

Group #	65th FORUM GROUP TOPICS	GROUP'S FOCUS STATEMENT - "The focus of our group will be on . . ."	Background notes about the focus statement
1	Animal Rights	Animal shelters regarding strays placed in temporary and/or permanent homes in prisons/jails	The group started with a wide range of topics: hunting (wolves, population), testing (make-up, hair stuff), no kill shelters, sea world (zoo, whatles to go or stay, and so on. We agreed on no kill shelters and strays. The delegates seem very interested, somewhat focused, and pretty excited about the bill. They think it's a great idea.
2	Censorship	the issue of television censorship and the controlling factors.	The group loved the idea of censorship in the media and entertainment world. Their idea was to allow private TV stations to let them choose how to censor their own shows according to their targeted audiences, but to have an auditory advisory warning and then maybe even have an ongoing advisory warning going on through the show. They also wanted to know more about regulations/FCC warnings.
3	Controlled Substances	marijuana and focusing on recreational use along with (and/or) the use of hemp in the textile industry.	They are looking at developing a blueprint for regulations on how marijuana would look on a recreational level and on an industrial level (hemp).
4	Crime & Punishment	removing appeals in death penalty cases.	suggested by someone, they all agreed on it and liked it. (Alex's thought: maybe they want us to be more like Texas. How's it dealt with there?)
5	Economics	moving state-based corporation jobs from foreign countries to California, and taxing corporations if such jobs are not moved at a fast enough pace.	A rep from each corporation meets with a state rep to determine a grace period in which they will initiate a 3-phased plan. Each corporation will use the grace period to move foreign jobs back to California. They will use money from a pool and have 4 years to pay-off money taken from the pool. If they don't pay in time, they will be taxed more than the basic tax. - - - My delegates are extremely excited to be a part of the Economics Group and to watch this bill be formed.
6	Education	re-allocation of funding to education.	They talked a lot about shortages/shortcomings/outdated materials in education. They determined that a lot of the issues stemmed from a lack of funding to the division of education. They also identified a lot of other areas in the budget where they believed there was too much \$\$ allocated, and it had room to be re-allocated to education - because education is our future.
7	Environmental Issues	the relocation of solar panels/farms from the desert to city roof tops.	They would like to create incentives, such as tax breaks, as well as restrictions to make solar energy companies put solar panels on city roofs instead of in the desert - in order to protect the desert habitat.
8	Immigration	the citizenship application process.	The group seemed interested in the immigration topic and in the program in general. (?) We had trouble understanding how not to interfere with federal law and only focusing on state law. But we slowly went past that issue and now we're good. (Alex's note: Again, ?)
9	LGBTQ Rights	workplace discrimination of LGBTQ individuals.	They began by talking about changing middle and high school policies to educate youth and make them aware of homosexuality. They realized that this would be difficult fiscally, and parents across the country would be opposed. They decided stopping discrimination in the workplace is do-able, and still makes an impact.
10	Mass Media	establishing a rating system on some print media, or revising the current ones.	I think that specifically the kids are most interested in implementing or amending a ratings system for magazines and books. A younger sibling picking up "50 Shades of Grey" was cited as an example of something that they want to prevent.

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11	Minors' Rights	school's jurisdictional rights over students outside of school.	Outside of school = after hours, off campus; concerns both 1st amendment rights and school rules. Example: Morse v. Fredrick, "Bong hits for Jesus," t-shirt - student was expelled even though he was wearing it off campus and after school hours.
12	Nutrition	enforcing additional requirements for HS Health courses and establish a state regulated exit exam on nutrition.	We want people to become more educated on nutrition and for them to be able to understand how to properly read food nutrition labels. Also, we felt that the health courses in high schools are not currently taken seriously and should have higher regulations/standards. By establishing a nutritional HS exit exam section, we can ensure that young adults will go into the world knowing how to make better decisions.
13	Pornography	the STD testing of pornstars.	We are interested in the health and safety of pornstars. We'd like to prevent the spread of STDs by regulating the testing of pornstars.
14	Prison Reform	making the decision of the death penalty vs. life without parole as a choice for criminals who would have previously been considered for the death penalty.	The delegates were very interested in the process of the death penalty and alternatives from the beginning. There was a lot of debate about the specifics of the statement, (hence, why it's so specific). They seem <u>really</u> interested about the topic! It was hard to get them to stop and do ice breakers instead.
15	Privacy Issues	what the government is allowed to do with our personal information.	The group was interested in the power that people have over drones, the capacity at which the internet saves our searches, and "big brother."
16	Reproductive Rights	abortion in regards to the offer of free abortions.	The majority of the group are pro-coice, however, they struggle with the idea of free abortions and a general lack of severity they hold insociety.
17	Science & Ethics	stem cell research as it relates to organ transplant.	The group is interested in taking a positive stance on stem cell research as it applies to organ transplants. They started out very broadly and narrowed the topic down as they talked about GMOs, Biological warfare, and kinesiology certification, and using stem cell research to help verterans before coming back /settling on the current focus.
18	Sexual Harassment	the development and implimentation of mandatory classes pertaining to sexual harassment in schools and communities.	From 1st to 2nd grade - safety classes; 3re to 4th grade - verbal and physical harrasment classes; 5th to 6th grade - puberty and sex ed classes; and 7th to 12th grades - classes on rape, drugs, safety, sex, etc. Classes would be mandatory for students and parents and community. Classes will be given once every 2 months, funding to to sexual harassment program and up-to-date videos and examples.
19	Technology	installing a breathalizer in all cars.	The group is leaning towards the idea of making the ability to start any car to be dependent on the level of intoxication of the driver.
20	Welfare Reform	adjusting the paramaters of the welfare application.	The group really wants to change the application used to apply for welfare because they did not like the current application process.