

Great Pumpkin Novice Congress Docket
October 28th, 2023
Round 1, Item 1

A Bill to Eliminate Fossil Fuel Subsidies

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will phase out fossil fuel subsidies by incrementally
3 decreasing subsidies by 10% of the original amount allocated to companies every year.
4 Funds recovered from subsidies will be accumulated into a fund to provide grants to private
5 companies that submit formal proposals to create negative emissions technologies.

6 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions apply:

7 A) Subsidies will be defined as any form of financial benefit, whether direct payments or tax
8 exemptions, to incentivize business production or expansion.

9 B) Fossil fuel corporations will be defined as any company engaged in the production,
10 manufacturing, or sale of any non-renewable form of energy, including coal, natural gas,
11 crude oil, petroleum products, and more.

12 C) Negative emissions technologies will be defined as mechanisms for the absorption and
13 storage of atmospheric greenhouse gasses.

14 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency shall
15 be responsible for the implementation of this legislation.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on August 1, 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

Great Pumpkin Novice Congress Docket
October 28th, 2023
Round 1, Item 2

A Bill to Prevent Employers from Accessing Digital Footprints

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Employers will be prohibited from checking applicant and employee digital
3 footprints.

4 **SECTION 2.** Definitions:

5 A) Digital footprint shall be defined as the information about a particular person that exists
6 on the internet as a result of their online activity (social media, personal emails, etc.).

7 B) Employer shall be defined as an individual or an organization in the government, private,
8 nonprofit, or business sector that hires and pays people for their work.

9 C) Background Checks (defined as a process a person or company uses to verify that an
10 individual is who they claim to be, to check and confirm the validity of someone's criminal
11 record, education, and employment history) are not included in this legislation.

12 **SECTION 3,** The United States Department of Labor will oversee the enforcement and
13 implementation of this legislation. Any employer found to be in violation of this legislation
14 will be fined \$5,000 for the first violation, \$10,000 for the second, and \$10,000 on top of
15 the previous fine for each violation after. Any employer found in violation more than five
16 times will be tried in a municipal court.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024.

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

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Great Pumpkin Novice Congress Docket
October 28th, 2023
Round 1, Item 3

A Resolution to Remove Turkey from NATO

1 **WHEREAS**, The Republic of Turkey has abandoned the North Atlantic Treaty
2 Organization's (NATO's) humanitarian values for its personal objectives; and
3 **WHEREAS**, Turkey is increasing its cooperative relations with Russia; and
4 **WHEREAS**, Turkey has proven resistant when called to intervene in defense of NATO's
5 common interests; however, it has not hesitated to pursue its own objectives even when
6 these interests go against NATO's mission; and
7 **WHEREAS**, Turkey no longer shares the same political values as NATO, and abuses its
8 influence in NATO for personal gain; and
9 **WHEREAS**, The security and efficacy of NATO has deteriorated due to Turkey's Actions;
10 now, therefore be it
11 **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled recommend that the Republic of Turkey
12 be removed from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

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Great Pumpkin Novice Congress Docket
October 28th, 2023
Round 2, Item 1

A Resolution to Increase the Use of Safe Injection Sites

1 **WHEREAS**, The opioid crisis endangers the lives of tens of thousands every year; and
2 **WHEREAS**, Overdose deaths due to opioids like heroin in the U.S. have overall risen from
3 approximately 11,000 deaths per year in 2002 to 71,000 in 2019; and
4 **WHEREAS**, Improper intravenous drug use greatly increases the likelihood of transmittable
5 diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C; and
6 **WHEREAS**, People who share syringes are 22 times more likely to contract HIV than the
7 general population; and
8 **WHEREAS**, In 2010, 53% of the 17,000 new cases of Hepatitis C were attributed to
9 intravenous drug users; and
10 **WHEREAS**, Safe injection sites have been proven to decrease overdose deaths from 253
11 to 165 per 100,000 years and the absolute risk difference was 88 deaths per 100,000
12 years now, therefore, be it
13 **RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled that the United States federal government
14 mandate that every state be required to establish plans to implement injection sites in
15 order to combat the heroin epidemic and decrease overdose rates in the United States.

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Great Pumpkin Novice Congress Docket
October 28th, 2023
Round 2, Item 2

The Families Matter Act

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

2 **SECTION 1.** All citizens of the United States of America who are employed in the United
3 States or who are employed overseas by the United States federal government are entitled
4 to 12 weeks of paid family leave.

5 **SECTION 2.** Paid family leave can be described as leave taken for (1) the birth of a child,
6 (2) the adoption or foster care of a child, and (3) the care of an immediate family member
7 with a serious health condition that will be paid for by the federal government.

8 **SECTION 3.** This bill would be overseen by the Department of Labor. The funding from this
9 bill will be \$350 billion taken from the current U.S. military budget. This budget will be for the
10 years 2025 to 2035. All funding after the 10-year program will be decided further by
11 congress after the 2035 funding date.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the beginning of 2025 fiscal year.

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

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Great Pumpkin Novice Congress Docket
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Round 2, Item 3

A Resolution to Recognize the Republic of China as an Independent Country

1 **WHEREAS**, The island of Taiwan and its associated territories, henceforth referred to as the
2 Republic of China (ROC), has been and continues to be a separate and independent
3 country from the People’s Republic of China; and

4 **WHEREAS**, The failure to recognize the Republic of China as an independent country has
5 weakened its sovereignty, hampered its defensive capabilities, and reduced its presence on
6 the global stage; and

7 **WHEREAS**, The Republic of China remains a key U.S. ally, maintains a vibrant democracy,
8 and forms arguably the most critical component of the United States’ Chinese containment
9 strategy; and

10 **WHEREAS**, The U.S. policy of “strategic ambiguity” towards the defense of the Republic of
11 China has been increasingly undermined; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Recognition of the ROC as independent would resolve these concerns and
13 encourage our allies to rally behind the Republic of China; now, therefore, be it

14 **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled the Republic of China be recognized as a
15 separate and independent country according to a two-China policy.

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Round 3, Item 1

A Resolution to End Qualified Immunity

1 **WHEREAS**, Qualified immunity is a legal doctrine that protects law enforcement officers
2 from being sued in their personal capacity or being held personally liable for violations of the
3 Constitution; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Qualified immunity permits government officials and law enforcement to violate
5 people's constitutional rights and deprive people of their civil rights with little to no legal
6 recourse; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Qualified immunity makes it nearly impossible for victims of abuse or civil rights
8 violations performed by law enforcement to prosecute the officer in a court of law; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Qualified immunity is often used to dismiss police brutality cases, particularly
10 against people of color; now, therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled that the United States pass the Ending
12 Qualified Immunity Act in order to provide for accountability when public officials violate
13 Americans' constitutional rights.

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Round 3, Item 2

A Bill to Establish an Independent Redistricting Commission to Eliminate Gerrymandering

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States hereby establishes Independent Redistricting Commissions
3 in each of the 50 states to redraw congressional district lines every 10 years following the
4 U.S. Census Demographic shift.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Independent Redistricting Commission will be created by each state.
6 Every Commission will have its members selected to reflect the state's geographical, racial,
7 gender, and political diversity. The commission would require 12 members, with four chosen
8 from the two major parties respectively and four independents. Any map will have to pass
9 with eight members in favor of the map.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission will work alongside states to implement
11 this bill. The Federal Election Commission will intervene if it's observed that there exist any
12 discrepancies in any of the terms listed above.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with this
14 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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Round 3, Item 3

A Resolution to End the Cuban Embargo

1 **WHEREAS**, For 60 years, the United States economic embargo on Cuba has failed to
2 achieve its objectives and has not brought about the desired political change; and
3 **WHEREAS**, The embargo has limited access to basic goods for the Cuban people, leading
4 to widespread shortages; and
5 **WHEREAS**, The embargo has also prevented U.S. businesses from participating in the
6 Cuban market, limiting opportunities for trade and economic growth; and
7 **WHEREAS**, The United States has a moral obligation to promote stability and cooperation
8 in its neighborhood; now, therefore, be it
9 **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled that the United States shall end its
10 embargo on the Republic of Cuba; and, be it
11 **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the United States shall improve its diplomatic relations with
12 Cuba and establish normal trade relations.

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