

# 2022-2023

## ESC 7 Congress Legislation

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*We certify that the legislation submitted by this school for this Congress is the original work of the students of our school and has permission to be presented.*

## **A Resolution to Require Substance Abusers to Go to Rehabilitation to Lower Recidivism**

- WHEREAS,** Substance abusers are incarcerated rather than getting the proper rehabilitation; and
- WHEREAS,** The United States Sentencing Commission (USSC) found that over two-thirds of state drug offenders released from state prison were rearrested within five years; and
- WHEREAS,** When substance abusers are left without help, their addiction spirals further and return to incarceration; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following recommendation to require substance abusers and those convicted of possession of a Class A drug to go to rehabilitation centers to lower the recidivism rate and help those who are in dire need of aide.

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Tyler High School.*

# **A Bill to Require Interpreters at All Federal Buildings to Ensure Equal Access to All US Citizens**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** This bill will require all federal buildings to provide an interpreter for any language that makes up 10% of the population within that district based on the most recent census report.

**SECTION 2.** An interpreter is regarded as an employee that is fluent in the language and able to relay conversations in both languages. Languages will be both verbal (i.e. Spanish, Mandarin, Korean) and non-verbal (i.e. American Sign Language, British Sign Language).

**SECTION 3.** The implementation of this bill will be overseen by The Department of Health and Human Services.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect on at the start of the next fiscal year.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Henderson High School.*

# A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Enact Term Limits for Congress

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the UIL Congress here assembled, that the following 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:

## **ARTICLE I Section 2-3**

**SECTION 1:** The following term limits for Congress will be imposed.

- A. Members of the United States Senate will be allowed to serve a maximum of 15 years.
- B. Members of the United States House of Representatives will be allowed to serve a maximum of 11 years.
- C. Any time served in one chamber will count toward time served in the other chamber.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Center High School.*

# A Resolution to Impose Sanctions on Countries Committing Genocide to Promote Global Peace

- WHEREAS,** The current United States foreign policy allows partnering nations who are committing genocide, such as Russia and China to continue these actions and potentially cause influence to other nations to continue such actions without consequences; and
- WHEREAS,** The United States has ratified the Genocide Convention and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which are documents concerning the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide and the advocacy for equal human rights, which are to promote the welfare of nations; and
- WHEREAS,** These genocides are causing millions of women daily to be sterilized and stripped of their children and violently murdered along with terrorizing vulnerable civilian populations; and
- WHEREAS,** In 1988, the United States along with numerous other states, saw the need to prevent genocide from occurring once again but failed to take steps that will prevent this from ever happening again; now, therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled require that the United States Office of Foreign Assets Control impose sanctions on countries who are committing acts of genocide to prevent future genocide and promote the general welfare of the global community.

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Tatum High School.*

# **A Bill to Federally Mandate the Reduction of Food Waste in Schools**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States shall require all public schools to reduce food waste by combining all leftover breakfast and/or lunch food into recycle containers to be used by approved entities.

**SECTION 2.** Approved entities and recycle containers will be identified by the Department of Agriculture.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Education along with the Department of Agriculture shall oversee the enforcement of the bill.

A. The Department of Education will provide guidelines for mandated certification of containers along with the entities participating in the recycling process.

B. The Department of Agriculture will certify all processes and entities allowed to recycle.

**SECTION 4.** The bill will be implemented on September 1, 2025.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Nacogdoches High School.*

# **A Bill to Impose a Tax on Animal Feedlot Operations to Decrease Climate Change**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States will implement a \$900 tax on animal feedlot operations per every 9000 tons of carbon emitted.

**SECTION 2.** Animal feedlot operations are an agricultural enterprise in which animals are kept and raised in confined situations. Climate Change is the degradation of the environment which drastically changes the natural climate.

**SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency will oversee the implementation of this legislation. The funds generated from the tax will be used to fund other climate change negation.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately after passing.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Hallsville High School.*

## **A Bill to Ban SAWs and LCAFDs**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The sale, transfer, manufacture, knowingly importation, or possession of a semiautomatic assault weapon (SAW) or large capacity ammunition feeding device (LCAFD) are hereby banned.

**SECTION 2.** A semiautomatic assault weapon has an ability to accept a detachable magazine and has at least two of the following: A) folding or telescoping stock, B) pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon, C) bayonet mount, D) flash suppressor or threaded barrel designed to accommodate a flash suppressor, or E) grenade launcher. A large capacity ammunition feeding device means a magazine, belt, drum, feed strip, or similar device that has a capacity of, or that can be readily restored or converted to accept, more than 10 rounds of ammunition.

**SECTION 3.** The Justice Department and its branches of law enforcement officers will enforce this law. The law shall not apply to the possession, sale, or transfer of any semiautomatic assault weapon otherwise lawfully possessed under federal law on the date of enactment of the Assault Weapons Ban of 2022.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect on January 31, 2023.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Lindale High School.*

## **A Bill to Make Basic Needs Affordable**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The U.S. federal government will prevent companies, landlords, and corporations from charging more than 20% of production costs for basic needs.
- SECTION 2.** “Basic Needs” is defined as food, shelter, water, and contraceptives that human beings necessitate in order to fulfill basic requirements.
- SECTION 3.** The Department of Health & Human Services shall audit companies to verify production costs and how much they profit. If found to be selling a basic need for more than 20% of its cost, a fine of 10%-25% of the company’s annual sales will be imposed.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented on January 31, 2023.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Grand Saline High School.*

# **A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Abolish the Presidential Pardon**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the UIL Congress here assembled, that the following 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:

## **ARTICLE II Section 2**

**SECTION 1:** The President of the United States will not possess the power to grant pardons or reduced sentencing to any individual including themselves.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Shelbyville High School.*



# **A Bill to Boost Teacher Pay Through Tax Credits and Deductions to Reduce the Teacher Shortage**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The Internal Revenue Code of 1986 will be revised to provide a refundable tax credit and increased deduction for expenses for public and charter elementary and secondary school teachers.
- SECTION 2.** Teacher refers to those with at least a bachelor's degree employed full time in a public or charter school that is a teacher of record who provides direct classroom instruction. Public and charter school refers to schools that are publicly funded and free to attend for students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade.
- SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service will implement the following tax incentives
- A. The current deduction for expenses of \$250 will be increased to \$1,000.
  - B. A tax credit equal to the sum of
    - a. \$5,000, plus
    - b. \$5,000 for having a master's degree in education or their subject area, plus
    - c. \$10,000 for teaching in a Title 1 school.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will be implanted for the 2023 tax year.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Chireno ISD.*

# **A Bill to Prohibit People Under the Age of 18 from Purchasing or Possessing Energy Drinks**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Any person under the age of 18 years old shall be prohibited from both purchasing and possessing energy drinks.

**SECTION 2.** Energy drinks are defined as a beverage containing at least sixty-five milligrams of caffeine per eight fluid ounces and contains methylxanthines, B vitamins, or herbal ingredients. The term does not include coffee or any substantially coffee-based beverage.

**SECTION 3.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall enforce this bill.

- A. Anyone guilty of distributing, delivering, giving, or selling an energy drink to an individual under the age of 18 shall be punished by a fine not less than \$100 for the first offense, \$250 for the second offense and \$500 for the third offense.
- B. Additional penalties shall be levied on businesses who have repeated offenses within their establishment.

**SECTION 4.** This policy shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Chireno High School.*

# **A Bill to Implement Ranked Choice Voting to Make Every Vote Matter**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States will move from the electoral first past-the-post system to a popular vote ranked choice ballot.

**SECTION 2.** “Electoral first past-the-post system” is system in which the candidate who receives the majority of the electoral college vote is declared the winner. “Ranked choice voting” is a system in which voters rank candidates from most favorable to least favorable. After initial votes are counted, votes for the least popular candidate will have their second choice counted instead.

**SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Committee will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

A. \$15 Million shall be appropriated to the software development, construction, and distribution of voting machines that can count ranked-choice ballots.

B. States will be provided with funding based on population for the installation and operation training on new voting machines.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect during the 2026 election cycle.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Hallsville High School.*

# **A Bill to Approve the Implementation of and Funding for the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Health Care**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The use of artificial intelligence (AI) for the purpose of approved health care application will be classified as part of standard treatment for patients in need of long-term assisted care and covered within all federally funded health care insurance programs and facilities.

**SECTION 2.** It is understood that the operation of any AI system or robotic equipment will be monitored and controlled by human medical professionals. In addition, as AI technology improves and becomes increasingly autonomous, all programming and development will be designed in good faith and within the bounds of any AI related legislature passed into law by the U.S. Congress.

**SECTION 3.** This bill will be overseen by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and Energy and Commerce Committees for approval of prescribed AI care as standard practice when deemed appropriate, and for approval of funding and granting of purchasing power for AI systems and devices.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will be implemented within six months of the bill's passing.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Rusk High School.*

# **A Bill to Ban Trading of Stocks by Members of Congress**

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The Securities and Exchange Commission will require all elected members of Congress to secure any privately owned tradable assets in a blind trust. Elected members of Congress will be ineligible to actively participate in any form of stock trading for the duration of their term.

**SECTION 2.** Stock trading will be defined as any exchange of shares of any company through the stock market. A blind trust is defined as a financial arrangement in which a person in public office gives the administration of private business interests to an independent trust in order to prevent conflict of interest.

**SECTION 3.** The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, with oversight from the Securities and Exchange Commission, will oversee enforcement of this bill.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented 90 days after passing.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Tatum High School.*