

A Bill to Implement a Federal Ready Return System

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall provide taxpayers with “Ready Return” tax forms as an
3 alternative to conventional tax forms.

4 **SECTION 2.** A. The federal Ready Return system shall function as a paper or online fileable
5 tax return that is already filled out with financial information as provided to the
6 government.

7 B. Citizens that have already filed as a single taxpayer with no dependents, no
8 itemized deductions, and wage income will be eligible to participate.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of
10 this bill.

11 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of this bill shall take effect on January 1, 2021.

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Garrett Olson
Sarasota High School*

A Bill to Increase Funding for the Foster Care System

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Federal funding for the Foster Care System shall be increased from \$8 million to
3 \$16 million.

4 **SECTION 2.** Foster Care System shall be defined as the government system responsible for
5 minors being placed in wards, group homes, or private homes of a state-certified
6 care giver.

7 **SECTION 3.** A. The Federal Children's Bureau shall be responsible for enforcing the
8 provisions of this bill.

9 B. The sum of \$8 million dollars will be reallocated from the U.S. Military
10 Department of Defense budget to the Foster Care System.

11 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of this bill shall take effect January 1, 2020.

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Brooke Hardin
Sarasota High School*

A Bill to Limit How Long An Individual Can Receive Welfare to 48 Months

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The federal government of the United States shall limit the amount of welfare an
3 individual may receive to a maximum amount of 48 months.

4 **SECTION 2.** Welfare shall be defined as aid in the form of money or necessities for those the
5 government deems in need.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall be responsible for enforcing
7 the provisions of this bill.

8 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of this bill shall take effect January 1, 2020.

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

Respectfully submitted,

*William Duggan
Sarasota High School*

A Resolution to Provide Funding for High Schools to Add Mindfulness Classes

1 **WHEREAS**, High school for students can be academically and socially overwhelming; and

2 **WHEREAS**, High school students across the country may not have effective ways of relieving
3 their stress; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Mindfulness classes can help students learn how to manage their negative
5 feelings, how to maintain healthy relationships with others, and how to establish a
6 greater wellbeing for themselves; now, therefore, be it

7 **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled calls for funding in high schools for
8 mindfulness classes.

Respectfully submitted,

*Krystal Tran
Sarasota High School*

A Resolution to Sanction China

- 1 **WHEREAS**, China has repeatedly violated the human rights of the Taiwanese people; and
2 **WHEREAS**, Without swift action, China will continue to unjustly arrest and persecute innocent
3 civilians; and
4 **WHEREAS**, Sanctions will put pressure on China to change their current atrocities; now,
5 therefore, be it
6 **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled calls for US sanctions to be placed on
7 China.

Respectfully submitted,

*Blaise Lamboley
Sarasota High School*

A Resolution to Strengthen the Clean Water Act

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The Clean Water Act has been taken advantage of by many large companies; and
2 **WHEREAS,** The environment has taken a large toll from companies not paying attention to the
3 issue even after the act has been put into effect; and
4 **WHEREAS,** Water pollution has detrimental effects on human health as well as marine life;
5 now, therefore, be it
6 **RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled demands the Clean Water Act be
7 strengthened.

Respectfully submitted,

*Johnna Bowden
Sarasota High School*

A Resolution to Institute a “Loser-Pays” System in Civil Court

1 **WHEREAS**, frivolous lawsuits are an on-going problem in the US legal system which cause
2 unnecessary strain on civil court, and

3 **WHEREAS**, individuals have an incentive to bring frivolous civil action against other
4 individuals or businesses if they incur no effective cost for filing said lawsuits,
5 and

6 **WHEREAS**, frivolous lawsuits cause innocent parties to incur legal costs which can cause
7 great financial hardship and even bankruptcy; now, therefore, be it

8 **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled urges US civil courts to force plaintiffs
9 of frivolous cases to pay the legal fees of the defendants in the event that the court
10 decision goes against the plaintiff.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kory Connor
Wharton High School*

A Resolution to Abolish the Debt Ceiling

1 **WHEREAS,** The United States is the only developed nation that imposes an arbitrary
2 borrowing limit on itself; and

3 **WHEREAS,** The nature of the debt ceiling makes it possible for one faction in the Congress to
4 hold the rest of the government hostage; and

5 **WHEREAS,** The debt ceiling conflicts with federal spending bills, creating the potential for
6 recurring crises; and

7 **WHEREAS,** The absence of a debt ceiling would not result in a debt crisis, as is obvious from
8 the low yields on U.S. Treasury securities; now, therefore, be it

9 **RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled calls for the federal debt ceiling to be
10 abolished; and be it

11 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That any borrowing necessary to execute spending legislation
12 adopted by the Congress be deemed authorized upon passage of such legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Resolution to Nationalize the Coal Industry

1 **WHEREAS**, Coal as a fuel source for electric power generation is utterly unsustainable; and
2 **WHEREAS**, The coal mining industry is collapsing under competition from natural gas and
3 renewables; and
4 **WHEREAS**, The collapse of an entire industry generates significant social costs that can be
5 mitigated through careful planning; and
6 **WHEREAS**, The private sector has been unable to mitigate the costs to coal miners and
7 communities, instead choosing to take short-term profits and to leave a mess to be
8 cleaned up at taxpayer expense; and
9 **WHEREAS**, A government takeover of the industry would facilitate an orderly shutdown of
10 coal mining in the United States; now, therefore, be it
11 **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled calls for the federal government to
12 nationalize the coal mining industry for the purpose of ceasing the industry's
13 operations with all deliberate speed.

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Resolution to Replace the Gas Tax with a Mileage Tax

1 **WHEREAS**, Federal excise taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel are earmarked for the Highway
2 Trust Fund, to be used for infrastructure repairs; and

3 **WHEREAS**, The growing number of hybrid and electric vehicles will reduce the available
4 revenue for roads without reducing the number of vehicles they carry; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Electric-powered freight trucks such as the Tesla Semi will contribute to wear and
6 tear without contributing substantially to rehabilitation; and

7 **WHEREAS**, While the federal fuel taxes once served as an acceptable proxy for a tax on road
8 use and impact, they will soon cease to do so; and

9 **WHEREAS**, The distance a vehicle driven is a direct measure of road use; and

10 **WHEREAS**, A vehicle's mileage is easy to ascertain; now, therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled calls for the replacement of federal
12 vehicle fuel taxes with a mileage tax on a revenue-neutral basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Resolution to Encourage Removal of Israeli Settlements

1 **WHEREAS,** The State of Israel continues to permit, and refuses to remove, settlements well
2 outside its 1967 borders; and

3 **WHEREAS,** The intent of these settlements is to justify Israel’s retention of additional land in
4 any future negotiations with Palestinians; and

5 **WHEREAS,** The construction of settlements in places that could not reasonably be part of a
6 negotiated land swap is a threat to a future two-state solution; and

7 **WHEREAS,** The United States remains committed to a Middle East peace process culminating
8 in two safe, secure, and free states; and

9 **WHEREAS,** Only the United States is capable of putting adequate pressure on Israel not to
10 foreclose the peace process; now, therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled calls for the State of Israel to halt
12 expansion of settlements and to abandon settlements well beyond the 1967
13 borders; and be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States refuse to support, directly or indirectly, the
15 expansion or defense of such settlements.

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Resolution to Extend the Life of Nuclear Power Plants

1 **WHEREAS,** The burning of fossil fuels to generate electricity is the most easily addressable
2 major contributor to climate change; and

3 **WHEREAS,** A rapid switch from fossil fuels to renewables such as solar and wind power is not
4 feasible; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Nuclear power generation does not emit a significant amount of carbon dioxide;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS,** While the construction of nuclear power plants has a sizeable carbon footprint, the
8 maintenance of existing plants does not; and

9 **WHEREAS,** Many nuclear power plants in the United States are reaching their scheduled end
10 of life; and

11 **WHEREAS,** The need for cleaner energy justifies continued investment in these facilities,
12 whether as a long-term solution or as one step in the transition to solar and wind;
13 now, therefore, be it

14 **RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled urges the United States to invest in
15 extending the useful life of her nuclear power plants.

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Resolution to Make Medicaid a Federally Administered Program

1 **WHEREAS**, Medicaid is currently a program jointly funded and administered by federal and
2 state governments; and

3 **WHEREAS**, As a result, Medicaid eligibility and benefits vary widely from state to state,
4 creating gross inequalities in public health; and

5 **WHEREAS**, As a result of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Florida v. HHS*, the Affordable
6 Care Act’s Medicaid expansion was made optional; and

7 **WHEREAS**, States’ refusal to participate in the Medicaid expansion has led to harmful
8 outcomes, including thousands of premature deaths; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Federal administration of Medicaid would result in fairer outcomes, lower costs,
10 and better public health for the most vulnerable; now, therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled calls for Medicaid to be converted to a
12 fully federally administered program.

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

**A Resolution to Propose a Constitutional Amendment
to Allow the House to Enact Legislation without Senate Concurrence**

1 **WHEREAS**, The United States Senate has become a “legislative graveyard” due to its failure
2 to act on legislation duly adopted by the House of Representatives; and

3 **WHEREAS**, The Senate’s undemocratic nature constitutes an impermissible barrier to effective
4 governance; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Providing an alternative legislative process will enable progress while still
6 allowing passions to calm; now, therefore, be it

7 **RESOLVED**, By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is
8 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be
9 valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the
10 legislatures of three-fourths of the several states:

11 **ARTICLE --.**

12 **SECTION 1:** A bill which shall have twice passed the House of Representatives
13 in identical form, with at least six months between passage votes,
14 shall be deemed to have passed the Senate and shall be presented
15 to the President, as provided in Article I, Section 7 of the
16 Constitution.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Bill to Levy a Tax on Extreme Wealth

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

2 **SECTION 1.** A tax of 2 percent shall be levied annually upon the aggregate wealth, in excess of
3 \$50 million, of all United States persons.

4 **SECTION 2.** A. As used herein, “wealth” shall include all assets wherever held (including
5 beneficial interests in trusts, partnerships, and limited liability companies) less
6 any debts secured by said assets.

7 B. As used herein, “United States persons” shall include natural persons who are
8 citizens or residents of the United States and those who have renounced their
9 citizenship within the previous 20 years, but after the effective date of this bill.

10 **SECTION 3.** A. The Department of the Treasury shall be responsible for enforcing the
11 provisions of this bill.

12 B. If this bill is declared unconstitutional as a direct tax, the federal estate tax
13 shall be increased to 80 percent of all estates in excess of \$50 million.

14 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of this bill shall take effect on January 1, 2020.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Bill to Protect Health Care Providers' Freedom of Conscience

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

2 **SECTION 1.** No health care provider shall be required to perform a procedure or dispense a
3 substance as a condition of licensure or employment if he or she has a
4 conscientious objection to doing so.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. As used herein, a "health care provider" is any person whose practice or
6 profession is the provision of medical services and whose practice is authorized by
7 law, including but not limited to physicians, nurses, medical technicians,
8 physicians' assistants, pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians.

9 B. As used herein, an objection shall be considered "conscientious" if it is
10 unconditional and grounded in a sincerely held religious belief.

11 C. To qualify for protection under this bill, the health care provider must inform his
12 or her employer of the objection before exercising the right of refusal.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this
14 bill. Employers and licensing boards found in violation of this bill shall be fined
15 no less than \$5,000 and no more than \$25,000 per offense.

16 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of this bill shall take effect 6 months after passage.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Bill to Permit Electioneering by Houses of Worship

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Houses of worship shall be permitted to engage in electioneering while
3 maintaining their tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal
4 Revenue Code.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. As used herein, “houses of worship” shall include all not-for-profit entities
6 organized principally for religious purposes, without regard to sectarian
7 affiliation.

8 B. As used herein, “electioneering” shall be defined as participation or
9 intervention in political campaigns on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate
10 for public office or any ballot issue.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of the Treasury shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions
12 of this bill. Houses of worship that have lost tax-exempt status due to past
13 electioneering activities shall have that status reinstated retroactively to the date
14 of its revocation.

15 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of this bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Bill to Open Medicare to All Americans

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Medicare shall be opened to all citizens and residents of the United States and
3 shall be included in the federal and state Health Insurance Marketplaces.

4 **SECTION 2.** The premium for individuals who are under age 65 and not totally and
5 permanently disabled shall be the lesser of 9.5 percent of adjusted gross income or
6 the current Medicare Part A and B premiums established by law.

7 **SECTION 3.** A. The Department of Health and Human Services shall be responsible for
8 enforcing the provisions of this bill.

9 B. Funding for benefits paid in excess of premiums shall be appropriated from
10 general revenue.

11 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of this bill shall take effect on November 1, 2020.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL

A Bill to Authorize and Tax Foreign Emoluments

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Federal officials shall be permitted to receive foreign emoluments provided that a
3 99 percent excise tax is paid on said emoluments.

4 **SECTION 2.** A. As used herein, a “foreign emolument” is any payment, gift, or thing of value
5 given by a foreign government.

6 B. As used herein, an emolument is “received” if it is given to, and accepted by,
7 either the official or an entity owned by the official in whole or in part.

8 C. Nothing in this bill shall have any effect on federal bribery laws.

9 **SECTION 3.** A. The Department of the Treasury shall be responsible for enforcing the
10 provisions of this bill.

11 B. Failure to remit the excise tax within 90 days of receipt of the emolument shall
12 be punishable by a fine equal to twice the tax owed.

13 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of this bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Florida Gulf Coast CFL