

Region XVI Legislation 2017

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P1: Regulatory Reform and Control Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 2 **SECTION 1.** Congressional authority to review Executive agency rules shall be
3 expanded as follows:
- 4 A. The time allotted under 5 U.S.C. § 801 (a)(3)(A) for Congress to review
5 executive agency rules shall be expanded to 240 days.
 - 6 B. The threshold for regulatory action to qualify as a major rule under 5
7 U.S.C. § 804 (2)(A) shall be reduced to \$50,000,000.
 - 8 C. A major increase in cost under 5 U.S.C. § 804 (2)(B) shall be defined as
9 an increase exceeding 3.25 percent.
 - 10 D. Any major rule shall automatically qualify for congressional review
11 under 5 U.S.C. § 801 if its impact on the economy exceeds by ten
12 percent the amount of impact on the economy projected by the
13 Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of
14 the Office of Management and Budget in its analysis required by
15 5 U.S.C. § 804 (2) regardless of the time that has passed since
16 implementation of the rule.

- 17 **SECTION 2.** The Congressional Budget Office shall review requests made by Congress
18 to determine eligibility for Congressional review of Executive Agency
19 rules per Section 1(D) of this act.
- 20 A. Requests from the Senate must be submitted by the chairman of the
21 Senate Appropriations Committee or the Senate Small Business and
22 Entrepreneurship Committee.
 - 23 B. Requests from the House of Representatives must be submitted by
24 the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, the House
25 Energy and Commerce Committee, or the House Financial Services
26 Committee.
 - 27 C. Reviews conducted in response to requests submitted under Section
28 2(A) or 2(B) of this act shall be completed within 60 days of
29 submission of the request.

30 **SECTION 3.** This bill will go into effect October 1, 2018.

31 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School.



P2: A Resolution to Ban the Private Rehoming of Adopted Children to Ensure the Safety of All Children

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Current statutes allow adoptive parents to circumvent the state laws and
2 give away adopted children to families without pre-adoption checks or
3 post-adoption house visits; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** Over 24,000 children have been privately rehomed since the 1990's; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** These children often face abuse, human trafficking, neglect, and more
6 instances of rehoming; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** Trafficking of adopted children in the private rehoming internet market is
8 currently almost completely unchecked; now, therefore, be it
- 9 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled take immediate action to ban the
10 practice of private rehoming of adopted children.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School.



P3: A Bill to Mandate Driving Tests to Elderly for Traffic Safety

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All citizens 70 years and older must obtain a new driver's license, at
3 which time they must successfully complete both the written and driving
4 aspects of license screening.

5 **SECTION 2.** At all renewal dates following the driver's 70th birthday drivers are
6 required to complete both written and driving aspects of license
7 screening.

8 **SECTION 3.** License to drive is a document permitting a person to drive a motor
9 vehicle.

10 **SECTION 4.** NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Association) will provide
11 enforcement.

12 **SECTION 5.** After the date of birth their 70th year, each citizen will have 60 days to
13 acquire a new license. Following the 60-day grace period driver's licenses
14 will expire and penalties will be levied against drivers for driving with an
15 expired license.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Hereford High School.



P4: A Bill to Insure Legal Representation for Dreamers, due to the repeal of DACA

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All DACA recipients who hold a valid permit will be provided legal
3 representation in immigration courts.

4 **SECTION 2.** DACA recipients are defined as: All non-U.S citizens brought to America
5 as minor children currently residing in the U.S, who hold a valid DACA
6 permit and have no criminal record. Legal representation is defined as:
7 consistent with constitutional protections provided for the accused.

8 **SECTION 3.** DACA recipients will be made aware of this right at the moment of arrest
9 or detainment by any U.S official.

10 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect upon the next fiscal year after its passage.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Dimmitt High School.



P5: A Bill to Create the National Identity Theft Insurance Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The National Identity Theft Insurance Program is hereby created, and will
3 provide paying citizens with compensation in the event of identity theft.

4 **SECTION 2.** Identity Theft is defined by 18 USC § 1028 (a).

5 **SECTION 3.** This program will be administered by the Department of Justice.

6 A. Compensation will be distributed by the Office for Victims of Crimes.

7 B. \$1 billion will be allotted to the Office for Victims of Crimes to pay
8 insurance claims.

9 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect October 1, 2018.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Pampa High School.



P6: A Bill to Harden the Electrical Grid to Provide Added Protection Against Electromagnetic pulse and Geomagnetic Threats

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Federal Government will work with private electrical companies to
3 upgrade the electrical grid to withstand electromagnetic pulse (EMP) or
4 geomagnetic (GM) threats through the use of existing technologies such
5 as surge suppression, breaker switches, early detection systems, faraday
6 shielding, ferrite clamps, and upgraded circuits.

7 **SECTION 2.** An electromagnetic pulse is a burst of EM energy that can damage or
8 destroy electronics and electrical infrastructure.
9 Geomagnetic storm is a natural occurrence resulting from a coronal mass
10 ejection, which is otherwise similar to an EMP.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy and Department of Homeland Security will
12 oversee design and enforcement of the upgrades.

- 13 A. The DHS will oversee all activities regarding EMP threats.
14 B. The DOE will oversee all activities regarding overall design and
15 construction.
16 C. Funding up to 2 billion a year will be provided by the Federal
17 Government.

18 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Canyon High School.

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.



P7: A Resolution to Require Federal Prisoners be Paid Comparable Wages to Free Citizens

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Federal prisoners should receive the same wage as non-prisoners
2 working in the same industry; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Prisoners are not considered employees nor are they protected by the
4 Fair Labor Standards Act or the National Labor Relations Act; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** Wages for prisoners range between \$.12 and \$.40 per hour and in some
6 states such as Texas and Georgia, prisoners receive no wages at all; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** In 37 states private companies can legally contract prison labor with no
8 requirements of payment to the prisoners; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** The 13th Amendment bans not only slavery but also involuntary
10 servitude; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** Servitude is not utilized as a punishment in United States Federal Courts;
12 now, therefore, be it
- 13 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled propose federal prisoners receive
14 equivalent wage to non-prisoners in the same industry; and, be it
- 15 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That federal prisoners may not be utilized as a free labor force for
16 private industries.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Stratford ISD.



P8: A Resolution to End the Highs and the Lows

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Pennies cost more to produce than they are worth; and
- 2 **WHEREAS,** The US has been locked into a deficit since 2001; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** \$100 bills contribute to the structure of organized crime; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** The majority of people do not use \$100 bills; now, therefore, be it
- 5 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled recommend phasing out the
- 6 penny and moving to a round-up system; and, be it
- 7 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the UIL congress here assembled recommend phasing out
- 8 the \$100 dollar bill, making the \$50 dollar note the highest denomination
- 9 of currency.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Amarillo High School.



P9: A Resolution to Ban English Language Learners from Standardized Testing Their First Year

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Standardized testing does not adequately score a student's knowledge and
2 abilities; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Standardized testing does not comply with the rules of the Individuals with
4 Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** Students who do not speak English are forced to take a test they do not
6 understand, which ultimately does not adequately grade their knowledge and
7 abilities; and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** Standardized testing materials are costly, and the money exhausted from this
9 ineffective test should be used for providing funding to public school systems;
10 now, therefore, be it
- 11 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following recommendation to
12 ban all standardized testing for English Language Learners in their first year.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Perryton High School.



P10: A Resolution to Provide Zero Interest Rates for All College Student Loans

1 **WHEREAS,** The cost of a college education has increased tremendously over the past
2 ten years; and

3 **WHEREAS,** The majority of graduating college students graduate with large amounts
4 of debt which lead to poor credit; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Students cannot afford to attend college as a full-time student while
6 receiving the current minimum wage in the United States; and

7 **WHEREAS,** This will provide all citizens an opportunity to obtain a degree in higher
8 education; now, therefore, be it

9 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following
10 recommendation to provide zero interest rates for all student loans.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Perryton High School.



F1: A Bill to Create the Child Welfare Improvement Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Child and Family Services Improvement Act is hereby amended as
3 follows:

4 A. The age of developmentally young children for which state plans are
5 required under Section 101(b)(3)(C) is increased from 'children who
6 have not attained 5 years' to 'children who have not attained 8 years'.

7 B. The percentage of visits by caseworkers to children in foster care
8 under the responsibility of the State during a fiscal year required to
9 occur in the residence of the child involved as per section 101(c)(2)(A)
10 shall be increased to 60 percent in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, 65 percent in
11 FY 2020, 70 percent in FY 2021, and 75 percent in FY 2022 and
12 thereafter.

13 C. Grants awarded under Sections 104(c)(3)(A)(i),(ii),(iii), and (iv) shall be
14 increased to \$30,000,000, \$50,000,000, \$50,000,000 and \$5,000,000
15 respectively.

16 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall oversee the
17 implementation of this bill and shall develop grants to states as follows:

18 A. \$40,000,000 per annum to provide housing assistance to individuals
19 who have aged out of the foster system.

20 B. \$30,000,000 per annum to provide ongoing mental health and drug
21 addiction recovery services to individuals currently in the foster
22 system as well as to individuals who have aged out of the foster
23 system.

24 C. \$5,000,000 per annum to provide free contraception services to
25 children under the age of 21 still in the foster system.

26 **SECTION 3.** This bill will go into effect October 1, 2018.

27 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School.

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.



F2: A Resolution to Address Extremist Movements as Domestic Terrorist Organizations

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Political extremist movements and hate groups, such as the Alt-Right and
2 Antifa, have been gaining traction and support; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Such organizations have participated in acts of violence, vandalism, and
4 intimidation in the name of their political cause; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** These movements are harmful to public safety whenever their primary
6 ideology is centric to the elimination of opposing ideas and/or lawful
7 mediation; and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** The conflict between these groups inhibits the ability to make political
9 decisions in moderation; now, therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following
11 recommendation to declare these organizations as domestic terrorist
12 organizations.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Canyon High School.



F3: A Resolution to Formally Designate the Kurdistan Regional Government as a Recognized Military Ally, and Show Full Support for the “Peshmerga” Military Forces

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Historically, a forced unilateral approach of American intervention has failed to
2 create long term stability in the region; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** The substantial allocation of funds and military power to foreign nations has thus
4 far failed, due to poor choices in supporting a recipient nation whose interest
5 and motives conflict with the qualities of achieving long term peace; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has historically been in a struggle for
7 independence and democracy, much like our own country, while supporting
8 religious tolerance and peace; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** The KRG’s official military, the Peshmerga, has made vastly higher relative
10 sacrifice in the fight against Extremist groups such as ISIS and Al Qaeda, than any
11 other nation, and is in need of financial and military support to continue these
12 efforts for the cause of stability; now, therefore, be it
- 13 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following recommendation for
14 The Kurdistan Regional Government to be recognized as a fully legitimate
15 military ally; and, be it
- 16 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That lines of communication are opened between the United States
17 Armed Forces and the Kurdish Peshmerga, to cooperate more closely on joint
18 military strategy, supplies and logistics, and training installations for the purpose
19 of beginning self created stabilization within the Middle East.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Pampa High School.



F4: A Resolution to Abolish Jail Time for Fine-only Offenses

1 **WHEREAS,** Tickets for minor offenses compound in interest and become difficult for
2 citizens to pay if not paid immediately; and

3 **WHEREAS,** This becomes a cycle leading to arrest warrants and jail time; and

4 **WHEREAS,** The lack of alternatives to jail time is a violation of the 14th Amendment;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS,** This cycle leads to increased likelihood of poverty; now, therefore, be it

7 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled prohibit courts from incarcerating
8 defendants for failure to pay fines; and, be it

9 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** that courts shall establish community service alternatives to

10 payment of fines whereby defendants provide manual labor at approved

11 locations in the jurisdiction where the fine is owed at the minimum wage

12 rate of compensation.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Amarillo High School.



F5: A Bill to Increase Federal Regulations Protecting Water Quality to Prevent the Spread of Diseases and Contaminants in Public Water Systems

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The EPA shall receive control over the enforcement of all EPA Regulations
3 concerning tap water in all public water systems, and authority over the
4 regulations on bottled water shall be shifted from the FDA to the EPA to
5 ensure that both sets of regulations will be consistent with EPA
6 standards.

7 **SECTION 2.** “Public water systems” shall be defined as public drinking water
8 systems that consist of community and non-community water systems
9 controlled by municipal governments.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency will oversee the implementation
11 and enforcement of this bill.

12 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect upon the next fiscal year after its passage.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Dimmitt High School.



F6: A Resolution to Revise Qualification Standards to the TANF Welfare System

- 1 **WHEREAS,** This \$70 billion program provides essential food to just under 44 million
2 low-income Americans, the majority of whom are women and children;
3 and
4 **WHEREAS,** Beneficiary rates on this metric are almost exactly the same between
5 black and white recipients - 44% Whites, 43% Blacks; and the lowest rate
6 is 28% by Hispanics; and
7 **WHEREAS,** The federal government reported about \$500 million dollars in fraudulent
8 payouts through the welfare system; and
9 **WHEREAS,** The most frequent cases were middle-class people and rampant fraud
10 among government officials; now, therefore, be it
11 **RESOLVED,** That the qualifications for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
12 (TANF) be standardized at the federal level; and, be it
13 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** that government employees convicted of welfare fraud be
14 penalized with a minimum of 5 years in prison and a \$25,000 fine, and no
15 longer eligible for positions as government employees.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Dimmitt High School.



F7: A Resolution to Privatize OASDI

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Social Security (OASDI) costs workers 6.2% annually across all wage
2 brackets; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Social Security and Medicare together accounted for 42 percent of
4 federal program expenditures in fiscal year 2016; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** Social Security is projected to be bankrupt by 2034; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** The average Social Security check is only \$1,256 monthly which is
7 significantly below the cost of living, as well as financially draining the
8 middle class; now, therefore, be it
- 9 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled privatize OASDI.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Amarillo High School.



F8: A Resolution Regulate the Over-Inflated Prices of Healthcare

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Citizens have the right to affordable healthcare; and
- 2 **WHEREAS,** Health insurance companies have skyrocketed their prices, and have
- 3 failed to reimburse their patrons who do not use the health care services;
- 4 and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** The United States Government should place restrictions on cost of
- 6 medical supplies and medicines from pharmaceutical companies; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The United States government must mandate that health insurance
- 8 companies provide reasonable deduction limits to their patrons; now,
- 9 therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled mandate that the United States
- 11 Government regulate the over-inflated prices of Healthcare in the United
- 12 States; and, be it
- 13 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That all government tax breaks to these healthcare and
- 14 pharmaceutical companies be abolished if they refuse to provide their
- 15 patrons with a reasonable healthcare and medicines.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Perryton High School.



F9: A Bill to Limit Golden Parachute Payments

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Golden parachute payments will be limited to a 2% of the annual salary if
3 being released for lack of profit or growth. Any executive released for any
4 reason such as moral turpitude or other issues that increase the fiscal
5 liability and responsibility of the company shall receive no compensation
6 or severance package at the time of their removal.

7 **SECTION 2.** Moral Turpitude: A phrase used in Criminal Law to describe conduct that
8 is considered contrary to community standards of justice, honesty, or
9 good morals.

10 Golden Parachute: A golden parachute is an agreement between a
11 company and an employee (usually a high level executive) that provides
12 significant financial benefits to the employee upon termination.

13 **SECTION 3.** Companies found to be in violation will suffer penalties in the amount of
14 one hundred times the amount of currency that is the subject of the
15 violation.

16 **SECTION 4.** The Internal Revenue Service will be responsible for the enforcement of
17 regulation and penalties.

18 **SECTION 5.** This will go into effect at the beginning of the next fiscal budget year.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Hereford High School.



F10: A Resolution to End the Requirement of Labeling Genetically Modified Foods

1 **WHEREAS,** Labeling foods as genetically modified leads consumers to falsely believe
2 the product to be harmful; and

3 **WHEREAS,** This negatively impacts farmers, who are pressured to grow less efficient
4 crops so manufacturers can avoid demonizing labels, leading to
5 additional indirect effects such as the growing of non-GM crops which
6 requires more land and more pesticides; and

7 **WHEREAS,** the growth of GM crops lowers greenhouse gas emissions and promotes
8 water and soil conservation; and

9 **WHEREAS,** The Food and Drug Administration recognizes the benefits of genetically
10 modified foods not only for producers but also for consumers; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following
13 recommendation for the removal of the requirement for GMO labeling;
14 and, be it

15 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That genetically modified food products be grown without
16 distinction from food products that are not genetically modified.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Stratford ISD.