Name: Michael Saltz

Delegation: Westside Family YMCA

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To Eliminate the Income Tax, and replace it with the Fair Tax.

JUSTIFICATION:

The fair tax would replace the current system of taxing the citizen's income. Taxes on will be placed on the purchase of all new goods and services, and monitored accordingly in order to sustain an acceptable amount to permit a growing economy. Essentially people would be taxed based on what they spend as opposed to what they earn, which creates an incentive to work harder. People will be able to have a greater control over their finances, they would be able to receive their full paycheck, and decide their own tax burden based on how much they chose to spend. It would create an incentive to invest rather than spend, which would boost the economy. Taxpayers all across the board are currently paying an extra \$2,500 in taxes under the current income tax plane due to tax evasion, the underground economy, or lack of citizenship. Under this plan, all people would be forced to pay taxes no matter how they earn their money. This plan would not hurt the poor because it allows for a prebate, which would give all legal residents the ability to receive an "advanced refund" annually or monthly, which would mean that purchases made at the poverty level are tax free. The prebate that would be offered would mean low income families would benefit from this program as they have the option to pay no taxes and only buy necessities. This tax would also allow for the dissolving of the IRS because retailers will be able to collect the fair tax the same way they collect sales tax. There will be no need for a government institution to deal with tax forms, audits, or other forms of federal bureaucracy.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The federal government will repeal the Sixteenth Amendment which gives congress the right to levy an income tax, and replace it with the Fair Tax.

Name: Bennett Christoffersen **Delegation:** SRV Valle Lobo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Increasing voter turnout through social and traditional media.

JUSTIFICATION:

Since 1982, the voter turnout has been at a maximum of 60%, barely a D in educational standards, and the number is slowly deteriorating every election. Fewer and fewer people have been voting because of multiple factors, such as they're too busy, they're sick/disabled, or simply not interested. The 2010 Census reported that in the 2008 election, 17.5% of registered non-voters were unable to vote because of their schedules conflicting with the voting hours. 14.9% didn't vote because they were disabled or suffered from an illness and 13.4% because they weren't interested. There are existing solutions to address these issues but the nonvoters may not be aware of them.

Absentee voting is a simple alternative to voting in the polls. If a citizen is unable to fit voting into their schedule, or they have difficulty physically voting, they can sign up to be an absentee voter, meaning they can vote at home. The absentee ballot is simple. A few weeks before the election, a packet of the voting information and what the election is about is sent to the voter. They have weeks to look over the ballot and make a decision on the election, but they must send in their vote at least a week before the election. In the most recent election, some citizens arrived at the polls and left hours later because of the long wait to vote. If the citizens believe that their vote doesn't count, they would be mistaken. Even if the outcome of the presidency in one's state is absolute, a vote for the president would not be the only thing they're voting for. Around 80 issues including the presidential vote are voted on Election Day. Some of the most controversial decisions have been on the state level, such as the legalization of marijuana in Colorado and Washington, and Proposition 8, which made gay marriage illegal.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A social and traditional media effort, such as front page posts on major news sites like Reddit, CNN, and Yahoo! News, will be initiated by the Election Assistance Commission to reach both registered and non-registered voters to inform them of the value of their vote and ways to easily enable them to register and vote. Funds for this will be received by lowering the public funding of general primary elections from the Federal Election Commission to a total of fifty million dollars.

Name: Harrison Weimer **Delegation:** SPPY

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Making it mandatory for all women aged 18-25 to register with the Selective Service System so she can be put into the Conscription Lottery if the United States of America needed to return to a national draft system during time of war.

JUSTIFICATION:

If the United States needed to implement a national wartime draft, it would have select from its 17 million men aged 18-25 who have been registered with the Selective Service System. Under current law, men, and only men, who are living in the United States or under US government, have to register to the Selective Service System within 30 days of their 18th birthdays. This proposal states that women aged 18-25 and living in the United States, should also have to register with the Selective Service, following the same procedures as the men. The Conscription lottery should not discriminate based on gender as women can have the same capabilities as the men do on the battlefield. Also, the more people who are placed into the lottery, the military have a greater pool of inductees to pull from and therefore can work towards having the strongest troops possible. Also, women will have to meet the same physical, mental, and health requirements as men had previously been judged under. The constitutionality of excluding women was decided in 1981 by the United States Supreme Court in Rostker v. Goldberg." Congress concluded, "The purpose of registration was to prepare for a draft of combat troops. Since women are excluded from combat, that they would not be needed in the event of a draft, and therefore decided not to register them." However, this reasoning is no longer valid because the military has recently opened almost all of its positions to either gender so now woman are considered a part of "combat" team

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress must amend the Selective Service laws put in place in the Selective Service Act of 1948 to say "all persons between the age of 18 and 25" instead of "male persons."

Name: Ana Finkelstein **Delegation:** Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Reinstating affirmative action in higher education admissions at public California institutions.

JUSTIFICATION:

Affirmative action can be broadly generalized as a policy that gives females and members of minority groups greater chances to succeed in employment, real estate, education, and other areas of life.

The first form of affirmative action appeared in 1961, when John F. Kennedy issued Executive Order 10925, a law requiring federally-funded projects to "take affirmative action" to make sure that hiring and employment practices were completely free of racism. In 1965, Johnson issued the first order enforcing affirmative action, requiring companies to take measures ensuring equality in the workplace and to document their efforts. The famous *Bakke* case, in which the white student Allan Bakke claimed to have been rejected from colleges twice while less-than-qualified minority students were admitted, took place in 1978, almost twenty years before Prop. 209 removed all affirmative action programs from our state. This proposal is only focusing on the issue of affirmative action in a university setting.

Along with all of the academic knowledge that one may gain from attending a university, the college experience is something that stays with an individual as well. Affirmative action benefits diversity in a campus environment and ever since Prop. 209 passed in California, diversity on campuses has gone down. Having the opportunity to learn in a diverse community is how one becomes a well-rounded person. Diversity promotes personal growth and a healthy society and is necessary in a campus environment. Affirmative action is needed to make colleges an even better learning environment.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

California will remove Prop. 209: allowing affirmative action in higher education admissions at public California institutions.

Name: Camille Holzman Delegation: SDSC

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Repealing the twelfth amendment and removing the Electoral College.

JUSTIFICATION:

This bill must pass to solve issues with unequal representation in America. The US is a democracy, which means that we Americans elect people who most closely express the ideals we wish to see in place. However, this is not possible if we only have a few representatives of our states voting for the representative of our country, the one who holds an entire branch of government alone. As seen in the 2000 election between Al Gore and Bush, the popular vote was for Al Gore but the electoral vote was for Bush. The Electoral College's vote trumped that of the general populous, and George Bush became president. This shows that the people, when it comes down to the final election, have almost no say in who becomes president. How can our ideals be fairly represented when we do not take part in the final vote for our leader? On top of this, when we do have an elected president and vice president, both of them are either republican or democrat. Assuming that the popular vote was the one counted in the elections, this means that up to 49.999% of the population may not be represented: while it is a minority, it is in no way such a gaping minority as to be disregarded. Therefore, we need to revert to the system we had originally, where the candidate with the highest number of votes became president and that with the second highest number of votes became the vice president. Not only would it make both political parties feel more fairly represented, but it would also fix the issues we're having with congress right now; instead of having a time period between presidential elections where congress stalls before electing officials who are mostly of the opposite party as the president, congress will be able to have equal representation as well because both political parties will be represented in the president and vice president.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States Federal Government shall repeal the 12th Amendment, and shall remove the Electoral College, instead basing voting results off of the popular vote.

Name: Chloe Arnold

Delegation: SDSC Magdelena Ecke Family YMCA

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Removing pennies from circulation as physical currency in the United States of America.

JUSTIFICATION:

It costs 2.4 cents to mint a penny, which is only worth 1 cent. For every single penny minted a year 1.4 cents are being wasted. The penny is a miniscule currency value that is very rarely used to make any major purchase or even used any transaction in bulk. In 2011 the U.S. Mint made around 4.3 billion pennies, wasting approximately 6,020,000,000 tax dollars. The U.S. could save billions of dollars every year by ceasing to mint new pennies, and taking old pennies out of circulation, while still using exact prices when paying with checks, credit cards, debit cards, or other electronic forms of payment. Many other countries have phased out pennies or the equivalent of the penny, and there have been no negative economic effects.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Starting on September 1st, 2013 all Pennies collected by banks, businesses, or anywhere else will be taken out of circulation and sent back to the mint where the metal can be melted down and recycled. The penny will still be legal currency, but will not be put back in circulation after being used for purchase or deposit. All non cash transactions will still be exact to the penny, and will not be affected by the phasing out of the penny, and neither will taxes. Cash transactions will be rounded to the nearest nickel or dime. Any purchase with 1-2 cents will be rounded down to the nearest dime, and 6-7 cents will be rounded down to the nearest nickel, while 3-4 cents will be rounded up to the nearest nickel, and 8-9 cents will be rounded up to the nearest dime. The rounding will be done to the total amount owed after tax is added.

Name: Jesse Sanchez **Delegation:** Desert Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Colonization of the moon for emergency protection and economic benefit.

JUSTIFICATION:

Colonization of the Moon means to establish communities of human beings on the Moon. Space research indicates that establishing colonies on the moon is a logical step in exoanding national presence throughout the universe. The tourism industry could capitalize on this and bolster the United States economy. There has been indication of water potentially existing on the lunar poles.

The Moon's proximity to Earth makes it an ideal candidate for the first extraterrestrial presence. Shouild the world approach its end or any other catastrophe occur that would change life as we know it, and the inhabitant do not desire to experience it, inhabitants of the United States would be able to evacuate to the Moon. As the population continues to increase and drain planetary resources, this would provide a soultion for overpopulation.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All inhabitants of the United States shall have the government-funded opportunity to relocate to the Moon via space shuttle or face the fate of the earth.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Removing marriage from governmental control and replacing it with Governmental issued Civil Unions that give equal benefits to all.

JUSTIFICATION:

America has a very fundamental belief that has been ignored by the Government and the people for a long time, the idea of Separation of Church and State. The State and Federal Governments are giving people who have church issued marriages governmental benefits. Currently, the Federal Government and most States Governments do not recognize Civil Unions. This deprives couples who have Civil Unions from many of the much needed benefits, such as guardianship of their children, visitation rights of their spouse if incarcerated or hospitalized, or tax, social security, and health care benefits. This proposal will be taking marriage away from the Government, and replacing it with Civil Unions. These Civil Unions will be made equally accessible to any couple, and will give all the governmental benefits that currently only marriage gives. This proposal will be separating the churchs marriage from the Governmental benefits couples need.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

It would require the Defense of Marriage Act (Public Law No. 104-199, 110 Stat. 2419) to be repealed. Once this Act is repealed a new Bill would have to be passed to grant Federal Civil Union recipients the equal benefits. Marriage would have to be fully removed from any governmental control. And couples must meet a few requirements to receive a Civil Union. These requirements are: A Union entered into prior to the dissolution of an earlier union of one or both parties, a union between an ancestor and or descendant; or between a brother and a sister; or between an uncle and a niece; or between an aunt and a nephew; whether the relationship is by half or the whole blood or adoption, and a union where either of the parties lacks capacity to consent to the union because of mental incapacity or infirmity.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Health of students taking multiple advanced classes

JUSTIFICATION:

Today about 25% of high school students take AP classes, and over half of them take more than one in the same year. More students now than ever are taking AP classes, yet the percent of students passing the tests are dropping. It is recommended that students devote at least 1 hour to homework or studying for each AP class taken. Students who take multiple AP courses tend to stay up past midnight trying to finish their homework. There is even a group on popular social networking site Facebook entitled "AP Students: We Can Sleep When We're Dead." Many students take AP courses to get a higher GPA to look better for college, but it has been shown that students who do not stay up all night studying have higher GPA's than students who do. As a result of staying up until the crack of dawn studying, 20% of students say they fall asleep during class, which ultimately decreases the amount of learning one can participate in. Lack of sleep is a very big health concern for teenagers, especially teenagers who are stressing out about classes and getting in to college. A lack of sleep can lead to health problems, excessive daytime sleepiness, impaired ability to perform tasks with memory, learning, and logical reasoning, absenteeism from school or work, tension, depression, and confusion, lower life satisfaction, more frequent use of drugs and alcohol, and an increased risk in unintentional injuries and death. If students got more sleep or had more time to rest, their grades would go up and there would be less risk of the aforementioned health problems.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Every student taking 3 or more AP courses must have a mandatory "nap period" sometime during the school day. During this time students may take a nap, work on homework, study, or just rest. This will decrease the amount of students falling asleep during class, give students a chance to rest in a stress-free environment, and encourage students to complete some homework during school so they can go to bed earlier at night.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Teaching Disposition Assessment

JUSTIFICATION:

This bill would require a personality test for all persons applying to be a public school teacher. The test would assess the characteristics of the individual and determine how successful he/she would be as a teacher. A successful teacher is creative, flexible, energetic, patient, and cooperative. In addition to these qualities a teacher should be organized, assertive, self-confident, sociable, and have leadership skills. These are characteristics that cannot be seen through aptitude tests already required that only test reading, writing, and math skills.

Research indicates that 25% of teachers leave the job after merely one year and 50% of new teachers leave the job within the first five years. Implementing a personality test would help in finding more well-suited individuals and prevent such teacher loss that disrupts classrooms and shows un-interested and un-devoted employees. Research shows that the student's success in a classroom corresponds to certain teacher characteristics. Research in 1996 by Ducharme and Ducharme also offered that the psychological state of people applying to be teachers may predict their future success. Therefore, with such a simple personality test schools would be empowered to make better decisions regarding who they hire. We need effective teachers in our schools, and it is an injustice to students and the education program to employ teachers that are simply unsuited for the position.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

If this bill were passed it would be required that all states implement a Disposition Assessment for persons applying to be teachers in public schools.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for the illegalization of selling canines at any commercial pet store in order to decrease the number of canines bred in puppy mills.

JUSTIFICATION:

The majority of commercial pet stores purchase their merchandise from puppy mills. These inhumane establishments breed canines to the extent that the animals themselves are not able to receive the proper care they deserve, so as they mature, they develop great physical disabilities as well as emotional strain, which can lead to such traits as a skittish disposition. For instance, as the Humane Society pointsout, at puppy mills, the lack of stimulation in the barns and the cages where the majority of puppies are raised causes the animals the become "...under-socialized to people and to the normal sights and sounds of a household." The moment these animals are sold to a puppy store, and then hopefully a family, they are often frightened by little occurrences "such as a cupboard door being shut" (Humane Society).

Ideally, each of the puppies raised in these puppy mills will be sold to a loving family, but the truth is, the puppies are bred to the extent that they become a surplus in many cases, and simply all the puppies cannot be sold. In these instances, the puppy stores and puppy mills often euthanize the canines. Although there are laws enacted to protect animals raised in these mills, the regulation is very weak, and "there are many inefficiencies and loopholes in the system" (Humane Society).

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass legislation banning the selling of canines in commercial pet stores.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Domestic Violence

JUSTIFICATION:

Domestic violence has many forms, including physical violence, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, intimidation, economic deprivation, and threats of violence. Violence can be criminal and includes physical assault (hitting, pushing, shoving, etc.), sexual abuse (unwanted or forced sexual activity), and stalking. Although emotional, psychological and financial abuses are not criminal behaviors; they are forms of abuse and can lead to criminal violence.

Popular emphasis has tended to be on women as the victims of domestic violence. However, with the rise of the men's movement, and particularly masculism and men's rights, there is now advocacy for men victimized by women. In a special report on violence related injuries by the US Department of justice (in August 1997) hospital emergency room visits pertaining to domestic violence indicated that physically abused men represent just under one-sixth of the total patients admitted to hospital reporting domestic violence as the cause of their injuries. The report highlights that significantly more men than women did not disclose the identity of their attacker.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Provide domestic violence centers throughout cities, for all everyone not matter what race, gender, or religion. The domestic violence centers will help the victims fight for their protection from the offenders. Not only provide physical protection, or help with the process of restraining orders, but also provide mental assistance. The centers will help the victims with their mental status; because of the great deal of mental stress, or harm, the victims have experienced. Counseling will also be provided for the victims.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Removing the requirement to register as a sex offender as a consequence for charges of public urination.

JUSTIFICATION:

Megan's Law is a public website that can be viewed in order to locate registered sex offenders across the United States. While Megan's Law website is in important in protecting the rights of those victims of sexual abuse and preventing further crimes, it unfairly combines minor infractions such as public urinations with harsh sexual offenses such as rape and child abuse. Public Urination, classified under the heading "indecent exposure" on the website, is considered a 314.1 offense and a class C misdemeanor. It further requires registering on this national sex offender website. Names that are on this site are therefore limited to opportunities for employment and social gatherings, are denied interaction with children, the ability to enjoy time spent in public places (parks, schools, etc), and their choice of residency. They are required to register their whereabouts and people who live within a two mile radius are either forewarned about their residency and/or have the option of viewing where they reside on this website. They are ostracised from society as much as those who commit much more heinous crimes.

A better solution to this issue would be to still require other penalties for public urination such as a fine, in order to prevent future occurrences and penalize the offender but it would not incriminate him for the rest of his life and associate that person with those of more serious crimes such as "rapist" or "lewd or lascivous acts with children under 14 years."

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Public urination would no longer require registration as a sex offender according to Megan's Law and made available to the public as required since May 17th, 1996 (online access since March 5, 2003).

Name: Jack Loken

Delegation: South Pasadena/San Marino (SPASM)

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal aims to re-appropriate the prerequisites of the military draft for today's standards.

JUSTIFICATION:

Conscription in its current form requires all able-bodied men of a certain age—depending on the circumstance—to be drafted into military service for a set amount of time. During the Vietnam War, the Selective Service System of the United States conducted lotteries to determine the order of 'call to military service' for men born from 1944 to 1950. A total of over 58,000 US soldiers died in Vietnam, and 153,000 were wounded. Many came back mentally scarred, and a study conducted shows that 9,000 Vietnam veterans committed suicide. In World War II, over ten million men were drafted for combat. 400,000 US soldiers died, and over 600,000 were wounded. Suicide deaths in the U.S. military reached a record 349 in 2012, this being more than the 295 Americans who died fighting in Afghanistan that same year.

The US military draft today would not be enforced mandatorily. Instead, all male students in their junior year of high school *without* a mental or physical impairment will be required to take a test—much like the procedure involved in taking the SAT—to determine their eligibility to join the military. If a student scores below a set expectation, they will be drafted immediately upon exiting high school. Students who pass the test may continue high school. However, a student who passes the test but holds a substandard GPA during their senior year will be required to take secondary examination. If they fail this test, they will be drafted. If the student passes, they are put on a kind of academic probation, whereby they must keep above a 2.0 GPA for the rest of high school or else they will be drafted.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will institute a law that requires an exam to be taken in order to thin the intensity of the military draft and determine those who qualify.

Name: Ethan Tick

Delegation: SDSC Palomar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Intervention in the Syrian Civil War

JUSTIFICATION:

The people of the Free Syrian Army are fighting to overthrow the brutal and autocratic regime of Bashar al-Assad. They have repeatedly made requests for aid from the United States in the form of weapons, specifically SAM (Surface-to-Air Missile) systems with which to battle Assad's air force. It is also in the best interests of the United States to oust al-Assad, as the Syrian government is allied to the government of Iran, which is hostile to the United States and our allies.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will provide weapons to the Free Syrian Army in order to help the overthrow the Bashar al-Assad regime.

NAME: Jonah Propp

DELEGATION: SDSC La Jolla

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

By 2030, all new cars must be hybrid/electric.

JUSTIFICATION:

As gas prices go up, it becomes a larger burden on the common man to afford travel in heavily using gas vehicles. Also, with our need for gas ever increasing, we will run out of all that we have sooner and sooner. As a solution must be found eventually, we can start by cutting down on our use of gas.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We should start supporting the ban of non hybrid/electric cars by creating a ban in the near future. With large car manufacturing companies aware of the incoming change, they will most likely begin the change and we can release less pollution into our world.

Name: Tatum West

Delegation: Newport- Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Legalizing use of experimental drugs that are in the fourth stage of drug development and review by the FDA to terminally ill patients.

JUSTIFICATON:

When a new drug is in the process of becoming a drug, it is reviewed and developed by the FDA in nine stages. The first five stages are the testing and development of the drug and the last four stages are the review of the testing of the drug by the FDA to be approved for marketing. Stage one is the drug being tested on animals to see if it is reasonably safe by FDA standards so that it can move on to stage two, the IND Application. After the application is approved the FDA and a local institutional review board, it can move on to the testing stages of four (Phase 1 Testing) and five (Phase 2 Testing). Phase 1 focuses on the safety of the drug by testing on healthy volunteers ages 20 to 80. Phase 2 focuses on the effectiveness of the drug by testing to see if it works on people with a certain disease or condition. However, finding these volunteers can be difficult and sometimes the drug can be approved for marketing too late to help patients whose lives could have been saved. Some may argue that it does not matter about the people who passed before the drug was approved, but every life counts.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

I propose to allow the terminally ill to use drugs in the process of being tested and approved by the FDA. This way, the terminally ill can possibly be saved by the drugs they need but that are not approved yet, but is low risk due to the fact that they are determined terminally ill by a licensed medical physician, and the FDA will be able to obtain vital research needed to determine the approval of the new drug.

Name: Daniel Mellor **Delegation:** SPPY

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Changing all election days to one day

JUSTIFICATION:

This proposal changes the United States elections to one day a year. March elections have a significantly lower voter turnout than November elections because the electable positions are less important. This bill will effectively increase the quantity of voters for the positions currently being elected in March.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add a law mandating only one Election Day per year. This Election will take place in the month of November. This bill will be enacted in November of 2016

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Requiring reflective attire for all pedestrians after dark.

JUSTIFICATION:

My proposal is one of great importance. There are way too many innocent pedestrians killed yearly because they can not be seen in the dark. This proposal would make it a requirement for every pedestrian to wear some sort of reflective attire from sunset to sunrise. If a pedestrian is not wearing this attire and is seen by a law enforcement, they will receive a ticket with a fine of up to \$250. The attire required can be anything from a reflective vest, to having some sort of reflector on their shoes, and anything in between. As long as the pedestrian is wearing a reflector or reflective attire, they will not receive any sort of fine for this issue. The passing of this proposal can save many citizens from being struck by cars at night because of poor vision, which would save many lives.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will pass a national law to make it a requirement for all pedestrians to wear reflective attire from sunset to sunrise.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Sentencing guidelines with the drug cocaine (powder) vresus crack (rock).

JUSTIFICATION:

Congress has a federal sentencing policy that whose commit crimes involving crack are to be punished on a 100-to-1 ratio. Compared to those whose crimes involved cocaine. For example, an individual who deals five grams of crack faces the same sentence as a defendant who deals 500 grams of cocaine.

Crack is a solid, smokable form of cocaine made by using baking soda. Crack is cheaper than cocaine; hence it is more readily used in the poorer communities. Studies have shown that the crack-versus-cocaine sentencing gap excessively affects minorities. Last year, 82 percent of crack defendants were black, according to the sentencing commission, compared with 9 percent who were white. For powder cocaine, it was almost the opposite: About 80 percent of powder-cocaine defendants were white and less than 14 percent were black. This is the discrepancy, because it leads to harsher punishments for minorities and the poor, who are more likely to buy and sell crack because it's cheaper and more potent than powder.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress should lessen the charges for crack to make the charges for crack equal with the charges of cocaine, which will help get minorities lesser prison sentences.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Higher restrictions for senior drivers aged 75+

JUSTIFICATION:

Studies have shown that after the age of 75, the risk of driver fatality increases sharply. Older drivers are more vulnerable to both crash-related injury and death. Three behavioral factors in particular that contribute to these statistics are: poor judgment in making left-hand turns, drifting within the traffic lane, and decreased ability to change behavior in response to an unexpected or rapidly changing situation. All of these qualities can have a negative impact on nearby drivers as well. A NHTSA study of 1995 FARS (Fatal Accident Reporting System) data reports that senior citizens accounted for:

- 5% of all people injured in traffic crashes
- 13% of all traffic fatalities
- 13% of all vehicle occupant fatalities
- 18% of all pedestrian fatalities

Since this FARS research these statistics have only increased. This helps to show that senior drivers should be more strictly regulated to ensure safe driving conditions for all.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All senior drivers (75 years of age and older) to take a behind the wheel driving test every year with an instructor to prove themselves to be a safe driver.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for a tax on pornography to help fund for STD research to better the future.

JUSTIFICATION:

Sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, and many others have become a huge and growing problem through out the United States of America. Each year a larger number of people get these diseases and one main reason is because of pornography. Every 39 minutes, a new pornographic video is created in the United States and many of those who participate in these videos carry an STD. The United States has the number one top video porn producers and also 244,661,900 pornography web pages, which is more than any other country in the world. Citizens of America love porn and take it very seriously.

What many people tend to forget is safety; Sexually Transmitted Diseases are an enormous problem in the U.S. and they need to be researched to a greater extent before it is too late. If the government places a very small tax on pornography, possibly .5 %, we could use that tax for STD research. With more funds for research we could find medicines and possibly even cures for some Sexually Transmitted Diseases. This would benefit the porn buyers, users, makers, porn stars, people with STD's, and possibly every other human being in the United States of America. If the small tax is proven effective over time, we could perhaps raise the tax and come up with more useful plans for the money. The demand for pornography is immense, so a slight raise in tax would not stop the buyers from getting their fix. Men and women alike watch pornography and enjoy it, which is the reason why they spend approximately \$3,075.64 every second on it.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Because there are so many different forms of pornography such as video rentals, video sales, magazines, novelties, Internet movies, exotic dance clubs, and others the number of people with Sexually Transmitted Diseases is increasing every day. So with a small tax on pornography we could use those funds for STD research, which will help many citizens living in the United States of America.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Allowing the Screening of Blood Donated by Homosexuals

JUSTIFICATION:

The blood donated by homosexuals should be screened and put in storage like blood donated by other individuals because the restriction on allowing homosexuals to donate blood is a violation of equal rights and shortages on blood are a frequent problem. Homosexuals currently occupy about 2-7% of the population, and the percentage of homosexuals that are infected with diseases such as hepatitis or HIV is smaller. The chance of the blood screening failing to detect a disease present in the blood is practically zero, therefore the potentially extra contaminated blood would not be used. However, the question on the questionnaire that must be filled out prior to donating blood that concerns previous homosexual contact should remain on the questionnaire for tracking purposes.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The blood donated by homosexuals will undergo the proper screening for diseases like blood donated by other individuals, and will receive the same treatment if no diseases are found.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Picture ID is required at all voting polls.

JUSTIFICATION:

To avoid voter fraud, a picture Id should be required at all voting polls in all elections. A person can go to voter polls and vote by just saying a name and knowing an address. It should be required for poll workers to be allowed to ask for Legal Id or picture Id so there we can avoid fraud and make sure votes are real and counted for

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States congress will enact a policy to require all poll workers to ask for Legal Id for United States voters in all 50 states.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Raising health insurance rates for all obese persons by 10%, while providing an alternative choice that eliminates the 10% increase in exchange for health consultations once every two months.

JUSTIFICATION:

Obesity is considered having a body mass index (BMI) equal to, or over 30. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Obesity is the second leading cause of preventable death in the U.S., and about 60 million people are obese. It has been estimated that the annual cost of obesity in the U.S. is \$102 billion. This estimate accounts for \$62.7 billion in direct costs (appointments, treatments, etc.) and \$39.3 billion in indirect costs (inability to work). If health insurance companies raised rates for all obese persons, or persons with obese children, 7% of these revenues would go towards hospitals and medical research. The alternative option involves consulting a physician once every two months. The physician would keep track of each individual's progress to ensure that they were losing a set amount of weight. If an individual does not meet their goal, they will be subjected to a fine. If passed, this proposal will create a healthier America. Either health insurance companies will generate more money to put into the healthcare system, or more obese individuals will work towards healthier lives, all at little cost to the government.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will implement a law which mandates that health insurance companies raise rates for all obese persons by 10%, while providing an alternative that eliminates the 10% increase in exchange for health consultations once every two months

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Sterilzation of parolees.

JUSTIFICATION:

When some convicts are released from prison they go into parole. While in parole they convicts job is to get back on their feet and assimilate into society like they never went to prison. A child to a parolee would be a burdon and a distraction from their main goal of becoming a regular in society. If the parolee was to be chemically sterilized he or she would not be able to have a child making it easier for the child and the parents.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All parolees are to be chemically sterilized (which is reversible) until they are let off parole.

Name: Alex Wendland

Delegation: Newport - Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

City light pollution

JUSTIFICATION:

Out of all the pollutions, light pollution is by far the easiest to solve. Light pollution is from the extreme excess of artificial light that humans use in order to time shift a city to our needs. Despite how useful this may seem in business and society, it severely interferes with both our own, and multitudes of animals', ability to properly regulate their natural process's. Light pollution disrupts human sleep schedules of neighbors unlucky to be caught in its glare and it throws off bats and other nighttime animals making nighttime migrations. Besides this, it confuses animals into losing there proper sleep cycle, causing them to weaken and become vulnerable due to lack of food or rest.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All outdoor lighting shall be hooded or screened to direct light downward, moderated by the National Transport and Safety Board.

Name: Rose Hayden Delegation: SPPY

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Creating a national cap and trade system for carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions **JUSTIFICATION:**

Currently, C02 emissions from industries account for approximately twenty percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. In addition, CO2 emissions in the United States have increased by more than twelve percent between 1990 and 2012. To both aid national economy and benefit the environment, this proposal would create a cap and trade system for all corporations that emit 25,000 metric tons or more of carbon dioxide per year. This system would be implemented until corporations reduced emissions to 60 percent of 2005 levels by 2050. In this system, a corporation would have permits, one per metric ton of carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere. The EPA set a cap at ninety percent of the CO2 emissions, which means the corporation will receive permits free of charge for the emissions under the cap, while, if needed, the remaining ten percent would have to be purchased at EPA-run auctions, creating large revenue for investment in renewable energy. Corporations have a financial incentive to emit below the cap because the EPA will buy their excess permits for the EPA auctions. In addition, the ninety percent cap will reduce three percent annually in the first five years and five percent annually until the goal is met.

California has already implemented a similar system, and it is projected that the government will receive approximately one billion dollars annually through cap and trade revenue. Similarly, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that an economy wide cap-and-trade system would generate between fifty billion and three hundred billion dollars annually. For the environmental aspect, this proposal is similar to the amendment to the Clean Air Act of 1990 which pertained to sulfur emissions. When the connection to acid rain and sulfur emissions was made, the amendment was added to limit the amount of SOx from seventeen million tons to nine million tons, reaching the goal of a forty percent reduction by 2012. The emissions continue to decline although the trading has ceased.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States would pass an amendment to the Clean Air Act of 1990 to include a reduction in corporate C02 emissions through a cap and trade system. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would regulate the trade and auction of excess C02 permits, as well as generating revenue to invest in renewable energy. The EPA would also have unrestricted data on trading, emissions, and compliance.

Name: Jake Bergersen **Delegation**: SPPY

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Administering Mental Health Exams to Gun Customers.

JUSTIFICATION:

This proposal requires people who purchase an assault weapon within the boundaries of the U.S. to be administered a mental health exam to determine if they are fit to purchase and own the gun. The mental health examination will be paid for by the person wishing to purchase an assault weapon and administered by a licensed psychologist. This new plan would not apply to people already owning assault weapons in the U.S., unless they purchased another assault weapon. This plan, however would not apply to firearms which are purchased that are not categorized as assault weapons.

Only minimal background checks are administered to determine who is able to own an assault weapon. They currently do not check to see if the person is mentally fit to own the weapon. This proposal is used as a way to keep dangerous weapons, such as fully automatic assault rifles out of the hands of people who do not have the mental capability of owning such a dangerous weapon. People with extreme mental disabilities with assault weapons can be harmful to themselves and the rest of society. This needs to be regulated.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To pass a federal law which makes it mandatory for people to pay for and pass a mental health evaluation before purchasing an assault weapon.

Name: Henry Hwang Delegation: Albany YMCA

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The United States is unprepared for a catastrophic meteorite strike.

JUSTIFICATION:

An meteorite strike is probably that last thing anyone expects to happen. But we really need to realize what would happen if a significant sized meteorite stuck Earth. This has happen many times before. The most famous incident was a massive meteorite that struck Earth and wiped out the dinosaurs and half of all species on Earth. It is estimated that some two thousand asteroids big enough to imperil civilized existence regularly cross our orbit. And if we weren't tracking an asteroid initially one bound for Earth would only be seen a few days before impact. A scenario in which a large asteroid did hit the Earth would be unimaginable. Obama has already backed the idea of sending astronauts to an asteroid. In February we were given a very real taste of what this may be like when a meteor tore across the Russian sky and exploded in the atmosphere damaging several buildings and shattering thousands of windows.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Make a new space program by 2018 that will focus on the detection of Earth bound asteroids and how to prevent a meteorite strike.

Name: Annabell Camacho

Delegation: Weingart East Los Angeles

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The removal of the words "under God" from the American Pledge of Allegiance.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Pledge of Allegiance is an officially sanctioned oath swearing loyalty to the Un ited States of America. The phrase "under God" was added to the pledge in 1954, so it was not part of the original document. American schools are forcing students to believe in a god, or make a statement of belief, by making them say "one nation un der God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. Schools claim that they don't force students to say the pledge but some teachers do.It is obscene to force children to pledge there allegiance to a god they have not chosen to follow. The Pledge of Allegiance should be unbiased in religion.

These words were added with the clear intention of promoting religion. They are re presentitive of religions involvement with our country, which is completely contrad ictory to the fundamental idea of the separation of church and state. With the inclus ion of this phrase, the Pledge of Allegiance is a violation of the first amendment. The first amendment states it shall "make no law respecting, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," meaning that it would prohibit the favoring of one religion over an other. The use of the words "under God" clearly shows favor toward Christianity, over other religions or no religion. This phrase implies that there is no place for Atheism in American patriotism. It associates national pride with Christianity and other monotheistic religions, presenting other religions or Atheists as un-American. The pledge should be reverted back to its original form.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

An amendment made to the US Flag Code, chapter 1: section 4, to remove the wor ds "under God" from the American Pledge of Allegiance.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Increase the tax Americans pay on foreign goods whose products do not follow the health and safety code standards of the U.S.

JUSTIFICATION:

Cheaply manufactured foreign goods whose manufactures have zero health and safety codes are unfairly competing in the U.S. market. Foreign goods that are not produced by the same health and safety standards as U.S. are able to sell their goods at a lower price because of the lack of those expenses. Also, many U.S. companies develop factories or plants in other countries to cheaply manufacture their goods and then ship them to the U.S. to make greater profit. U.S. clothing and footwear companies import more than 15 billion dollars a year in Chinese-made goods that are made very cheaply by Chinese employees working 12 hours, 7 days a week and making 13 cents an hour with no health and safety codes. A Chinesebuilt Shanling CD/SACD sells in the U.S. for \$1400 which is a fraction of what a US built player of the same build and sound quality standards would be. This puts companies in the U.S., who follow the health and safety codes to produce their goods, out of business which increases unemployment, and takes away from the United Sates economy. By taxing those selected foreign goods it would help place U.S. goods on a more level playing field and would discourage United Sates individuals and companies from investing abroad. This would make U.S. companies more competitive in the global market which would bring more money to our economy.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The U.S. government imposes a 15% tax on selected foreign goods whose manufacturing process does not comply with the U.S. health and safety codes. This taxation will ensure a more productive U.S. market by persuading United Sates individuals and companies to buy U.S. products which in return will boost the American economy.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Changing the time and method of the selection of the Vice President.

JUSTIFICATION:

Many politicians running for the position of President often select a Vice Presidential candidate who will help them get elected rather than help them run the country. The Vice Presidential position has been reduced to a mockery. People see Vice Presidents as trophies rather than holders of office. Rather than select a knowledgeable person capable of helping run a country, politicians will select people who can appeal to in an attempt to garner votes.

In the most recent Presidential election, Governor Sarah Palin was nominated as the Republican Vice Presidential candidate. The aim of her selection was not to provide for the country but to garner votes for Senator John McCain. Sarah Palin was not qualified to be Vice President, but was still chosen. Had the selection been made after the election, he could have selected a much better qualified Vice President. If the Vice President is chosen after the Presidential race is over, the selection will be of a candidate fit to help run the country, as if they are chosen beforehand, the selection will most often end in with the selection of a "trophy candidate." It cannot be emphasized enough that the Vice President takes over the position of President if the President dies or resigns.

In order to better help in the selecting of a proper Vice President, the winning presidential candidate will have between Nov. 5th and January 20th to pick their Vice President. This gives the President Elect a margin of time in which to select an appropriate Vice President. This will help in the appointing of more qualified Vice Presidents. The power of selection would belong solely to the President Elect.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Winning Presidential Candidates will select their Vice President no sooner than Nov. 5th and no later than January 19th. The method of selection is up to the President Elect, but they will maintain the final decision in the selection.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The use of steroids by high school athletes and the dangers that they bring.

JUSTIFICATION:

In 2005, of the 16.5 million children who are between the ages of 14-17, an estimated 660,000 of them have admitted to using steroids. Steroid use and abuse can lead to a number of problems, physically, mentally, and legally. Physically it can lead to disabilities like cardiovascular problems, bone and muscle deterioration, hormonal damage, decreased amount of vital body chemicals, and more. Mentally, steroids take control of your body's hormones, throwing off the secretion of chemicals like dopamine and serotonin. This hormonal imbalance causes psychiatric dysfunction, which affects the way the mind functions. This is what causes the mood swings, random acts of violence(or "roid rage"), paranoia, and delusional thoughts. Legally, steroids can get you into a lot of trouble. The illegal possession of steroids can get you up to a maximum of a year in prison and a \$1,000 fine. The illegal trafficking or suspicion of trafficking can get you a five-year sentence and a \$250,000 fine.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Creating a new law that mandates the testing of high school athletes for steroids. It can be done as a part of the athlete's mandatory physical or separately at a cost of between \$10-30.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The use of drug dogs on school campuses.

JUSTIFICATION:

Drug dogs should be illegal in all public and private schools within the United States. It is an invasion of privacy and they have no means to perform random searches; trainers and their dogs hold no warrant or legal basis to search through student's personal belongings. The use of these animals has become a waste of money for the states and communities that support them- just one major training company, K9 Global Training Academy, spends nearly \$5,000 for European imported dogs, and \$20,000 for American bread dogs per dog, plus an additional \$15,000 just to train them properly. This number seems minimal in comparison to other US expenses but added together for the amount of dogs just this company alone purchases is in the millions every year. Many instances are heard among television news stations about dogs finding pounds of marijuana or other illegal substances but extremely rarely do those stories come from American high schools. Drug dogs should be reserved for airports or special events in a situation of a possible threat so that money can be saved and fewer dogs will be needed to perform these duties.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will pass a federal law making the use of drug dog searches in all public and private schools in the United States illegal.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Discontinuation of taxing female hygiene products

JUSTIFICATION:

In grocery stores, an unprepared food item is not taxed but vitamins and all other items are. Ready-to-eat hot foods, whether sold by supermarkets or other vendors, is taxed. Food animals (livestock), food plants and seeds, fertilizer used to grow food, prescription drugs and certain medical supplies, energy utilities, certain alternative energy devices and supplies, art for display by public agencies, and veterans' pins are also not taxed.(Only true to the State of California)

The discontinuation of taxing female hygiene products is essential to the state of California. Female hygiene products, used by all females at some point in life therefore, it is necessary to buy the product. However, this product is taxed; in California, depending on city is taxed 7.75%-9.25%. This should be another item that is not taxed for the same reason unprepared food is not taxed, it is used and needed in a women's everyday life. If it is taxed, it shows sexism towards females.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Taxes should be discontinued for female hygiene products. The state can make a higher tax on things like candy, chips, and soda to regain the lost revenue.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Preventing the purchase of patents to restrict competition.

JUSTIFICATION:

Technology, like oil, can be considered a precious resource. People are constantly innovating and improving as well as inventing new and important devices. The rate at which new technology replaces old technology is phenomenal and guarantees we are always progressing. However, the rate could be even faster were it not for certain individuals and groups who buys patents intentionally to hold them and prevent production. For example, a group who has a stake in Apple might purchase the patent on an improved mp3 player and simply hold it so that no one produces a rival to the iPod. This is a disservice to the public and patently un-American. This practice removes competition which means the consumer will not always get the best product possible. This is similar to a monopoly and is stifling to our economy. It is in the best interest of all people to prevent the purchasing of patents for the sole purpose of preventing the production of new technology.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass legislation that bans persons or companies for buying a patent without intent of production.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Hospital efficiency in communication and poor patient discharge rates have dangerously overcrowded hospital bed availability and should be improved.

JUSTIFICATION:

Poor communication within hospitals is one of the key problems that results in overcrowding of hospital beds. A study conducted by Memorial Herman Southwest Hospital in Houston, Texas installed and effectively managed a system under a Six Sigma team known as IVR (interactive voice response) and were able to transport information throughout the hospital withinin seconds, instead of utilizing the age old method of memorandums and posted notices. The IVR allows care givers to immediately alert housekeeping that a patient is about to be discharged so that they will be prepared to immediately begin bed preparation for the next patient, and simultaneously alert the front desk to note the discharge and mark new patient for admission. The system is relatively cheap (about as much as an intercom system) and requires little training other than efficient planning. The study conducted in Houston also involved retraining of staff. The standard turnaround time for patients in the average hospital is almost 7.5 hours, and the mean amount of time housekeeping staffs are instructed to have a bed prepared after discharge for the next patient is over two and a half hours. By setting limits on this time and breaking down the entire process of discharging patients, the staff was able to clean and prep a hospital bed from the instant the discharge began to the new patient admission in under 85 minutes. In addition, because the number of patients admitted peaks during 4 PM and 6 PM, while traditional hospitals hold standard 9-5 shifts for senior doctors. By changing shifts so that the peak number of doctors staffed matched the peaking point of bed admissions, patients were able to be treated more quickly and thus discharged at a higher rate. Health Medical Center (DHMC) administrates all emergency medical service

Health Medical Center (DHMC) administrates all emergency medical service (EMS) 911 activities in the City and County of Denver, Colorado. While this may appear an extreme use of resources, hospitals may be licensed to screen all 911 emergency phone calls in order to prepare beds in case of local emergencies. In addition, other federally distributed software that links all hospitals and allows one hospital to register a bed in another hospital in cases of emergency if that hospital has a wait-time, or is beyond patient capacity. The Department of Defense designed such a system (TRAC2ES) which allows all hospitals worldwide to

connect to the network in cases of extreme national or international security. Federal mandates that all hospitals remain permanently connected to the program would decrease the time allowed for hospitals to check discharges and bed availability, and instead provide an immediate update for all patients.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All hospitals within the United States will be required to install an IVR or similar intercom system, as well as retrain all staff personnel and management to effectively use the system and reduce the amount of time required for hospital bed preparation to fall under 85 minutes. In addition, all hospitals would be federally mandated to permanently connect to the TRAC2ES system to track and register hospital beds that are available nationwide, and to screen all local EMS (911) calls. Through this proposal the projected fiscal impact would be low enough that all costs would be covered by hospitals without federal subsidies (virtually the cost of retraining staff and installing intercom systems) and most costs would be balanced within the first five years through revenue generated from increased patient admission.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Chemical castration to all sex offenders upon conviction of the second offense.

JUSTIFICATION:

A sexual predator will assualt 117 times before getting caught. The re-arrest rate for convicted child molesters is 52%. The legal system is lenient with pedophiles, punishing them with insufficiently brief prison sentences that are further abbreviated by the option of parol. Some child molesters are released back into society after serving as little as one fourth of their prison time.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

High dosages between 400-500mg of; Depo Provera, Progestin, or Tamoxifen prescriptions each week which may be injected, or taken orally. These drugs act as a testosterone blocker and reduce the sex drive.

Name: Audrey Ruiz

Delegation: Weingart East Los Angeles Delegation

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Legalizing Same-Sex Marriages.

JUSTIFICATION:

Legalizing same-sex marriages is essential to this country because it should be the citizens' right to marry whomever they choose, whether of the same-sex or not. Denying these marriages is a form of minority discrimination and these marriages do not hurt anybody. Marriage is a lifelong commitment to the person whom you love and if you love someone who happens to be the same sex as you, you should not be denied the right to marry them.

The Declaration of Independence says that we are all created "With certain unalienable rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness". For same-sex couples, isn't marriage also included in "the Pursuit of Happiness"? We are all equal and not allowing homosexuals to marry is denying the right to pursue their happiness. Although same-sex marriage is against certain religious institutions' beliefs, for over the past two-hundred years the United States has had separation of Church and State. There is nothing wrong with letting two people who love each other to marry each other and make their love legal.

Action to be taken:

A constitutional amendment legalizing marriages between two people of the same sex.

Name: Nolan Blair

Delegation: SRV Valle Lobo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Changing Healthcare to Single Payer System

JUSTIFICATION:

America's health is greatly suffering with 60% of bankruptcies occurring due to health reasons. It is one of the most inconvenient truths in our country that the people who need healthcare the most also lack healthcare the most. Currently healthcare corporations run the show. They can raise rates on those who are using more healthcare and drop individuals when their year is up for renewal. The profits they take are equivalent to \$350 billion per year. If this was run by a government agency the value of a dollar would increase. Healthcare would be paid for through taxes that for the vast majority of Americans would be less than what they currently pay. The individual can then go to any doctor and/or hospital they choose. Doctors and hospitals are private and taxes will fund a universal single payer.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Insurance companies will be outlawed and a universal single payer healthcare system will be established.

Name: Daniel Weitz Delegation: NCDM

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Banning the Sales of Dogs and Cats at Retail Stores.

JUSTIFICATION:

Dogs and cat should be banned at retail stores because with the weak economy, animal adoption centers have become flooded with unwanted pets. Even with all these pets in the animal adoption centers, people still go to retail stores to purchase dogs and cats. In New Mexico, South Lake Tahoe, and West Hollywood, a series of pet sale bans have been put into effect. Since the ban initiated, animal adoptions from shelters have increased by 23 % and euthanasia has decreased by 25 %. With all the abandoned dogs and kittens in animal shelters, it is outrageous for people to buy from retail stores.

In addition, this bill will cut down on animal mills where animals are raised in overcrowded, unhealthy, and inhumane conditions. These mills supply puppies and kittens to retail stores. There are numerous legal loopholes involved on the definition of "puppy mills" so that these factories can still exist. This concept would eliminate the industry of animal mills because puppies and kittens would no longer be allowed be sold from retails stores. In Animal mills, pets are bred and raised in overcrowded, unhealthy, and inhumane conditions. Although some critics may argue that this proposal restricts freedom, this claim is false because people still have millions of choices of what animal they want from the numerous adoption centers.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add a constitutional amendment banning tall sales of dogs and cats at retail stores.

Name: Angelina Guida Delegation: NCDM

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Require Motion Sensors Installed In all Commercial Buildings by 2020

JUSTIFICATION:

According to the US Department of Energy, lighting represents 40% of the average commercial building's electric bill. In response to the need for more efficient energy solutions, the lighting industry developed a wide range of energy-efficient products that can significantly reduce lighting energy costs while maintaining or potentially improving lighting quality. The government has even instituted a tax deduction as an incentive for commercial building owners to install efficient lighting plans. It is called the CBTD, Commercial Buildings Tax Deduction as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. This plan allows building owners or tenants to upgrade their lighting and write off the complete cost of this project up to .60 per sq/ft. All improvements need to be completed by the end of 2013. There are many ideas on how to reduce electric bills/usage and the most common

There are many ideas on how to reduce electric bills/usage and the most common seems to be simply turn lights off when they are not in use. This is easier said than done in the real world. Timers can be installed when lighting use is predictable. More often than not in commercial spaces, use is unpredictable and Motion Sensors offer an inexpensive and effective solution to reduce energy costs/usage by turning lights off when rooms or areas are unoccupied. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates there can be a savings of up to 90% in certain rooms by simply installing motion sensors. The estimate varies greatly by room including Restrooms 30 - 90%, Private offices 13 - 50%, Corridors 30 - 80%, Storage areas 45 - 80%, and Classrooms 40 - 46%.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Require all commercial buildings to switch over to motion censored light switches before 2020 but give a tax break to buildings that do so before the deadline. Tax break would gradually be decreased from 10% - 2% beginning in 2015.

Name: Claire Garrahan Delagation: SRV Valle Lobo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

State Representatives are required to get a background check every 2 years.

JUSTIFICATION:

Right now the only requirements to be a congressman are to be over 25 years of age, resident of the state they are representing and a U.S citizen for at least 7 years. As the issue of gun control has become a more apparent issue, the idea of background checks has arisen. What about the people who are representing our states in our federal legislature? Just like many issues centered around recent shootings, people may not be emotionally stable. In multiple states including Ohio and Michigan the representative only needs to have the above listed requirements. For instance, if the state representative is "popular" they can get the job, without the state knowing whether the person is qualified. While in the 21st century it's even more important to our success as a nation that the people representing us should be as qualified and medically sane as possible.

Even though the law is not considered a literal weapon, it can still cause great damage. If we look back at our history and history of other industrialized countries it can be noted that people holding federal office positions have made, in more than one account, immoral and inhumane laws against its people. If the proper precautions and checks were done we may have been able to save lives, economic downfall, and deception.

Another reason background checks are prevalent now is that the federal representatives are given access to information that should not be leaked to our enemies or other countries. We should not be entrusting this information with our citizens without proper clearance. This includes mental stability, trouble with the law, and association. FBI agents, defense industry contractors and even teachers are required at minimum to be fingerprinted and allow for checking of any criminal past. This is reason enough to accept it of the highest officeholders in the land.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Starting in 2014 all elected state representatives to Congress on the federal level will be required to pass a background check on past crimes, mental stability, and association.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The required notification and labeling of genetically modified crops, and the requirements for approval into both US and overseas markets.

JUSTIFICATION:

The question that looms is this: Is it ethical to keep knowledge from people to better their living conditions and save their lives? Genetically modified foods make up a vast part of the world's food supply today. Science has provided us with the means to create crops that can solve the food problems of the world. However, ignorance and suspicion are a huge threat to the conquering of one of the world's greatest problems: hunger. According to a study done in 2005 by the America's Second Harvest, the largest emergency food provider in the nation, 30 million Americans go hungry every year and rely on their services to survive. Conditions are even worse overseas. In Zimbabwe, for example, which has an inflation rate of 87.9 sextillion percent, or 87.9 followed by 21 zeroes, foreign aid is being refused by the government because of misinformed people who believe that Zimbabwe is being used as "guinea pigs" for the trial of genetically modified crops, or that it's a secret plot to subjugate the Zimbabwean citizenry. Zimbabwe is not alone in the expression of its sentiments. This uninformed skepticism and mysticism is spreading in the less developed countries of the world GM crops offer huge benefits to the world. Genetic modification speeds up artificial selection,, which was previously called domestication. Genetic modification allows us to identify the beneficial genes, such as the gene for crop yield, and ensure that it is not a variable, and fix it at a higher value. This proposal ensures that the information that is demanded by people will be available to them, but it will be available in such a way as to not incite panic in the uninformed public. Scare tactics used by advocacy groups will also be minimized, as the labeling of genetically modified crops will stay optional. Nations that require aid will not feel as if they are being used as test subjects, because the FDA has already run the tests, and the most rigorous food regulation department has deemed it safe for all people, including their own citizens. Information will also still be publically available, but just in a way that will minimize the panic of the

people.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass legislation requiring that all genetically modified crops that would normally be tested by the USDA will be subject to testing and regulation by the FDA, and shall pass legislation ensuring that the labeling of genetically modified foods remains optional. Additionally, testing of products shall be recorded, and if a product is approved, the records shall be open to the public.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The implementation of a drug and alcohol safety and awareness class in all public high schools in the nation.

JUSTIFICATION:

Much like with sexual education, it's not effective to simply teach"just say no." The reality is, this is the prime experimentation age for narcotics and alcohol, and to merely talk about how to resist peer pressure rather than the realities of drug use (addiction, overdoses, excessive partying, etc.) is refusing to address the real problems at hand.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add this class (Alcohol and Drug Awareness- ADA) as part of a mandatory curriculum for all public high schools.

Proposal No. 0408

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Restaurants, including food venues, should be held harmless from liability for prepared food that is donated to the homeless.

JUSTIFICATION:

According to the Institute of Homelessness and Poverty at the Weingart Center an estimated 254,000 men, women and children experience homelessness in Los Angeles County during some part of the year, and approximately 82,000 people are homeless on any given night. Unaccompanied youth, especially in the Hollywood area are estimated to make up from 4,800 to 10,000 of these. Although homeless people may be found throughout the county, the largest percentages are in the south Los Angeles and Metro Los Angeles areas. Most are from the Los Angeles area and stay in or near the communities from which they came. About 14 to 18 percent of homeless adults in Los Angeles County are not U.S. citizens compared with 29 percent of adults overall. A high percentage - as high as 20 percent - are veterans. African-Americans make up approximately half of the Los Angeles County homeless population - disproportionately high compared to the percentage of African-Americans in the county overall (about 9 percent.)

Many restaurants hesitate to leaving food out for the homeless because they fear that the people who eat the food will come back with liability charges if they get sick. This proposal endorses the donation of food to the homeless without any harm to the restaurant, but rather a benefit.

In order to regulate food donation, restaurants must create a partnership with an organization to distribute their specifically packaged food. The organization will have several branches in various areas of high homelessness. Each of these branches will be responsible for picking up the packaged food from the participating restaurants in close proximity of the branch and distribute the food to the homeless people who come to the branch.

The restaurant's food and how it is packaged will have to meet certain health department qualifications before the restaurant is allowed into the partnership. By creating this partnership the participating restaurant will be able to receive a tax incentive for food donated.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

An organization will be created to distribute food donated by restaurants to the homeless. This organization will be overseen by the United States Health Department.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To reduce health care costs for individuals under Medicare and Medicaid who exercise.

JUSTIFICATION:

With type II diabetes and obesity on the rise, new ways of encouraging our young and more mature population are needed. These kinds of healthy problems can be avoided with habitual exercise. Young adults who are developing these kinds of health problems need extra stimulants to exercise. By reducing health costs, an incentive is created, causing the subject to be more likely to improve their health. People with self-inflicted health problems would now have an incentive to increase exercise. With a healthy society, our citizens will be more actively involved in society and more ready to lead.

Medicare provides coverage for people over 65 years of age. If these seniors exercise the recommended two and a half hours a week, their health will presumably improve, and costs would be subsidized accordingly. Recipients of Medicaid will be similarly rewarded for improving their health. This will help make one of the most obese nations in the world a little less gluttonous. This will also be beneficial to the government. By encouraging participants to exercise, the need for medication and medical procedures will likely decrease. Therefore, the government will be paying for a slightly greater percentage of the subject's costs, but there will be less of the payments overall. As a result, there will be an increase of healthy citizens, because of the financial incentive, and a decrease of assistance needed by the government, as there will be less costs to assist.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

First, the participant will go to their doctor to establish a plan. For this plan the patient will decide which aspect to monitor, be it body weight, body mass index, heart rate, cholesterol, triglyceride level, or blood pressure, and set a target goal. With routine six-month nurse visits, they will monitor their chosen aspect and if an improvement is shown, then they will get ten percent off their co-payment. Once the target is reached and maintained for a year, they can reduce their appointments to annually. If they fail to keep their target weight, then they will return to biannually visits. Thus, if their monitored health improves the government will then reduce the cost of the co-payment paid by the individual by ten percent.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Energy

JUSTIFICATION:

Our most used energy resource, oil, is depleting while simultaneously damaging our environment. However the effect of oil doesn't stop at un-renewability or damage to the environment. American foreign policy is greatly shaped by the changing tides of the oil market and the OPEC countries.

Although there hasn't been a popularization of a new energy source, this proposal creates a new alternative to our dependence on a potentially deadly situation.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Research and Installation for the input of energy-producing exercise bikes into prisons to remedy the dependence on foreign oil.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Stem cell research has great medical possibilities and has the potential to cure numerous diseases.

JUSTIFICATION:

Stem Cell Research is a relatively new technology that takes primitive human cells and develops them into most any of the 220 varieties of cells in the human body, including blood and brain cells. Some scientists and researchers have great hope for stem cell research and its ability to uncover treatments and possibly even cures for some of the worst diseases including heart disease, diabetes, and neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer\'s and Parkinson\'s.

There are many different reasons why stem cell research should be federally funded.

- 1. Stem cell research is the most exciting field of medical research known to society
- 2. If not funded, the U.S. would depend on other countries who had funded stem cell research
- 3. Abortive mothers would no longer be wasting embryo's, but providing research to cure diseases.
- 4. Stem cell research can improve and save lives of those living with numerous diseases.

Currently, funding for stem cell research is being provided by private donors and foundations. The government needs to establish guidelines and funding for stem cell research.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

This proposal will supply federal funding for stem cell research lines, limited to embryo's that are from donors who have given consent and been notified of what the embryos will be used for. The donors will not receive any form of financial compensation.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The conflict diamonds (blood diamonds) that are finding their way through the Kimberley Process and funding rebel groups and civil wars in africa.

JUSTIFICATION:

This amendment to the already existing executive order 13195 would hopefully reduce the number of conflict diamonds that are making their way to the U.S., and deprive existing rebel groups of money for weapons. Currently the Kimberley Process monitors the diamonds and their point of origins in Africa, but since any country in africa can participate in the Kimberley process, some countries that do not qualify, join, and send diamonds that are not of legitimate origin off to be sold in U.S. and other countries.

With the U.S. being the number one consumers of diamonds in the world it is up to us to boycott the conflict diamonds. By adding Zimbabwe and The Republic of Congo along with Sierra Leone to section 1 of executive order 13195 we can stop the horrible bloodshed that is taking place in order to find and sell these diamonds for rebel war weapons. In 2007 it was estimated that 10.2 million dollars worth on blood diamonds were purchased, and are now unable to be tracked back to their point of origin. Africa is being robbed of its natural resources, and in order to stop the civil war and violence, the conflict diamonds must not be purchased by the U.S.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Section 1 of Executive order 13194 must also include the countries Zimbabwe and The republic of Congo.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Allow illegal immigrants to get their legal residency if they enroll in a college.

JUSTIFICATION:

According to various sources there are approximately 7 to 20 million illegal immigrants in the United States. Most of these immigrants are not able to get a good a job. They work in low-skilled and low wage jobs. According to npr.org, more than half work in construction, manufacturing, or leisure and hospitality. The state is required to give a K-12 education to all children, illegal or legal. However, there is not a point to giving the education to illegal children because they will not be able to get a good job without being a legal resident. It is not fair because it was not up to the children to come to the United States illegally, but because of this they are not able to get a good job.

Even though illegal immigrant children are going to public schools, the parents are not paying any taxes. If children are able to get their legal residency once they graduate from high school they will get good jobs legally and then they will be required to pay taxes. Therefore, they will be paying the taxes their parents did not pay into the system before (npr.org). Further, illegal immigrants who get a good job will less likely be homeless and be less likely to use services such as the emergency room.

Illegal immigration does not help America's wealth because illegal immigrants are not able to get a good job. Since they are not paying any taxes America does not get any benefits from their use of public schools and other government services. If they are able to get their legal residency and get a good job, America will raise its wealth.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All illegal immigrants who graduate from High School in the United States with a 3.0 GPA, no criminal record, and a recommendation letter can apply to get their temporary legal residency upon enrolling in college. Once they graduate from college they can get their permanent residency.

Name: Blake Henson Delegation: NCDM

TOPIC OF CONCERN

Number of Senatorial Terms

JUSTIFICATION

The fact that incumbent senators are allowed to serve lifelong terms shows that some aspects of American government are obsolete. Senators who continuously run prevent newer nominees from running due solely to the fact that these younger, more socially knowledgeable and better-suited candidates do not want to run against the intimidating senators. Moreover, these senators recognize that they need to pay off specific interests of theirs in order to maintain their positions. They will often slant their decisions in office in order to guarantee their positions, rather than actually voting based off of the always-evolving views of the people. Elections are now uncompetitive, and voters now have a limited scope of potential senators to choose from. Qualified candidates do not get the opportunity to show their talents and strengths against the daunting senators holding this position. America has already decided that a two-term Presidency is ideal, as the position of President must always be changing in order to correctly parallel the changing views of the people.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

Senators should be limited to only being able to serve two terms.

Name: Tailar Johnson

Delegation: SRV Valle Lobo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Changing the rating system for movies, video games, and TV.

JUSTIFICATION:

Considering all the violence in our country in recent times, something needs to change. Violence comes in many forms such as: guns, knives, bombs etc. Right now, people are trying to restrict use of these violent weapons. Although restricting weapons may help with reducing some violence, we need to get to the root of the problem. The problem is that violence is a normal part of our society, due to the media. We have extremely violent videogames, TV shows, and movies. We wonder why people go on shooting rampages. It is because these killers have become desensitized to violence. We are ranked #1 as the country with the most crime. In comparison to China, we have 195% more murders in our country, keep in mind that China has 3 times the amount of people that the U.S. has (nationmaster.com). The media greatly impacts the children of our country. The average child sees 12,000 violent acts on television annually, including many depictions of murder and rape. More than 1000 studies confirm that exposure to heavy doses of television violence increases aggressive behavior. A study concluded that many video games rated as suitable for all audiences contained significant amounts of violence (64% contained intentional violence and 60% rewarded players for injuring a character) (ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2792691/). Clearly something needs to change. Since we are so greatly impacted by the media, we can start by changing the rating system for violent movies, video games and TV. These changes would help minimize all violent acts in the U.S. because children would be more sensitive towards violence, since it is not it is not normalized, which would help them from becoming violent adults. The CARA would not change the ratings of movies, video games, or TV shows with sexual connotation because this proposal focuses on violence specifically.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Classification and Rating Administration or CARA would change the age of violent restricted movies, video games, and TV to twenty-one and change the age of violent PG-13 movies to sixteen. The CARA would also change some violent E-rated video games to teen rated.

Name: Patrick Ong

Delegation: Newport Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Requiring the nation to decrease the percent of crude oil imported from foreign sources, mainly in the eastern hemisphere, from 61.2% to 56.2%. This would be regulated by the Bureau of Land Management, the BLM and Congress.

JUSTIFICATION:

America needs to become less dependent on the imports of crude oil from the foreign sources in the eastern hemisphere such as Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Iran, and many others. Currently, our percentage of crude oil imports from foreign sources, including Canada and Latin America, is at about 61.2%. On the other hand America only produces 38.8% of its own oil. What happens if Iraq gets bombed, or Saudi Arabia gets bombed, or Iran stops shipping? Our entire nation would spiral downward with the lack of oil, as our society depends on oil for a multitude of things. Thirty years ago, 28% of the oil consumed in the United States was imported. Today, nearly 60% of the oil utilized and consumed in the United States is imported from other countries. We need to bring that number down! The United States consumes a total of 6.87 billion barrels (18.83 million barrels per day). Therefore, instead of transporting oil overseas, we should use a more efficient and cheaper means of acquiring crude oil through the use of pipelines. We don't have to ship from the Middle East! Instead we should be producing oil at home, or in Canada, where it is more accessible and economically reasonable. Bringing down the amount of imported oil we receive is good for security reason due to the fact that some countries could use their monopoly against the United States. Overall the pros of regulating foreign oil consumption outweigh the cons and will put the United States on the path to success and self-reliance.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Bureau of Land Management along with the combined efforts of Congress would regulate and impose any necessary laws and or regulations to uphold the purpose of this proposal. Congress would have the power to redirect the amount of foreign oil taken in the United States to no less than 56.2%.

Name: Lauren Nakamura

Delegation: Newport Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Require all people on welfare with previous substance abuses to be drug tested annually.

JUSTIFICATION:

People who are taking money from the government should be able to prove that this money is not being used on drugs or alcohol but instead on necessities such as food and shelter. Up to 37 percent of welfare recipients have had substance abuses prior to receiving welfare. The National Household Survey of Drug Abuse (NHSDA) in 1994 and 1995, showed that 9 percent of welfare recipients were alcohol dependent and that 21 percent had used an illegal drug in the past year. The government could not only save money from revoking welfare from these people but also improve their lives by taking the money usually given to them for welfare and putting that towards rehab. This proposal could save money for the government in the short and long term because hopefully by pulling substance abusers off of welfare and putting them into rehab they would become more productive members of society.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

As a condition to accepting welfare there would be a mandatory annual drug test.

Name: Veronica Gray **Delegation**: SPPY

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Taking away the right to hardcore dance.

JUSTIFICATION:

Hardcore dancing in a crowd should be illegal. Hardcore dancers are a menace to society. They start fights with moshers. Hardcore dancers move in a way that they hit or kick people. The only way to prevent getting hit by a dancer is to either put your arm or leg out so they know that you're there or just not even get close to the pit. They can seriously injure people. In a 1996 concert from Smashing Pumpkins a 17 year old was hurt and ended up dying in the hospital. Many people get mixed up with moshers and hardcore dancers. There is no physical difference except maybe by the way they dress, but it's the style of the way they release their energy at hardcore concerts. Moshers mainly just move with people, they push other moshers, and start circle pits. Hardcore dancers do moves called "the bunny kick", "the donkey kick", "the death swing", "the death kick", modified versions of other popular dance moves, and others. Hardcore dancing should not be allowed.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Security personnel at concerts should enforce a strict rule, "No hardcore dancing." Any venue that does not comply will be fined.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal will repeal the No Child Left Behind act (NCLB). This allows children to focus on the whole curriculum rather than just Math and English and reduces or eliminates high-stakes testing.

JUSTIFICATION:

NCLB has created an atmosphere that is not conducive to learning. The high-stakes testing environment has created a "do-or-die" atmosphere for students and teachers. Many elementary schools have abandoned their science, social studies, and enrichment curriculum in order to focus solely on math and English. Students in grades 2-11 are tested on math and English in contrast with the three years of testing for science and/or social sciences.

With increased pressure to raise test scores, some schools have decided to simply "teach to the test" with drill and practice rote lessons. Some desperate teachers have actually given out the correct answers for the tests. This pressure does not create a scholarly atmosphere. Instead, it creates a boiler room environment on schools.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Upon approval of this proposal the government will repeal the law of No Child Left Behind act. Schools will then be able to return to a complete, holistic curriculum that help students grow.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The EPA would be allowed to regulate the military.

JUSTIFICATION:

Currently, the US military is regarded as one of the worst polluters in the world, if not the worst, and the Environmental Protection Agency is not allowed to regulate their emissions. The Defense Department owns 425 active bases and more than 10,000 training ranges, which produce vast amounts of chemicals that leach into groundwater, as well as air pollution from military vehicles. The US Military generated more than 16.5 million pounds of toxic waste in 2002. There are more than 130 Superfund sites on military bases.

Kelly Air Force Base, which closed in 1995, contaminated the groundwater in the surrounding area enough to cause hundreds of cases of cancer and neuromuscular disease. Camp Lejuene exposed residents to a "cocktail of chemicals" which have caused elevated levels of illness, including leukemia and birth defects. A munitions plant in Merrimac, Wisconsin made the decision to dump carcinogenic materials into the drinking water. There have been many more cases of clearly demonstrated damage to the environment and health of the community.

Normally, these sorts of activities in a corporation or any other government organization would be harshly regulated and stopped by the EPA, but because it is the US military, they receive exemption from many of the important rules regarding the environment. This is very dangerous and could be detrimental to the health of millions of people, if it is not already.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

I propose that the US Military receive the same environmental regulation as other organizations, as to ensure the health of United States citizens and wildlife.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This bill is a response to civil rights groups' complaints of attempts to mislead minority voters. Civil rights groups have documented cases of voters receiving calls and fliers with false information about the location of polling places and endorsements, or that warned their voting could result in imprisonment of immigrants.

JUSTIFICATION:

The legislation would punish deceptive practices, including knowingly communicating false information about the time and place of an election or about voter eligibility rules. The main purpose of this bill would be to rid of organizations straying voters away from their legal right to vote. In addition, the bill suggests that intimidation tactics, such as telling an illegal alien not to vote or face the consequences, should be done away with, and the one who uses these tactics should be punished.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The bill would take action against the ones using such tactics and would result in criminal penalties of up to \$100,000 in fines and/or one to two years' imprisonment.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Traffic Intersection Safety

JUSTIFICATION:

Traffic accidents are a main trepidation in the United States. In the year of 2007, 41,059 deaths were accounted for of traffic accidents in the United States. 63% of those accidents occurred in intersections because the driver was uninformed of whether or not the traffic light is going to turn yellow. By making a mandatory five second countdown before the light turns yellow, traffic accidents in intersections will be minimized significantly because the driver will now be aware of his or her surroundings.

By making a five second countdown before the light changes from green to yellow, traffic accidents will be reduced. Since traffic accidents will be reduced, a enormous amount of money will be saved because less accidents will occur and less money will be put into cleaning up the traffic accidents. 92% of drivers receive at least one red light violation ticket at least one time in their life. By putting in a five second countdown, drivers will also be saving money. Being unaware while driving is very dangerous, and extremely frightening.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Every street light shall have a mandatory five second countdown before the light turns from green to yellow.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Making the installation of motion sensor lighting the only option for outdoor lighting for all homes.

JUSTIFICATION:

The 5% of the world's population that lives in the United States consumes about 23% of the world's energy. More specifically, the U.S. is the largest consumer of electricity in North America and is projected to remain in that position through 2030 according to the EIA (Energy Information Administration). American households account for about 15% of the energy consumed. By adapting to the installation of motion sensor lights in place of "regular" lights, we can cut 50% of energy use per light, because most of us tend to leave the lights on even when not using them. The monthly bill for lighting for an average American homeowner amounts to about \$100. Motion sensor lights can reduce the cost by half, a benefit for many during these times. These lights also work to deter burglars, preventing future crimes. Motion sensor lighting, which ranges from brightness to time duration of illumination, is now available in more styles and settings that can suit one's taste. To prevent harm towards industries of regular lighting, the enactment for this proposal is in 2 years—giving time for them to adjust.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The installation of motion sensor lights should become the only option for all electrical outdoor lighting as of the year 2014.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The constitutionality of the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (USA PATRIOT) Act of 2001.

JUSTIFICATION:

The PATRIOT Act is one with loose definitions, a broad scope, and an enormous amount of potential power. The bill's vague definition of a terrorist, in combination with similarly vague and widely-scoped formulations of what constitutes terrorism and aid to terrorists, allows for some counter-intuitive applications of the law. According to the PATRIOT Act, Karl Rove is a domestic terrorist for even mentioning Valerie Plame, and is subject to several of the Act's incredibly strict punishments. Also, many of the provisions of the Act seem to have been designed to surreptitiously expand the "war on drugs". Because the expansion of powers to combat "money-laundering" were not limited to terrorism, they can be applied to anything. Many transactions, both intra and international, can be labeled as money-laundering with respect to terrorism.

In 2007, an internal audit found that the FBI and it's agents had abused the PATRIOT Act power in excess of 1,000 times to illegally gather information, make arrests, and perform search-and-seizures. A later audit found that the FBI acquired over one million financial records, credit records, employment records, and health records. Such a request was permitted under Section 505 of the PATRIOT Act. Section 505 allows any FBI Agent with a rank of Field Supervisor or greater to supercede warrants and pull any information.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Excise the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 from the United States Code.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Preschool should be mandatory for all children throughout the nation.

JUSTIFICATION:

Pre-school creates a strong foundation for students; studies have found that a pre-school education provides a positive effect on a students' academic performance throughout their educational years in grade school and high school. A pre-school education effectively promotes physical, social, intellectual, and emotional skills to sufficiently prepare them for formal elementary schooling and a childs' academic career. It has been proven that kids who attend pre-school are more likely to succeed academically, graduate from high school, and attend college. Students also have less of a chance of becoming special needs students, which ultimately gives more money back to the school.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will make it mandatory for students entering elementary schools to attend pre-school.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls to action the discontinued use of HFCS or High-Fructose Corn Syrup as a sweetener in foods.

JUSTIFICATION:

High-Fructose Corn Syrup is the leading sweetener in the United States with over 4.5 billion dollars worth sold each year. The product was first introduced in the United States in 1966. Nearly forty years have passed, and currently, the average American will consume approximately 62.6 pounds per year. Recent studies have shown that High-Fructose Corn Syrup is processed differently in the body then natural sugars. Glucose causes the pancreas to release insulin which drives sugar from the bloodstream into cells. Glucose causes fat cells to release lepton that makes your feel full so you eat less. Glucose prevents the stomach from releasing ghrelin that makes your hungry. On the other hand, fructose dose not cause fat cells to release leptin and dose not suppress ghrelin. This means that fructose increases hunger to make you eat more. In addition the human liver exchanges fructose far more readily to the body's fat called triglyceride, then it dose with glucose. High triglyceride levels raise blood leaves of the bad Low-density lipoproteins (LDL) cholesterol and lower blood levels of the good High-density lipoproteins (HDL) cholesterol, which increases heart attack risk. Counties such as Brazil, Australia and in the European Union have drastically reduced the amount of High-Fructose Corn Syrup. In 2005 25% of Americans were conceited obese in 2007 that number surpassed 28%. Countries that have limited the use of High-Fructose Corn Syrup have noticed a drop of nearly 6% is the past 5 years.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United Stats will band the use of High-Fructose Corn Syrups and slowly tighten over the cores of five years, which would limit the amount of consumption of High-Fructose Corn Syrups. This, in-turn, will lower the number of obese men, women and children in the US.

Proposal No. 0601

Author: Juliet Chin

Delegation: South Pasadena and San Marino (SPASM)

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls to make euthanasia legal only if the patient is willing to donate their body or organs for medical studies.

JUSTIFICATION:

For years, the topic of euthanasia has been debated and is currently illegal due to the argument that the right to assistance in committing suicide is not a fundamental right. But this is not assisted suicide; assisted suicide is when a patient is provided with the supplies to commit suicide, and they kill themself. Euthanasia is when a terminally ill patient contractually agrees for their life to be taken—through medical means—by a medical doctor. And although there is logical reasoning behind the argument previously stated, the right to peacefully take one's life if they are terminally ill—instead of dying in pain or waiting until their family decides it's time—contradicts one's liberty interest and therefore is sustained as a fundamental right.

Currently, 86% of the public support euthanasia, and out of a test of 1001 Americans, 42% supported, 37% opposed, and 22% were unsure. This proves that the majority is in favor of euthanasia. Also 55% of terminally ill patients die in pain. Shouldn't a patient, whose illness is proven terminal, have the choice of how they would like to pass? Legalizing euthanasia does not force people to choose to be euthanized; it gives them the option of how they would like to die. Many may confuse euthanasia with assisted suicide, which Dr. Jack Kevorkian was arrested for. Dr. Kevorkian would supply patients with the materials and instructions for committing suicide in a painless way, but not actually kill the patient himself. However, euthanasia would not have patients killing themselves; it allows for medical doctors to perform the action.

For the actual euthanizing, a drug is given to the patient by an injection. Also the drug is provided and distributed by the state to their hospitals. The injection is not free; there will be a price that is to be determined by each individual state. Because the right for assistance to commit suicide is unconstitutional, by installing an ultimatum in which patients who choose to be euthanized must donate their body to medical studies or donate their organs to the hospital, those who wish to use the methods of euthanasia for the purposes of suicide may be weeded out. If religious or moral reasoning conflict with organ or body donation, then they have the choice to opt-out of this contract, which will not restrict any fundamental rights.

If euthanasia—along with this new aspect of a required donation—is implemented, terminally ill patients will be given the chance to control how they die, instead of painfully waiting out their deaths, or having their family make the decision for them.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Euthanasia will be legalized, with the requirement of either donating your body to medical studies or donating your organs to the hospital.

Author: Tabitha Genato

Delegation: South Pasadena/San Marino (SPASM)

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Upholding our constitutional right to Separation of Church and State by means of changing all legal mentions of marriage to a civil union.

JUSTIFICATION:

Same-sex marriage is an issue that has been going on since 1971 in the Baker vs. Nelson case. Ruled as unconstitutional, same-sex marriage has been debated for far too long. It became a leading factor of the most recent presidential debate and continues to take peoples attention from things that could be more important. This issue has become highly unnecessary. There are two types of marriage; civil and religious. Our government acknowledges civil marriages. I propose that the national government changes the legal terminology and definition of 'marriage' to 'civil union'. Therefore, the constant tie between a 'religious marriage' and the 'union' that couples seek can no longer be held up by the government. Considering the fact that marriage originates as a religious practice, it should no longer be acknowledged by our law under the jurisdiction of Separation of Church and State. The only necessary recognition of a marriage is a signing of a marriage license, which could be changed by the simple changing of a few words.

This proposal disqualifies all arguments against gay marriage. Any person who wants a traditional religious marriage is still able to do so through their religious institution, which would only associated with the national government through the signing of a union agreement. Therefore, religious groups would still hold the right to deny marriages on the basis that same-sex marriage is against their institutional practices and beliefs. However, any two consenting adults could get the unity and benefits of a marriage if a civil union is created outside of a religious institution.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which defines marriage as the legal union of one man and one woman for federal and interstate recognition purposes in the United States; to be replaced with a form of 'civil union,' which will allow the practice of same-sex marriage outside of religious institutions.

Author: Nate Holden

Delegation: South Pasadena/San Marino (SPASM)

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The proposal at hand strives to end the growth rate of the United States, and enact a choice-based, marketable birth license plan.

JUSTIFICATION:

The current overpopulation of the United States is presenting massive burdens on close to every aspect of life. Look at our country's poverty; last month alone, unemployment was at 7.9%. Over 20% of Americans live in poverty, which calculates to 63 million people—that same percentage in thirty years would be 77 million, according to US Census Bureau projections. An NPR study in 2011 noted that one in four children are not sufficiently fed, and according to the US Department of Education, the average public school class size is approximately 25 children and rising. With the projected growth rates for children—again using current funding information from the US Census Bureau—the country will be forced to spend 55.6 billion dollars on students alone in schooling, and we can expect to spend 615 billion on our schools altogether. According to a 2002 study by the Encyclopedia of Earth, the average American releases nearly twenty tons of carbon dioxide—10% higher than any other country in the world. With the projected population in 2050 we will release nearly 8 billion tons of CO2 into the atmosphere each year. By the standards of UNFPA, population growth is getting out of hand and causing massive rise in climate change.

These everyday aspects of life are growing too large and are harder to deal with every day, so we must come up with a solution to end population growth. If enacted, this proposal would allow for every woman in the United States to give birth to up to two children without charge. Per each additional child, an extra birth credit must be purchased from the United States government. The price would be determined every five years by the government, based on the demand for the credits and other market conditions—inflation, real wages, etc.—to reflect the cost of raising one child for one year. Each birth credit may be bought on another person's behalf, or used in place of one of the two free credits; this practice implemented to allow for adoptive parents the equal opportunity to have children. A single birth is counted as a single child born. Any woman may—on her own behalf—opt to not have any children, and upon doing so will be granted the value of one credit at that time, in exchange for the two free birth credits. Each credit is granted to an individual mother, as to not be able to be sold, and only lasts for 30 months. If a

woman decides to give her child up for adoption, then she will have to redeem a credit upon the child's birth. However, if a child is adopted, there would be no incurred penalty. If enacted, this proposal would result in Zero Population Growth and would be sustainable for the future of the United States.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add a constitutional amendment to enact a birth license plan, wherein women are allowed to give birth to two children without incurred costs; each additional birth after two births will result in monetary charge

Name: Damian Karis Delegation: SDSC

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Too much water is wasted on lawns for non-native plants.

JUSTIFICATION:

People uuse copious amounts of water to uphold lawns of grass and other nonnative plants. For example, most of Southern California suffers from a severe lack of in-state water, and residents should do their best to preserve the limited water sources.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A tax deduction of .8% will be provided to all homeowners who have lawns that require little or no watering besides natural rainfall.

Name: Delaney's proposal

Delegation: SPPY

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

A proposal to nationally legalize ferrets as pets.

JUSTIFICATION:

This proposal would level all states in making the pet ownership of ferrets legal. The possession of ferrets has been allowed in all states of America except Hawaii and California as of the year 2000. There are, however, further restrictions within a state that limit ferret ownership in certain places. These special cases in places such as New York City, NY, Dallas, TX, and most military bases, will not be affected as they will be handled by individual states' governments. This proposal will please ferret-lovers and unite our single nation of America by unifying laws obtaining to ferrets.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States of America will pass legislation legalizing the pet ownership of ferrets.

Author: Hank Rugg **Delegation:** Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

APS (Armor-Piercing Shells) are legal to buy with gun registration and/or license.

JUSTIFICATION:

Armor-Piercing Shells are enhanced bullets built to break through bullet proof vests such as Kevlar. The problem with these bullets is that they are totally lethal when in use against people that are even armored to sustain average bullets. Anyone can obtain these bullets. A person with a gun license can go to BIG 5 for example and buy as many APS as they can afford. Many NRA and gun distributing/manufacturing believe that the second amendment, which gives them the right to bear arms, also protects their right to have these lethal bullets. But the amendment reads: "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to bear arms shall not be infringed." People are allowed to bear arms, but nowhere does it say that they need to have APS bullets. The police and military are there to defend our free state, but criminals are using APS to kill them, against the intent of the amendment.

The consequence of civilians using APS is that the police have to worry about getting shot, wounded, and/or killed, even wearing body armor. In a non-military setting, only police should be able to use this form of ammunition. Our country is suffering a wave of gun violence, and the misinterpretation of the second amendment only leads to more violence.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A major yet easy step for protecting people from harm would be to make these lethal, unnecessary bullets illegal for purchase by civilians.

Name: Ivonne Verduzco

Delegation: Desert Family YMCA

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Addition of nap-time to public high school.

JUSTIFICATION:

Sleeping is vital to one's well being as breathing, eating, or drinking enough water. Without sleep our body doesn't have efficient time to rejuvenate from the day and perform essential bodily functions such as muscle repair, memory consolidation and release of hormones, three actions that play an important role in regulating growth and appetite.

Not getting the proper amount of sleep can limit one's ability to learn and retain new information, cause acne, trigger aggressive behavior, make one more prone to illness, and keep one generally tired throughout the day. Being drowsy, while a seemingly simple side effect, causes people to fall asleep at the wheel and produces over 100,000 car crashes every year.

When planned effectively, naps can refresh the mind and body in a very brief amount of time. A nap, if taken for the right amount of time, can be revitalizing and beneficial. In fact, Einstein was said to take naps during the day to promote lucid thinking. Besides short term benefits, naps can also benefit to one's health in the long run.

The solution to teenage sleep deprivation can be solved in the short period of 30 minutes a day. If high school students were to take a short nap after their lunch period, the second half of the day would not pass in the usual sleepy blur. A 30 minutes long nap would not dip into the deep sleep stage of the sleep cycle, and would leave students more alert for their next classes. The addition of said naps, or "nap-time," to the high school day would add a maximum of an hour of school per day, allowing time getting to their next class, and possibly to enjoy a warm cup of milk before entering into dreamland.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

US Congress will mandate that states institute a 30 min. nap period into daily public schools. It will be right after lunch and will add no more than an hour to the usual school day.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal will eliminate advanced placement classes in high schools.

JUSTIFICATION:

The current system of Advanced Placement (AP) courses leads to great inequality among high school students. Colleges rely heavily on AP classes to determine which students are prepared for higher education and which are not. This is not necessarily wrong or unfair assuming all high school students have access to the same AP classes, but they don't. The number of AP classes varies wildly from school to school and it is often based on size and money. Larger and wealthier schools can offer more AP classes than smaller and poorer schools. Even this presents problems however because colleges count the number of AP courses taken and compare them to the number provided to determine how academically challenging a students education has been. This means that a student from a school with only two AP classes who takes both looks better in the eyes of college admission than someone who took 3 AP classes when there were 5 offered. Other major problems include the wide variation in grading among schools. Because AP classes offer a 5.0 scale it can greatly affect someone's GPA. "A" at one school may be "B" work at another and yet when compared by college admissions the student with the "A" will get the higher GPA. AP classes can also lead to tracking in which certain students are never able to take honors and AP classes based on poor performance in one class. This can have major repercussions in the hyper competitive world of college admissions. This can put a lot of stress on students and is that what we want from our high school students? Banning AP classes would go a long way to evening the playing field for college admissions.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass a bill banning Advanced placement classes in high schools.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Making it optional for students (or parents if the student is under the age of 18) to go to high school during the day or night

JUSTIFICATION:

America is raising a nation of sleep-deprived kids, with only 20 percent getting the recommended nine hours of shuteye on school nights and more than one in four reporting dozing off in class says msnbc.com. Many students would be more prone to go to school on time and complete school if they have a choice between going to school during the day or at night. This will reduce the number of students in each classroom and make it an easier environment for individual learning and easier to make friends and actually getting to know each other.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Make it mandatory for schools to have an option for students to sign up either during the day or night. If at least 40% of students don't sign up for the night side then the night side of school will be terminated for that semester, trimester, etc. According to how many students are signed up on each side the teachers will be adjusted to go to either one they choose and if there is not for a certain time then some will be moved where they are needed. The school will decide the hours of which the night is needed according to the rules of how many hours they need to be in school.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Students in public schools should not be searched without probable cause.

JUSTIFICATION:

Currently public schools in the United States are allowed to search students with reasonable suspicion. Reasonable suspicion is defined as no more than "just a hunch" and is below preponderance of the evidence (American Law Division). This allows school officials the right to search students without warrants.

Probable cause is defined as "where the known facts and circumstances are sufficient to

warrant a man of reasonable prudence in the belief that contraband or evidence of a crime will be found," (American Law Division) The Fourth Amendment States that: The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized. (Cornell University, Law School)

With probable cause, authoritarian figures would have to obtain evidence enough to conduct intrusive searches. This includes back packs, lockers, vehicles and one's self.

This proposal does not apply in the following situations:

- (1) Where the student in question could be a direct threat to the safety of the rest of the student body.
- (2) Where the student in question could be a direct threat to the faculty of the school.
- (3) And in situations where delaying the search in order to obtain a court order could put the school as a whole at risk or the student who is being questioned.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

This proposal would change current laws so that public school faculty would have to obtain a court order, to justifiably search a student's belongings.

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for the mandatory enforcement of a complete recycling system in all business facilities.

JUSTIFICATION:

Every day the United States cooperates in the destruction of our planet. With limited resources and dependency on foreign countries the United States should have a priority in conserving our land. We have an approximation of 300 million inhabitants in our nation all with the responsibility of pitching in to save Mother Nature. An easy an feasible way of doing so is by recycling. Most states already have recycling systems in place for schools and homes however; we lack the enforcement of this same system in business facilities.

If we were to recycle all recyclables, instead of merely throwing them away, we would see a drastic change. We would need to install one recycling bin per trash can in every business facility for this system to function. Mandatory recycling would not only help save the world, but promote \"green\" lifestyles over all.

A recycling system would pay for itself over and over, and over through out time. Viewing this proposal by individual facilities may not seem to be too impactful, but viewing the effects of it nationwide demonstrates its effectiveness.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All business facilities through out the country shall adapt a required recycling system.

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Global studies is important because global issues affect everyone, and the teaching of other countries and cultures is essential to the united states.

JUSTIFICATION:

The united states teaches high school students about the us constitution and about other documents that strictly adhere to the united states. Though the development of the high school student should require adequate knowledge of the country in which they live in, it should not only include those countries which are most prominent; is: Europe. Global studies, a course required for all high school students to take before graduation would include information spanning from ancient times up until present times. The difference, however, would be that instead of covering only Europe and some parts of Asia, all the continents would be taught. That way, us american students can really know what's going on.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

School code would be amended to include this course as another history course, and/or instead of another.

Proposal No. 0613

Name: Spring Conference

Delegation: California YMCA Youth & Government

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Ensuring that "Democracy be learned by each generation."

JUSTIFICATION:

As education in this country continues to decline, and budget cuts continue to threaten future generations of Americans, the basic tenets of Democracy are being forgotten. The split between red and blue America has ensured that the youth know more about party politics than about the foundations of democracy. Programs like the YMCA's Youth and Government work to combat this epidemic, however, due to escalating costs, many are having difficulty affording such a great program. Ensuring the continued operation of such programs around the country will help each and every youth to have the opportunity to be taught some amazing and necessary skills. These skills include leadership, public speaking, courteous etiquette, along with the pillars of the YMCA, honesty, caring, respect, and responsibility. Each working American citizen should donate one dollar every five years to their nearest Youth & Government program. This would ensure that democracy thrives, and the youth of America feel secure in the investment that has been made in their future

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will implement a tax of \$1.00, payable every fifth year, which will fund Youth and Government programs across the country.