attacks on government
- 3 offices, and the United Nations; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** If Boko Haram continues their operations, they will overthrow Niger, Nigeria,
- 5 Cameroon, and continue to expand their territory; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** In order to uphold our United Nations alliance, the United States must take
- 7 action; now, therefore, be it
- 8 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States militarily engage Boko
- 9 Haram.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Granbury High School.

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 17. A Bill to Mandate the Usage of Cellphone Scrambling Devices in Cars

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The installation of cell phone scrambling devices will be mandated by law
3 so that cell phones will not be operational inside moving vehicles.

4 **SECTION 2.** A Scrambling Device will be able to block or disrupt cell phone signals
5 while a vehicle is moving.

6 **SECTION 3.** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration will oversee this
7 program. All trucks and cars must be fitted with scramblers by the date of
8 implementation.

9 **SECTION 4.** This law will be in force as of September 1st, 2017.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Clark High School (Plano)

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 18. A Bill to Clarify Federal Standards to Improve Water Quality

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Clean Water Act of 1972 is to be amended to include strengthened
3 regulation for non-point sources and all water sources that affect the United
4 States.

5 A. The language “navigable waters” in the Clean Water Act is removed to
6 clarify that the law covers all levels of the hydrological cycle

7 B. The definition of non-point sources in section 502(14) of the Clean
8 Water Act as “any source of water pollution that is not a “point source””
9 is changed to reflect the following definition below.

10 C. The Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program is reformed to ensure
11 nonpoint source discharges are no longer in a voluntary compliance
12 scenario by including non-point discharge into state and national permit
13 requirements under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination
14 System (NPDES).

15 **SECTION 2.** Non-point source pollution is water pollution that results from land runoff,
16 precipitation, atmospheric deposition, drainage, seepage or hydrologic
17 modification. Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution, unlike pollution from industrial
18 and sewage treatment plants, comes from many diffuse sources.

19 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will oversee the implementation of
20 this legislation. The EPA will cooperate with state governments to ensure that all
21 entities follow region specific water regulations.

22 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into implementation in January of 2017.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano Senior High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 19. A Bill to Repeal the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 shall hereby be repealed from law.

3 **SECTION 2.** The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is a federal law that seeks to keep
4 Native American children with Native American families to prevent the
5 forced assimilation of indigenous children.

6 **SECTION 3.** It has prevented families who don't come from Native American descent
7 from adopting children, and also removed children from permanent
8 homes where they had been nurtured and cared for.

9 **SECTION 4.** This law shall take effect immediately following its passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Klein Oak High School

Item 20. A Bill to Pass the Compliance with Court Orders Act to Promote Domestic Security

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Compliance with Court Orders Act, or the Anti-Encryption Act shall
3 be passed by this Congress in order to require electronic companies to
4 provide a backdoor to their products at request of the federal
5 government.

6 **SECTION 2.** Companies would be required to assist the government in accessing data
7 that has been made unintelligible either by the company in question or
8 through a third party.

9 **SECTION 3.** Companies asked to decrypt data for the government will be responsible
10 for the decryption.

11 **A.** Entities asked to decrypt data shall be reimbursed by the government
12 for any costs obtained in the process.

13 **B.** The government cannot provide any set framework for programs
14 used by companies to make data intelligible.

15 **SECTION 4.** This bill is to go into effect by the beginning of fiscal year 2018.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lake Travis High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 21. A Resolution to Allow Opportunity Youth to Jump-start their Careers

1 **WHEREAS,** Youth who are currently unemployed or out of school often need help to find
2 connections to jobs for the future; and

3 **WHEREAS,** Currently there are 5.6 million opportunity youth or young adults between ages
4 16 and 24 in the United States, who are out of school and not working; and

5 **WHEREAS,** The United States is projected to experience a shortfall of 5 million workers with
6 education and training beyond a high school education by 2020; and

7 **WHEREAS,** Developing our workforce through every \$1 invested in national service returns
8 \$4 to society in terms of higher earnings, increased economic output, and
9 meeting public needs; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Service through voluntary programs that aim to meet public needs is associated
11 with greater employment outcomes as it enables youth to gain work experience
12 and pursue additional training; now, therefore, be it

13 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
14 for expanding the current national service infrastructure to address the unique
15 needs of opportunity youth; and be it

16 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Congress provide funding for the Corporation for National and
17 Community Service to expand national service programs.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano West Senior High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 22. A Resolution to Discontinue Authorizations for the Use of Military Force to Maintain International Peace

1 **WHEREAS,** The United States has implemented Authorizations for Use of Military Force
2 (AUMF) to wage states of war in the Middle East; and

3 **WHEREAS,** AUMFs have been used as the legal justification behind the War on Terror and all
4 of its societal burdens; and

5 **WHEREAS,** The continued usage of the Authorization for Use of Military Force perpetuates a
6 constant state of violence within the region until the Authorization is repealed;
7 and

8 **WHEREAS,** The powers provided through the AUMF have been abused at the price of
9 American dollars, lives, and basic rights; now, therefore, be it

10 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation for the
11 end of the usage of AUMFs established in 1991, 2001, and 2002 to ensure peace
12 and prevent the Authorization from being abused.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Seven Lakes High School

Item 23. A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Appropriately Manage a Vacancy on the US Supreme Court

1 **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is
2 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall
3 be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by
4 the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the
5 date of its submission by the Congress:

6 **ARTICLE --**

7 **SECTION 1:** The President must choose a Supreme Court nominee within 30
8 days after a vacancy occurs. Then, Congress must hold a vote for
9 the President’s nominee with 30 days of the nomination. If the
10 nominee is not confirmed by Congress, then the process will begin
11 again with the same time limits until a nominee has been
12 confirmed and appointed to the court. Also, during the time of a
13 Supreme Court vacancy, any tie decision for any case being
14 considered by the Court will be decided by the President making
15 the tie-breaking vote.

16 **SECTION 2:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by
17 appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Byron P. Steele, II High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 24. A Resolution to Increase Economic and Military Aid to the Economic Community of West African States to Combat China's Increased Influence in Africa

1 **WHEREAS,** The Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs labeled China's trade with
2 Africa one of the most dramatic international developments of the new
3 millennium; and

4 **WHEREAS,** China has accelerated its policy of foreign direct investment into Africa as a
5 whole, and nations of the Economic Community of West African States
6 (ECOWAS) in particular; and

7 **WHEREAS,** ECOWAS nations increasingly turn to China to provide military support and
8 equipment in their efforts to secure regional stability; and

9 **WHEREAS,** Rich mineral and rare earth element deposits in ECOWAS countries render these
10 nations strategically important for continued U.S. economic growth and national
11 defense; and

12 **WHEREAS,** China's moves to secure mining rights in ECOWAS nations requires the United
13 States to act with all haste to strengthen relations with ECOWAS nations; now,
14 therefore, be it

15 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled increase foreign aid to ECOWAS member
16 nations to \$2 billion; and, be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States provide an additional \$1 billion worth of military
18 equipment to ECOWAS nations to aid efforts to combat terrorism and to secure
19 regional stability.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 25. A Bill to Phase-Out the Federal Use of Private Prisons

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States federal government will phase out the use of Private Prisons
3 and/or For-Profit Prisons.

4 **SECTION 2.** A “Private Prison” or “For-Profit Prison” shall be defined as a place in which
5 individuals are physically confined or incarcerated by a third party that is
6 contracted by a government agency.

7 “Phase Out” shall be defined as the act of discontinuing a process or project.

8 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Justice along with the Federal Bureau of
9 Prisons shall be charged with the implementation of this bill.

10 **A.** All contracts with Private Prison Corporations shall be terminated and no
11 new contracts shall be implemented

12 **B.** Every year the United States will reduce the number of prisoners in Private
13 Prisons by 20%. Therefore in 5 years the use of Private Prisons shall be
14 completely phased-out.

15 **C.** These prisoners shall be transported to existing prisons or newly created
16 prisons.

17 **D.** These prisons must have a population under the max capacity, ensuring the
18 civil rights of the prisoners.

19 **E.** Considering the cost of building the average federal prison is twelve million
20 dollars, 500 million dollars shall be given to fund this legislation.

21 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by A&M Consolidated High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 26. The Substance Abuse Recovery Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Controlled Substance Act (CSA) shall be amended to move Ibogaine off of
3 the Schedule I list of drugs and moved to Schedule II list.

4 **SECTION 2.** The drugs under Schedule II of the CSA have some medical benefits but still need
5 strict government control, and Ibogaine is known to help patients suffering from
6 drug addiction.

7 A. Ibogaine shall be limited in use to helping those with substance addiction in
8 consultation with a licensed physician.

9 B. Use of this treatment will be limited to licensed clinics that are staffed by
10 trained medical personnel.

11 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Justice, specifically the DEA, will be responsible
12 for the enforcement of this bill.

13 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall take effect on January 1st, 2017.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by James Bowie High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 27. A Resolution to Amend the Constitution Abolish the Electoral College

1 **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is
2 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall
3 be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by
4 the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the
5 date of its submission by the Congress:

6 **ARTICLE --**

7 **SECTION 1:** A. The United States Electoral College will be dissolved and
8 individual states will no longer appoint Electors to serve as
9 members of the Electoral College.

10 B. The President and Vice President shall be jointly elected
11 through a majority of the votes cast in the national popular votes
12 of the citizens of the United States.

13 C. A Federal voter eligibility requirement will be instituted and will
14 super cede state voter eligibility requirements for all general
15 elections.

16 D. Persons voting must be over eighteen years of age, a US citizen
17 by birth or naturalization process, and legally registered to vote in
18 his or her jurisdiction. E. Persons having been convicted of a
19 felony shall have their voting rights restored upon completion of
20 their prison sentence and their term of supervised release (parole
21 or probation).

22 **SECTION 2:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by
23 appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Byron Nelson High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 28. A Resolution to Sanction Saudi Arabia to Reduce Violence in Yemen

1 **WHEREAS,** Saudi Arabia has conducted widespread and systematic violence against the
2 citizens of Yemen; and

3 **WHEREAS,** More than 3,000 lives have been lost due to ongoing attacks by Saudi Arabia
4 with over 35.7 billion dollars' worth of weapons sold by the United States,
5 United Kingdom, and France; and

6 **WHEREAS,** More than 2.5 million non-targets have been displaced, which is devastating the
7 country of Yemen; and

8 **WHEREAS,** Amnesty International and other organizations have presented compelling
9 evidence over the past year that indicates all parties to the Yemen conflict have
10 committed violent war crimes; now, therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED,** by the Congress here assembled that the U.S. pressure the United Nations to
12 sanction Saudi Arabia for committing various war crimes against Yemen; and be
13 it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States will stop all arms deals with Saudi Arabia to reduce
15 violence in Yemen.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Newman Smith High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 29. The Gun Control Compromise of 2017

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Federal firearms regulations shall be amended in the following areas:

3 **A.** The legal minimum age to purchase a firearm from a Federal Firearms License (FFL)
4 dealer, for all types of firearms, is 18 years of age.

5 **B.** It shall be unlawful, even in the case of private sales, for a firearm to be sold to any
6 person who does not pass a background check and psychiatric exam meeting the same
7 standards as would be required for a purchase from an FFL.

8 **C.** For firearm purchases from an FFL dealer, a three-day waiting period must elapse
9 before the buyer takes possession of the firearm(s).

10 **D.** Silencers and short barreled rifles (SBR's) shall cease to be regulated as Title II
11 weapons, and may be sold to anyone who is legally permitted to own a firearm, without
12 the requirement for the transfer tax or registration applicable to the transfer of Title II
13 weapons.

14 **E.** Burst fire weapons (as defined under Section 8) shall be excluded from the definition
15 of "machinegun" under 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b)

16 **F.** 18 U.S.C. § 922(o) is hereby repealed, allowing for the transfer of machineguns
17 manufactured after the date May 19th 1986 to civilians. Machineguns shall remain
18 regulated as Title II weapons.

19 **SECTION 2.** A burst fire weapon refers to any firearm which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily
20 restored to shoot more than once with a single pull of the trigger, but does so in such a manner
21 that the number of shots fired with each pull of the trigger does not exceed five, and is the same
22 number of shots each time unless the trigger is released before the burst is complete.

23 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives is responsible for the enforcement of this
24 legislation.

25 **A.** Penalty for violating Section 2 is a prison sentence not to exceed five years and/or a fine not
26 to exceed \$5,000.

27 **B.** Dealers found to be in violation of Section 3 may be fined up to \$5000 for the first offence.
28 Any further offences will result in a fine not to exceed \$10,000 and possible revocation of
29 their FFL.

30 **SECTION 4.** This law will take effect January 1st 2017.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pflugerville High School

TFA Fall 2016 Legislative Docket

Item 30. A Resolution to Repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Terrorists

1 **WHEREAS,** The United States continues to pursue active military interventions and regime
2 change; and

3 **WHEREAS,** The United States is currently engaged in combat missions in the countries of
4 Syria, Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Somalia; and

5 **WHEREAS,** These combat missions have proven themselves to be counter intuitive to US
6 foreign policy goals, as Middle Eastern interventions have proven themselves to
7 spawn more, not less, anti-US sentiment; and

8 **WHEREAS,** None of the combat operations the US is engaged in anywhere in the world is
9 authorized by a declaration of war from this Congress; and

10 **WHEREAS,** The sole legal authority the executive branch possesses to wage these conflicts is
11 the AUMF; and

12 **WHEREAS,** The Congress of the United States is the sole body with the authority to declare
13 war; and

14 **WHEREAS,** Current military interventions violate this constitutional authority; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled Repeal the Authorization for Use of Military
17 Force Against Terrorists.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Clements High School.

