

Student Congress Legislation

Texas Forensic Association

2009-2010

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1 A Bill to Abolish the US Citizenship and Immigration Bureau

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- Section 1. The US Citizenship and Immigration Bureau will be abolished.
- Section 2. Immigrants will only be denied entry into the US if they are specifically labeled as a security threat to the US
- Section 3. The responsibilities of this agency will be laid upon the Department of Homeland Security.
- Section 4. Implementation will occur immediately upon passage.
- Section 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

2 A Resolution to Reduce Piracy

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3 Whereas, Article 1 of the United States Constitution lists issuing letters of marque and
4 reprisal in Section 8 as one of the enumerated powers of Congress; and

5 Whereas, the United States, as well as the rest of the world, continues to suffer the
6 plague of piracy in key trade areas like the Gulf of Aden, the Chinese coast, and
7 the Caribbean; and,

8 Whereas it would be extremely inefficient to post a permanent U.S. Navy maritime police
9 force in these areas,

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Texas Forensic Association Student Congress here to issue
11 letters of marque to U.S. citizens in an effort to reduce world-wide piracy.

1 **3 A resolution to deploy a missile defense system in Europe**

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3 WHEREAS the Taliban have posed a threat to the security of the Pakistani government
4 and the nuclear weapons they possess, and

5 WHEREAS Iranian leadership has gone on record numerous times stating their
6 opposition to the United States and Israel, and

7 WHEREAS missile technology in the hands of radical groups can pose a threat to
8 thousands of people in Europe, and

9 WHEREAS once a missile is launched, it is difficult to stop its ultimate destructive power
10 without a missile defense system:

11 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Texas Forensic Association Student Congress
12 here assembled that the United States should continue with the deployment of an
13 operational missile defense system based in Europe as soon as possible.

4 A Resolution for a Skilled Workforce

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WHEREAS, The current educational system discriminates against those who are not college bound by giving these students no system in which to develop trade specific skills; and

WHEREAS, This is evidenced by the fact that McDonald's and Wal-mart are the largest employers in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Many individuals graduate high school with no relevant job skills and are thus qualified for only the most menial jobs; and

WHEREAS, This leaves a significant portion of the population vulnerable to poverty and subsequent criminal activity due to the lack of options afforded to them by the current educational system; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Texas Forensic Association Student Congress here assembled that the federal government shall require all public schools to provide an alternative vocational path of education following the 10th grade of high school.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the choice to follow the vocational path is optional and can be reconsidered by a student at any point during their high school career.

5 A Resolution to Decrease Financial Fraud

Whereas, a critical part of solving our current financial crisis, and preventing future abuses, is to bring to justice those who caused it through fraudulent acts, and

Whereas, law enforcement resources directed to financial fraud have been severely diminished in the last several years, and

Whereas, recent reports indicate that the FBI's staffing for white collar crimes such as mortgage fraud has decreased significantly since 2001, and

Whereas, strike forces and additional FBI agents utilized in the 1980's yielded hundreds of convictions and hundreds of millions of dollars in restitution; therefore,

Be it resolved by the student congress here assembled that:

Section 1: The United States shall employ significantly more FBI agents, assistant U.S. Attorneys, and SEC officials to crack down on Ponzi schemes, and

Section 2: Investment fund operators must provide greater transparency by disclosing their fees and other information about investment strategies, and

Section 3: Investment fund managers are further required to obtain a license and conduct annual audits.

1 **6 A Resolution to Limit the Time Spent Playing Video Games**

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3 WHEREAS, many people have died or been injured by playing video games; and

4 WHEREAS, there have been thirteen deaths and counting by starvation and

5 dehydration that were linked to playing World of Warcraft and over ten deaths by

6 playing Final Fantasy XI; and

7 WHEREAS, if this continues, more people will die or be injured from excessive

8 playing; and

9 WHEREAS, unless stopped by an outside person, many people will not stop playing

10 video games and starve themselves, or injure themselves; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, that the Student Congress here assembled require that video game

12 manufacturers put a timer on their video games that turns off the game after it

13 has been played for an extended period of time and prevents the player from

14 restarting until a set time has elapsed.

7 A Resolution to Strengthen the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

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4 Whereas, the United States made it a goal to be a nuclear free nation but seems to have
5 lacked the ambition to accomplish this for the last few years, and
6 Whereas, former President Bush ignored the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty by having
7 economic ties with Germany to produce new nuclear weapons, and
8 Whereas, the actions of former President Bush only exacerbated tensions with the
9 Middle East, and
10 Whereas, Iran continues to threaten other nations with the development of nuclear
11 weapons to gain power, and
12 Whereas, Iran's goal to obtain nuclear weapons is seen by American citizens as no
13 more than a threat of terrorism, and
14 Whereas, Iran's government has said many times that America is their enemy and
15 collaborating with Al Queada is in their best interest, and
16 Whereas, passing this piece of legislation would advocate fighting a war on terrorism as
17 well as stopping their double standards, and
18 Whereas, President Obama as well Vice President Biden want to strengthen the
19 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, therefore be it
20 Resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that the United States strengthen
21 the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty by placing stronger economic sanctions on
22 nations that hold or have a goal to obtain nuclear weapons.

8 A Resolution to increase governmental funding for NASA

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3 Whereas NASA does not currently have the funding necessary for the current projects
4 requested by the federal government, and

5 Whereas the space shuttle is being retired, and funding needs to be increased in order
6 to pay for the new fleet of space craft, and

7 Whereas US interest, and World interest revolves around space exploration for an
8 alternative place for human expansion,

9 Be it resolved by this student congress here assembled that government spending for
10 NASA be increased for the 2010-2015 period to reassess the need of permanent
11 funding increases.

9 A Resolution to End School Yard Violence

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3 WHEREAS, In 2005 1.5 million students, aged 12-18, reported being victims of non-
4 fatal crimes; and

5 WHEREAS, Eight percent of middle-school teachers reported being threatened
6 with physical injury; and

7 WHEREAS, The current penalties in schools have proven unable to deter crimes such
8 as assault and theft; and

9 WHEREAS, Students and teachers have a right to expect schools to be safe and
10 crime-free; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, By the Student Congress here assembled that: the state work with
12 schools to find a penalty that more effectively deters crime in schools; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That law enforcement take a more active role in crime
14 prevention at schools.

1 **10 A Resolution to Fund Research to Reduce Carbon Dioxide**

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3 Whereas: Peridotite, one of the main rocks found in the earth’s mantle, has been shown
4 to absorb carbon dioxide and convert it into solid carbonates such as limestone
5 or marble; and

6 Whereas: Geologist Peter Keleman and geochemist Juerg Matter, in Proceedings of
7 the National Academy of Sciences, say that the process can be supercharged to
8 grow underground minerals that can permanently store four (4) billion or more of
9 the thirty (30) billion tons of carbon dioxide emitted by human activity every year;
10 and

11 Whereas: A large amount of peridotite occurs on the surface of the earth in the desert
12 of Oman, which is conveniently close to a region that emits large amounts of
13 carbon dioxide in the production of fossil fuels. It also occurs in New Guinea,
14 Caledonia, along the coast of the Adriatic Sea and in California; and

15 Whereas: Volcanic basalt is also being studied in Iceland as another possibility for
16 carbon dioxide absorption; therefore

17 Be it resolved by this group assembled that the United States invest in further research
18 of the possible use of peridotite or other rocks as a method for storing harmful
19 greenhouse carbon dioxide.

11 A Bill to Repeal the DADT Policy

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WHEREAS, The Clinton Administration implemented the DADT policy in 1992; and
WHEREAS, Reports of “Gay Bashing” and “Lesbian Baiting” have been evident in the
military; and
WHEREAS, 12,500 troops were discharged from 1993-2003 because of their
homosexuality; and
WHEREAS, Recruiting has cost the military \$95.4 million and training replacements
for the discharged troops had cost \$95.1 million; and
WHEREAS, Twenty-two (22) countries of NATO already permit homosexuals to serve
openly in their armed forces; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, By the Student Congress here assembled that the United States federal
government repeal the Don’t Ask Don’t Tell Policy.

1 **12 A resolution to end the Overseas Contingency Operation**

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3 WHEREAS United States citizens were free from terrorist attack after President George
4 W. Bush initiated the Global War on Terrorism, and

5 WHEREAS a general philosophy of the Global War on Terrorism is the idea that it
6 would be a battle that would be waged over a long period of time, and

7 WHEREAS terrorist groups still wish to kill American citizens, and

8 WHEREAS the Obama administration declared an end to the Global War on Terrorism
9 including many Bush administration policies that were instrumental in the fight
10 against terrorism,

11 WHEREAS the term “Global War on Terror” and “Islamofacism” have been banned by
12 the administration, and the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001 is now referred
13 to as a “man caused disaster.”

14 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Texas Forensic Association Student Congress
15 here assembled that President Obama’s Overseas Contingency Operation and
16 its policies shall be ceased immediately and replaced with the policies associated
17 with the Global War on Terror conducted under the Bush Administration.

13 A Resolution to End Teen Pregnancy

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WHEREAS, a sexually active teen not using contraceptives has a 90% chance of becoming pregnant within a year and

WHEREAS, miscarriage rates are significantly higher among teens girls than a more developed woman of at least 20 years of age, and abortion ends 29% of all teen pregnancies and

WHEREAS, many teens are fearful of mental and verbal abuse from parents/guardians upon asking for contraceptives and

WHEREAS, a child of teen parent(s) is twice as likely to become another poverty stricken teen parent themselves.

RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled make contraceptive services available to minors without parental consent/notification.

1 **14 A Resolution To Regulate Travel to Mexico**

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3 WHEREAS, Drug and gang violence, as well as weapons trafficking, have increased
4 to the point that they pose a danger to Americans visiting Mexico, and

5 WHEREAS, Health issues that stem from Mexico, such as the recent Swine Flu
6 epidemic, are more difficult to control and treat outside the United States, and

7 WHEREAS, Mexican tourism is becoming increasingly dangerous, be it

8 RESOLVED, By the student Congress here assembled that regulations on travel to
9 Mexico by United States citizens be increased.

15 A Resolution to Ban Legacy College Admissions

Whereas legacy students generally grow up with every educational advantage including households that emphasize education, access to the best schools, tutoring, SAT preparation courses, and even college admissions consultants, and

Whereas legacy admissions reward teens who have squandered these advantages, and

Whereas recent movements in the United States to dismantle minority preferences in college admissions policies have ignored the impact of legacy admissions on diversity, and

Whereas a recent study of college admissions data indicated that approximately 15 percent of freshmen enrolled in America's most selective universities were Caucasian teens who failed to meet their institution's minimum admission standards, and

Whereas universities with the greatest number of legacy admissions were also the universities with the least racial and economic diversity, and

Whereas middle class students have been steadily squeezed out of the most selective universities by legacy admission policies, and

Whereas legacy admissions may violate the Constitution's "nobility" ban which prohibits conveying rights through heredity, and

Whereas the Caltech example proves that alumni will continue to contribute to their alma maters without the incentive of legacy admissions, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the student congress assembled that legacy admissions should be prohibited at all colleges and universities in the United States.

16 A Resolution to Legalize Marijuana

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Whereas, recent legislation in California has estimated its Cannabis Sativa crops as a \$14-billion industry, placing it above vegetable and grapes, and

Whereas, allowing legalized taxation of this state's crop alone could produce upward of \$1-billion in tax revenue for the state each year, and

Whereas, medical use of marijuana is already legal in several states, and

Whereas, legislation would allow the U.S. Government regulation of production and distribution, just as with tobacco and alcohol, and

Whereas, legalizing marijuana would allow law enforcement agents to focus on more serious crimes, and

Whereas, the current U.S. economy would benefit greatly from its own source of income and reduction in reliance on foreign aid; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by this NFL District Student Congress here assembled that Cannabis Sativa, otherwise known as Marijuana, be legally sold, regulated and taxed in the United States of America.

17 A Bill to enact a Fair Tax system

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Income tax, employment tax, corporate tax and estate and gift tax will be repealed.

SECTION 2. A national sales tax of 25% will be instated on all goods, excluding food and property or services purchased for business, export, or investment purposes, and for state government functions.

SECTION 3. The Internal Revenue Service will be reformatted to ensure lawful obedience of these measures.

SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect April 16, 2010.

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void, including the existing tax code.

18 A Resolution to Extend Free Trade

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WHEREAS, The International Economic Crisis requires multi-national cooperation to combat global stagnation; and

WHEREAS, The Western Hemisphere has an established but fragmented series of free-trade zones; and

WHEREAS, It is of strategic importance to limit Russian and Chinese Soft Power influence in South and Central America; and

WHEREAS, The United States is presented with an unprecedented opportunity to expand Soft Power influence and curb Venezuelan Influence; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by this TFA Student Congress here assembled that the United States will take steps to create a hemispheric free trade zone incorporating MercoSur and NAFTA with the previously proposed CAFTA Zone.

19 A Resolution Regarding Legal Immigrants

Whereas the Department of Labor (DOL) will grant an approved labor certification request to employers only if there are no qualified U.S. workers able, willing, and available to accept the job at the prevailing wage for that occupation in that area, and

Whereas, the dependents of H visas do not receive SS numbers and,

Whereas they are further ineligible to receive federal education grants and loans, and

Whereas the costs of obtaining and H-1B working visas total an average of \$3000 per visa, and

Whereas the US grants a total of 65 000 H-1B visas per year,

Whereas the Permanent Residency Application costs include lawyer fees among other expenses and takes an average of five (5) years, and

Whereas upon turning the age of 21, offspring dependents of the visa are no longer considered part of the visa constituents, and

Whereas vital fields such as education and nursing are in high demand of workers,

BE IT RESOLVED by the TFA Student Congress here assembled that

1) the US Federal Government grant an increased number of working visas to fit the high demand,

2) SS numbers be granted to the dependents of visas and that they are made eligible for federal grants and loans, and

3) the Resident Alien Application be speeded up,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) will be given 1 year to enforce this piece of legislation.

1 **20 A Resolution to Establish Justified Punishment**

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3 Whereas, the amount of drug trafficking in the United States has gradually increased,
4 impeding the progress of the “war on drugs,” and

5 Whereas, the drug trafficking industry is detrimental to American society and health,
6 and

7 Whereas, the CDC proclaims that the number of deaths caused by the overdose of
8 illegal drugs rose by 62.5% between 1999 and 2004, and

9 Whereas, dangerous, illegal drug abuse is increasing among children under the age of
10 twelve due to new variations of harmful chemical and natural substances, and

11 Whereas, drug trafficking causes a chain reaction of addiction, leading to the
12 destruction of lives and societal order

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT the
14 United States adopts the death penalty as a possible sentence for drug
15 traffickers located in the United States’ jurisdiction.

1 **21 A Resolution to Implement Universal Health Care in America**

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3 WHEREAS, the infant mortality rate of the United States is higher than that of poverty-
4 stricken Cuba, and

5 WHEREAS, Americans receive the recommended care only about 55% of the time, and

6 WHEREAS, more than 75% of Americans are not satisfied with the total cost of health
7 care, and

8 WHEREAS, approximately 46 million Americans do not have healthcare, and

9 WHEREAS, numerous uninsured Americans are denied aid in many hospitals, therefore

10 Be it resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that universal health care be
11 implemented in the United States by 2010.

1 **22 A Bill to Decrease US Foreign Oil Dependency**

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

4 SECTION 1. The US will decrease its foreign oil dependency by 1 million barrels per
5 fiscal year.

6 SECTION 2. All imports will cease after the US has reached its foreign oil dependency
7 limit.

8 SECTION 3. This will be enforced by the US Foreign Relations Committee.

9 SECTION 4. This bill will be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

1 **23 A Resolution to Increase Multilateralism to Promote**
2 **Democracy and Peace**

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4 WHEREAS, The United States' reputation for supporting democracy and peace was
5 damaged by the "Bush Doctrine" and isolationism; and

6 WHEREAS, International cooperation is required to address problems such as global
7 terrorism, poverty, and pandemics; and

8 WHEREAS, Peace Keeping Operations are required to prevent and end genocides
9 which pose a threat to the international arena; and

10 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama deserves the support of Congress in promoting
11 peace and mending multilateralism; and

12 WHEREAS, The United States' soft power was significantly damaged by the Regan
13 Administration's rejection of the International Court of Justice and the Bush
14 Administration's rejection of the International Criminal Court; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled increase the United States'
16 cooperation with the all international organizations that it is a member to,
17 specifically the United Nations (and all sub-branches thereof); and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this congress moves to repeal the American Service
19 Member Protection Act, along with "Article 98 Agreements," and ratify the Rome
20 Treaty

1 **24 A Resolution to Eliminate the 10% Admittance Rule**

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3 Whereas, the top 10% of seniors are automatically accepted to any public Texas
4 University or College; and

5 Whereas, these students have earned academic recognition for acceptance into any
6 Texas University or College, among other private universities; and

7 Whereas, the 10% "Admittance Rule" does not take into consideration the difficulty of
8 the high school, or the size of the senior class;

9 Resolved, by this Texas Forensic Association assembly that the 10% Admittance Rule
10 shall be removed to create a further sense of equality for every student with the
11 aspirations to pursue a means of higher education.

25 A Resolution to Promote Nuclear Power

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WHEREAS, The United States is currently experiencing an energy crisis, and
WHEREAS, Coal-fired power plants are contributing to global warming, and
WHEREAS, Completely renewable energy sources, such as wind or solar, will take
years to develop into efficient and cost-effective sources, and

WHEREAS, Nuclear power plants are cost-effective and do not pose a substantial
risk, be it

RESOLVED, By the student Congress here assembled that funding for nuclear energy
programs be increased

26 A Resolution to protect the stubborn

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WHEREAS, Current governmental policies prohibit the removal of citizens from their homes in the event of a disaster warranting MANDATORY evacuations; and
WHEREAS, During Hurricane Ike 140,000 citizens ignored evacuation orders, culminating in some 1,984 rescues of citizens who CHOSE to stay; and
WHEREAS, Wasted rescues take emergency crews time from helping the individuals who cannot evacuate or are in need of medical care; and
WHEREAS, Governments are put in a position where they cannot protect their citizens; and
WHEREAS, 48 citizens from mandatory evacuation zones died during Hurricane Ike; and
WHEREAS, Rescues place an unwelcome financial burden upon the taxpayers; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the NFL Student Congress here assembled that Both local and state governments will be given the power to remove citizens from their homes in the event of a disaster warranting MANDATORY evacuation; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That all necessary transportation and assistance will be provided for the individuals falling under said situation.

27 A Resolution to Reinstate the Golden Horde

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3 Whereas: the United States continues to see the rise of China, Russia, and North Korea
4 as both militaristic and economic powers; and

5 Whereas: Mongolian troops are members of peacekeeping military forces in such
6 theaters as Sierra Leone, Iraq, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Western Sahara, Liberia, and
7 Afghanistan; and

8 Whereas: Mongolia, as one of the United States' allies, acts as a buffer against anti-
9 American states while only operating on a military budget of 23 million dollars;
10 and

11 Whereas: Mongolian troops are in as many conflicts as the United States but are still
12 using Cold War Era equipment; and

13 Whereas: Mongolia's primary military goal is to protect itself from Russian and Chinese
14 political agendas,

15 Be it resolved by the group here assembled that the United States divert 15 million
16 dollars to be used as military funding for the Mongolian Army.

28 A Resolution to Aid the Ecuadorian Plight

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Whereas, the worldwide perception of Americans has become increasingly negative due to destructive patterns, and
Whereas, the Ecuadorian devastation due to American oil companies improperly disposing of their waste is one of many examples of negligence,
Whereas, many of the people affected by the chemicals in their water supply and environment go untreated and largely ignored,
Whereas, their claims are not being taken as seriously as the issue merits
Whereas, the sizeable American presence in many lesser developed nations is now largely scorned and treated contemptuously, and
Whereas, the United States needs the support of the global community as they are interconnected,
Be It Resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that the United States federal government have the aforementioned oil companies make reparations to the people affected by their negligence and that the government take immediate action to aid the recovery of the region.

1 **29 A Resolution to Increase Media Technology in All Schools**

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3 WHEREAS, Technology is a vital part of today's society and an effective teaching tool;

4 and

5 WHEREAS, Many jobs are based on the ability to utilize technology; and

6 WHEREAS, It is necessary to the preparation for the successful futures of American

7 students; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled allow for the increase of

9 media technology in ALL schools; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That lower income districts receive assistance in making this

11 possible

1 **30 A Resolution to Add Clean Coal Technology to All Coal-fired**
2 **Power Plants.**

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4 WHEREAS, Coal-fired power plants are a major source of air pollution contributing to
5 at least 18% of total nitrogen oxide pollution; and

6 WHEREAS, One of the contributing factors is that nitrogen oxide emissions from huge
7 dirty coal plants in one region can easily pollute areas hundreds of miles
8 downwind, and the American Lung Association estimates that 140.5 million or
9 almost half of all Americans live in areas with unhealthy levels of smog; and

10 WHEREAS, Smog can cause a variety of health problems, and scientists have
11 concluded that exposure to smog can be deadly and affects everyone; and

12 WHEREAS, Clean coal technology has made it possible to reduce nitrogen oxide
13 emissions and those of other gases; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, by this Student Congress here assembled, that clean coal technology be
15 added to all coal-fired power plants in operation.

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31 A Bill to lower the age of legality

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
Section 1. The new age of legality for adulthood be lowered from 18 years of age to 16 years of age.
Section 2. Legality will refer to a person's right to legally sign contracts and be declared an adult in all legal and commercial settings.
Section 3. This bill will take effect immediately upon passage.
Section 4. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

1 **32 A Resolution to Restrict Public Surveillance Technology**

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3 Whereas public surveillance is an inescapable aspect of everyday life with cameras in
4 hanging from the sides of buildings, on traffic lights, at ATM machines, in
5 homes, stores, and parking lots, and

6 Whereas, the constitutionality of public surveillance has often been questioned under
7 the Fourth Amendment because it can be used to track people, and

8 Whereas, the probability of abuse of public surveillance becomes more likely as
9 advancements in technology are made, and

10 Whereas, the annual funding that goes into public surveillance does not prove effective
11 because crimes rates have not been significantly lowered due to public
12 surveillance technology, therefore

13 Be It Resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that the federal government
14 cut funding for public surveillance and will limit the use of public surveillance for
15 everything other than the reduction of crime.

1 **33. A Resolution to Discontinue Development-related Aid to**
2 **Africa**

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4 WHEREAS, Development-related aid to Africa has been detrimental; and

5 WHEREAS, the United States Federal Government has in previous years sent \$1
6 billion to as much as \$9 billion in development aid making this one of the most
7 significant development-related expenditures; and

8 WHEREAS, This developmental aid has actually worsened conditions in Africa; and

9 WHEREAS, In order to promote a more stable and democratic Africa this
10 development-related aid must be discontinued; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled incrementally decrease over
12 the course of exactly 5 years and eventually cease foreign aid for economic,
13 social, or political development going to African nations

34 A Resolution to Solve the Inequality in Marriage

WHEREAS, Same-sex couples do not have the same legal rights and federal protections in Civil Unions as those in opposite-sex marriages do; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 5 percent of American identifies themselves under the category of "homosexual" (which includes gay, lesbian, bi, or transgendered); and

WHEREAS, The Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional on the grounds of violating the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, which provides that "no state shall... deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws"; and

WHEREAS, Religious views and opinion are not legal ground and basis for opposition and ban, as we are a society that fundamentally separates church and state; and

WHEREAS, The American Psychology Association has stated that homosexuality is not a choice; there has been little evidence to prove it as such; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Student Congress here assembled that, a federal law, binding to the states as well, be passed allowing for members of the same sex who wish to have the equal, legal benefits as those in heterosexual marriages be fully allowed to do so; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an amendment be passed that prohibits the definition of marriage to be strictly defined as "between a man and a woman".

35 A Resolution To Remove The Brazilian Ethanol Tariff

Whereas, the cost of American E85 ethanol will cause the average driver \$1,600 more than using conventional diesel gasoline because of the small amount of corn ethanol produced in the U.S. and;

Whereas, Brazil has been striving toward energy independence, since the 1973 oil embargo, and is now the largest supplier of cellulosic ethanol in the world and;

Whereas, the \$0.54 tax on imported Brazilian ethanol has let the U.S. corn ethanol industry monopolize the market despite it's in superior efficiency to sugarcane and;

Whereas, the use of ethanol lowered the U.S. trade deficit by \$5.1 billion by eliminating the need to import 143 million barrels of oil and;

Whereas, the use of Brazilian sugarcane can lead to a higher commodity price for sugar producers in Brazil, with the potential to lift thousands out of poverty and;

Whereas, the recent use of the corn in ethanol has risen corn prices more than 80 percent since last summer, from \$2.17 to nearly \$4 a bushel, leaving many Latin American countries unable to afford basic food staples;

Resolved, by the student congress assembled here today that we remove the \$0.54 tax on imported sugarcane from Brazil so American drivers, the American economy, the Brazilian economy, and Latin American countries may benefit from the uses of cellulosic ethanol.

1 **36 A Resolution Concerning Fertility Industry Regulation**

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3 Whereas many children conceived through anonymous sperm and/or ova donation have
4 developed medical problems which may be hereditary, and

5 Whereas there is currently no system in place that requires clinics to verify or maintain
6 medical records of anonymous donors, and

7 Whereas there is currently no tracking system to determine how many times individuals
8 donate sperm or ova nor how many children are born from those donations, and

9 Whereas this lack of information undermines the credibility of the fertility industry,
10 therefore

11 Be it resolved by the student congress assembled that the federal government should
12 establish a highly secured national registry for the medical records of all
13 individuals who make sperm or ova donations for the purpose of artificial
14 insemination that would protect the privacy of donors but allow access to medical
15 histories to offspring, and

16 Be it further resolved that fertility clinics and donor sites should be required to verify
17 medical history of donors, update medical records, track births resulting from the
18 donations and report all information to the national registry

1 **37 A resolution to ban a cap and trade policy**

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3 WHEREAS a cap-and-trade system necessarily harms the economy because it is
4 designed to raise the cost of energy, and

5

6 WHEREAS given the current economic crisis, an expensive energy policy is a bad
7 idea, and

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9 WHEREAS almost all acts of economic production are powered by combusting fossil
10 fuels, and

11

12 WHEREAS a cap and trade policy initiated by the United States would not bring a
13 reduction in greenhouse gases by China or India.

14

15 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Texas Forensic Association Student Congress
16 here assembled that the United States federal government should not implement
17 a cap and trade system

38 A Bill to Reform Election Voting Day

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government Declare the 2nd Saturday in
November as Election Day.

SECTION 2. The first Tuesday in November will be replaced by the 2nd Saturday in
November.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission will oversee the change of days.

SECTION 4. The Election Day Change will take effect for the Presidential Elections in
2012.

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

39 A Resolution to Fund Robotics Research

Whereas, warfare waged by the United States military and United States-based Private Military Contractors often results in heavy loss of life both of fighters and civilians, and

Whereas, past trials have shown the effectiveness of unmanned military craft such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in operations ranging from search and rescue to precision strikes, and

Whereas, mechanized units such as those mentioned can take advantage of a wide range of information-gathering technology such as thermal and infrared imaging not readily available to standard troops, and

Whereas, mechanized units are generally more precise than humans allowing them to be used for specialized tasks, and

Whereas, the primarily urban warfare that is ongoing in Iraq and Afghanistan hinges more on information and reconnaissance than manpower and robots are better suited to this form of combat, and

Whereas, roadside bombs take a heavy mortal toll on soldiers and civilians alike in these conflicts and robots would be well implemented in bomb detection and disposal roles, therefore

Be It Resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that the United States government allocate more funds, resources, and manpower to develop robots for military tasks including: reconnaissance, search and rescue, bomb disposal, transport, precision strikes, and urban combat.

1 **40 A Resolution to Combat the Counterfeit Drug Trade**

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3 Whereas trafficking in counterfeit pharmaceuticals has become one of the world's fastest
4 growing criminal enterprises, and

5 Whereas the World Health Organization estimates that more than 30% of the medicines
6 sold in Africa, Asia, and Latin America are counterfeit, and

7 Whereas the WHO also estimates half of all drugs purchased over the internet, some of
8 which enter the United States through generic drug labels, fail simple tests for
9 active ingredients, and

10 Whereas many of these counterfeit medicines are purchased and administered in
11 developing countries in the treatment of AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and other
12 life-threatening illnesses, and

13 Whereas as many as one million people die each year from the administration of these
14 fakes, and

15 Whereas counterfeiters often dilute the active ingredients in drugs so that they pass
16 simple inspections, and

17 Whereas these diluted drugs provide no medical benefit to the users but allow the
18 diseases they are used to treat to adapt and become resistant to treatment,
19 therefore

20 Be it resolved by the student congress assembled that the United States federal
21 government should impose sanctions on nations that fail to enforce regulations
22 on the manufacture and trade of counterfeit drugs, and

23 Be it further resolved that the United States should use its influence in the United
24 Nations and World Trade Organization to spur international action.

1 **41 A Resolution to Halt the Use of Biometric passports**

2
3 Whereas, the United States currently only issues biometric passports that contain chips
4 that authenticates the identities of U.S. citizens who travel abroad and

5 Whereas, these passports contain face- recognition chips and

6 Whereas, the biometric chips will broadcast all personal information on a passport to
7 anyone who comes within range of the biometric chip reader and

8 Whereas, the standard that was adopted includes no encryption or other measures to
9 protect that information and

10 Whereas, “cloning” these passports by collecting data off the passport chip and then
11 copying it in its entirety onto another biometric chip would create security issues
12 and

13 Whereas, once in full use, the biometric passports will likely influence the creation of
14 national identity documents and threaten to facilitate tracking and loss of privacy
15 around the globe

16 Therefore, Be It Resolved, by this Texas Forensic Association Student Congress, here
17 assembled that the United States Government should immediately halt all use of
18 biometric passports

42 A Resolution to Justify Justice

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WHEREAS, There have been two hundred and thirty-three (233) people exonerated by DNA testing in this country, and more than three quarters (3/4) of them were sent to prison primarily because an eyewitness pointed a finger; and

WHEREAS, The suspect identification process is proven to be flawed and has been changed in only a few states; and

WHEREAS, Countless lives can be saved and innocent people will not have to spend huge parts of their lives in prison for no reason; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Student Congress here assembled that: lineups should be presented one person at a time instead of all at the same time thus reducing misidentifications resulting from witnesses making comparisons in the lineup rather than determining which one looks the most like the perpetrator; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the individual conducting the photo or live lineup should not know the identity of the actual suspect to escape any intentional or unintentional influences.

43 A Resolution on Foreign Adoption

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Whereas the widespread belief that millions of healthy infants and toddlers have been abandoned or orphaned due to AIDS or war is merely a myth manufactured by profit-seeking international adoption agencies, and

Whereas adoption fees which are disproportionately high for children's home countries have led to kidnapping, corruption, and trafficking in children to meet Western demand, and

Whereas many Western adoptions are brokered through private agencies without any review by a judge or social service agency to determine the fitness of prospective adoptive parents, and

Whereas the number of international adoptions has doubled each year over the last decade and Americans account for more than half of all these adoptions, therefore

Be it resolved by the student congress assembled that the United States federal government should place restrictions on international adoptions that limit adoption fees to cover only legitimate costs such as medical care, food and clothing in amounts proportional to the local economies where the children are adopted.

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44 A Resolution to Ban use of Non-Organic Pesticides

WHEREAS, non- organic pesticides can be toxic to humans and can build up in the human body contributing significantly to disease; and

WHEREAS, 547 average deaths a year have been related to pesticide poisoning; and

WHEREAS, organophosphate-induced protein deformation, Alzheimer's and related diseases have been frequently related to causes from non-organic pesticides; and

WHEREAS, mental instability has also been a side effect of pesticides running into drinking water; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that all non-organic pesticides be replaced with organic or natural pesticides.

1 **46 A Resolution Concerning Invisible Children of Africa**

2
3 WHEREAS, Children are being abducted, murdered, tortured, raped, and forced to do
4 the same to other peoples by Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army
5 (LRA); and

6 WHEREAS, Since the late 1980s more than 20,000 children have been abducted, and
7 8,500 of those since 2002 alone; and

8 WHEREAS, The adults of the affected area are not going to live forever and so when
9 they die, and these children are dying, the population will drop by a large
10 percentage; and

11 WHEREAS, An estimated 90% of the LRA consists of abducted children; now,
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled make the following
14 recommendation for solution. That the United State Government pressure
15 Uganda to put an end to the LRA and Joseph Kony's abduction of children; and,
16 be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the United States Congress promote programs that
18 advocate and end to this war on children.

1 **47 A Bill to Run Government Operations With Alternative Energy**

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

4 SECTION 1. The United States federal government will change the method of using
5 fossil fuels to power government buildings, schools, offices, and public modes of
6 transportation with a varieties of different kind of alternative energy, such as wind
7 and solar, to combat climate change.

8 SECTION 2. Solar, wind, hydroelectric, tidal and biomass will fall under the category of
9 alternative energy. Any other energy that contains oil, petroleum, or any other
10 method that release a large amount of carbon dioxide shall stand under the term
11 "fossil fuels".

12 SECTION 3. The Department of Energy of the U.S will be in charge of replacing fossil
13 fuels with alternative energy.

14 A. They will also be in charge of informing the citizens about using
15 alternative energy instead of fossil fuels for a cleaner planet.

16 B. Models for successful home transference will also be published.

17 SECTION 4. The bill will be fully effective by the end of 2012 so the government could
18 have a reasonable amount of time to prepare for the change.

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

1 **48 A Bill to Reform the Old Age, Survivors, and Disability**
2 **Insurance Program**

3
4 BE IT ENACTED by the Texas Forensic Association Student Congress here assembled
5 that:

6 SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government shall no longer be allowed to
7 borrow funds from the Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance program.

8 SECTION 2. Individuals would be allowed to divert their half (6.2 percentage points) of
9 the payroll tax to individually owned, privately invested accounts. Those who
10 chose to do so would agree to forgo all future accrual of retirement benefits
11 under the traditional Social Security System.

12 SECTION 3. The remaining 6.2 percentage points of payroll taxes would be used to pay
13 transition costs and to fund disability and survivors' benefits. This percentage will
14 be adjusted after the transition is completed.

15 SECTION 4. Workers who chose the individual account option would receive a
16 "recognition bond" based on the accrued value of their lifetime to- date benefits.
17 Those bonds, redeemable at the worker's retirement, would be fully tradable in
18 secondary markets.

19 SECTION 5. Those who wished to remain in the traditional Social Security system
20 would be free to do so, accepting a level of benefits payable with the current level
21 of revenue.

22 SECTION 6. This law will be administered by a newly established OASDI Reform
23 agency which will be independent of the Social Security Agency and will go into
24 effect no later than six months after passage of this legislation.

49 A Resolution Concerning Illegal Immigrants

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Whereas, four million children were born in the United States into families with at least one parent here illegally in 2008, and

Whereas, Texas is home to about 1.4 million illegal immigrants, and

Whereas, anyone separated from his/her parents faces extreme hardship, and

Whereas, more than 108,000 parents of United States citizens have been deported over the past decade, therefore

Be it Resolved by the assembled Student Congress that the United States should seek to legalize the illegal parents of United States citizens who reside within its borders.

50 A Resolution to fix the Tax System

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Whereas, under the current tax system there is an unfair distribution of taxation with the top 10% wealthiest people paying over half the countries taxes, and

Whereas, if we continue to heavily tax these people then, eventually, they will leave our country in favor of lower tax rates abroad, and

Whereas, if these corporations leave our country then we will face economic ruin for our economy as well as government revenue, and

Whereas, if we were to adopt a flat tax rate then we would encourage success rather than discourage it, and

Whereas, in current economic times we cannot afford any more economic hardships, and

Whereas, if we cut corporate tax levels then they will have more capital with which to expand their businesses and create jobs, therefore

Be it resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that all standing federal taxes on American constituents be abolished and replaced by the implementation of a flat tax system with a rate to be determined at a later time will be established on the sale of all goods and services. This tax will effect all those above the poverty line at the same fixed rate regardless of their income level in order to encourage economic growth, and

Be it further resolved that the IRS be abolished, since compliance with the tax code will be automatic with the purchase of any good or service in the economy.

51 The Pirates of Somalia Resolution

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Whereas: Pirates off of the coast of Somalia have attacked over 100 ships, held over a dozen vessels and over 200 crew members hostage, and taken in 300 million dollars in ransom, disrupting one of the world’s busiest shipping lanes; and

Whereas: When the Sirius Star oil supertanker was hijacked, the oil on board represented more than a quarter of Saudi Arabia’s daily oil output. The news of this hijacking caused the price of oil to jump by more than one dollar per barrel; and

Whereas: United Nations Food Program Supply Lines are being cut by the pirate attacks, threatening the ability to feed over a million Somalis; and

Whereas: A Ukrainian vessel carrying T-72 tanks and other weapons was hijacked. This, on top of the influx of money to warlords who likely will purchase an influx of weapons, presents a serious threat to an already war torn land; and

Whereas: Since Somalia’s last functioning government was overthrown in 1991, rival warlords, in collusion with corrupt officials, have found that armed extortion in the form of piracy is one of the few ways to make a living in Somalia; therefore

Be it resolved by this group assembled, that the United States support the United Nations in combating piracy through the following methods: increased intelligence, use of satellites to track pirate “mother ships”, sanctions of corrupt Somali officials, development aid to create job alternatives, “ship riders” to arrest pirates, and other support that could pursue pirates at sea and on land.

1 **52 A Resolution Concerning Preparation for a Flu Epidemic**

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3 Whereas, the current swine flu epidemic has 822 confirmed cases (642 in the US), with
4 29 deaths, and

5 Whereas, World Health Organization will soon be upgrading the pandemic to level 6 due
6 to the continued spread of the disease,

7 Whereas, the WHO is considering the option of ordering production of an influenza A
8 H1N1 swine flu vaccine, and

9 Whereas, current egg-based vaccine manufacturing techniques take anywhere from 4 to
10 6 months to mass produce a usable vaccine, and

11 Whereas, "Most influenza vaccines for Americans are manufactured in other countries,"
12 and

13 Whereas, some companies have already begun researching new vaccination production
14 techniques, and

15 Whereas, the use of these techniques would prevent the outbreak of future pandemics,
16 then

17 Be It Resolved, that the TFA Student Congress here assembled, will advocate that the
18 United States fund the research of new vaccine development techniques.

1 **53 A Resolution to Restore the Arts**

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WHEREAS, many public schools lack adequate funding to provide a thorough fine arts education, and

WHEREAS, some states no longer require their students to take any fine arts course, and

WHEREAS, art gives individuals another view of the world and challenges the status quo, and

WHEREAS, according to a study conducted by Texas Coalition for Quality Arts Education, schools with more student involvement in fine arts courses have a lower drop out rate, and

WHEREAS, the same study shows that students enrolled in fine arts courses often score better on standardized tests such as the SAT, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Texas Forensic Association Congress here assembled that Senate Bill 3 and House Bill 3 be amended to restore the mandatory one year of fine arts education prior to graduation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that schools be provided enough funding to offer four of the four fine arts courses.

54 A Bill to Privatize Amtrak

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The National Railroad Passenger Corporation, or Amtrak, shall be privatized.

SECTION 2. Privatization of Amtrak is defined as changing from governmental to private control and ownership through the sale of preferred stock and de-federalizing the appointment of Amtrak's board of directors.

SECTION 3. The Department of Transportation will oversee the enforcement of this Bill, which is binding to all parties in agreement to Section 1 and has the same effect as if arrived at by agreement of the parties under the Railway Labor Act.

SECTION 4. Amtrak's preferred stock will be saleable upon passage of this bill and Amtrak's Board of Directors managed by the corporation's owners.

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

1 **55 A Resolution Concerning the “Green Collar” Revolution**

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3 Whereas, the national unemployment rate of the United States is 8.9%, and

4 Whereas, the United States is falling further and further behind other countries in the
5 field of environmental science, and

6 Whereas, the United States is one of the largest producers of carbon admissions, and

7 Whereas, a “green” based economy will not only help the unemployment rate but also
8 the stability of the global environment, therefore

9 Be it resolved, by the Student Congress here assembled that the United States

10 government promote the development of “green collar” jobs throughout the
11 private sector, and

12 Be it further resolved, that the United States government also promote educational
13 scholarships for any major providing a pathway to a “green collar” job.

56 A Resolution Regarding Organ Trafficking

Whereas: Stories of the illegal sale of human organs have long been thought to be an urban myth; and

Whereas: The World Health Organization estimates that one fifth of the 70,000 kidney transplants worldwide every year come from the black market; and

Whereas: The illegal sale of a kidney can go from \$750 in Iraq to over \$30,000 in the United States; and

Whereas: The World Health Organization has noted an increase in “transplant tourists” who travel to lesser developed countries to purchase organs; and

Whereas: Even with increased public awareness calling for legitimate organ donors, the average wait time for a transplant is increasing so people who are desperate do not always follow the law; and

Whereas: Trafficking of not only kidneys, but also half-livers, eyes, skin, and blood is flourishing because of the financial incentive to illegal “donors” and black-market organ brokers; and

Whereas: Research detailing the long-term impacts of organ donation is nonexistent; therefore

Be it resolved by this group assembled, that the Declaration of Istanbul, an international agreement vowing to stop the commodification of human organs, be enforced, hospitals be required to conduct more thorough screening for donors and recipients, and more investigation be conducted of websites that advertise to match donors with recipients to ensure that the exchange is legitimate

1 **57 A Resolution to Further Help Mexico Combat Drug Violence**

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3 Whereas: The Mexican government has proven wholly ineffective in fighting drug
4 violence from without and corruption within its own ranks; and

5 Whereas: The current level of material support being lent by the United States to
6 Mexico has not been enough to restrain the cartels; and

7 Whereas: Clashes between drug cartels and the Mexican government have become
8 increasingly destructive, claiming 6,300 lives in the past year; and

9 Whereas: Violence related to the cartels has already begun to spill over into border
10 states such as Texas and New Mexico and, if left unchecked, will inevitably
11 spread.

12 Therefore, be it resolved by this Student Congress here assembled that the United
13 States should lend the Mexican government more funding, personnel and
14 expertise in order to support it in its war against the drug cartels.

58 A Resolution to Allow Me to Protect Myself

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3 WHEREAS, Many criminal offenses are committed on college campuses; and

4 WHEREAS, There is little or no security in many areas of campuses; and

5 WHEREAS, People on college campuses have no way to protect themselves from

6 constant reoccurring crimes such as: sex offenses, robbery, aggravated assault,

7 burglary, and motor vehicle theft; now, therefore, be it

8 Resolved, By the Student Congress here assembled that: anyone who has a concealed

9 handgun license (CHL) for the state in which they will be attending college will be

10 allowed to carry a handgun for protective purposes while on the campus.

59 A Resolution to Fund Foreign Micro-Loans

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WHEREAS, Micro-loans have been successful in helping small businesses throughout many developing nations around the world; and

WHEREAS, Kiva, a non-profit organization that promotes micro-lending, has seen unprecedented success in helping impoverished people develop small businesses; and

WHEREAS, Much of the U.S. foreign aid sent abroad is ineffective and oftentimes does not achieve its intended goal; and

WHEREAS, Micro-loans can offer a new solution to help combat global poverty; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Student Congress here assembled that: the United States institute a micro-loan program, modeled after Kiva, to fund entrepreneurial pursuits in developing, impoverished countries throughout the world.

60 A Bill to Regulate Short Selling

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

4 SECTION 1. All Individuals and/or Organizations engaging in the trade of derivatives
5 must insure that the total sum of long and short positions of futures contracts are
6 equivalent before the introduction of a new contract.

7 SECTION 2. This will apply to all Futures exchanges including the Chicago Mercantile
8 Exchange.

9 SECTION 3. The Securities and Exchange Commission will be given authorization to
10 regulate the derivatives market according to Section 1.

11 SECTION 4. The SEC will report progress and/or findings to this legislative body every
12 six months.

13 SECTION 5. This law will take effect September 1st of 2010.

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

1 **61 A Resolution to Remove Minority Based Colleges**

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3 WHEREAS, Minority based universities create false ideologies of a homogenous
4 America; and

5 WHEREAS, The original intentions of these universities have been achieved; and

6 WHEREAS, Much more would be achieved through a diverse university; and

7 WHEREAS, If we allow this to continue we will put ourselves back in the mind frame of
8 separate but equal; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled remove all minority based
10 colleges and universities in America; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That colleges and universities no longer be allowed to
12 associate themselves with any specific race.

1 **62 A Resolution Concerning the Sale of Assault Weapons**

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3 Whereas lax gun laws in the United States have significantly contributed to Mexico's
4 escalating drug-related violence through the illegal trafficking of weapons to drug
5 cartels, and

6 Whereas this violence has undermined the stability of Mexico's democratically elected
7 government and has spilled across the border and into US cities, and

8 Whereas this violence has spiraled out of control since the US ban on assault weapons
9 expired in 2004, and

10 Whereas as much as 90% of the weapons confiscated by Mexican police since 2005
11 originated in the United States, and

12 Whereas current US law allows individuals to make unlimited purchases of guns and
13 automatic weapons at gun shows, often without even a background check, and

14 Whereas a significant number of these weapons end up in the hands of drug cartels to
15 be used against both Mexican and US law enforcement officials as well as
16 innocent citizens of both nations, and

17 Whereas assault weapons are designed for military use and serve no realistic purpose
18 other than wholesale slaughter, therefore

19 Be it resolved by the student congress assembled that the United States should ban the
20 sale, distribution, and ownership of automatic and semi-automatic assault rifles
21 except for use by military and law enforcement personnel.

1 **63 A Resolution Concerning the dumping of e-waste in Africa**

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WHEREAS, the United States has escalated the amount of e-waste to African nations
due to an increase in technological use above the amount of domestic disposal
areas; and,
WHEREAS, the African countries do not have the ability to properly dispose of e-waste
in a safe and environmentally friendly way; and,
WHEREAS, the improper disposal of e-waste has contributed to the contamination of
water and food supply and increased number of cancer patients; and,
WHEREAS, the disposal is also illegal in regards to the Basel Convention and Bamako
Convention in 1992 and 1996 respectively,
BE IT RESOLVED by the Texas Student Congress here assembled that the United
States should work with African nations to ensure that e-waste is disposed of in a
proper manner as expressed in the Basel and Bamako Conventions.

64 A Resolution Concerning Internet Voting

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Whereas, voter turnout in the 2008 presidential election was only about 55% of those able to vote, and

Whereas, traditional voting has been prone to coercion by party members as well as surrounding voters, and

Whereas, in this technological era, new coercion-resistant voting is possible, and

Whereas, traditional voting is inefficient and prone to time-wasting recounts as was seen in Florida in the 2004 Presidential Election, and

Whereas, Internet voting is more secure and less time-consuming than traditional voting, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT The United States will implement an internet voting option for future federal elections.

1 **65 A Resolution to redefine sex cases against minors**

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WHEREAS, minors that are charged with sex crimes and misdemeanors are labeled for
life legally with the titles of sexual predators, and
WHEREAS, All other crimes that are committed as minors are expunged from the
individual's record at age 18; and
WHEREAS, most cases of sexual assault or harassment by minors are harmless or
blown out of proportion, be it
RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled place into act a review of all
sex crimes done by minors at age 18 to determine whether it should remain
permanently on their record; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That a judicial review board considers all mitigating
circumstances involved in the cases to determine further guilt or expurgate from
the adolescent's record.

66 A Resolution Concerning Mental Health Courts

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WHEREAS, Studies have shown that over 2 million , or around 16% ,of all inmates in federal prisons are mentally ill, and

WHEREAS, Many of these mentally ill prisoners are homeless and receive mental health care only when imprisoned, and

WHEREAS, State and county governments do not provide enough resources to provide adequate social services for the mentally ill once they have been released from incarceration, and

WHEREAS, Separate courts have already proven invaluable in the case of domestic violence and drug abuse, and

WHEREAS, Judges presiding over specialized courts gain expertise in handling certain types of offenders, be it

RESOLVED, By the student Congress here assembled that separate mental health courts be established to try defendants in federal court who have been proven to suffer from schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder, or severe depression.

67 “No Child Left Behind” Resolution

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WHEREAS: because the five (5) year old No Child Left Behind Act has created opportunities for private enterprise to profit from public education through funded tutoring programs, and

WHEREAS: these private tutoring companies frequently cannot provide enough tutors to adequately help the two (2) million eligible students presently in need of help to increase their test scores, and

WHEREAS: the No Child Left Behind Act has forced many schools to lower standards for students so they will be able to graduate from high school, and

WHEREAS: the premise behind the original act has only served to give students more time to do increasingly substandard quality work, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the TFA Student Congress assembled, that the No Child Left Behind Act be abolished.

1 **68 A Resolution to ban tobacco in the United States**

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3 WHEREAS, a report done by the American cancer society states that 440,000

4 Americans die a year from tobacco use; and

5 WHEREAS, cigarette smoking accounts for at least 30% of all cancer related deaths in

6 the United States and;

7 WHEREAS, a study done by the American cancer society states that more Americans

8 die from cigarettes than from alcohol, car accidents, suicide, AIDs, homicide, and

9 illegal drugs combined; and

10 WHEREAS, tobacco use in America has reached such a high level that 8.6 million

11 Americans suffered from some type of chronic respiratory diseases brought on

12 by the use of tobacco therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, By the Texas Forensic Association Student Congress here assembled

14 that: All tobacco products and products relating to the use of tobacco such as

15 cigarettes be banned from use in the United States of America

1 **69 A Bill to Expand Geothermal Energy in the United States**

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3 Be it enacted by this Student Congress here assembled that:

4 Section 1. The United States federal government will increase the current funding for
5 grants focused on the research, development, and implementation of renewable
6 energy in the United States by 250 million dollars. Institutions and companies
7 must focus on the use of geothermal energy to be eligible for the new grants.

8 Section 2. Funding will be appropriated by the United States Congress.

9 Section 3. The Department of Energy Office of Science will oversee the implementation
10 of this bill by utilizing its current grant system for renewable energy development.

11 Section 4. This legislation will go into effect March 1, 2010.

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

70 A resolution to prevent cyber terrorism

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3 WHEREAS, Cyber threats to federal information systems and cyber-based critical
4 infrastructures are evolving and growing, and
5 WHEREAS, These threats can be unintentional and intentional, targeted or non-
6 targeted, and can come from a variety of sources, such as foreign nations
7 engaged in espionage and information warfare, criminals, hackers, virus writers,
8 and disgruntled employees, and
9 WHEREAS, These groups and individuals have a variety of attack techniques at their
10 disposal, and cyber exploitation activity has grown more sophisticated, more
11 targeted, and more serious.
12 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Texas Forensic Association Student Congress
13 here assembled that the United States federal government continue to operate
14 cyber security programs including the Comprehensive National Cyber security
15 Initiative, the Information Systems Security Line of Business, Federal Desktop
16 Core Configuration, SmartBUY, Trusted Internet Connections Initiative, as well
17 as new programs that are necessary to maintain Cyber security for federal
18 government computers, systems and networks.

71 A Resolution to Engage North Korea

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Whereas: The United States and Europe continue to stand as a world leader when it comes to fighting human rights abuses; and

Whereas: Many countries in Europe such as Germany, Italy, Sweden, and England continue to have, or attempt to have, diplomatic relations with North Korea; and

Whereas: North Korea's relationship with these European countries continues to grow while its relationship with the U.S. continues to diminish; and

Whereas: North Korea's continues to violate human rights in such ways as starving nonparty members, violating civil liberties, and forcing its own citizens into one of up to twenty two known concentration camps.

Be it resolved by this group here assembled, that the United States shall urge EU members to break diplomatic talks and trade with North Korea until such human rights abuses are ended.

Be it further resolved, that the United States, in return to cooperating European countries, pledge to stop human rights abuses in North Korea.

1 **72 A Resolution to Reduce Truancy and Give Back to**
2 **Community**

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4 Whereas, studies show nearly one in ten 15-year-olds are truant at least once a week,
5 and

6 Whereas, studies have shown that two-thirds of male juveniles arrested while truant
7 tested positive for drug use, and

8 Whereas, current consequences for truant students range from fines to jail time, and

9 Whereas, recent legislation is focusing on holding the parents accountable for their
10 truant children, ranging from fines to jail time, and

11 Whereas, current consequences for truancy do not reduce or deter truancy on a large
12 enough scale, and

13 Whereas, benefits of community service include, but are not limited to, increased job
14 skills, strengthened community and family bonds, a sense of responsibility,
15 sacrifice, and tolerance; therefore,

16 BE IT RESOLVED by this NFL District Student Congress here assembled that the
17 penalty for middle and high school truancy in the United States shall be
18 mandatory Community Service, shared by both the truant student and their
19 parent/s. The amount of Service may be determined by the Judge on a case-by-
20 case basis. Community Service may include, but is not limited to, landscaping,
21 food and gift delivery, repairing/painting community buildings, involvement in
22 mentor and reading program.

73 A Bill to Mandate Electronic Textbooks

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Texas Legislature should enact a law to mandate electronic textbooks instead of printed textbooks be used in all Texas schools.

SECTION 2. The electronic textbook is a paperless, updateable electronic device, capable of storing large amounts of information in a compact and more efficient manner.

SECTION 3. The Texas State Board of Education will purchase the electronic textbooks and parents will purchase the devices from the Texas State Board of Education or its designee (the school district) at a discounted price.

SECTION 4. This bill will take effect in the 2011-2012 school year.

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

1 **74 A resolution concerning Google's Data Retention**

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3 WHEREAS Google has extensive networks that cover the internet, wireless phone
4 systems, and e-mail systems, and

5 WHEREAS Google maintains copies of all the information that passes through their
6 databases to better facilitate searches and streamline the internet experience,
7 and

8 WHEREAS search companies in the past have sold the information on their databases
9 to ad and spam companies, providing them with contact and personal
10 information,

11 WHEREAS there is no disclaimer for Google's services about them retaining and
12 potentially redistributing private and confidential information, now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED by the student congress here assembled that Google be forced to make
14 users of their services sign an agreement alerting them of Google's retention of
15 information, and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED that Google be forced to sign an agreement limiting the type and
17 amount of information that they can sell to ad and spam companies.

75 A Resolution Concerning Educational Technology

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WHEREAS, Schools now spend hundreds of millions of dollars a year on computers for student use, and

WHEREAS, The average cost of \$1,000 a year for each computer is so prohibitive that schools, on average, can provide only one computer for every three students, and

WHEREAS, Smart phones can perform most of the same tasks as laptops at a fraction of the cost, and

WHEREAS, Recent studies have shown that the use of smart phones in low income schools has resulted in increased student involvement and academic achievement, be it

RESOLVED, By the Student Congress here assembled that current government subsidies for technology in public schools be expanded to include the educational use of smart phones.

76 A Bill to Free the Vatos

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government will provide an Office for Immigrant Detention, in order to ensure that immigrants are extended the rights and due process of law that they are entitled to.

SECTION 2. The United States Federal Government, as in the legislative, judicial, and executive branches shall provide services for immigrants. Immigrants are those who enter this country without a visa or migrant work permit. The rights are those that we find commonplace, the right to a public defender, translator, and limits on detainment without charge. The due process of law is administered through courts using established legal procedures, and with protections for individual and human rights.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Homeland Security and the United States Department of Justice are charged with enforcement of this policy. During this time, the USDOHS will ensure that immigrants are granted communication with their family and legal counsel at least once every day for these thirty days. If more than seven days pass without an immigrant being charged, then they will be released after having been given a temporary identification card and contact number. The United States Department of Justice will ensure the proper legal handling of these immigrants in a Federal court of law. During the thirty days of detainment, immigrants will be entitled to a public defender, a translator at all official court hearings, and provided communication with their next of kin. If, after thirty days of detainment no charges have been made, the USDOJ will give the immigrant an identification card and a court date for their hearing.

SECTION 4. This policy will be enacted January 1, 2010.

SECTION 5. All laws in direct conflict of this policy are to be placed under review by a legislative committee.

77 A Resolution to Appease the Hippies

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Whereas: Hemp can be used as a viable alternative fuel source; and
Whereas: California has tried and failed to legalize hemp; and
Whereas: Hemp contains less than 0.03% THC, making it void as a hallucinogenic; and
Whereas: Millions of people are being put in poverty because of the high cost of corn,
due to its use for corn ethanol production; and
Whereas: The US imports an annual 23 million dollars of hemp products each year
from the other 41 countries that produce and sell hemp; and
Whereas: The hemp production and growth is prohibited without a permit issued by the
DEA; and
Whereas: To date only 2 farmers have been granted then revoked permits for
production; and
Be it resolved by this group assembled, that the DEA de-regulate the production of
industrial hemp.

78 A Resolution to Support the Kyoto Protocol

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WHEREAS, The United States continues to be one of the world's leading polluters and strongest economies; and

WHEREAS, International cooperation is required to address problems such as global climate change, food shortages, epidemics, and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, The United States is mending its relationship with major allies such as the European Union; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama deserves the support of Congress in promoting peace and multilateralism; and

WHEREAS, The United States' soft power was significantly damaged by the rejection of several international institutions and treaties such as the Rome Statute; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled move to have the United States sign and ratify the Kyoto Protocol; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this congress moves to assist other nations act in accordance with the Kyoto Protocol

79 A Resolution to Reduce the Price of Stamps

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WHEREAS, the price of stamps has been slowly increasing over the past years and it is barely affordable for people who buy vast amounts of stamps; and
WHEREAS, in the United States the price has now increased to forty-four cents; and
WHEREAS, forever stamps do not reduce the amount you need to pay when prices change; and
WHEREAS, this price change affects the United States as a whole and it will harm businesses on how much they pay for stamps; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, by the Student Congress here assembled that the price of postal stamps will be locked at the current rate for five years.

80 Removing the Writing Section from the SAT Resolution

WHEREAS, grades on the essay of the writing section of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) are arbitrary; and

WHEREAS, twenty-five minutes (25) is not a sufficient time for a student to write an effective essay; and

WHEREAS, most colleges, including MIT, ignore the scores that students receive on the writing section; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Student Congress here assembled that:the new section to the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) be removed, returning the test to its original sixteen hundred (1,600) scale form.

1 **81 A Bill Requiring All Public School Employees to Submit to**
2 **Random Drug Testing**

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

5 SECTION 1. All public school employees will be required to submit to random drug
6 testing beginning the 2010-2011 school year in order to remain employed.

7 SECTION 2. "Random" drug testing shall follow same guidelines that is placed upon
8 the students.

9 SECTION 3. The Texas Education Agency shall mandate the requirement for drug
10 testing and each school district shall be required to:

11 A. Submit reports of all testing which shall be conducted by a professional
12 drug testing entity

13 B. Punishment for a positive drug test shall be suspension with out pay for
14 30 days for first violation and after the second violation said employee
15 shall have contract terminated (teacher) or immediate termination for
16 hourly employees.

17 SECTION 4. Funding for this bill will be provided by taxes in the same manner that is
18 used for student drug testing

19 SECTION 5. Enforcement shall take place beginning the first day of employment for
20 the 2010-2011 school year.

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

82 A Resolution Concerning Television E-Waste

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Whereas: Older television picture tubes contain lead, chromium, cadmium, mercury, beryllium, nickel, zinc, and brominated flame retardants; and

Whereas: An estimated 30 million televisions will be sold in 2008; and

Whereas: As the February 2009 deadline to switch to digital television approaches, it is expected that these sales will accelerate; and

Whereas: Environmental Protection Agency figures show that nearly 90% of all e-waste is deposited in landfills or incinerators allowing the dangerous chemicals to leach into the ground and water supply or disseminate into the sky; therefore

Be it resolved by this group assembled, that all merchants that sell new televisions to consumers be required to provide a facility for the recycling or proper disposal of televisions in accordance with EPA standards.

1 **83 A Resolution to Establish True Value for American Currency**

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3 Whereas, in early American history the United States dollar was backed by its value in
4 gold, and

5 Whereas, when this was true the government could not inflate the value of the dollar
6 since there was tangible goods to back the value of the dollar, and

7 Whereas, there is currently no more gold in our reserve to back the dollar because there
8 was more money printed than the banks had to back, and with no actual
9 commodity such as, but not limited to, gold to back the value of the American
10 dollar then there is no real value behind the dollar besides the paper it is printed
11 on, and

12 Whereas, with nothing to represent the dollars value it is arbitrary based on the amount
13 of money in circulation, leaving it vulnerable to inflation by the Federal Reserve,
14 therefore

15 Be it resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that there be some commodity
16 that back the value of the dollar that can be redeemed upon request by the
17 dollars owner, and

18 Be it further resolved that there shall never be more money printed and in circulation
19 than there is commodity available to back it.

84 A Resolution Concerning Cuba

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WHEREAS, The current economic crisis demands a reassessment of antiquated foreign policy; and

WHEREAS, Recent reforms in Cuba have created a new market for the exportation of U.S. goods; and

WHEREAS, Raul Castro has shown a willingness to engage in dialogue with the United States under President Barack Obama; and

WHEREAS, Russia and Iran have reached out to Venezuela, thus creating a leftist coalition, which undermines U.S. foreign policy in the Western Hemisphere.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Texas Forensic Association Student Congress here assembled that the United States Federal Government lift the Cuban embargo and engage in open diplomatic dialogue with the Castro regime.

1 **85 A Resolution to Allow Debate to Substitute for**
2 **Communication Applications Credit**

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4 Whereas: Currently, the state of Texas requires Communication Applications as a
5 course needed for high school graduation; and

6 Whereas: This course was designed to give students communication skills that
7 could be applied in real-life social and professional situations; and

8 Whereas: The communication skills in the Communication Applications curriculum
9 are studied, developed, and practiced in the debate curriculum at a higher level
10 of expectation; therefore

11 Be it resolved by this group assembled, that TEA allow students the option of the
12 Debate course as a substitute for the Communication Applications course.

1 **86 A Resolution to Allow Tobacco Companies to Advertise**
2 **Cigarettes**
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4 WHEREAS, Comprehensive Acts have authorized the Food and Drug Administration
5 to prohibit the advertisement of cigarettes; and

6 WHEREAS, The Public Health Cigarette Smoking Act completely banned the
7 advertisement of cigarettes on television and radio; and

8 WHEREAS, This prohibition is a violation of the First Amendment as well as
9 detrimental to the public; and

10 WHEREAS, Allowing tobacco companies to advertise will restore their constitutional
11 right as well as benefit America; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Student Congress here assembled authorize tobacco companies
13 to make televised and radio advertisements; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Food and Drug Administration will continue to have
15 jurisdiction to regulate potentially hazardous claims by tobacco companies and
16 the Pro-Children Act of 1994 remain enforced.

87 A Resolution for Texas Secession

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Whereas, the United States Government has ignored our pleas to stop handing out government bailouts making our people to pay 3% higher taxes and now our people must pay for the mistakes the high executives of these companies have made; and

Whereas, Texas has one of the strongest economies in all of the western hemisphere; and

Whereas, the Texas economy has created 252,000 jobs in past years, while the rest of the United States has loss millions of jobs during this time; and

Whereas, Texas' economy is at risk of falling, only because of the connections it has through the United States,

Be it Resolved by this group here assembled that Texas move toward secession in order to keep a strong economy for our people.

1 **88 A Resolution For Harsher Punishment For Animal Abusers**

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3 Whereas, the current laws for animal abuse does not give animal rights and only partially
4 protect the animals, and

5 Whereas, of 101 domestic violence victims, 73 reported that their abuser harmed their
6 pet as well, and

7 Whereas, abusive men will demonstrate to victims of their abuse by physically
8 perpetrating abusive acts on animals in the presence of their victims in order to
9 manipulate them as a threat of bodily harm to the victim, and

10 Whereas, parents who abuse their children lose their parental rights but the current
11 animal cruelty law provides a 2 year maximum prohibition from ownership of
12 similar animals,

13 Be it resolved by the National Forensics League Student Congress here assembled that
14 a harsher law be made to prosecute and punish animal abusers.