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Introductions from your Nullification Crisis Chair

Dear Delegates,

Hey, my name is Aaron Hui, and I'll be serving as your chair for your Nullification Crisis committee here at StuyMUNC! I'm honored to be serving as chair for this committee and watching you delegates try to find a way to address the glaring issue of the nullification crisis! I'm currently a junior, and have been involved in Model UN since the beginning of my freshman year. MUN has been my way of connecting to a variety of people who have a similar passion for public speaking and networking as I do, and I've learned so much from being part of this tight-knit team. Though I've participated in a fair share of MUN conferences and directed two committees, I've never chaired before, so I'm looking forward to doing so!

This committee will delve deeply into the Nullification Crisis of 1832, in which delegates, as Senate members, will discuss the constitutionality of protective tariffs and rejection of federal laws by states. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you discuss these to generate solutions to the crisis at hand. As someone who is currently taking APUSH, I found the Nullification Crisis particularly interesting, and will definitely enjoy watching you potentially change the course of history!

As you guys have probably heard, StuyMUNC 2022 will be in-person. For many of you, this will be your first in-person conference in a while, and for the others, this is going to be one of the first few. It's going to be a difficult transition for most of us, but don't fret—everything will be perfectly fine, and don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone! Do your research before committee, and you should be fine! Nobody will care if you make one bad speech—as long as you keep moving forward, anything is possible in committee. I still get nervous every time I have to raise my voice; everyone does. But just go ahead and do it! The possibilities are endless.

That being said, I am sure that each and every delegate will be confident going into committee, and am looking forward to seeing all of you for StuyMUNC 2022. I hope everyone has a great experience from this committee; I'll see you there!

Sincerely,

Aaron Hui

ahui30@stuy.edu

Honorable delegates,

Hello, my name is Andrew Park, and I can't wait to serve as your director for the US Senate Nullification committee at StuyMUNC 2022! I'm currently a sophomore here at Stuyvesant High School, and I actually joined Model UN last September. This is my first time directing a committee! MUN's an invaluable resource in learning how to get better at public speaking, talking to people, and sometimes just enjoying yourself! COVID-19 has been tough, and it's affected MUN even more, but I'm excited for StuyMUNC to be held in person. Trust me, relax a little, and you'll enjoy yourself.

For the committee, don't worry if some of the delegates are more complicated or harder to find information on. Model UN isn't a re-enactment of what happened, and part of the fun is creating new situations as we go on! If you're having trouble finding what your character supports, then try using context clues and think in their POV. Don't be worried about keeping it exactly to what it was like in history. Specialized committees are constantly changing and that's what makes them interesting!

I sincerely hope you enjoy this conference. Don't be afraid to do things you've never done before: if that's to make an elaborate scheme or lead a bloc. You miss 100% of the shots you don't take. I can't wait!

Best of luck,

Andrew Park

apark40@stuy.edu

Committee Information

The U.S. Senate is the upper chamber of Congress. They are responsible for passing legislation and discussing the constitutionality of such legislation. This committee will revolve around the nullification crisis, in which delegates will debate regarding the constitutionality of the “Tariff of Abominations” and the nullification doctrine, and will take place in 1832, directly after the Tariff of 1832 is passed.

This committee will be a specialized committee, and will follow normal parliamentary procedure for specialized committees (i.e moderated/unmoderated caucus, points/motions). We intend for this committee to run more like a General Assembly than a crisis committee, but we may choose to include crisis elements. If you are unsure about anything related to parliamentary procedure or this committee, feel free to consult the [delegate guide](#) or contact the dais directly. If you have trouble finding information on your position, feel free to reach out to us as well. Some of these historical figures may be a bit obscure, so you may need to extrapolate what interests they represent based on their

political background or position in government.

Although StuyMUNC 2022 does not require position papers, they are **highly recommended**. Position papers are a great way to summarize all of your research into one document that can be referred to throughout the committee and can help you understand and solidify your stance on the topic. They can also be a great way to prepare for the conference since you will thoroughly research your topic in the process of writing the paper. If you would like to receive feedback on your position paper, please submit your paper to ahui30@stuy.edu and apark40@stuy.edu via email. The final deadline for position paper submission is by first committee session, however if one wants to receive feedback they must email it to the chair by May 6 at 11:59 PM. Papers should be a maximum of about one page long (single-spaced with 12 point font).

If you have any other questions, feel free to email the chairs through the emails linked in the intro letters!

Committee Background

The War of 1812

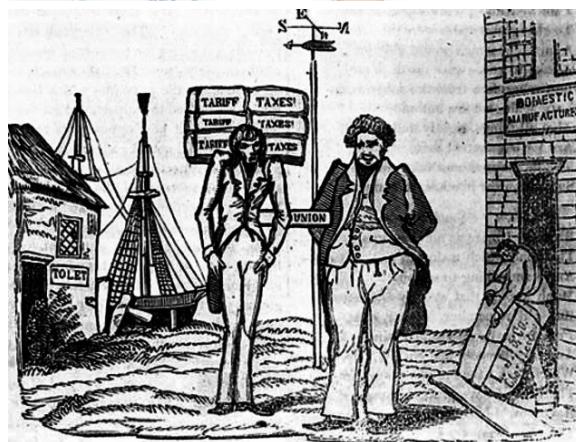
Following their victory in the War of 1812, Americans gained a new sense of nationality, commonly dubbed “The Era of Good Feelings”. American manufacturing received an incredible boost; by 1816, 100,000 factory workers produced more than \$40 million worth of manufactured goods a year, while capital investment soared to \$100 million.

This manufacturing boom, however, was undermined by the influx of cheap British imports. A British minister in Parliament defended this, saying that “it is well worth while to incur a loss upon the first exportation, in order, by a glut, to stifle in the cradle those rising manufacturers in the United States which the war had forced into existence.” Americans were outraged by this and believed that the only way they could escape a colonial

relationship was to continue tariffs in order to compete with Britain’s low prices.

The Tariff of Abominations

One of these tariffs was especially controversial. On April 22, 1828, the Tariff of 1828—commonly referred to as the “Tariff of Abominations”—was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 105 to 94. On May 19, 1828, President John Quincy Adams had approved the bill.



Although protective tariffs had previously existed and been used, the Tariff of 1828 had much higher rates—nearly 49 percent. There was noticeable backlash toward the tariff, especially among the South. This would cause a deep rift between the two regions of the nation and increase sectional tensions.

The North was incredibly industry driven. Factories were

extremely prevalent, and the majority of their economy was based on manufacturing and factory work. This meant that the tariff helped keep their businesses competitive with Britain's low prices. Northerners were perfectly okay with the bill, as it could keep their businesses afloat and continue the economic boom that had resulted from the War of 1812.

However, Southern plantation owners were heavily against the tariff. Their economy was based primarily on large plantations and the legal institution of slavery, which meant that they relied very little on manufacturing. The tariff hurt them disproportionately, as the South was barely based in manufacturing, and all that it did for them was raise prices for goods.

In fact, there was fear that the tariff would hurt the Southern economy. For one, they feared that foreign countries would enact tariffs on the United States, hurting their profit on raw materials. Secondly, Britain, who was losing money from the tariffs, would have less money to pay for US imports, especially cotton and other raw

materials from the South, further depressing the Southern economy.

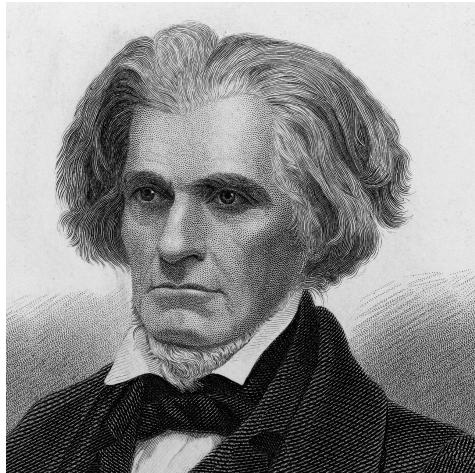
All of these concerns in the South led to widespread backlash from Southern plantation owners and politicians. John Quincy Adams' passing of the bill all but sealed his loss in the next election, and Andrew Jackson won the presidential election of 1828, partly due to the belief that his policies would be more in line with Southern planters. He selected South Carolinian John C.

Calhoun, an outspoken opponent of the Tariff of Abominations, as his vice president.

Though many Southerners believed that Jackson would reduce, or even repeal the tariff, he was unable to address the issue. Vice President John C. Calhoun, however, was very vocal regarding his distaste for the tariff, and on December 19th, 1828, he anonymously penned the *South Carolina Exposition and Protest*, which introduced the idea of nullification.

The Nullification Doctrine

In his document, Calhoun outlined the tariff as a way for the North to improve its own economy at the expense of the South, and to tie the Southern economy closer with that of



the North: as he writes, “We cultivate certain great staples for the supply of the general market of the world:—They manufacture almost exclusively for the home market. Their object in the Tariff is to keep down foreign competition, in order to obtain a monopoly of the domestic market.” He also highlighted the power of the government and introduced the idea of checks and balances on the power of the government, saying that “[a]n unchecked majority is despotism”.

At the heart of his argument was that power should not be centralized within solely the government, and that states should have a share of this power too. His view was that the United States was a partnership of sovereign states, and thus, sovereignty originated in the states. Thus, states had the ability to act in their best interests, even superceding the Constitution. He proposed this through nullification, in which he suggested that the federal government should recognize a state’s right to “nullify” within the state any federal law it did not agree with; in this case, spurred primarily by the incredibly high tariffs.

While Jackson was sympathetic to the South, he refused to accept

nullification, and viewed it as a precedent for secession. In his Proclamation Regarding Nullification, he said that “disunion, by armed force, is treason”.

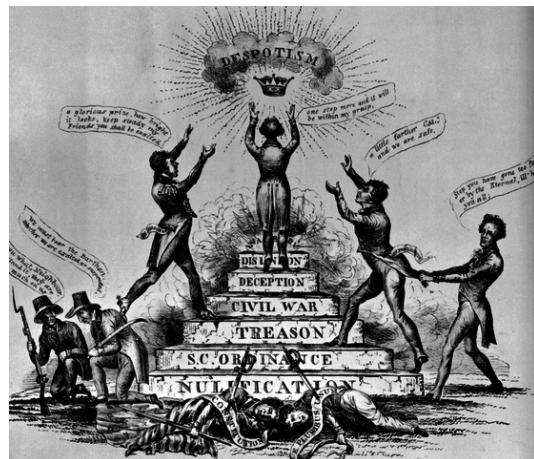
The Tariff of 1832

In an effort to appease Southerners, Congress did yield and pass the Tariff of 1832, which lowered the tariff from the rates of 1828 to their 1816 levels. However, these lowered rates did little to satisfy Southern radicals, as they wanted the tariff completely repealed. Tensions throughout the country are now

incredibly high.

Questions to Consider

- ❖ What incentives can be offered to appease the South while maintaining the economy of the entire country?
- ❖ Should the tariff be kept and lowered, or repealed altogether?
- ❖ How should the United States keep Southern states from seceding?
- ❖ What preparations should the nation make should the South secede?



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Committee Positions

Calvin Willey (Connecticut)

Willey is the incumbent Senator of Connecticut. He has previously served in the Connecticut House of Representatives twice, as well as being Judge of Stafford District and a State Senator. Willey opposes tariffs put on American goods, as he believes it will hurt New England's manufacturing industry. He also opposes Jackson's policies, being an Anti-Jacksonian. He's eying a run for Governor of Connecticut soon, in the 1832 election.

Elias Kane (Illinois)

Kane is the incumbent Senator of Illinois. While born in New York, he moved to Illinois at the age of 20. Supporting slavery, he unsuccessfully ran for U.S Congress, trying to add slavery to the territory of Illinois. He lost his bid, but became Illinois' first Secretary of State. He supports Jackson's policies and is in line with what Jackson believes in.

Robert Hanna (Indiana)

Hanna is the incumbent Senator of Indiana. He was one of the 43 delegates who created the Indiana Constitution when it was a territory. He's a first-term senator, being appointed after the former Senator's death in 1831. He is undecided on whether he wants to run in 1832. He's against Jackson's policies,

however he supports tariffs, unlike New England and the South.

John Rowan (Kentucky)

Rowan is the incumbent Senator of Kentucky. He's had prolific previous experience in politics, having served as Kentucky's Secretary of State as well as the representative of Kentucky's 3rd district to Congress. Rowan is a controversial figure in Kentucky. While his constituents support tariffs, he voted against a measure that provided federal funds for Kentucky as well as many tariffs. Despite all this, he still supports Jackson, even though he's sometimes at odds with Jackson's policies.

Henry Clay (Kentucky)

Clay is the incumbent Senator of Kentucky, along with Rowan. Despite Rowan's support for Jackson, Clay is vigorously opposed to Jacksonian policies, being one of its main opponents. He plans to run against Jackson in the 1832 presidential election. While Clay favors high tariffs, but he's sympathetic to the South Carolinians and despises Jackson's intervention there. He's willing to compromise with lower tariffs if it'll find a solution.

Josiah S. Johnston (Louisiana)

Johnston is the incumbent Senator of Louisiana. As a second term Senator, he previously represented Louisiana in Congress before his current terms. He's strongly opposed to Jackson as well as the tariffs being imposed, and supports South Carolina's actions on the nullification crisis. While he's in poor health, he still wants to take an active role in mediating the issue, trying to reach across the country to the Northern anti-Jacksonians.

Ezekiel F. Chambers (Maryland)

Chambers is the incumbent Senator of Maryland. He's previously served in the Maryland State Senate, and recently got elected to his second term to represent Maryland. He's a slaveowner, and he's also against President Jackson. Despite being farther north than his southern counterparts, he still sympathizes with the South Carolinans, although he's willing to find a compromise if necessary.

Daniel Webster (Massachusetts)

Webster is the incumbent Senator of Massachusetts. He's served as the Congressman for New Hampshire as well as Massachusetts's 1st district. He's become a key figure in the nullification issue, debating against South Carolina Senator Robert Y. Hayne over tariffs in the famous Webster-Hayne debate in 1830. He is strongly opposed to the

concept of state's rights as well as slavery, which seems to be a growing issue in the United States. He supports Jackson, and is vigorously opposed to Calhoun. He's previously called nullification to be treason, and believes there is an impending civil war.

Theodore Frelinghuysen (New Jersey)

Frelinghuysen is the incumbent Senator of New Jersey. He's previously served as New Jersey's Attorney General for 12 years. While he supports Jackson's policies, he hasn't been afraid to stand for his own policies, including his opposition to Jackson's Indian Removal Act of 1830. He supports tariffs, but may want to reconcile his beliefs with his New England neighbors to the North.

Charles E. Dudley (New York)

Dudley is the incumbent Senator of New York. He's previously served as Mayor of Albany as well as a State Senator of New York. He's been a staunch loyalist to the Jackson administration, and is undivided in his support for tariffs. While he doesn't plan on running for Senate after his term ends in 1833, he wishes to take an active role in stopping South Carolina from circumventing the tariffs and laws enacted by Jackson.

William L. Marcy (New York)

Marcy is the incumbent Senator of New York. He's served as the Comptroller of New York for 6 years, but is new to the Senate, only having served 2 years. He plans to run for Governor of New York. While he supports Jackson in the Senate, he's a conservative and is fully aware that New York depends on Southern exports and imports. He wishes to preserve the industry of New York, and is willing to compromise on issues such as tariffs and slavery. He wishes for reconciliation with the South and is willing to break with Jackson if other Northerners won't.

Willie P. Mangum (North Carolina)

Mangum is the incumbent Senator of North Carolina. He's previously served as the Congressman of North Carolina's 8th district. While he's a Democrat and in theory supports Jackson's policies, he's often in opposition to Jacksonian bills. He's strongly opposed to the protectionist tariffs imposed, and is considering joining the Whigs. He is in full agreement with the Southern consensus regarding South Carolina.

Benjamin Ruggles (Ohio)

Ruggles is the incumbent Senator of Ohio. He's served as a judge in the Ohio State Court, and has been a Senator for three terms. He's opposed to Jacksonian policies, and is considering joining the

Whigs. He's more indifferent to tariffs however, and could serve as one of the important Senators who haven't yet to take a stance on the issue.

Robert Y. Hayne (South Carolina)

Hayne is the incumbent Senator of South Carolina. At the forefront of the nullification crisis, he's been involved in numerous arguments and debates, especially with Daniel Webster, the Senator from Massachusetts. He is an ardent supporter of free trade and will never support tariffs, supporting his state of South Carolina. He's emerged with Calhoun as the major opposition to Jacksonian policies, and is unwilling to compromise on the nullification issue. He's considering ending his tenure as a Senator to run for Governor of South Carolina.

Stephen Decatur Miller (South Carolina)

Miller is the incumbent Senator of South Carolina. As a South Carolinian, he's also vigorously opposed to tariffs, supporting the Southern consensus on free trade. Along with his counterpart Hayne, he forms the main opposition to Jacksonian tariffs and policies. Previously, he's served as a State Senator of South Carolina, a Congressman of South Carolina's 9th district as well as South Carolina's Governor.

Felix Grundy (Tennessee)

Grundy is the incumbent Senator of Tennessee. He's served as the Congressman of Tennessee's 3rd district as well as its 5th district, and is in his first term as Senator of Tennessee. He's strongly in line with Jacksonian policies. Unlike other Southerners, he supports tariffs, which puts him at odds with the other Southern states, like South Carolina.

Samuel Prentiss (Vermont)

Prentiss is the incumbent Senator of Vermont. As a Whig, he's served in the Vermont House of Representatives as well as in its courts. He's opposed to Jackson, and wishes to protect New England's manufacturing interests and despises tariffs. Despite this, he and the Northerners are still divided from the Southerners because of slavery, even if they agree on tariffs. They must work

together to counteract the Jacksonians in the Senate.

John Tyler (Virginia)

Tyler is the incumbent Senator of Virginia. Although he somewhat supports Jackson, he's very reluctant, and opposes the Jacksonian tariffs, like his Southern neighbors. He's a staunch supporter of state's rights, and is fully in line with the Southern stances on these issues. However, he's also in agreement with Jackson on some issues, like the National Bank and Jackson's appointments. His support for Jacksonian or anti-Jacksonian policies is unclear, as despite his opposition to tariffs, he's still endorsed Jackson for re-election in 1832.