

Proposal No. 0101

Name: Martin Beer
Delegation: Culver-Palms

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Repealing the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Tenth Amendment states “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States establish a system of federalism. Federalism is defined as a system in which governmental power is shared between a central government and its states. Intended to be a harmonious union, federalism has proven to be a power-struggle that limits the ability of the Federal Government to make the uniform decisions necessary for the country to prosper. While some decisions are properly made by a state and its people, for all decisions not sovereign to the enumerated powers of the Federal Congress to become issues of states rights, is to divide a house upon itself. Abraham Lincoln spoke the words, “A house divided upon itself can not government to make the uniform decision necessary for the continuation of the United States. As long as the constitution encourages states to value independent law over unity, America will never truly be a United States and shall always remain susceptible to the threats of a divided house. The Tenth Amendment hence must be repealed.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Ratify the Twenty-Eight Amendment to the United States Constitution in order to repeal the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

Proposal No. 0102

Name: Joseph Gorelik
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

I propose to allow people to use food stamps (EBT or Electronic Benefit Transfer) to marbuy cookware and water filters.

JUSTIFICATION:

Prepared food, even when sold in the cheapest fast food places, costs more than the initial ingredients and cooking the food oneself. Yet, many people who require food stamps do not have the money to buy pots and pans. With these ideas in place it is easy to see how allowing people to buy the tools with which to prepare food would, in the long run, allow them to have access to more food. On a similar note, the food would also be healthier; instead of being prepared in a microwave or a deep fryer, it would be prepared at home with more traditional healthy methods. This new, healthier food could lower obesity rates which are skyrocketing among young children. Another possible benefit of this proposal is that, with food being served at home, families may be able to be more closely knit. Beyond cooking supplies my proposal also allows people to use food stamps to buy water filters. When considering the case for water filters, one must imagine walking into a liquor store or discount supermarket. In many cases, soda (or iced tea) is cheaper than bottled water (this problem is exacerbated by the fact that tap water is often rancid and believed to be unhealthy). This is a well known fact and Michael Bloomberg, the mayor of New York City, put a ban on large soft drinks because he wanted to reduce the effects that such price disparities were having on the prevalence of diabetes and obesity in underprivileged youth. An American Diabetes Association study conducted in 2007 estimated the total cost of diabetes in California alone to be over \$24 billion. With such a high cost, a proposal that would allow sugary drinks to be replaced with clear water and fatty fast food to be replaced with home cooked food, would not only improve the health of our nation’s citizens, but also reduce the future medical costs for those people on food stamps.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The federal government shall incentivize (through the promise of a small bump in funding) the individual state governments to add cookware and water filters to the list of things that can be bought with food stamps.

Proposal No. 0103

Name: Max de Hoyos
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Elimination of the Federal Reserve, and 16th Amendment.

JUSTIFICATION:

In the year 1913, a private bank became recognized as the central bank of the United States of America, even though none of the owners were political leaders. This bank, known as the Federal Reserve, prints every dollar with a certain amount of interest. Whatever money that is taken from the bank to pay previous loans adds to the debt, thus making the debt permanent, and pervasive.

War creates more debt than any other political or economic state because of the massive amounts of money needed to fuel the war effort. It has already been revealed by the government that the Gulf of Tonkin incident which justified our entrance into Communist Vietnam did not occur. Justifications will continue to be made in order to fight our newest foe Terrorism -- lest we decide to put an end to this hypocrisy. We must eradicate the system that defies all of the principles that we believe in. The United States prospered for 133 years without the Federal Reserve, or income tax.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Remove both the Federal Reserve and the 16th Amendment, and instead enact the Fair Tax (www.fairtax.org).

Proposal No. 0104

Name: Zeping Wang
Delegation: Torrance - South Bay

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Given the paramount importance seatbelts serve in the safety of motorists, not enough drivers and passengers respect the need to where one when traveling in a motor vehicle.

JUSTIFICATION:

According to the Federal Highway Administration, there are over 190,000,000 licensed drivers in the country. It is clear that for the majority of the residents living in the United States, operating a motor vehicle is a necessity in their daily lives making tasks such as going to work, performing daily errands and commuting to destinations extremely convenient. However, every time an individual takes a trip in a car, they put themselves through a terrible risk. With over ten million traffic accidents leading to more than forty thousand dead each year, commuting in a motor vehicle is by far the most dangerous activity Americans partake in. With such a high risk involved in driving, one would reasonably think that most individuals would do all that is necessary to protect themselves. However, fifteen percent of the 190 million drivers are not wearing a seat belt. It isn't like there is a debate concerning the effectiveness of seat belts. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that seat belt usage reduces crash-related injuries and deaths by 50%. Additionally, 53% of those who were killed in motor accidents in 2009 did not buckle up. There are many states who have made seat belt regulations a primary law, meaning that a police officer may pull a driver over for breaking the seat belt law without there being any other violation. Still, there are 18 states without primary seat belt laws. In these states, police officers do not have the best ability to enforce wearing seat belts and promoting safety on road for both drivers and passengers.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The U.S. government will give a federal tax deduction to each state that has primary seat belt laws.

Proposal No. 0105

Name: Conner Bryan
Delegation: Conejo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Establish a spending budget policy for the United States Military that is proportionally based on foreign developed countries.

JUSTIFICATION:

Currently, the United States military is granted an annual budget of about \$740 billion, making the United States the number one spender in the military. This budget is decided upon by the Department of Defense at a meeting held once a year which decides where and how the money will be spent. This large sum of money accounts for over 8,000 tanks, 18,000 armored fighting vehicles, 15,000 air-crafts, 10 aircraft carriers, etc. Globally, the top 10 developed countries China, UK, France, Japan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Germany, India, and Brazil combined do not accumulate an equal amount in spending towards their own military. This proves to qualify the United States as a superpower nation. Therefore, establishing a spending budget policy for the United States Military that is proportionally based on these foreign nations will create more than \$300 billion in savings that can be put towards other critical government programs that will strengthen the country.

Prior to implementing the new policy of proportional spending, the Department of Defense will cut the military's budget by \$300 billion giving the Department an annual budget of about \$400 billion. This new budget allows for the United States to remain the top global military spender by more than \$250 billion. The second top spender is China at \$140 billion. By reducing the Department of Defense budget, the savings can be redirected towards other valuable governmental programs. To clearly understand the proportional spending policy, the Department of Defense budget will not always be set at \$400 billion. The budget will vary in direct relation to the amount of money other global developed countries spend towards their specific military branches. For example, recognizing that China spends only \$140 billion, to remain a superpower, the United States military is granted an additional \$250 billion. However, if China were to increase its military production and spend more, the Department of Defense will be given the ability to adjust its budget accordingly.

The proportional spending budget policy provides a fair and just amount of money given annually to the military that will allow the United States to remain the superpower it stands as today; and provide beneficial revenue to strengthen the country and create economic reform.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Implement a cut to the U.S Military budget (Department of Defense) of \$300 billion in one year. At the annual budget meeting by the Department of Defense, the savings created from the budget cut will be directed towards other governmental programs such as research development, education, health care reform, etc. In addition to this budget cut, the Department of Defense will also enact a policy of a relative proportional spending budget based on other global developed countries' military spending.

Proposal No. 0106

Name: Ly Nguyen
Delegation: Anaheim

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal is meant to enforce consequences on company contracts that have been violated relating to immigrants.

JUSTIFICATION:

Immigrants founded this country and it was they who made this country continue to prosper. They continually take on jobs that are needed but no other person would choose to pursue. Many of these jobs are factory jobs, agricultural jobs, or construction jobs. While there are terms and conditions that are imposed for the protection of the workers/companies, they are not always followed as strictly as should be.

The companies and farms that these migrant workers come to work for are making it more difficult to start their new life here in the U.S. There have been new laws and terms that have been set in the last year to try to make sure that these people are given a safe place to work, and a place to live. Because of expenses some companies go to the extremes to try to make sure they still have all their workers, but in doing this they are causing a health hazard for these people. For example, these people are squeezed into tiny apartments with multiples families living in the area, and in one situation it was a motel home. Another concern is that they are given inadequate toilets or shower facilities. Sometimes these people are charged a fee to sleep in their own car. We want to make sure, that even with the terms and conditions companies are given, that they are followed on a stricter basis.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We want the conditions of the immigrant laborer to be safer. We want the conditions of their work and living environment to improve, to be cleaner. With the living conditions we want them to be more comfortable. We need all the facilities in which these people work and live to get checked on a regular basis. When a company breaks a contract or gets fined for a not following the guidelines, the fines should be higher than the price of a ticket given to the general public. We need these companies to follow the contracts they give in a stricter manner.

Proposal No. 0107

Name: Sam Gershwin
Delegation: Conejo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Eliminating tuition rates of public universities and readjusting them based on a family's income.

JUSTIFICATION:

Whereas only thirty-seven percent of students who receive student loans managed to pay off their student loans in a timely manner without being delinquent,
And whereas eighty-five billion dollars of student loans are paid overdue,
And whereas roughly two out of five student loan borrowers are delinquent at some point in the first five years of repayment,
It is fiscally irresponsible to maintain the current tuition rates.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Be it resolved that public universities readjusts their tuition rates to match a family's yearly income. If the family makes two hundred fifty thousand dollars a year or higher, the will pay the original tuition rates that the universities originally established. This will give opportunity for every U.S. student regardless of economic background.

Proposal No. 0108

Name: Cameron Merrihew
Delegation: Desert Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Providing lives for children in the foster care system while assisting in the defense of the nation at the same time

JUSTIFICATION:

Children in the foster care system all over the country are never truly given a chance at a successful life. Many gifted children are never given an opportunity to shine and use their skills. Nearly half of the kids in the foster care system become homeless when they turn eighteen with many others turning to lives of crime. This proposal would guarantee a life filled with opportunity for at least a portion of these suffering children.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) will form a subsection to go around to foster homes around the country where they will administer intelligence tests to the 2-3 year old children and adopt the children scoring in the top 0.5%. These children would then be raised in a community home/boarding school where they will be given a full advanced education along with a loving home alongside children just as gifted as them. In addition to basic education, the children will receive, at appropriate times in their m this program they will be fully trained operatives and will be given the choice to become an undercover agent employed by the CIA to help out the United States in times of need.

Proposal No. 0109

Name: Lia Leibman
Delegation: Verdugo Hills

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To end wind and solar power subsidies and loans.

JUSTIFICATION:

Solyndra, a solar cell company, was granted a \$535 million loan from the federal government. After a few years, the company failed and filed for bankruptcy. The entire loan, made of taxpayers' money, was lost. Further, "The government loan guarantee was supposed to spur 1,000 full-time jobs once Solyndra's solar plant was fully operational. Instead, as the company announced Cha

These days, with the United States in unstable economic condition along with a \$16.4 trillion, and growing, deficit, everything is about cost, business investment, and job creation. Solyndra's bankruptcy is just one example of the inefficiency of solar and wind power investment; Solar energy costs are approximately \$0.38-to-\$0.53 per Kilowatt-Hour (KWH). However, "There is considerable variance in the cost of solar energy because sunlight availability varies by geography and climate. With limited sunlight, solar costs could be over \$1.00 per KWH. In terms of cost per KWH, solar energy is four-to-ten times the cost of hydrocarbon

As for wind power, the transmission of the generated electricity to urban areas is the biggest challenge and cost. Costs for transmission have been ballooning. For example, "The Public Utility Commission of Texas issued its latest quarterly report last week on the progress of wiring West Texas to deliver wind energy to metropolitan areas, and it shows the project first estimated to cost ratepayers downstate \$5 billion will now run closer to \$7 billion. Situations like these are occurring all over the Unit

The outcome of these well-meaning subsidies and loans may be disaster; the reduced cost of solar and wind power investment artificially induces people to invest into these areas. When the spending is cut (which will eventually have to occur based on the urgency of a growing public debt) jobs will be lost. The federal government has been propping up these solar and wind energy businesses and consumers for over a decade. Yet, the research is still not increasing efficiency and this industry has not boomed as planned. How long will the wasteful spending go on? It is time that America accept that there is no real viable future for expensive solar and wind energy resources. Let's not create any more jobs for an industry that is doomed.

Dr. Kreutzer, a research fellow in energy economics and climate change at the Heritage Foundation, sums it up pretty well: "Bureaucrats and politicians shouldn't be the ones deciding which technologies are the most promising or what timeline is too long or what losses are too deep. The market will do a much better job of answering the question: Are wind and solar power really viable?

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will enact legislation which will end government subsidies and loans for both the producers and consumers of wind and solar power technology.

Proposal No. 0110

Name: Robert Tran
Delegation: Downtown Oakland

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Inappropriate exposure to the next generation is not only ruining other generations' quality of life, but is self-destructive.

JUSTIFICATION:

The younger generation is prone to violence from exposure from the media and ideas of apathetic living. The majority of the younger generation have gone through many suffering, mentally, physically and spiritually. The majority are unable to control their emotions, leading to unhealthy methods of coping. Only 84% of Americans are happy with their daily lives. Only 3% of all Americans live healthy.

If the younger generation were to be exposed to morals and better concepts of reality, then they would impose such logic toward daily living. Concepts of unjustifiable death, melancholy and pain are unnecessary for human survival, it can endanger lives. This is where the idea of "blissful ignorance" comes in play, if someone does not know something then, they can not be affected. If the older generation does not teach about the "bad things" in life, then the next one will not learn of the "bad things". This will result in morally just people and a better society.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

In order for the younger generation to not be contaminated by impure things, we need to create a suitable environment for them to grow safely. The United States will create a constitutional amendment preventing negative exposure from getting to the younger generation.

Proposal No. 0111

Name: Anna Enger
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Placing a toll on all public freeways

JUSTIFICATION:

Public transportation is a part of American life that affects many issues; ranging from environmental detriment, to the productivity of our economy, to the effectiveness of evacuation during natural disasters, to the ability of people to get to and from work. However, since the start of the 21st century, our global competitors have led the way in public transportation development. Unfortunately, federal transportation money is spread thin all over the country, and not focused on economically critical points in our network. To effectively generate enough revenue to fund our public transportation projects, we need to focus on the root of the problem: the use of freeways. Los Angeles, for example, has an underdeveloped metro system. Over 300,000 cars drive the 6-mile stretch from the 241 to 71 freeways.

If each person had to pay fifty cents to take the 241, assuming more than half of those cars use the freeway twice per day, Los Angeles county could potentially make \$225,000 each day, just from one freeway. Not only would large cities like Los Angeles be able to fund projects like the \$100 billion Bullet Train, but already existing public transport systems would be able to expand and reach a much larger population. Public transportation also saves homeowners a lot of money--about \$6,200 annually per family that uses public transportation, according an APTA study. Public transportation not only benefits those who use it, but it also aids those who don't by keeping thousands of cars off the road.

Public transportation is not only good for the people who use it, but it's also vital to a strong economy. For every \$10 million invested in public transportation, \$15 million is saved in transportation costs to both highway and public transportation users, \$30 million is generated in increased sales, and more than 300 jobs are realized.

Consider the environmental benefits of public transportation: According to the American Public Transportation Association, public transportation in the United States saves approximately 1.4 billion gallons of gas each year, and if just one in ten Americans used public transportation daily, our foreign oil reliance would decrease by 40%. The levels of smog, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, and methane in urban areas would decrease with freeway tolls--seeing as they would discourage people from driving--and the expansion of our infrastructure would allow them more transport options.

The problems that we face in improving our public transportation systems include persuading people to use them more often and creating affordable public transport options in smaller communities. Both problems would be solved with freeway tolls. By charging people to use freeways, we would save the government money, we would provide the states with the ability to take on new, beneficial projects, and we would take steps toward becoming a healthier, more economically efficient, and united nation.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Require that drivers pay a toll to use the freeway. Tolls would be paid per freeway; not per mile. Drivers would pay via the FasTrak system. Prices would be determined by state and local governments. All funds received from freeway tolls would be allocated to public transportation projects and would subsidize public transport companies.

Proposal No. 0112

Name: MaKenna Flotron
Delegation: Newport Harbor

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Replace animal dissections with virtual dissections in high schools.

JUSTIFICATION:

It is estimated there are 170 animal species or more that are used for dissection. These animals used are considered mere objects which lack quality care, handling, and treatment that often lead to trauma, injury, or premature death. Live animals are often shipped in overcrowded packaging. They go through dehydration, food deprivation, and/or suffocation. Some animals are bred just for dissection; others are captured in the wild or picked up from shelters and pounds. Alternatives to dissection are extremely affordable. Modern computer programs can cost thousands of dollars less than animal specimens and computer programs do not need to be pre-ordered for each incoming class. Dissections have become big business with millions of animals being dissected in U.S. schools each year. The nation's largest biological supply company alone grosses \$25-\$30 million annually in sales for dissection. Dissections also charge students in lab fees. Students who participate in a dissection have to make a contribution to his/her science class even though many students do not want to dissect. Most students do not have an opportunity to opt out of a dissection or the teacher does not encourage it.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Animal dissections should be taken out of high schools, and the schools should put their money toward computer programs instead of animals to dissect. This way the schools would be saving money because they would not be spending tons each year on new animals and then the animals would not be put into harm.

Proposal No. 0113

Name: Travis Clark
Delegation: Crescenta-Canada

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Automobile Speedway

JUSTIFICATION:

In America, 57% of citizens drive an automobile of some sort. And with modern manufacturing, cars are able to drive faster and faster each year, but most freeways in California have a speed limit of 65 miles an hour. This large industry attracts many enthusiasts who spend millions of dollars making and buying fast and luxurious cars. This proposal creates a way to allow Americans to get the most out of their cars, while still benefitting America economically. This proposal would set up a highway with raised speed limits. This would allow drivers who are very enthusiastic about driving to drive the way they wanted to. Also, this road would have a high toll, creating room for large profit. This road would eliminate drivers who don't want to speed, and allow a constant high rate of transportation. With higher risk of accidents, this road would require a special license that includes a fee to build the road and have excess capital. Also this license would assess the issue of the level of danger on the roads. This roadway would attract many drivers due to the massive automobile industry.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

If a state chooses to adopt these rules and sets up a toll way with raised speed limits on an existing or new road, they will get tax relief from the government through the department of transportation.

Proposal No. 0114

Name: Sarah Handler
Delegation: Culver-Palms

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The federal government acts to support building a national tolerance program .

JUSTIFICATION:

With a nation built upon diversity, there are enormous amounts of racism and prejudices that exist within society. From a consumer interest, business corporations, politics, and education hatred coexists within all these aspects of America. However, in order to move toward a more tolerant society, people need to be educated in understand discrimination, its effects, how to interact with others, and others histories. This education program which would allow elementary school students in fourth grade onto high school seniors to learn about stereotypes and bigotry while gaining skills to promote a more tolerant community. These groups would include teaching open-mindedness and acceptance among all religions, cultures, gender affiliations, ethnicities, and peoples. As bullying is most problematic during sixth through eighth grade, it is imperative to promote a program that provides lessons of tolerance prior this period and after. New Jersey had an anti-bullying bill of right law introduced to its legislature in October, 2010, which provides for the training of public school staff in addressing bullying, intimidation, and harassment, as well as in suicide prevention. This state should provide a model of how the federal government should address the issue of bullying and tolerance.

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), which would help reform education by supporting investments in innovative strategies that are most likely to improve results for students, provide long-term gains in school and school system capacity, and increase productivity and effectiveness. The ARRA provides \$4.35 billion for the Race to the Top Fund, a competitive grant program designed to encourage and reward States that are creating the conditions for education innovation and reform; achieving significant improvement in student outcomes, including making substantial gains in student achievement, closing achievement gaps, improving high school graduation rates, and ensuring student preparation for success in college and careers; and implementing ambitious plans in four core education reform areas: Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy; Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction; Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and that have demonstrated success in raising student achievement and have the best plans to accelerate their reforms in the future. These States will offer models for others to follow and will spread the best reform ideas across their States, and across the country. As it is estimated that 160,000 children miss school every day due to fear of attack or intimidation by other students, reforming this fund will further States' ability to positively change the education system. Additionally, according to GLSEN's LGBT Educator Training Program for Secondary Schools in NYC, more than 9 in 10 educators (92.2%) said their training had caused them to do something differently in their educational practices. Race to the Top winners will help trail-blaze

effective reforms and provide examples for States and local school districts throughout the country to follow as they too are hard at work on reforms that can transform our schools for decades to come.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

By reforming the RTTT fund to include tolerance programs, states will be inclined to include education standards that teach students against inequity and add a focus to promoting a more understanding society.

Proposal No. 0201

Name: Ethan Cardenas
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

If a person has a restraining order filed against them, that person with the restraining order will not be able to register for a gun license.

JUSTIFICATION:

As we have seen, especially in recent months, guns have destroyed families and neighborhoods nationwide. There is a feeling in all of us that we are in danger, in many instances. Those who have been perceived as harmful to another human being will be unable to access guns as a safety precaution. This ensures safety to all of those who feel that their lives are in potential danger by lowering the use of guns and only giving them to those who are not seen as a threat. Granted, although many people who do not have restraining orders do carry guns, this allows those who have filed the order to live a safer, more secure life without the worry of a potential incident of the sort. Last year alone, in America, there were approximately 14,612 murders and more than half of those murders were due to gun violence. The reason that this proposal is so important is because it can eliminate a tremendous amount of killings due to gun violence. Statewide, in 2011, there were 67,750 restraining orders filled out. That is 67,750 lives that were protected and potentially saved by those who try to harm others. Guns are a serious issue in our nation and all around the world. Protection is necessary for all human beings and it should not be simply brushed aside. We as individuals matter which is why with this proposal, there is a higher amount of protection guaranteed through our nation's law.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

This proposal will mandate that any person who wishes to register for a gun license must verify that he/she does not have a restraining order filed against them (at any point in time). Each gun store will be sure to verify that each customer has the necessary qualifications to buy the gun through paperwork.

Proposal No. 0202

Name: Scott Beachley
Delegation: Greater Long Beach

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Amend Penalties Given For Feeding Wildlife In National Parks.

JUSTIFICATION:

People ignore the “Do NOT feed animals” signs. This has become a concern for a large majority of people. The penalties given for feeding wildlife must be amended to where they are stricter than ever before because not only does it disrupt the ecosystem overall, but it could also harm us and the animals. It harms us because if we feed the ducks or birds that call a national lake their home some genetically-modified, or just unhealthy food in general, the quality of that water will descend. And this is detrimental to public health. Second of all, it makes animals dependent on humans for food. This will not only cause a species to evolve according to people feeding them, but it will change their diets and make them less afraid of humans, which is proven to be potentially dangerous to us humans. And a lone animal in search of food in an urban area may be killed by a vehicle. Risks of conflict, nuisance behavior, and potential harm to humans and animals may occur by feeding animals. Third, human food is not for animals, as they lack the necessary nutrients that animals need, and that we need nonetheless. Lastly, wild animals that depend on us for food can easily spread disease. Crowding and competition among animals for food incite fights and injuries between them. And this can spread diseases either to other animals (including humans).

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will amend these penalties (fines) for feeding wildlife by sending repeated law breakers to jail. And making criminals on probation volunteer by patrolling national parks to enforce these rules (no money involved) while also giving volunteers tax breaks.

Proposal No. 0203

Name: Ellis Grant
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Bettering the lives of children who would otherwise be subjected to an unsafe homelife

JUSTIFICATION:

This proposal would make it necessary to obtain a license in order to gain the right to raise a child. Too many children are born into unsafe homes with unstable parents that both physically and mentally abuse them. Others have the misfortune of having parents with mental health conditions and/or drug habits that directly relate to their abuse. If a child is born into a family unit or to a single parent who is clearly unfit to raise a child, the infant is put under the care of either another relative who is apt to raise a child or entered into the foster care system.

While this proposal may be seen as targeting low-income family units, it is, in fact, far from that. This proposal aims to improve the lives of children who would, if not for this process, be brought up in a domestic nightmare.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Mandating an obligatory license in order to obtain the right to bear a child. It also requires by law the relocation of children born into unstable family units to stable relatives or the foster care program.

Proposal No. 0204

Name: Romano Natasha
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Dissolving the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

JUSTIFICATION:

NAFTA promotes low tariff trade between The United States, Canada, and Mexico. It allows for 450 million people in these three countries to export to each other at low costs. NAFTA is responsible for \$1.6 trillion in goods and services annually. NAFTA also increases the U.S. economy as much as .5% a year, as measured in GDP.

However, between 1994 and 2010, NAFTA caused the U.S. trade deficits with Mexico to total \$97.2 billion, displacing 682,900 U.S. jobs, which were outsourced mostly to Mexico, and union activity as a result was discouraged for fear of unemployment. Since the jobs are outsourced, companies do not have to comply with the environmental and humane standards of the United States, therefore Mexican land and worker rights are completely ravaged. Local Mexican farmers cannot compete with the government subsidized low prices of U.S. farm products (almost exclusively genetically modified) grown in Mexico, and are being forced into poverty. These workers, having lost 1.3 million farm jobs, are now Maquiladora workers, a program created by NAFTA in which they have “no labor rights or health protections, workdays stretch out 12 hours or more, and if you are a woman, you are forced to take a pregnancy test when applying for a job.” On an environmental note, NAFTA has caused the deforestation rate of Mexico to rise to 630,000 hectares per year, which in long term standings is a loss of utilitarian use of the environment, which can result in capital gains as well. Finally, NAFTA promotes the belief of economic gain over natural rights of human beings and the idea of national supremacy.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

End the North American Free Trade Agreement permanently.

Proposal No. 0205

Name: Lucy Zheng
Delegation: Fremont/Newark

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Introducing a new job program within the Prison Labor system to save money on energy bills.

JUSTIFICATION:

Every year, tax payers spend \$63.4 billion a year to keep prisons running. There is over 1,500 state, federal, and privately operated correctional facilities here in the U.S, and according to a news article, an average prison uses \$36,000 per month in energy. Using simple calculations, this would equal \$432,000 per year just for energy. Every dollar saved, is another dollar spent elsewhere; therefore, I propose that prisons open up another type of job: riding exercise bikes for energy. These exercise bikes will be connected to electricity generators, which will later be used to power the facility, thus saving prisons money when it comes to energy. Sentenced inmates are required to work if they are medically able, therefore, they will be medically able to use the bike machines. Inmates will earn 2¢ to 40¢ per hour for this work assignment, as they would in other employment areas such as food service or the warehouse, or work as an inmate orderly, plumber, painter, or groundskeeper. Prisoners must maintain a 10 mph plus speed if they want to be paid.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Open this job program within the Prison Labor system to save money on energy bills.

Proposal No. 0206

Name: Lewis Brown
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Repealing the two-term limit on presidency.

JUSTIFICATION:

Many essential tasks that the president is charged with can not be accomplished in 8 years. Franklin D. Roosevelt, for example, served four terms and was able to pull us out of a recession and lead us during most of World War II. During his presidency, the United States GDP increased from approximately 60 billion dollars to over 200 billion. Under the current system, rather than having time to flourish under one budget, the economy flounders as it gets yanked this way and that by the drastic changes every 8 years. When Bill Clinton left office and George W. Bush took over, the severe change in policy caused a recession lasting the better part of a year. Allowing a president more time to operate will consequently allow him or her to better accomplish his or her tasks, and allow for a better economy.

Furthermore, the current system oftentimes deems a president

's first term part of an extended campaign for the benefits of a second four years in office, in which nothing drastic will be done for fear of losing votes; or at the end of a president's secanything. Remediying the situation will allow for a more effective presidency.

Lastly, most simply, and perhaps most importantly, if a president would be elected three or more times, he or she has got to be doing something right. As long as a candidate has the backing of the American people, there's no sense abridging his or her leadership.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A new constitutional amendment will be added, repealing the 22nd amendment and thus repealing the two-term limit on presidency.

Proposal No. 0207

Name: Carson Graves
Delegation: Ventura Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To tax the salaries of Congressmen, the President's cabinet, and the President by 10% to create a fund from which schools across the nation can apply for grants.

JUSTIFICATION:

Our Senators and Representatives make \$174,000 a year: more than triple the amount of the average American's income. (www.library.clerk.house.gov) The house and Senate Majority and Minority Leaders have a salary of \$194,000; the Speaker of the House makes \$224,000; and the Vice President earns \$228,000. All of these salaries have been raised annually for the past decade, and the President's salary was doubled to \$400,000 in 2000. (www.ntu.org) All while the national debt skyrockets, the taxpayer's wallet thins, and our public schools suffer. In fact, since 2008, when the recession first hit, 35 states have seen a drop in per-pupil spending. In some states this has been cut by over 20%, all in the last five years. (washingtonpost.com)

This proposal will impose a 10% tax on the salary of our Representatives, Senators, Speaker of the House, Vice-President, and President. These funds will be directed into an account managed by the Board of Education. Schools from any state may apply for a grant, the Board of Education will select and administer various denominations to the applicants. This proposal will make available at least \$9.5 million for our schools in need across the nation. Clearly, lawmakers' salaries are going up, the quality of our schools is going down, and our state and federal legislatures are doing little to stem this. It is necessary that we reverse both of these trends for the good of our national debt, our taxpayers, and for our youth.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass legislation to tax 10% of the salaries of the US Representatives, Senators, Vice-President, and President; these funds will be transferred to the Board of Education whom will administer grants to schools across the nation.

Proposal No. 0208

Name: Maria Donoso
Delegation: Northwest/SV

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Federal taxation on working minors is unfair and unreasonable and should therefore be removed.

JUSTIFICATION:

As you all must know, teenagers nowadays have many responsibilities. The typical day of a teen consists of waking up at the crack of dawn, fighting to pay attention in class, going to meetings for clubs, after-school sports, homework that keeps you up all night, and of course, for us, Youth and Government. With all of these activities that run our lives, who has time for work? Well, the truth is, these days teenagers are working more than ever. With the hectic schedules of teens, they should be able to get the full value of their jobs. The social security taxes that are taken from the paychecks of minors are unfair, unreasonable, and unnecessary.

One of the prime reasons why minors should not be taxed, is that teens are not able to directly claim these taxes. Under the age of eighteen, you are claimed as a dependent under your parents' taxes. This means that the tax removed from a minor's paycheck can only be claimed by their parents, not the teen. When it comes time to file your taxes, you cannot claim the taxes because your parents entitled to that claim. After making time from their busy schedules, which unlike their parents, consist of more than just work, it is unfair that teens are unable to receive the full value of their work. Furthermore, teens are only able to work a certain amount of hours, which limits the amount of money they can make. This makes the taxation even more unreasonable. People say ask, well what about 18 year olds? Will they make the same amount of money and be taxed on top of that? Well the truth is, more, higher paying jobs are available to those 18 and older than those under the age of 18. After the taxes removed from their parents paychecks, who claim them as dependents, why should minors have to be taxed as well? Since they are under the age of eighteen, minors are not able to use the government to their full advantage. They cannot buy the lottery, smoke cigarettes, and especially not vote. If they do not have the same full use of these rights like teens eighteen and older do, they should not be taxed the same way either.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Internal Revenue Service will no longer collect income tax from working minors under the age of 18.

Proposal No. 0209

Name: Preston Saitta
Delegation: El Dorado

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Elimination of print textbooks for electronic textbooks at all US colleges & universities

JUSTIFICATION:

According the state PIRGs, between 1994 and 2005, the prices of textbooks for colleges and universities skyrocketed by 62% and will continue to increase higher each year. Currently, college students spend an average of \$900 to \$1300 each year on textbooks (according to the 20 Million Minds Foundation). According to the state PIRGs, the reason textbooks are climbing in price is because publishers create new editions of their textbooks, which tend to cost on average 12% more. Most new editions have expensive extras (like DVDs, dictionaries, and study guides), which cost a lot more in the bundle. Additionally, publishers often increase the price of textbooks for students in the US, as compared to other countries. Research showed that US college students were charged 20% more than those in overseas countries.

Not only are textbooks extremely expensive, they are also very heavy. A recent study by Boston University revealed that 85% of college students suffer from back pain from their heavy textbooks.

Using electronic textbooks (or e-books) is a more cost efficient way and will relieve many students from back pain. For example, using a tablet computer (such as an iPad) provides a more economical and lighter way of using a textbook. Textbooks in the Apple Store start at the affordable price of \$14.99 and iPads weigh 1.33 pounds. Tablets can cost anywhere within \$150-500, which is less than half the cost of buying print textbooks. On most college campuses, campus bookstores already sell tablet computers, often with an educational discount.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Department of Education shall create a national policy eliminating print textbooks and required all higher education institutions to use electronic textbooks.

Proposal No. 0210

Name: Hannah Rips
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To end the federal war on drugs.

JUSTIFICATION:

om of choice. In a free society, we allow people to make their own decisions on what is best for their bodies, no matter how harmful they may be. There is nothing in the Constitution that states that drug consumption should be made illegal, and the government does not protect people any more with the current drug policies than if drugs were to be legalized. Why is it that the most addictive drug in the world, nicotine, is legal to eighteen year olds, but marijuanaâ€”a drug with minimal side effectsâ€”is not? The government currently does not believe that the American people are fit to make this choice. In addition, we cannot discriminate freedom. By protecting an individual's right to freedom of choice of drug usage, we indirectly protect our rights to the foods we eat, the books we read, and the religion we follow.

By banning drugs, the federal government has driven the drug market underground, which has incurred far worse damages to our national security than the drug themselves. Terrorist groups, such as the Taliban, make a huge profit by selling their protection services to drug traffickers, giving them even more power in our already dangerous world. A fully legal market would give the very small community of drug users the opportunity to contribute to our economy, rather than enemy groups. Since the War on Drugs was first declared in 1970, the federal government has spent over one trillion dollars, spending approximately 51 billion every year. Over 1.6 million people are arrested, prosecuted, and incarcerated for drug offenses each year. The current drug policies contain inconsistencies that result in overly harsh policies, such as arrests and citations for breaking federal law while obeying state law (marijuana consumption). If drugs were to be legalized, it is estimated the United States government would save several billion dollars a year, and bring in additional tax revenue. This contributes to the economic stimulation our economy desperately needs.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will legalize all presently illegal drugs.

Proposal No. 0211

Name: Michael Saltz
Delegation: Westside Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

I would like to propose replacing the use of racial affirmative action when applying to college with socioeconomic affirmative action.

JUSTIFICATION:

Proponents of racial affirmative action claim that it is necessary to have diversity in the classroom for all students to have equal access to education. This proposal addresses a more direct deterrent to equal access, which is the inability of a large number of families to afford higher education. Since people with different cultural backgrounds can be found at all economic levels of society this new system would still allow for racial and cultural diversity. America is a melting pot of races, but many races that qualify for help from affirmative action have no connection to their original culture. As each generation of immigrants are becoming more and more Americanized, they are losing their cultural background that makes them so valuable in the school system. Another reason our current system is flawed is because many people state that they are a certain race in order to get help from affirmative action when they may only be a small fraction of that race. The original intention of affirmative action according to Executive Order 10925 was to "take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, creed, color, or national origin." My proposal is trying to take affirmative action back to that idea. Applicants would not be judged by their race, creed, color, or national origin, instead this proposal would look to help the people who have faced economic disadvantages in their lives.

This proposal is important is because in the society we live in, the wide gaps that separate classes in our society have greatly effected the education system. If a family has more money, they can attend private schools, and hire tutors to help boost SAT/ACT scores and help write college application essays. According to the United States census there are only five states with a wide range in socioeconomic diversity, this bill would aid the people in the 45 other states who will be able to go to college and interact with people from all different backgrounds. The gap between the richest and poorest in our nation is more significant and the racial inequalities that are less significant.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

This proposal would eliminate the section on all public colleges where applicants state their race, and replace it with a section where students would state their family's annual income. The College Board would determine which incomes represent students who should qualify for socioeconomic affirmative action.

Proposal No. 0212

Name: Kesley Quintana
Delegation: Corona Norco

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Minimizing the amount of tobacco put into cigarettes.

JUSTIFICATION:

Cigarettes are used to relieve stress. Many users don't say their addicted but buy and smoke up to three packets of cigarettes a day. They are not illegal. However, there is a new type of cigarette being sold. They are called the e-cigarette. They are electronic smokeless cigarettes. The difference between those cigarettes and regular cigarettes is that regular cigarettes have chemicals and the main cause to addiction, tobacco. The amount of tobacco can control how fast a person can get hooked onto it and get addicted. The reduction of tobacco in cigarettes would still be leaving cigarette users with the same type of feeling during the use of it but can help slow down the addiction. Any type of smoking is unhealthy and dangerous the user and the people around them.

By minimizing the amount of tobacco in cigarettes, it could encourage people to quit smoking. It takes a certain amount of tobacco usage to get a person hooked onto it. Cigarettes have the amount of tobacco to get a person addicted on their first try. Cigarettes are harmful to everyone. From the person smoking, to the person across from them inhaling the persons smoke. Secondhand smoke causes the same damage as firsthand smoke. When a person is smoking in public and there are children around, they are being harmed as well as the smoker.

Cigarettes have a great daily impact on the average American. They have become more and more popular throughout the years. Teens have become exposed to cigarettes drastically as well over the years. Hopefully by reducing tobacco in the daily cigarette, it would throw people off and little by little stop using cigarettes because the tobacco will not be as strong as before. Therefore, meaning that it will be exposed to less and less people, including minors. Sometimes addicts are still allowed to use cigarettes during their treatment to quit smoking. As their therapy progresses the amount of cigarettes they consume is reduced. This is how some addicts get over their addiction. By reducing tobacco, it may be a way for people to get over their addiction. If it works, as the years go on the amount of tobacco can be reduced more and more. One day cigarettes may not even have tobacco in them anymore.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass legislation mandating that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will reduce up to 50% of tobacco that are put into cigarettes.

Proposal No. 0213

Name: Carlos Rosa
Delegation: Santa Anita

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To create restrictions for use of exterior electric lighting for businesses.

JUSTIFICATION:

Light pollution is a very serious situation in the United States. Urban centers have become so polluted with artificial light that it is no longer possible to gaze upon the stars in the night sky. Humans are diurnal creatures and require somewhat bright light to see once the sun has set. However, it seems that we have become so accustomed to the brightness of the sun that we have created our own artificial suns that drown out the beauty of the night sky. Billboards, car dealerships, and business advertisements are just some of the many unnecessary lights that should be restricted. These bright lights confuse animals and insects, drawing them toward what they might think is a full moon. Some areas are so heavily polluted that you can see an orange, unnatural glow when approaching them from a distance.

According to National Geographic, the United States wastes about one-third of the light that is artificially created, and averages an annual cost over 230 billion dollars in electricity. A recent NASA study has found that upward light pollution has increased over 17% in the last seven years.

Light pollution is wasteful, annoying, and places an unnecessary strain on the planets much needed non-renewable resources. The night sky and the beauty it holds are important education resources and need to be protected. The United States has made great strides to reduce air pollution, trash pollution, and water pollution; it is time to face the issue of light pollution, and it is time to solve the problem.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

- Create national standards for exterior lighting that will reduce light pollution. Incorporate the standards into the National Electric Code so new construction projects will reduce the amount of new light pollution.
- Create incentives for businesses to reduce electricity usage that is directly related to wasteful night time artificial lighting (including fines for wasteful and unnecessary lighting)

Proposal No. 0214

Name: Daniel Torres
Delegation: Mid Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The United States should withdraw from The United Nations.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States' involvement in the United Nations is an unconstitutional and unlawful engagement which disfranchises citizens at their own expense. U.S. taxpayers pay 22% of the U.N. budget, that was \$650,693,000 in 2010.

As leader of the free world, The United States should not be involved in the affairs of dictatorial regimes. Of the 192 members of the U.N., only 85 of them are fully free democracies, contradicting its own morality, and allowing corruption to proliferate.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Withdrawal from the U.N. is not provided by The United Nations Charter, however, The United States will take the necessary legal steps to do so.

Proposal No. 0215

Name: Suhaa Dada
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Tax on video games with violent content

JUSTIFICATION:

In 2011 alone, an estimated 1,203,564 violent crimes occurred in America. A 2001 study proved that playing video games with violent content increased the likelihood of anti-social behavior and also resulted in a temporary increase in aggression. In 2008, the video game industry earned \$11.8 billion dollars, of which approximately 98% came from sales to 12-17 year olds. During the same year, half of the best selling video games included violent content. In 2006, a study conducted at the Indiana University School of Medicine, participants who played a first-person shooting game registered an increase in their amygdala during a brain scan. Amygdala stimulates emotion and decreases the reactions of the prefrontal lobe whose role in the human body is to regulate inhibition, self-control and concentration.

Violent and often gory content in video games makes kids and teenagers immune to the danger and risks of violence in real, daily life. The purpose of this proposal is to increase awareness of the impact of overexposure to video games that violent content has on society and in our communities. While some believe that playing violent video games substitutes for violent behavior in human interactions, the violence seen on video games have immunized people to risks and severity of real life brutality. Adding a tax on video games with violent content would force people to pause before purchasing a game and realize how this exposure could potentially harm the mental health of kids and teenagers. The video game industry is extremely profitable and any decrease in sales from the tax would perhaps force the industry to shift its production towards non-violent content. And the nation would benefit from the increased tax revenue, which could be used to benefit the victims of violent crimes.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The federal government of the United States of America would enforce a tax effective on all video games that confirm violence in their content description.

Proposal No. 0301

Name: Willy Clements
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Topic of concern: Elimination of Tax-exempt status for Religious Institutions

JUSTIFICATION:

Whereas: the government of the United States should show no favor towards any religion or all religions because of the constitut

Whereas: while a good deal of what religious institutions do with their funding is charity work (which would be exempt from taxation under the normal tax code), many religious institutions own businesses and properties that go tax exempt .

Whereas: many churches are using their tax exempt income and financial wherewithal for political purposes

Whereas: allowing the tax code to apply to religious institutions would generate 71 billion dollars annually and help eliminate the federal deficit

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A law shall be passed through the United States Congress and approved by the President removing the 501 (C) (3) tax exemption status for religious institutions, allowing the normal tax code to apply to them.

Proposal No. 0302

Name: Camille Holzman
Delegation: SDSC/Palomar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To raise awareness about the dangers of human trafficking.

JUSTIFICATION:

This bill must pass because human trafficking is a major issue in today's America. 940 thousand American children currently on the streets will be pulled into the industry, and according to the National Runaway Switchboard over a third of all runaway children becoming prostitutes within 48 hours of running away from home. Girls often become prostitutes between 12 and 14. California, Florida, New York, and Massachusetts are a few of the American states in which modern slavery is most exploited. According to forthesakeofone.org, between 14.5 and 17.5 thousand people are smuggled across America's borders yearly.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

During a yearly assembly at Middle and High Schools, either the head of the local task force responsible for Sex Crimes or a certified anti-trafficking agency will be contacted to come and speak on both how to prevent and how to escape from human slavery. This policy shall be left to the Board of Education responsible for its delegated state to fund and enforce.

Proposal No. 0303

Name: Nadia Kim
Delegation: Verdugo Hills

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To increase the estate tax of deceased persons if assets exceed \$10 million.

JUSTIFICATION:

Nowadays, the rich are getting richer as the majority struggle to keep behind since most Americans are no longer sharing in economic recovery or growth. According to the New York Times, a staggering 93 percent of additional income created in 2010, went to the top 1 percent of taxpayers. The top 0.01 percent alone, a miniscule collection of about 15,000 households with average incomes of \$23.8 million, received 37 percent of these earnings and raised incomes by 21.5 percent. In 2010, the population of American households with \$10 million or more in investible assets surged 17%. According to the Federal Reserve, there are only 517,000 deca-millionaires. Roughly 90% are self-made, having received little or no inheritance and having made all of their money indepmillion in Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), just 409 taxpayers were age 35. Nearly five-times that many taxpayers (1,923) over age 65 reported income more than \$10 million in 2009, aggrandizing the estate tax now more than ever. Today, the wealthiest one percent owns 35 percent of all U.S. wealth and income inequality is steadily growing as wages have not kept up with workers' increased output. An increase in the estate tax is intended to discourage income disparity, freeing up wealth dynamic in the upper class to offer more opportunities to the rest of Americans.

The estate tax is reserved only for society's wealthiest elite and is best characterized as a tax on very large inheritances by a small group of wealthy heirs. In 2009, just 0.25 percent of all estates were expected to owe any estate tax at all. It affects a very small portion of American society, about 4,000 people under the current policy. Ironically, although this tax won't affect the American majority, it has the capacity to generate substantial revenue. According to the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center, raising the estate tax even by 10 percent could produce more than \$250 billion in added revenue over the next ten years. By raising revenue for the government that protects the country's business activities, the estate tax can create capital and enable net worth to increase. Though many believe the tax unfairly punishes success, it affects only those most able to pay, and the funds it raises help support a range of programs benefiting the nation. In order to provide more opportunities for all Americans, a great portion of revenue raised from this tax increase will be allocated to each state's education system. Census data clearly denotes a strong relationship between incomes and education. As people's income rises, so too does the likelihood they have a college degree or higher, as indicated by statistics stating that 91 percent of millionaires are college educated. Thus, by providing more funds to the states' individual educational systems, the estate tax increase will significantly support people of all economic levels to discourage income disparity and to provide a means to success.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass legislation increasing the federal estate tax with a \$10 million exemption. This money will be allocated among the states based on population percentages for the specific purpose to fund each state's education system.

Proposal No. 0304

Name: Taryn Maister
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Gun Regulation Through Required Background Checks

JUSTIFICATION:

As of now, the government only regulates guns that are new and being sold for the first time; a background check is required. However, a loophole is present where used guns being sold for two or more times do not require regulation and could be sold to anyone. In California, the law states that for any gun to be sold, no matter how old, and transferred to a new owner, there must be a background check and it must be regulated through a government background check. To order a background check, a person must pay a certain amount of money to the government. Thus, with the mandatory background checks that will be administered for any gun purchases and the money will be used to bring back up the economy. This would ultimately help regulate the gun use in this country and the government will know at all times how many guns are in circulation. As a consequence, if a gun is not certified and regulated through the government as required, the gun will be seen as property of the previous owner and any illegal actions committed using said gun will result in consequences for both parties.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal government of the United States of America will enforce a policy for the states in the Union to make mandatory regulation laws for guns through background checks and strict consequences.

Proposal No. 0305

Name: Tommy Wenk
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Mandating circumcision for new born children.

JUSTIFICATION:

Circumcision has been around for thousands of years for the simple fact that it is healthy and safe. Neonatal circumcision is the most frequently performed surgery in the United States. The removal of foreskin has numerous health benefits. Circumcision almost completely eradicates the chance of contracting penile cancer. It cuts the chance of transmitting and contracting HPV and HIV in half. There are a few disadvantages, as with all things, but the pros outweigh the cons. Decreasing one's sexual pleasure is not much to sacrifice for a procedure that saves lives. The 1st amendment in our Bill of Rights states that we have a freedom of religion. Some religions are against circumcision, so to accommodate them, there will be a form administered by the Department of Health and Human Services that one must complete prior to birth to negate the circumcision.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Effective July 1st 2013, neonatal circumcision will become a mandatory operation conducted by trained surgeons in all United States hospitals.

Proposal No. 0306

Name: Jack Groves
Delegation: Culver-Palms

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To increase the budget for federal college grants through cuts to the bloated budget for defense.

JUSTIFICATION:

In the FY (fiscal year) of 2011, The United States spent 3.6 trillion dollars. According to numbers given by the taxpayer receipt on www.whitehouse.gov, 24.9% of the overall budget was given to national defense (896.4 billion dollars). This category "national defense" is divided into five subcategories, the two most expensive ones being called "ongoing operations, equipment, and supplies" and "research, development, weapons, and construction". 10.3% (370.8 billion dollars) went to funding of the first stated category (ongoing operations, equipment, and supplies) while 7.9% (284.4 billion dollars) went to funding of the second stated category (research, development, weapons, and construction), chewing up a total of 655.2 billion dollars.

In that same FY2011, only .04% (1.44 billion dollars) of that 3.6 trillion dollar budget went towards "student financial aid distributed grants go to students who would otherwise be unable to pay for college. Studentaid.ed.gov states that federal student aid is offered primarily to students with a parent killed in either the Iraq or Afghanistan wars, "permanent resident aliens" abilities estimates that approximately 545,000 children were with intellectual disabilities in 2011. Also in 2011 (dhs.gov says), 80,311 children were established as legal permanent residents, and taps.org released that 4,790 children lost a parent in Iraq or Afghanistan. This totals to 630,101 students who would be eligible for federal grants, and with a mere 1.44 billion dollar fund, only 2,285 dollars could be possibly allotted to each student, which is nowhere near enough money for many of these students who would otherwise rarely receive a scholarship.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Proposal No. 0307

Name: Donia Shirazi
Delegation: SRV/Fuerza Unida

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The illegalization of cigarettes.

JUSTIFICATION:

Smoking cigarettes is the practice of burning tobacco and other chemicals and inhaling the resulting smoke. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cigarettes cause more deaths than cocaine, AIDS, alcohol, heroin, fire, auto accidents, suicide and homicides combined. That is nearly 443,000 deaths every year in the United States alone. These deaths could be prevented if smoking cigarettes was made illegal. Smoking should be made illegal because it is far more lethal than most drugs and to make matters worse is easily accessible. It causes an extreme dependency, which in most cases is permanent.

Smoking cigarettes should be made illegal because it is deadly. It has been proven to cause cancer and numerous other life threatening diseases. Not only does smoking ruin the health of the smoker, it also harms people who do not smoke. Second hand smoke, also known as environmental tobacco smoke, has been proven to be just as deadly because it contains the same dangerous chemicals the smoker is inhaling. Second hand smoke also causes asthma attacks in people who suffer from asthma. If cigarettes were made illegal we could save thousands of lives every year. Making cigarettes illegal would not only protect thousands of people but would also reduce medical costs. Smoking doesn't help anyone with other obstacles in their life; instead it creates more. The dangers, harm, as well as the medical and societal costs of cigarettes far outweigh the potential benefit of cigarettes as a stress-reducer.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass legislation mandating the illegalization of cigarettes.

Proposal No. 0308

Name: Charlie Wyman
Delegation: Westside Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

I would like to propose the national legalization of self-driving cars.

JUSTIFICATION:

The legalization of self-driving cars must be legal because they will make driving more efficient and make driving much safer by demolishing distracted driving and human flaws. Self-Driving cars can make driving more efficient. The average commuter spends 250 hours behind the wheel every year. This will also increase the productivity of drivers making them able to complete personal tasks while on the road. For example reading, work, legally able to talk on the phone. Although the efficiency will make a big impact the safety will make save millions of lives. Car crashes are currently the number one cause of death for Americans ages 4-34. Without human error these cars will avoid crashes at all times. This could potentially save Americans 300 billion dollars a year on car repairs. Google sent out a prototype of their self-driving car and it returned with impressive results. During its practice run, in the first 300,000 miles Google reported that there was not a single accident. Due to some persuasion and lobbying Google got California to enact laws legalizing self-driving cars. This California law easily passed through the State Legislation having it pass 37-0 in the senate and 74-2 in the assembly. Some people may argue that this would make it too easy for car makers and individuals to modify cars to self-drive without the necessary careful protections built in by companies like Google. This could be a reasonable concern but if self-driving cars were to be nationally legal the technical specifications would have to be exactly precise.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass the national legalization of self-driving cars to make communities around the world more efficient and safe.

Proposal No. 0309

Name: Jason Bern
Delegation: Conejo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Resolving the Syrian civil war and helping the nation rebuild.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States of America has long served as a beacon to the rest of the world in its model of government and society. As a republic founded on moderate principles, America was unique and dynamic for beginning a system in which all voices were heard while all individuals' rights were preserved. Though of course there were obvious and unfortunate exceptions to this, the U.S. exemplified a progressive model. During the height of the Cold War, the U.S. preached the spread of the values it has upheld domestically, on a global scale. However, with the use of covert CIA and military operations backed by powerful defense, oil, and manufacturing corporate lobbies, the U.S. ultimately fell prey to hypocrisy against its own ideals.

Today, the Syrian people face a situation in which, for one year to-date, its dictator Bashar al-Assad, and his authoritarian government, have prolonged a civil war that has resulted in thousands of deaths, injuries, tortures, rapes, and so forth. As of yet, the U.S. and its allies have only marginally assisted; however, people continue to suffer. It is not for a powerful nation such as the U.S. to follow suit with its allies and remain complacent. Rather, it is for this country to fight tyranny where it inflicts suffering to fellow human beings, and to help establish reasonable, peaceable governments in the stead of dictatorships, WITHOUT corporate or military prerogative. Such is our sacred duty as free human beings claiming to have a proper conscience.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

There are three (3) aspects to this proposal:

- (a) ELIMINATING CURRENT DICTATORSHIP: The CIA, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and President shall enact a special ops mission with the goal of seizing Assad and his top officials, and bringing them before the International Criminal Court for trial.
- (b) ELECTIONS: The U.S. will work with the leaders of all major political groups in Syria, marginalizing all anti-democratic/republican groups, promoting all democratic/republican groups, and facilitating their victory in free and open elections.
- (c) HUMANITARIAN AID: The abovementioned officials will initially transfer \$500,000,000.00 to assist the affected civilians of Syria, with the help of UNICEF, American Red Cross, Doctors Without Borders, etc. Only if democratic/republican groups are elected in the elections will the U.S. continue sending aid.

Proposal No. 0310

Name: Louise Judd
Delegation: SRV/Valle Lobo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Banning of petting zoos to stop the spread of hazards diseases.

JUSTIFICATION:

Petting zoos today have become a hazardous ground for the spread of E. Coli, Salmonella, Campylobacter, Giardia (Beaver Fever), Cryptosporidium and Yersinia. These diseases are most detrimental to children, pregnant women, older people and people with weak immune systems. They are carried by animals and can be spread through feces, saliva, the milking of an animal and water. Animals that are kept in petting zoos often have these diseases and can easily spread them to children and other animals. Children often do not know how to act with animals and often touch their feces, or put their hands in the animal's mouths. Most petting zoos do not present sanitation dispensers or hand washing stations which make the likely hood of contriving a disease much higher.

In Raleigh, NC 108 people were diagnosed with E. coli O157:H7. The cause of it was linked back to the animals at the state fair in the petting zoo. Between 1996 and 2010, it was documented that 150 infectious disease outbreaks caused by human-animal interactions at venues like petting zoos, animal exhibitions, and circuses. Many people have been hospitalized and even killed due to these dangerous disease carried by these animals in petting zoos.

Petting zoos are not only dangerous to the children being exposed but are also hazardous to the animals as well. These animals are forced to be in small cages and touched by small children who often don't know how to treat animals. The animals often have to share cages with other animals, often not even their own species. Theses harmful diseases can be spread easily from animal to animal through water or food. Often, petting zoos do not keep their animals up to date with the most recent vaccinations causing the animal to be susceptible to the disease. Sometimes animals do not show signs of having the disease making it hard to treat.

Petting zoos can lead to the spread of hazardous diseases that could potentially hurt or kill humans and animals.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All petting zoos that do not have current vaccinations on file for all animals and up-to-date sanitation systems will be closed. As well, a waiver must be signed by all participants in the petting zoo to inform them on the possible dangers of interacting with the animals.

Proposal No. 0311

Name: Evelyn Enciso
Delegation: Berkeley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Initiating a system in which one card works for all types of public transportation companies.

JUSTIFICATION:

Initiating a system in which one card works for all types of public transportation companies. This should take action because in the American Public Transportation Association it's been proven that every dollar communities invest in public transportation generates approximately \$4 in economic returns. Every \$1 billion invested in public transportation supports and creates 36,000 jobs. Every \$10 million in capital investment in public transportation yields \$30 million in increased business sales, providing economic opportunities. 35 million times each weekday, people board public transportation. From 1995 through 2011, public transportation ridership increased by 34%—a growth rate higher than the 17% increase in U.S. population and higher than the 22% growth in the use of the nation's highways over the same period. Public transportation is a \$56 billion industry that employs nearly 400,000 people. More than 7,300 organizations provide public transportation in the United States which is clearly an immense and incredible way for people to get around in their daily lives. Whether one who takes public transportation as a choice or because they can't afford a car they should have the option to get around with one card, they would have enough time to get on their bus or train on time. The card is refillable, the tariff prices would remain the same as current public transportation systems; youth students, and disabled would continue to pay less. The one time purchase of the reusable card would be no more than five dollars. Americans living in areas served by public transportation save 796 million hours in travel time and 303 million gallons of fuel annually in congestion reduction alone. Without public transportation, congestion costs would have been an additional \$17 billion. Public transportation's overall effects save the United States 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline annually. Households near public transit drive an average of 4,400 fewer miles than households with no access to public transit. This equates to an individual household reduction of 223 gallons per year. Households that use public transportation and live with one less car can save on average \$9,000 every year. A single commuter switching his or her commute to public transportation can reduce a household's carbon emissions by 10% and up to 30% if he or she eliminates a second car. When compared to other household actions that limit CO₂, taking public transportation can be 10 times greater in reducing this harmful greenhouse gas. Helping not only the lower class but our environment and planet as well. On a national job trip, or traveling to a state where the card saves time and the environment by through commuting, rather than getting a taxi or buying. Not only does it benefit a person on time-wise, but companies such as Bart wouldn't print as much one time use tickets and waste as much paper or plastic.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

This card needs to be created it will save money annually, increase jobs, convenience of time making all commuters lives easier, and help global warming. People travel every day and need to move around fast.

The top 8% of refineries that make the most income would pay for the sensor machines

that'd be installed in all public transpiration systems. Prices of machines would not exceed 70\$.

The opportunity of public transportation will always cross people's minds and if given an option every time they open their wallet to see this card they will consider that option more and increase public transportation.

Proposal No. 0312

Name: Magdalena Rutherford
Delegation: Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Adjusting the start time of public schools to a later start.

JUSTIFICATION:

Lack of sleep, or sleep deprivation, has a detrimental impact on the health and learning of high school students. A major cause of sleep deprivation among high school students is early school start times.

Having later start times result in students being more attentive and thus performing better academically. Waking up early makes it difficult to focus causing lower comprehension, which impacts grades severely. With later start times, teachers would also note an improvement in attitude and problem solving ability. A study done by Dr. Amy Wolfson, a clinical psychologist who specializes in adolescent sleep cycles, shows that students with an early start time are four times more likely to be tardy and receive lower grades.

Another reason for adolescents to get more sleep is that sleep also affects one's health. More sleep can help you to better manage stress and eat healthier. According to an article in the Washington Post, "failing to get enough sleep or sleeping at odd hours back on stress levels improving their health."

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass a law reducing funding to states which do not enact laws mandating a start time of 8:30am or later for secondary schools.

Proposal No. 0313

Name: Danielle Merrihew
Delegation: SPPY/Palos Verdes

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

JUSTIFICATION:

A major problem facing America today is the excessive use of polystyrene (also known as foam) products. Polystyrene presents major health problems to humans and animals, and is one of our earth's leading pollutants. Recognized as a possible human carcinogen by both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), styrene (the monomer with which polystyrene is produced) is a health hazard to humans. Additionally, littered foam products often end up in the ocean or other environments in which wildlife resides; unfortunately, many animals mistake it for food and try to eat it, which ends up clogging their digestive tracts and/or causing them to choke to death. Polystyrene is also a threat to the environment. It is recognized as the fifth largest creator of hazardous waste, and the process of producing it releases 57 chemical byproducts into the atmosphere. More than 2.3 million tons of polystyrene end up in American landfills each year, almost half of which comes from food service packaging. However, since polystyrene is 95% air, one can imagine how massive in volume that waste must be.

There are several feasible alternatives to foam products. For example products such as paper-board, corn-products, aluminum, bioplastics, and mushroom products are either recyclable or biodegradable. The difference in cost per container between the cheapest available polystyrene product and the cheapest available eco-friendly product is only between 0.3 and 3 cents.

More than 100 cities across the nation have completely banned the use of foam products already, including many Californian cities such as Santa Monica and Berkeley, because of its negative effects on both the environment and human health.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All restaurants and food courts nation wide will make the transition to alternative eco-friendly service packaging materials by January 1, 2015.

Proposal No. 0314

Name: Nicholas Forino
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Simultaneously eliminate inefficient federal funding on NASA while stimulating space exploration and space industry efficiency through privatization and competition.

JUSTIFICATION:

It's impossible to state that we owe absolutely nothing to NASA. Over the years they've been in existence they've been responsible for creating products like Velcro, satellite tv, gps, and many other everyday objects we take for granted. Additionally, their technological feats such as the Apollo Project have propelled them to be the face of the US space exploration program, providing Americans with pride and a passion for the final frontier. But things change, as all do in time. NASA has become the least optimal means to achieve what it initially endeavored in. Since 1958, their funding handling strategies and research efficiency has slowly dwindled to become a parody of their former selves. We cannot be sentimental about an agency and simply keep them because they provided us a monolith of space exploration passions. The importance of NASA's goals and intentions today (being space exploration and travel) outweigh their importance, their initial goals of counteracting the Russian space program when they were conceived have been accomplished and are now irrelevant, NASA is now unable to perform properly in our modern times. Due to this, NASA has become a money sink and obstacle for our recovering economy, we are wasting our money and not getting the optimal results! Take the recent Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) mission for example. The mission was a success and we are now back on the Martian surface, which is great news. However, the means of getting to this point were atrociously executed. The MSL cost the federal government \$2.5 billion, which was \$1 billion over budget. Furthermore, the actual launching of the mission was delayed by two years.

Private companies like SpaceX and Virgin Galactic are stepping up and showing that they have what it takes to usher in the next era of the space industry: privatization. The recent successes of the SpaceX Dragon capsule restocking the ISS have shown that these private companies are capable of what NASA does, and doing it for a substantially lower cost. The competition between these private companies is what drives them to increase the efficiency of their missions, this drive is a quality desperately needed in our space industry.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Dissolve NASA as an agency and privatize the space industry. Award the federal funds that would normally be given to NASA to private companies who have the most efficient and effective space exploration business models and methods.

Proposal No. 0315

Name: Negin Karrari
Delegation: Triunfo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To diminish ability for an elder of 75 years of age or older to have a driver's license without a checkup every 3 months.

JUSTIFICATION:

Persons over the age of 75 are as likely to be involved in a vehicular accident as much as teenagers. Thus, I want to mandate that persons over the age of 75 are prohibited from being able to drive a motor vehicle. This mandate will encourage the use and related growth of public transportation as well as spending on vital infrastructure to support that public transformation. Persons over the age of 75 may drive a motor vehicle if they pass their annual vision tests as well as driving proficiency exams. These exams are to be taken over again every 3 months so that the person is up to date with their health. It is said that the elderly are more likely to have a visual impairment, hearing impairment, movement impairment, cognitive/language impairment, seizure disorders, and more.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States DMV will revoke citizens about 75 of their license. In order to keep their license, they have to take an entirely new vision, hearing, and physical test. If they refuse, then their only way of getting transportation is by a public transit.

Proposal No. 0401

Name: Katy Edgington
Delegation: SRV/Valle Lobo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Revoke tax exemptions for churches and other religious establishments.

JUSTIFICATION:

Churches, temples, and other places of religious practice are currently exempt from all forms of taxation. When churches were first granted exemption from paying taxes in 1894, it was based on the rationale that the church relieved the government of some of its functions, and therefore deserved a benefit in return. Though churches still benefit their community, the relationship between church and community has changed over the last 119 years.

According to Section 501(c)(3) of the International Revenue Code, in order to claim exemption from taxes, churches and other religious establishments “May not be an action organization, i.e., it may not attempt to influence legislation as a substantialions of this clause may be cited in Roe vs Wade as well as campaign contributions to a large number of politicians over the years.

According to the Houston Chronicle, most pastors have a salary between \$80,000 and \$140,000 a year. Some pastors, however, make up to \$400,000 annually and these earnings are completely exempt from taxation because they are tied to the church. This can also similarly be said for leaders of almost every other religious establishment.

Properties that provide people with a place to practice religion do not have to pay property tax, even though they occupy space just as any apartment tenant or corporation does. The current justification to exempt religious establishments from taxation is that such establishments spend most of their money charitably, so taxing money that may benefit the community would be wrong, however, such charitable contributions by corporations are subject to tax write-offs. The same could be done for churches and other places of religious practice.

Imposing taxes on religious establishments has the potential to hugely benefit the economy as well as foster a sense of equality.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Impose property taxes and corporate taxes on religious establishments.

Proposal No. 0402

Name: Hallie Yee
Delegation: Salinas

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Replacing the lifetime ban on blood donations by gay men with a deferral of one month.

JUSTIFICATION:

As a friend of mine went to donate blood and sat answering questions that would determine her eligibility to donate, alarm at an emerging pattern crept over her. There were the usual health and travel-related questions: have you left the U.S. in the past twelve months; have you ever had Chagas disease. Then came a disproportionate number of questions relating to potential HIV infection. After several inquiries about needle use and contact with potential HIV carriers, she was asked: had she ever had sexual intercourse with a man who has had sexual intercourse with another man, even once? Well, no, not that she knew of. But then again, so what if she had? Should they turn her away on the spot? There is a great need for blood in the United States. Each year, 4.5 million Americans will need a blood transfusion. The American Association of Blood Banks (AABB) estimates that less than ten percent of the eligible donors donate blood each year. The great need for blood, coupled with the small pool of donors, has resulted in blood shortages that jeopardize the execution of medical procedures. The blood supply in the United States has reached a breaking point, and it is begging for new donors’new donors like the currently banned gay men. Imagine patients suffering when a simple solution exists.

Since 1983, the FDA guidelines have disqualified men who have ever had sex with another man from donating blood. The policy has been heavily criticized recently for misrepresenting 21st century scientific realities, and the American Red Cross and other organizations have called for an updated policy that reflects the realities of modern science and technology. For example, the American Red Cross has stated that the HIV screening process is currently 99% effective and accurate. The technology suggests that this blanket ban perpetuates a 30 year old bias, one that medical advancements have taken important strides to eliminate. As it stands, the possibility of HIV transmission by blood transfusion is significantly slim, with an estimated risk of one in two million transfusions. The fact that the U.S. upholds a ban on these donations while multiple other countries like Spain and Australia allow gay men to donate reveals a glaring discrepancy. However, the new technology can only detect the disease between ten and twenty-one days of contraction. Therefore, I propose that this lifetime ban be replaced with a more reasonable one month deferral. The new and improved tests make the blanket lifetime ban unnecessary, and replacing it with a one month deferral would pose little difference to the amount of transfusions tainted with HIV. Let the science speak louder than the stigma.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States Congress will pass legislation eliminating the Food and Drug Administration’s ban on blood donations by gay men, and instead replace it with a one month deferral period.

Proposal No. 0403

Name: Liliana Nguyen
Delegation: Central/SV

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Auctioning off the unincorporated and unorganized territories of the United States.

JUSTIFICATION:

According to the O.C.S. (Overseas Cost Summary), United States spends \$168 billion dollars each year on average on foreign countries. This includes: military assistance, food, emergency relief, etc. Of that \$168 billion, the United States is spending \$3.6 billion dollars on its territories- all 16 of them. It has been almost 100 years since the end of imperialism, and America is still behind. We live in a country where freedom is obtainable for all, yet we are one of the only nations who still own territories. In order to combat our current economic deficit as well as rid ourselves as the only country who still takes lessons from The White Man's Burden (Rudyard Kipling, 1899), we should allow these countries to be able to self-determine what becomes of them by auctioning them off and allowing them the right to purchase their own freedom. United States territories such as Guam, Puerto Rico and American Samoa have all demonstrated that they are capable of running their own country; each of their economies are capable of sustaining their people, not to mention they all have on average, \$15,000 GDP per capita according to the United State By allowing these countries to be auctioned off while under the sanction of the United States, we could not only grant these countries their divine right to freedom as John Locke once said and fix our current economic status. The indigenous people of these territories all have independent cultures and should have the right to express them, rather as opposed to hiding them under the United States rule.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Hold an auction to both public and private entities to sell the sixteen United States territories in an attempt to raise money and right if they can pay their respective territories cost according to the OCS within an allotted four year time period.

Proposal No. 0404

Name: Jocelyne Lopez
Delegation: Weingart Urban

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Putting a Stop to Military Rape.

JUSTIFICATION:

It's reported that about 19,000 rapes occur within the military each year (this includes Army, Marines, U.S. Navy, etc.). Shocking enough, only about 3,200 are actually reported (source according to Department of Defense). In 2011, less than 8% of those reported cases went to trial (source from The New York Daily News). That same year, a new legislation was introduced into congress known as the Sexual Assault Training and Oversight Prevention Act that was planned to help with the reports of sexual abuse. It was later added that senior commanders were to be put in charge of determining whether or not sexual assaults would be reported to the military courts. Unfortunately, that plan did not work. Since this act, sexual assault within the military has not dropped and is getting worse. There have been cases where the complaints and the rights of the rape victims have been ignored. Along with having to pay thousands of dollars for therapy and medical help, the victims eventually are diagnosed with depression, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Schizophrenia. This situation can only be fixed by putting the right people in charge and enforcing stronger penalties. Luckily, the resolution to this problem will not cost a dime.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Removal of all senior commanders from receiving reports to prevent tampering and interfering with reports. Complaints and reports would go straight to the military courts where the Department of Justice will take control of the situations. Along with being charged and convicted of sexual assault, criminals will be dishonorably discharged from their position, stripped of their titles, given a certain amount of years in federal prison, and any other penalties the court decides (i.e. community service, registering as a sexual predator, etc).

Proposal No. 0405

Name: Alexander Johnson
Delegation: SPPY/San Pedro

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Re-establishing the curriculum of K-12 public education.

JUSTIFICATION:

The standardization of public education has resulted in a shift away from creativity and curiosity toward complacent memorizations a year, all fifty states have administered over 50 million exams. However, evidence from the National Center for Education Statistics suggests that the national average for math and reading scores have flat-lined below proficient since 1970. In order to bonuses for higher scores. As a result, these schools and teachers have all but removed the time allotted in their courses for developing creativity, curiosity, and lifelong learning skills, including practical applications of the subject. The time is instead dedicated to having students memorize equations, rules, axioms, and methods to be later regurgitated onto bubble-in sheets.

If teachers don't begin to foster innovation and creativity in our schools today, there will be no innovation tomorrow. The economic implications of this fact are staggering, let alone any social or moral predicaments that are already beginning to arise as a result of a decline in problem solving skills in our scientific communities and governing bodies today.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Repeal NCLB and end R3T in an effort to minimize the number of standardized exams taken in public schools and direct funds toward programs that promote creativity, individuality, and innovation through education.

Proposal No. 0406

Name: Allyn Benintendi
Delegation: SFY/Stonestown

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To establish a high speed, sub-ocean railway between Shanghai, China, and Oakland, California to prevent the loss of shipping containers, protect marine ecosystems and improve US-China trade relations.

JUSTIFICATION:

American colonies were essentially established based on an ideal to improve trade connections with the East. Still, as an independent nation, America does not have an optimal system for maximizing efficient trade with the Far East. The distance between Shanghai and Oakland is 5412 Nautical miles, and on this trip an average of 10,000 freight containers are lost at sea; losing approximately \$20,000,000 dollars in shipping containers alone, (which does not account for the untraceable amount of dollars lost on the products themselves). Research shows that 10 percent of the shipping containers in the ocean contain industrial chemicals that are damaging to marine life. While freight containers are doubling in size, the issue of jeopardizing marine life becomes more pressing. Pollution from low emission shipping zones results in 60,000 deaths per year, and costs the US 330 billion dollars annually in health costs. If the new system were to model a railway created in China, the erection of such a system would cost 100 billion dollars. Based on the above figures, this project would pay for itself in one year. To implement a new system would not only support and improve trade relations between the US and China, but it would support new endeavors in trade for the future. The strength of US-China trade relations is based on four pillars that include:

- Advancing macroeconomic and structural policies to achieve sustainable and balanced growth;
- Promoting more resilient, open, and market-oriented financial systems;
- Strengthening trade and investment ties; and
- Strengthening the international financial architecture

The establishment of this railway system would provide sustenance for US-China economic policy goals, and would create a firm relationship between China and the US, which is imperative.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The US will allot 100 billion dollars toward the implementation of a high speed, sub-ocean railway between Shanghai, China and Oakland, California.

Proposal No. 0407

Name: Zach Reisenfeld
Delegation: El Dorado

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Elimination of printed receipts during sale transactions

JUSTIFICATION:

In today's digital age, paper receipts are becoming unnecessary to most people. In fact, 89% of people say that they would rather not get receipts after sales transactions. These are the same people who immediately throw the receipt away as soon as they get home or decline them after the receipt has already been printed. Research done by the company AllEtronic shows that in 2010, nearly 9 million trees were cut down to produce the 640,000 tons of paper needed to print all US receipts during that year. It takes nearly 390 gallons of oil to produce one ton of paper, resulting in nearly 250 million gallons of oil needed to create the paper for receipts. As well, producing one ton of paper receipts emits as much CO2 emissions as a car does driving for a year. That means the amount of CO2 emitted from producing paper receipts each year is equivalent to 640,000 cars driving for one year straight. It also takes approximately 19,000 gallons of water to produce a ton of paper. This means over 1.2 billion gallons of water are used annually during the production of paper receipts. Worst of all, for every ton of paper receipts produced, over 2,000 pounds of trash is produced. This means over 1.4 billion pounds of trash are being produced each year from the production of paper receipts and going straight into landfills. This just shows how many natural resources are going into a product that 89% of people don't think are necessary. The removal of paper receipts will not only save the precious natural resources but also help to improve the environment in this country.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will ban the printing of receipts during any sales transaction, unless requested by the customer. The law will be enforced by the Department of Commerce.

Proposal No. 0408

Name: Kathryn Hartwig
Delegation: SRV/Vista Diablo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Federal ban of the selling of sweetened drinks to persons under the age of 18.

JUSTIFICATION:

The rate of child obesity in America has tripled in the past 30 years. The percentage of obese children ages 6-18 has grown from 7% to 30% from 1980 to 2010. There are 300,000 deaths each year associated with unhealthy diets. One of the major causes in obesity is the consumption of sweetened beverages.

Soft drink/sweeten beverage consumption more than doubled in kids from 1977 to 2000. Obesity roughly doubled in the same time. Scientists say these parallel trends are one criterion for proving cause-and-effect. Numerous studies link sweetened drink consumption with weight gain and obesity. One conducted with 548 Massachusetts school-children suggested that for each additional sweet drink consumed per day, the odds of obesity increased 60%.

Sweetened drinks are defined as the following, beverages which sweetness have been artificially or naturally enhanced with saccharin, aspartame, glucose, or fructose. Purchased in cans, bottles or served from a tap.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal government will ban the selling of sugary drinks to any and all children and young adults under the age of 18.

Proposal No. 0409

Name: Billy Flanagan
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Topic of Concern: \$.15 charge on water at restaurants.

JUSTIFICATION:

Justification : There must be a tax on water at restaurants. How ever, there must be a drinking fountain at least 20 ft in proximity. There is a water drought and an economic drought. Clean water does not come by easy. It cost a lot of money to purify water. To give out water to people for free is too generous, when other countries do not have clean water. The only way to get out of this economic downfall is essentially tax the untag able. Tax what is used most for the better of the country.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Action to be taken: All tax dollars would go to DWP and the government and purifying water around the world.

Proposal No. 0410

Name: Estefany Rodriguez
Delegation: Southeast Rio Vista

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Limit scholarship providers and founder's power over eligibility.

JUSTIFICATION:

Nationally, only 70 percent of U.S. students graduate on time with a diploma. For Hispanic and African-American students, the percentage drops to about half. Students most affected by the restrictions on scholarships mainly live in low-income communities and homes. In these communities, undocumented students make up about 8 percent of the student population. These students are being overlooked and are treated unjustly.. Almost 50 percent of African-Americans, Latino/a and Native Americans in public schools fail to graduate; more than 1 million drop out of high school yearly. The number of students who earned scholarships, dropped 35 percent in the years 2011-2012. Making effortless switches to scholarships eligibility can create a huge impact on immigrant minority group around the nation, mainly children. . "Let's give them dreams. Let's give them the tools, things necessary to see they become the future leaders of this community," said Jose Diaz, secretary for H.A.C.C. (Hispanic-American Citizens Council). In 2012, Senate Democrats re-introduced legislation that would offer citizenship to many illegal immigrants who came to the United States as children. The DREAM Act, was intended to create a path to citizenship for some undocumented immigrants who have completed two years of college or military service and who came to the United States before the age of 15 only, however, this act failed to pass the Senate in December of 2011.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The U.S will enact a policy requiring that all scholarship providers in the U.S. must revise their eligibility rules and remove all statements excluding undocumented students from applying. Those providers and/or founders who don't revise their eligibility rules will be fined \$10,000 and the money will be given back to schools that need funds to update textbook and acquire needed software.

Proposal No. 0411

Name: Alejandro Flores
Delegation: Weingart East Los Angeles

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Decreasing abortion rates.

JUSTIFICATION:

Abortion is wrong and is the act of killing an innocent unborn baby. Statistics show that nearly half of pregnancies in the U.S. are unintended and 22% of them end in abortion. 50% of those women that obtain abortions are younger than 25. These percentages should be less, especially for the 50% of women that are younger than 25. About 25% of the women that obtain abortions do it because they feel unready and feel the lack of responsibility to take care of a child. Having an abortion can cause serious physical complication such as bleeding, hemorrhage, laceration of the cervix, menstrual disturbance, inflammation of the reproductive organs, bladder or bowel perforation, serious infection, permanent infertility and possibly death. Not only does abortion cause physical harm but it can also cause psychological pain. One of the pains being the Post-Abortion Syndrome (PAS). The Post-Abortion Syndrome can make women experience drug and alcohol abuse, personal relationship disorders, sexual dysfunction, repeated abortions, communications difficulties, damaged self-esteem, and even attempt suicide.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To educate young females the dangers and consequences of becoming pregnant as early as middle school.

Proposal No. 0412

Name: Sylvie Wilk
Delegation: Berkeley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Legalizing Prostitution in Brothels

JUSTIFICATION:

70% of female inmates in American prisons were initially arrested for prostitution, and it is estimated that 80,000 arrests pertaining to prostitution are made each year in the U.S. alone. This costs American taxpayers around 200 million dollars each year. through legalizing prostitution we could solve the problem of overcrowded prisons while saving the American people money.

The average sex worker began this profession between the ages of 12 and 13 years old. These people can't be held accountable for being forced into a job that they had no intention of getting into. For the majority of them they know no other life and sex work is the only work that they can find. Legalizing prostitution would make their lives safer and much more bearable. Without the legalization of prostitution, it is as if we are punishing these sexworkers for decisions that they had no part in choosing. Some of the horrors that sex workers face daily include: being raped by pimps or strangers - a reported 8-10 times annually - and being brutally beaten by pimps an estimated 58 times per year

Over 1 million people in the US have reportedly worked as prostitutes, it happens even while being illegal. Regulating it would not dramatically increase the occurrence of prostitution but simply make it a safer transaction between the sex worker and their client.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The brothels will be heavily inspected to ensure that all health regulations are being followed and that the prostitutes are being regularly tested and are STD free. The brothel managers must be certified (know health standards, first aid, and emergency CPR). The brothels will pay taxes on revenue, above and beyond standard business taxes, and the proceeds will be given to public high schools or middle schools that provide sex education classes to their students.

Proposal No. 0413

Name: Danielle Bell
Delegation: Verdugo Hills

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The Creation of a Federal Carbon Emissions Tax.

JUSTIFICATION:

It is an irrefutable fact that our global climate is changing rapidly, and the consequences of climate change are proving to have serious consequences. The Intergovernmental Panel on Global Climate Change (IPCC) acknowledges, “the range of published evidence indicates that the net damage costs of climate change are likely to be significant and to increase over time.” The IPCC predicts a temperature rise in 2.5 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit over the course of the next century. These climbing temperatures have severe. While climate change is the result of many factors, greenhouse gas emissions have exacerbated the issue to a level that can no longer be ignored. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), “greenhouse gas emissions totaled 6,4 to wasteful carbon emissions.

This proposal is to institute a carbon price of a fixed amount per ton of CO₂ emitted by major industrial businesses. The revenue raised from this tax would be divided as follows: 50% allocated to reducing the national deficit, 30% allocated to the formation of government programs to help companies adjust to the tax (shrinking to 0% over the course of 10 years), and 20% allocated to green energy research (increasing to 50% over the course of 10 years). This tax would be beneficial in that it would discourage unnecessary CO₂ emissions, raise revenues, and aid in reducing major businesses dependency on carbon while encouraging the implementation of more efficient methods of producing energy.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal government of the United States of America will pass legislation implementing a tax on carbon emissions per weight.

Proposal No. 0414

Name: Zachery Sloan
Delegation: Desert Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal will strip the Marriage License of all power and instead place all rights into a state recognized Civil Union.

JUSTIFICATION:

Currently, Marriage Licenses offer a plethora of rights that cannot be obtained in any other way. Because of this, certain minorities are barred from the rights granted by marriage licenses. Couples who have a civil union will not have any of the protections or responsibilities federal law provides to married couples. These include social security survivors’ and spousal benefits, federal veterans’ spousal benefits, immigration rights associated with marriage, federal spousal employment benefits, the right to file joint federal tax returns, exemptions from income tax on your partner’s health benefits, the federal exemption from inheritance tax, and many other federal protections which are denied same-sex couples whether legally joined in a civil union or a civil marriage. The granting of rights to certain individuals and not others can easily be prevented. With the introduction of a more powerful Civil Union that grants all state and federally recognized rights, no group of people would be denied rights.

Marriage in itself contains a very religious connotation in that most marriages are held within a church. Many churches forbid the marriage of same-sex couples thereby stripping them of their rights. The idea of marriage will still exist in that the decision to have an actual ceremony is up to the couple. In the Catholic religion, one must go through several sacraments throughout their life time with marriage being one. Others include Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, etc. however no other sacrament grants state and federally recognized rights. Marriage is one of the most honorable and traditional core values in the United States, however the other six sacraments are only practiced based on belief.

In 2012, a same-sex couple, who shall remain anonymous for privacy reasons, underwent a tragedy. One of the men in the couple was caught in a hit and run and died three days later in the hospital. His partner was not allowed in the hospital to visit him because they were not a state or federally recognized couple, therefore there was no proof as to whether his partner really was his partner. A Marriage License would have avoided the argument, however they are not available to same-sex couples whereas Civil Unions are. This would not infringe on the rights of the church as the decision to ban same-sex marriage is an option. Getting married will no longer grant any federally recognized rights. Only Civil Unions will grant rights and they will be available to all couples of any gender. One must obtain a Civil Union in order to be granted federally recognized rights even if the couple was married. Civil Unions can be obtained today only much weaker and federally funded establishments already exist in which a Civil Union can be obtained.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All rights granted by the possession of a Marriage License will be relocated into the possession of a Civil Union. The Federal Government and each state will recognize and grant rights that are entailed by having a Civil Union. Churches will still wed only couples of their individual beliefs.

Proposal No. 0415

Name: Liz Larsen
Delegation: Desert Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Eliminating the Electoral College and replacing it with popular vote.

JUSTIFICATION:

In the recent past, we have had a president that has won in the Electoral College, yet did not win the popular vote. Redistricting done within any given state is controlled by the more powerful party at the time and only exacerbates the problem. The current primary system forces candidates to placate the most extreme other party. This forces candidates to go to the far right or far left instead of the center. As the country becomes more polarized, the system does not lend itself to moderation, but exacerbates the issue. Instead, if the system was replaced with a popular vote the candidates would be forced to the center from the beginning, thus mitigating some of the gridlock in our government today. Our current system views compromise as a negative thing instead of a positive one.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add a constitutional amendment eliminating the Electoral College and replacing it with a popular vote.

Proposal No. 0501

Name: Lena Gavenas
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for the immediate lifting of the Cuban trade embargo and the normalization of diplomatic relations.

JUSTIFICATION:

America restricts nearly all travel, trade, aid, commerce, remittances, communication, etc. between itself and Cuba. The embargo was put in place in October 1960, after Cuba nationalized the properties of United States citizens and corporations, with the stated purpose of maintaining sanctions on Cuba so long as the Cuban government continues to refuse to move toward democratization and greater respect for human rights. This was done in the context of the cold war with the Soviet Union, which had established an ally in Cuba just 90 miles from US soil. The U.S. had hoped to suffocate the Cuban economy and thereby undermine Castro's communist regime, but it has been more than half a century and Cuba's government still stands.

Not only was the original intention never achieved, but also the restrictions are a burden on both the people of Cuba and the U.S. economy. The people of Cuba are denied access to our affordable agricultural exports and many advancements in medicine/sanitation, as well as other American exports. A report by the American Journal of Public Health in 1997 reported that the embargo has resulted in a shortage of medical supplies and soap, which has resulted in a series of medical crises and heightened levels of infectious diseases. This stifling of trade also hurts American businesses. The U.S. International Trade Commission estimates that America loses up to 1.2 billion dollars annually from the embargo alone. If the embargo were lifted, American business would boom, namely: agriculture. One instance where this is proven is the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement act of 2000, in which the Clinton administration relaxed a few selected restrictions on trade, allowing selective, cash-only, agricultural and medical exports to Cuba. The result, according to the Cato institute, was that profit from Cuban trade jumped from virtually zero to \$380 million by 2004.

The United Nations General Assembly has voted 20 times between 1992 and 2011 to condemn the embargo, with only the US and Israel voting in opposition. No other country has an embargo against Cuba, and nearly every country in the world has diplomatic relations with them. Fully embracing trade and normalizing diplomatic relations with Cuba would open the doors to the democratization of the country, the free exchange of ideas across our border, and to the relief of Cuban and American economic distress. This proposal aims close the gap between the U.S. and our neighbor who resides just miles from our southern tip.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

This proposal lifts the Cuban trade embargo, along with other legislation regarding restrictions on travel, trade, remittances, communications, etc, and moves to establish a U.S. embassy in Cuba and allow for a Cuban embassy to be established on American soil.

Proposal No. 0502

Name: Jackson Bartlett
Delegation: El Camino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

A re-evaluation of mental health services in our health care system.

JUSTIFICATION:

In lieu of recent shootings, coupled with a long standing stigma, a shadowy grasp is cast upon on the true nature of mental illness and its prevalence in today's society. We need to better address this issue. I do not believe that guns are the issue, they are protected in our Constitutional rights and should not be taken away. Guns don't kill people, people with guns kill people. It is the proponent and the proponent's actions that need correction, not the tool employed to carry out their intentions. The true root of the issue here is that our way of life has led to a skyrocketing population of mentally ill people. According to nimh.nih.gov, 1 in 4 Americans over the age of 18 suffer from some form of mental illness, translating to approximately 57.7 million Americans in total, 45% of whom are afflicted by 2 or more disorders. We have too many write-offs and dead-ends in terms t on this issue, and the frustratingly minuscule amount of treatment available for a young boy with a host of mental issues. The primary suggestion offered to his mother was to give him a criminal record so he could get adequate treatment, as she could not get the assistance necessary. Incarceration has statistically proven to have massive detriment on an already fragile mental state, and has shown throughout history to serve the opposite of its true purpose, making those incarcerated more likely to turn to crime after their sentence rather than serving as a âœœcorrectional institution. This is abhorrent and wrong, yet those in the direst need get the least help and are turned away most often.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We need to revise our health care legislation to better include services for the mentally ill, and provide better treatments and more readily available diagnoses and therapies, and do whatever is necessary to meet this prevalent need. This can be accomplished by fixing some wasteful practices currently in effect. According to en.allexperts.com the average cost of keeping a terminally ill or clinically dead patient in the ICU with standard equipment ranges around \$27,000 per day, not including the charges from physicians when they visit the patient. This figure can cap out at around \$40,000 on a day with extensive testing and visits from specialists. A fraction of this cost is subsidized by families, but ultimately the bulk of that figure falls upon the taxpayer. That figure comes out in the millions, millions of taxpayer dollars poured into terminally ill patients suffering from vitriolic, often excruciating, and ultimately fatal diseases. In some cases, patients are clinically dead, but are not removed from life support without family consent, often spanning days or even weeks. The duration of those clinically deceased or with a 0% chance of survival should be permitted 1 day on life support in order for their family and friends to give their farewells. Albeiconsider this; is it not doing more harm to let a patient afflicted by End-Stage Liver Failure, one of the most excruciating diseases known to man, be subjected to physical agony 24 hours a day? Those millions of dollars saved by implementing this practice could instead be allocated to therapy, personal aides, clinics, centers, and medication for mentally ill patients. When we address a demographic with a desperate need for help, we must sacrifice to gain, and ultimately the benefits we reap from this will allude to a more prosperous and progressive society.

Proposal No. 0503

Name: William Tamura
Delegation: Diablo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Topic of Concern- Ending Israel's occupation of Palestine

JUSTIFICATION:

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict which has maintained its course throughout the 20th and 21st centuries has been a long and complicated battle over land. Before World War I, Palestine was under control of the Ottoman Empire for nearly 400 years. Near the end of the 19th century Palestine was inhabited predominantly by Arab Muslims while Jews at this time lived predominantly in eastern and central Europe. The roots of the present day conflict can be traced back to this time period when the rise of Zionism came about. The Zionist movement, started by Theodor Herzl, called for the establishment of a nation state for the Jewish people in Palestine and claimed that they had ancestral roots to the land dating back 3000 years. The Jews began to have an increasing presence within Palestine and Arab groups living there began to feel threatened. During World War I, the Ottoman Empire joined the Central Powers which led both the Arab and Jewish populations to align themselves with the Triple Entente, consisting of the U.K., France and Russia, in the hopes of being released from the Ottoman Empire. With the Ottoman Empire falling apart in the midst of World War I, France and Britain created the Sykes-Picot Agreement in 1916 which gave the British present day Jordan, Israel and the West Bank and southern Iraq while France received south-eastern Turkey, northern Iraq, Syria and Lebanon. In 1917, Arthur Balfour released the Balfour Declaration which proposed to âœœfavour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, but that nothing should be done to prejudice the civil and religious rights of the existing non-Jewish commuontrol until the end of the British mandate in 1948. Between 1919 and 1926, 90,000 Jewish immigrants arrived in Palestine which garnered much protest from the Arab population because they saw the massive influx of Jews as a threat to their national identity. Arabs began to riot against the mass immigration of Jews in their homeland.

After World War II, the United Nations put forth a plan to partition Palestine which would be comprised of a Jewish state with a majority Jewish population, an Arab state with a majority Arab population and an International Zone that included Jerusalem. The plan gave 5,700 square miles of land to the Jewish state even though they only made up 33% of the entire population of Palestine while the non-Jewish population received 4,300 square miles and made up 67% of the population. On May 15th, 1948, once the British mandate had expired, a full scale war erupted when Israel declared its independence. During this first Israeli-Arab war, Israel captured parts of Palestine that were designated for Arab groups in the UN partition plan which remain a part of present day Israel today. In 1967 another war erupted, the Six Day War, which resulted in Israel's capturing of the West Bank, Gaza, Golan Heights and the Sinai Peninsula. The United Nations issued Resolution 242 that called for the âœœWithdrawal of Israel armed py and colonize the West Bank, and has a sea, land and air blockade on Gaza. Israel has violated both human rights and international law and for that it must end its occupation of the Palestinian territories.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

If Israel does not end its occupation of Palestinian territory, the United States will cut off all funding to Israel, roughly \$3 billion a year. Israel depends greatly on this funding and the United States cutting this money would send a clear message to Israel that it must end its occupation of the Palestinian territories.

Proposal No. 0504

Name: Thor Sigurdsson
Delegation: SDSC/Magdalena Ecke

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Making it a law that driver's must have a sticker on their car saying that they are a learning driver for the first 12 months of their permit/license

JUSTIFICATION:

New driver's must have sticker's letting other driver's know that they are learning because, it will make it safer for the learner's and the other driver's on the road. This sticker would be given to the person after they have completed their permit test at the DMV. By having these stickers, learning drivers will be tolerated by other driver's. The driver's will know that these people are learning, and should drive more cautiously near them. This law is already in place in many countries in Europe including England, Ireland, and Scotland. This sticker will help prevent frustration from other driver's. Many new driver's in America get honked at for driving too slow, or put in dangerous circumstances by other more experienced driver's. If the sticker's were in place, then the experienced driver's would understand why the driver in front of them might be driving a little slow.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States Government would provide the manufacturing of the sticker's for the DMV. This sticker would be given to the person after they have completed their permit test at the DMV. The driver's will be required to keep the sticker on their car for the first 12 months of their driving careers. For those who fail to keep their sticker on for the allotted time will be fined \$100.

Proposal No. 0505

Name: Emily Fong
Delegation: Diablo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To permanently remove IRS Tax Exemptions for institutions or organizations found to have committed or advocated any sort of crime or protected and housed any person who is convicted of anything more severe than a misdemeanor.

JUSTIFICATION:

Justice is a principle which in its purest form is scarce. To remedy this, we as a nation have constructed a legal doctrine to promote peace and civility and to punish those who threaten the wellbeing of other citizens. Even though corporations are now people, religious institutions and other organizations are free from the blame of, say, covering up a pedophilia scandal or using hate speech to promote violent agendas. Up to 10% of Catholic priests were discovered to be pedophiles. If the number is truly that high, then how come the government is not allowed to take action regarding the safety of its citizens? This is not a matter of separation of church and state, this is a matter of justice.

In these harsh economic times, allowing corrupt organizations to be tax exempt is simply irresponsible. New York City alone loses \$627 million in potential revenue from tax exempt churches. Money that would otherwise be used for government regulation and spending is lost to these organizations, like the Westboro Baptist Church.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Religious institutions and nonprofit organizations will have their tax exempt status revoked and taxed an income tax depending on revenue with a base rate of 10%, with the severity of the crime determining the rate paid. Also, a subsidiary of the Department of Justice, which works with the IRS, will be formed to regulate such events. The department will be initiated with a federal grant and fueled later by taxes gained from the program.

Proposal No. 0506

Name: Catherine Rippetoe
Delegation: Kings County

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Non profit Mental Health Clinics

JUSTIFICATION:

Mental health is a growing and ignored part of society. Countless teenagers struggle with depression, anxiety, OCD, and more but there are no places for them to seek help at. There are times when minors need professional help with mental illnesses and the only way to find that is with their parents. More than 70% of all teens don't obtain the mental health services they need and roughly half of all lifetime mental health disorders start during teen years. Types of professional help are often very expensive, which puts them unattainable for most. This proposal will create non profit mental health clinics in each community for psychological counseling and psychiatric recommendation. By having this open to all ages, people who are suffering from a mental illness can't find the help they need. There will be professional psychologists and psychiatrists available. The psychiatrists may recommend medical assistance to something, but that would have to be with parent consent, while speaking to a psychologist will be free and confidential. The money for these clinics will come from a tax on larger pharmaceutical companies.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A tax should be put on these pharmaceutical companies to fund the clinics and agreements can be made to supply the doctors, perhaps offering them financial assistance with loans for their schooling and giving them an opportunity for more experience. These clinics should be a requirement in every county to ensure that they are accessible to everyone.

Proposal No. 0507

Name: Nasreen Nabizadeh
Delegation: SDSC/South Bay Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal states that accessible public gymnasiums will be built depending on the quantity of people in one area because of the increase of obesity and other nationwide issues.

JUSTIFICATION:

In today's society, obesity is one major problem America is dealing with. According to the Center for Disease Control and prevention website, more than one-third of U.S. adults (35.7%) are obese. Obesity-related conditions include heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and certain types of cancer, some of the leading causes of preventable death. In 2008, medical costs associated with obesity were estimated at \$147 billion; the medical costs for people who are obese were \$1,429 higher than those of normal weight. I propose that depending on the population a public gym should be constructed. Each state will be required to provide a public gymnasium for every 700,000 state residents.

This proposal will give the opportunity to all citizens to exercise and live healthier happy lives. Public gyms will be funded like public schools and be accessible to all. The initial cost of building public gyms may be costly but in the long run the health benefits on society and the decrease of health and obesity related medical costs would save taxpayers money. We have public schools available to our citizens we should have gyms too. This will help our nation improve its ever increasing obesity epidemic.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add a constitutional amendment requiring each state to have accessible public gymnasiums (1;700,000 residents). Gyms construction, operation and maintenance costs would be paid with state funds. It will be set up like the public school system with the goal to decrease obesity and other health related problems.

Proposal No. 0508

Name: Lucas Fitzpatrick
Delegation: SPPY/San Pedro

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Federal Welfare Fraud

JUSTIFICATION:

In 2011 the US spent 1.03 TRILLION dollars on welfare in 83 programs. This makes welfare the biggest non-military expenditure. Approaching welfare from the ground up is complicated and ineffective. If we attack welfare from the outside with an experimental welfare fraud program we may get the results we need.

The Department of Welfare Fraud will consist of branch offices located in urban areas where Welfare recipients are concentrated. The branch would consist of Early Fraud investigators to carry out investigations. The program will be a five-year test program to see if the results justify the expenses. If the program proves successful, it will remain in operation under the Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will allocate \$1 Billion of total welfare spending, (0.1%) to an experimental Department of Welfare Fraud for five years, renewed annually.

Proposal No. 0509

Name: Sarah Trefler
Delegation: Culver-Palms

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Eliminating SAT: Reasoning Test (SAT) scores and American College Testing (ACT) scores as an admittance requirement for freshmen in public American universities.

JUSTIFICATION:

The SAT: Reasoning Test and the ACT are both standardized tests issued, and often required, for college admissions in the in the meant to test one's intelligence. It was originally intended to give underprivileged high school students an unbiased opportunistic status. The ACT exam, introduced in 1959 as a challenger to the College Board's SAT exam, held the same purpose as the SAT: to give all students a fair chance to be accepted into, as well as attend, universities of their choice. Shortly after American Universities began making the SAT and ACT exams a mandatory admissions requirement, the original goals and purposes of the standardized tests quickly vanished. Those who are wealthy enough to afford test prep classes, private tutors, and multiple retakes of the exams have an undeniable advantage over those who cannot afford these benefits. The exams also do not necessarily test critical thinking as much as one's ability to merely take a test. Studies have shown that there is a very weak correlation between SAT and ACT scores and the GPA of college freshmen. Lastly, the time pressure of the exams creates a stressful environment, especially for students who have anxiety issues; timed exams also create an incentive for students to learn tricks and short-cuts, as opposed to insightful and traditional strategies, in order to acquire correct answers on the tests. Admittance into American universities should be based on a student's academic achievement in high school, letters of recommendation, application essays, and possibly subject exams that test a student's expertise within a specific field of study; admittance should not be based upon scores on standardized tests that do not determine a student's success in college or beyond. Some may argue that these standardized tests can be used to narrow acceptance decisions and create an easier and more efficient admittance process. However, the decision to admit a student into college should be a thoughtful one based upon criteria unrelated to SAT or ACT scores.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States Federal Government will directly provide funding for public American universities that eliminate SAT: Reasoning Test (SAT) and American College Testing (ACT) scores as an admittance requirement for freshmen.

Proposal No. 0510

Name: Tailar Johnson
Delegation: SRV/Valle Lobo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Mental health of registered gun owners and those who live at the same residence, who have access to the weapon.

JUSTIFICATION:

Due to recent displays of aggregation involving firearms, our society has been forced to revisit the topic of buying and owning guns. In a number of public gun-related violence incidences, we have learned that the gunman involved had displayed signs of mental illness prior to committing the violent act. Gun statistics have analyzed 61 shooting cases that have occurred during last 30 years. 80% of the shooters in the 61 cases had legally acquired the weapon involved (motherjones.com). At least 38 of the gunmen had showed signs of mental illnesses, including paranoid schizophrenia to suicidal depression, prior to the killings. In the Sandy Hook mass shooting, the gunman Adam Lanza, who was mentally unstable, gained access to his mother's weapons. If the gunman had not had access to these weapons, then there would have been the possibility that the incident would not have occurred. People who are interested in obtaining or renewing a gun license, and those living at the gun owner's residence should have to undergo a psychological exam to ensure their mental stability. If the gun owner or their resident were not mentally stable than the request to obtain or renew the gun license would be denied. This improved gun registration process would hopefully reduce the amount of gun-related violence in the hands of the mentally unstable.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All those interested in obtaining or renewing a gun license, and those who live at the same residence, over the age of 15, will have to undergo a psychological exam to ensure their mental stability. The gun owner's request to obtain or renew their gun license will be denied if the psychological state of the gun owner or resident is in question.

Proposal No. 0511

Name: Kevin LoGrande
Delegation: SPPY/San Pedro

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Enlistment of the Unemployed

JUSTIFICATION:

Of the approximate 8% of people unemployed in the U.S., approximately 6% have been for 3 years or more. That means that 9.15 million people have remained without jobs for the last 3 years. To fix this problem, the government COULD do any of the following: 1) cut taxes, 2) subsidize business investment, 3) increase government spending, or 4) increase exports. All of these solutions would increase Gross Domestic Product and cause firms to hire more labor. Unfortunately, none of these solutions will be enacted in a large enough amount under these stringent economic times.

What I propose is this; enact a law that forces those who have been unemployed for 3 years or more to enlist in the U.S. National Guard and serve for 3 years. Not only will this drastically reduce the unemployment, it will also give much-needed troops to the National Guard. The training requirements are minimal, and it will give them the necessary tools (i.e. discipline, motivation, job experience) for them to succeed in the future.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass legislation mandating a three-year service in the National Guard for those who qualify and have been unemployed for three years or more. The Department of Labor will regulate and enforce these laws.

Proposal No. 0512

Name: Christopher Soffer
Delegation: Westside Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Engineering and manipulating the human genome should be legalized and practiced across the nation.

JUSTIFICATION:

The world as we know it is a world with a vast number of imperfections. Engineering and manipulating the human genome could and would rid the world of a great deal of those problems. If this practice was legalized it would open a field of research that would change America, but the world, aesthetically, medically and physically. As of now there are about 400,000 human embryos in the freezers of in vitro fertilization clinics. Many will thaw and thus die. The parents of these embryos could allow them to die, or they could donate the embryos for research that would benefit patients with incurable diseases. In similar experiments that are legal, scientists have cloned transgenic pigs that produce high levels of omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids - essential fatty acids found in fish oil that have been linked to potential human health benefits. According to the thorough online report in Nature Biotechnology, pork from these pigs could provide an alternative dietary source of omega-3 fatty acids.

The advances made in genetic engineering are now exponential. Imagine what could be done if we used our technology to better the human genome. A new world would be created where probability of disease like cancer would be so small that it would almost be unheard of. The pros outweigh the cons. But the cons must be understood and regulated. If engineering and manipulating the human genome were practiced, then there would be a possibility of eugenics (the science of improving a human population by controlled breeding to increase the occurrence of desirable heritable characteristics). Not only would there be a possibility of eugenics, but there would be suppression of non genetically modified humans and a larger separation between those who could afford genetic modification and those who couldn't. Our nation has had a history eugenics. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes in the 1927 Supreme Court case, *Buck v. Bell*, said that "Three generations of imbeciles is enough," thus leading to the sterilization of 60,000 people.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The goal of engineering humans is not eugenics, but rather to rid the world of unnecessary suffering, unnecessary disease and tens of millions unnecessary deaths. We must open this field of research.

Proposal No. 0513

Name: Sarah Mosley
Delegation: Hilltop

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

I am proposing to implement a national carbon emission cap-and-trade system modeled after the one in place in California.

JUSTIFICATION:

In November of 2012, California passed AB32, the name of our state's new carbon cap-and-trade system. It was the end result of our state's effort to produce CO2 at 1990 levels by cutting 17% of all carbon emissions in the state over the course of 7 years. It is expected to reach its goal in 2020, by capping carbon emissions by 2-3% per year.

Firms and businesses will obtain tradable permits, which there is a limited number of, for each ton of carbon or house gas they emit. As the cap tightens every year, firms will be forced to obtain more permits in order to produce goods and emit greenhouse gas at the same rate they were the previous year. If firms are not able to do this, which is likely for the majority of them, they will be forced to operate more efficiently and emit less greenhouse gases. This bill will not only create an incentive for firms to cut down on their negative externalities, but it will be presented in a way that is less direct and therefore less controversial. In order to make a difference now, we need to pass legislation that will face these problems but also be agreeable. The cap and trade system in place in California has been passed and has the potential to be successful. The U.S. produces 16% of all carbon emissions. The level of CO2 has increased by 41% since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. As a nation, the U.S. can follow California's example and face climate change head on, at the one of the main sources of its cause, the industry. In the wise words of Mary Nichols, chairman of the California Air Resources Board (CARB), which is overseeing the cap-and-trade system, "California is a big economy, and it is very diverse, like the U.S. as a whole. If it can work in California, it can

*An economic policy instrument under which rights to discharge pollution or exploit resources can be exchanged through either a free or a controlled-permit market.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will enact a national carbon emission cap-and-trade system.

Proposal No. 0514

Name: Alex Cox
Delegation: Crenshaw

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

JUSTIFICATION:

Graffiti has a negative impact on the community. Graffiti is unattractive and makes communities look bad. Graffiti can be seen in places such as: billboards, alleys, sidewalks, buildings and even on people's property. Graffiti destroys other people's property without their permission. Graffiti gives the neighborhood a bad image and creates a negative outlook on the inhabitants in the community. People don't want to move into communities that have a graffiti presence. Graffiti also attracts violence and crime.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Through a government initiative, with grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, communities should create a more controlled environment. By creating arenas, such as graffiti parks, in the urban areas to encourage artistic expression and serve as an outlet to youth who want to graffiti. This way they would not destroy other people's property, or deface the communities. This would help contribute to lower crime as well as create a stronger sense of pride in the community.

Proposal No. 0515

Name: Gardenia Zamacona
Delegation: Santa Ana

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The accuracy in counting the homeless population during any type of census (city, state, national, etc.) and encouraging the decrease in said population.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States Census Bureau reported online that the method used to count individuals lacking a steady home was send a worker to homeless shelters and other such areas and count the people present. This excludes those who were turned away due to an institution being at full capacity, those who were not present at the moment, and those who live in areas that lack a lock shelter. It is vital that the Census takes count of each and every citizen because the information on the population gathered is used for varies things, including but not limited to: redistricting areas in the state, assigning the number of representatives per state for the House of Representatives, distributing the 180 billion dollars of funds the government gives to each state, etc. According to a report from the Department of Urban Housing and Development, in 2011 there was an estimated 636,017 homeless individuals. Over half of these individuals were in families and 1 out of every 5 homeless families was unsheltered. Their more recent report shows a decrease in homeless individuals and a spike in homeless families. The National Coalition for the Homeless did a study on 50 cities and found that in virtually every city, the number of homeless individuals exceeded the amount of shelter available. Shaun Donovan, secretary of the Department of Urban Housing and Development, has reported that although there have been gradual drops in the percentage of homeless individuals, “every number in this estimate is a person, a family or a veteran living in our shelters or even on our streets. It’s exactly why we have to redouble our efforts to find real and lasting solutions

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

This proposal mandates that any and all homeless* individuals shall be counted and identified with an irremovable ear tag**. This ear tag will have a 10-digit number and a bar code that will be used to keep track of the individual in any type of census. The ear tag may only be removed in the case that the individual is no longer homeless by proving that they now have a stable home and/or job. This would be carried out by the Department of Urban Housing and Development. 10% of the funds already utilized to address homelessness shall be used to fund this project, approximately one hundred and twenty million dollars. This project would continue until the homeless rate reaches 1%.

*In this case, an individual is identified as homeless when he/she has had no stable home and/or job for more than three continuous months. This does not include individuals in Permanent Supportive Housing or those involved in a Transitional Housing Program.

**In the case of unaccompanied minors, they will be immediately taken to a shelter such as an orphanage and no ear tag will be issued.

Proposal No. 0601

Name: Isaac Harris
Delegation: Culver-Palms

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To create a national referendum process on ballot initiatives proposed by the President of the United States.

JUSTIFICATION:

Since the birth of this nation, citizens have had a voice in national government through the processes of a representative democnd administration. Today, this representative body has met only with gridlock, inefficiency and corruption. With a congressional approval rating of 18%, it’s time to question whether the job is being fulfilled. The solution lies in a national system of referendum where the people have a direct voice over legislation.

For most voters, a referendum on issues is not a foreign concept. Californians have the opportunity to vote directly on propositions every one to two years. These initiatives cover key policy questions of the day on topics from gay marriage to educational funding. Nationally, voters have been left out; the closest concept to a majority decision in recent times came after the 2012 presidential election, when President Obama tried to use the leverage of the popular vote in asserting that most voters wanted higher taxes on those earning over \$250,000 a year” and that didn’t even happen.

Under this proposal, the national referendum would be over ballot initiatives proposed by the President. As the elected leader and representative of the people, he or she would present legislation on five of the most important national concerns for direct popular vote. Passage would require a simple majority; no partisan stalemate, no influence from cash donors, no public reputations on the line. If the people will it, then it shall be; pure democracy.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The addition of a constitutional amendment creating the process of national referendum on the President’s ballot initiatives, with the following restrictions:

- The vote is to be held on Election Day (the first Tuesday of November) of each year.
- Initiatives must cover only one subject.
- The President can propose at maximum five pieces of legislation.
- All initiatives fall under the same Constitutional limits as bills in Congress.

Proposal No. 0602

Name: Weston Jackson
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Opening trade and diplomatic relations with Cuba.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Cuban embargo began in 1960 after Fidel Castro nationalized properties of United States citizens and corporations within Cuba. This embargo prevents American businesses from conducting trade with Cuban markets, restricts tourists from traveling to and from Cuba, and cuts off any type of diplomatic relations. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce estimates that the embargo costs the U.S. economy \$1.2 billion per year in lost sales and exports while the Cuban government loses are estimated around \$685 million annually. Although the embargo was started to hurt the economic power of the Cuban dictator Fidel Castro, Forbes Magazine still currently ranks Fidel Castro as richer than the President and the Queen of England.

Although a Gallup poll estimated that most Americans have unfavorable views of Fidel Castro (83% to 5%), most Americans are currently in favor of ending the embargo and opening up relations with Cuba (51% to 36%). Not only would ending the embargo make more money for US corporations, it would allow Cuba to prosper from tourism and other types of trade. This could potentially lift many Cubans out of poverty, lead the way to better diplomatic relations by ending the spirit of the Cold War, and help the Cuban government slowly embrace capitalism. The embargo policy in Cuba has failed as the current regime still remains in power indefinitely. In fact, Fidel Castro asserts that the American embargo has caused Cuba's poverty problems and he uses this excuse to continue repressing his people. For true progress to be made in Cuba, trade must be opened up so that the United States and Cuba can coexist peacefully.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States Congress will repeal the Cuban Democracy Act and the State Department will open relations with Cuba.

Proposal No. 0603

Name: Raleigh Scharre
Delegation: Crescenta-Canada

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Tax Break for American Companies

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States has not had a trade surplus since 1975. As of January 2013, the national trade deficit stands at roughly \$800 billion. This huge US trade deficit leads to massive, unsustainable borrowing from other countries. Many issues arise pertaining to America's apparent reliance on foreign manufacturing. A huge issue is the outsourcing of American plants and jobs to foreign countries. Manufacturing employment collapsed from a high of 19.5 million workers in June 1979 to 11.5 workers in December 2009, a drop of 8 million workers over 30 years. Between August 2000 and February 2004, manufacturing jobs were lost for a stunning labor standards allow unsafe worker conditions and lack of environmental pollution controls in many countries cause grave damage to our environment. Foreign product safety standards are low, leaving Americans vulnerable to unsafe products. For example, poisonous levels of lead are in tens of millions of toys shipped to the USA every year.

This bill will lower the income tax by 6% for American companies that manufacture and assemble their products solely in America. Although lowering the income tax for American companies does indeed slightly reduce the tax money going to our government, in the broader picture of things it will stimulate our economy in other ways. The main goal of this bill is to encourage American manufacturing and the purchase of its products.

Consequently, the national trade deficit will be lowered and America's dependence on foreign countries will decrease. Additionally, increasing American manufacturing will help raise employment in America by creating more manufacturing jobs. A lower income tax rate for American companies will encourage companies to manufacture here, in the United States, rather than outsourcing work. Furthermore, by reducing the tax burden, it will enable these corporations to keep money here and benefit our citizens instead of going to other countries, making the United States more politically, financially, and militarily secure.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal Government of the United States of America would reduce the corporate income tax rate by 6% for businesses that manufacture and assemble their products in the United States.

Proposal No. 0604

Name: Cory Bowen
Delegation: Weingart Urban

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Sending gang members to the military as an alternative to prison.

JUSTIFICATION:

In U.S. prison the social system is divided into gangs. These gangs naturally divide gang members who come into these prisons. In prison inmates are subject to riots, ambushes, and anal rapes. The prison system in America has not been successful in reforming inmates, especially those of a gang affiliation. In 2007 Minnesota released a study showing a 61% prisoner return rate. What gang members need is reformation as oppose to prison rape. Gang members have already developed a sense of hostile territorial pride, what America must learn to do is channel this energy in order to create law abiding, patriotic citizens. The best way to prevent gang violence is to turn gang members away from delinquency and aggression and teach them respect and core American values and the best place to learn these values is not in prison, but in the military where they may or may not be deployed.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A unique subdivision of the military will be created. Judges will decide the psychological, physical, and mental conditions of the convict to see if he is eligible for military service. Convicts convicted of murder or excessively violent felonies will not be eligible for military service as an alternative to prison due to the fact some criminals of such a nature are often not able to be reformed.

Proposal No. 0605

Name: Blue LoLan
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Nutrition and physical education will be a combined class in schools.

JUSTIFICATION:

Whereas: America has the highest percentage of obese citizens out of any country, with an average life expectancy of 78 years as of 2011(highest being 90 years).

Whereas: Obesity causes many diseases such as heart disease, hypertension, metabolic syndrome, polycystic ovary syndrome, reproductive hormonal abnormalities, dyslipidemia, hypothyroidism, and many more. More than 80 percent of people with Type 2 diabetes are overweight.

Whereas: One in seven preschoolers in America is obese. Childhood obesity causes liver, lung, heart and musculoskeletal complications as well as psychological ones. Grade school is the prime time for development of children's brains.

Whereas: Health is not a required course in all schools, but physical education is.

Whereas: Studies from Loyola University Health System show that more importantly than physical activity, diet plays the main role in health with overwhelmingly higher health results when people are more attentive to their diet.

Whereas: 25% of Americans consume fast food every day. Kids between the ages of 6 and 14 eat fast food 157,000,000 times every month. Children often follow the footsteps of their parents, and with food getting more convenient (genetically modified, preservatives, fast food chains, etc.), children are now developing worse habits than their parents.

Whereas: People who make less than \$30,000 a year spend an average of \$127 on food per week.

Whereas: Since cost is a huge problem, especially when it comes to funding education, the nutritional aspect will be as simple as, but not limited to: a report on different bodily needs, students will watch a documentary, will be given texts in which they learn about proper nutrition and food combining and the effect it has on their bodies. It will also be as simple as writing down all the meals in a daily log, which raises awareness and gets people thinking about their health needs. This needs not cost anything more than time.

Whereas: This bill will allow children to get the proper education to eventually reduce the numbers of health related issues.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add a constitutional amendment implanting the new regime of physical education class and the new standards will be met in physical education courses.

Proposal No. 0606

Name: Deema Momani
Delegation: Conejo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Minors with tax paying jobs having the right to vote.

JUSTIFICATION:

hy tax paying minors should be able to vote. The government is taxing working minors but when it comes to voting during elections they are legally un-able to be granted the right. During the election of 2012 the voter turnout was 57.5%, down 4.8% since the election during 2008. Adding the percentage of teens that work, could potentially help raise the number of voting turnouts. Teens at the age of 16 are allowed to drive and be enlisted in the army at the age of 17, so why shouldn't they be able to vote? Many of the laws passed have an effect on teens, without the right to vote they are unable to express their thoughts and opinions of certain subject that directly affect them.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A constitutional amendment would be added by the United States, allowing minors with tax paying jobs the right to vote.

Proposal No. 0607

Name: Garrett Stallins
Delegation: Tri-Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Building combat robots for the military.

JUSTIFICATION:

America has a short, but very rich military history. In our brief existence, we have revolutionized warfare many times. From our ironclad navy in the Civil War to the development and deployment of the first atomic bomb, we have always been the reckless pioneers of modern warfare. Our most recent innovation was the addition of unmanned Drones to our air force. Now we can topple regimes and conquer cities with minimal risk for ourselves. I think we should take this concept one step further. It is time to renovate the oldest and most important military asset: infantry. I'm proposing a military project to design the first mechanical soldier.

A machine like this would have an endless list of applications: from assaulting fortified enemy positions to walking into burning buildings to pull out civilians. Injuries that would cripple a human soldier would be superficial to a mechanical one. Its arm got blown off? I'm pretty sure we have a spare in the back somewhere. And mechanical soldiers don't have families to mourn them if they are destroyed. Considering the pace of technology today, I would say this is an inevitable part of future militaries. We might as well get there first.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To make this happen the military will have to recruit minds from across the globe, particularly Germany and Japan. This process would be very similar to the Manhattan project.

Proposal No. 0608

Name: Arturo Gonzalez Gonzalez
Delegation: Wilmington

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Invalidate the existence of recreational hunting nationwide throughout the United States

JUSTIFICATION:

Over the years, we have become accustomed to the acceptance that Recreational Hunting is civilized entertainment. But how can we, as human beings, accept the practice of killing wild animals just for the excitement? As people from the 21st century we can differentiate acceptable from barbaric. We should entreat our government to implement a law to protect the lives of wild animals.

Many people ask, “Why should we stop this hunting?”, or “Don’t we need the proteins to survive?”. That is true but what the objective of this proposal is to ONLY end the recreational hunting in the United States. Recently a British study of deer hunting found that 11 percent of deer who had been killed by hunters died only after being shot two or more times and that some wounded deer suffered for more than 15 minutes before dying. This problem is significant. Since we are not doing anything positive with the animal’s body, why are we killing them? We are only cutting the lives of these animals for sport or decoration and causing them to stress out for their survival. Stress can also cause animals to bound onto roadways which endangers humans, abandon their young or become weak and succumb to parasites and disease which can also be spread to humans.

Today, we, the people, have the power to make a difference in government and actually save the precious lives of those animals that come to live life as nature intended, not as a sport for human entertainment.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To prohibit any type of license that will legalize the right to end the life of any non aquatic animals of any kind for recreational purposes in the United States.

Proposal No. 0609

Name: Claire Bilderback
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Cosmetic surgeries for people under the age of 18.

JUSTIFICATION:

It is no secret that teenagers in our generation are constantly dealing with the issue of low self-esteem. In a survey made by Dove’s Real Beauty campaign, it was reported that 70% of girls ages 8-17 in the United States feel they are not good enough or do not measure up in some way; they say that they are unhappy with the way they look and feel. Young people with low self-esteem issues “both male and female alike” deal with their problems a number of ways, but an all too common reaction to feelings of physical inadequacy is cosmetic surgery. The American Society of Plastic Surgeons stated in their most recent statistics that although the number of invasive surgeries (breast implants, liposuction) have gone down, the number of minimally invasive surgeries (subdermal implants, skin resurfacing) have gone way up. Over 200,000 people between the ages of 13-19 underwent plastic surgery, 35,000 had rhinoplasty (nose jobs), 8,700 had otoplasty (ear surgeries), 4,600 had breast reduction, and 28,000 had acne surgery. These numbers need fixing. Plastic surgeons have made a trap for people who opt into elective surgery. A large portion of plastic surgeries require retouching after the main procedure is finished, such as eyebrow lifts. These additional procedures add incurred debt upon families. As an established plastic surgeon makes up to \$4,000,000 a year, a reduction in follow-up surgeries should not adversely affect the financial advantages of the profession.

The money that is being spent on plastic surgery for teenagers is encouraging this behavior through pressures from peers and the media. We should be preventing this behavior by instilling self-confidence in our youth through positive self-awareness. A tax should be imposed on plastic surgery transactions in order to discourage these surgeries. This tax is not only meant to discourage cosmetic surgeries, but also to push towards a society with higher self-esteem.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Impose a tax of 15% on plastic surgery services rendered to people under the age of 18. The revenue made will go to National Institutes of Mental Health, to promote research in adolescent self-esteem.

Proposal No. 0610

Name: Rico Esqueda
Delegation: SPPY/San Pedro

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Topic of concern: Doctors prescribing harmful pharmaceutical drugs over good nutrition to cure health problems.

JUSTIFICATION:

Justification: Health is a very big issue in the U.S, Heart disease and cancer are the top two killers in the U.S. annually. Nutrition plays a big role in the function of the human body there are 24 nutrients that are needed to sustain a healthy body, but there are 100,000 chemical reactions in the body. Being deficient in one nutrient can cause many illnesses. 70-80% of medical patients that arrive in hospitals daily are there because they are improperly nourished. Not only do they feel ill, but the Doctor will prescribe a pharmaceutical drug that may cure one symptom. But the drug prescribed will cause a chain reaction of harmful effects on the body. All types pharmaceutical drugs cause damage to the liver. 106,000 people die each year due to adverse drug reactions. These people were not abusing the drugs, but were taking them under doctors supervision and as they were prescribed.

Less than 6% of physicians in the U.S. receive any formal training in nutrition. In the 1930's Dr. Max Garrison found that vitamins and large amounts of fresh vegetable juice's and organic foods would help reverse cancer and had a 51% success rate. Vitamin B3 has been proven to cure depression while given in high doses by Dr. Howard Norway with no side effects this means no suicidal thoughts and no harm to others. Doctors should result to healthier cures

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Require anyone who prescribes pharmaceutical drugs to have a degree in nutrition, or take nutritional training for a set number of hours.

Proposal No. 0611

Name: Rex Cohen
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Unemployment and Welfare

JUSTIFICATION:

America's welfare system is not cheap. Just one program, Medicaid, cost the federal government \$275 billion in 2010, which is slated to rise to \$451 billion by 2018. Counting state Medicaid expenditures, this one program cost taxpayers \$425 billion in 2010, soaring to \$800 billion by 2018. Under Obamacare, 85 million Americans will soon be on Medicaid, growing to nearly 100 million by 2021, Obama's budget projects spending \$75 billion on Food Stamps in 2011. The best estimate of the cost of the 185 federal means tested welfare programs for 2010 for the federal government alone is nearly \$700 billion, up a third since 2008, according to the Heritage Foundation. Counting state spending, total welfare spending for 2010 reached nearly \$900 billion, up nearly one-fourth since 2008 (24.3%).

These are truly horrifying statistics, this is not good for america. This, needs to stop now, before it is too late. There is a mantra that god helps those that help themselves, a mantra that needs reinforcing.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Cut unemployment checks by 35 cents each month that a person remains unemployed. Each month that a person is employed, the 35 cents will be added back into the persons potential unemployment check until it reaches the normal amount.

Proposal No. 0612

Name: Natalie Slinger
Delegation: SRV/Valle Lobo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The creation of an import tax on American flags produced in foreign countries.

JUSTIFICATION:

American flags, which are patriotic symbols of American values, are being produced in foreign countries and imported into America to be sold. According to the US Census Bureau, in 2011 \$3.6 million was spent on foreign-produced American flags for the Fourth of July, and \$3.3 million of those were produced in China alone. Creating an import tax on these foreign produced flags would encourage production in America because American-made flags would be cheaper than those made in foreign countries. This would promote industry and provide jobs for Americans.

The practice of producing these products in foreign countries undermines the patriotic values that they represent. These flags represent America, so what does it say about our country when we do not even produce them in the United States? We should be producing these symbols of American patriotism within the confines of our country, and this tax would encourage this practice.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

American flag products produced in foreign countries will be subject to an import tax when being sold within the United States of America.

Proposal No. 0613

Name: Hanna Trejo
Delegation: Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

More available recycling bins

JUSTIFICATION:

People should always have the option of using a recycling bin. If a person has a perfectly recyclable water bottle and has no recycling bin to put it in, what was the point of making that water bottle recyclable? Recycling needs to be made a habit for all Americans. However, it cannot be made a habit without recycling bins being made just as available as trash cans.

Recycling not only prevents materials from adding to our landfill and protects the environment, but it also has a very positive fiscal impact. In Los Angeles alone, recycling generates over \$600 million in sales and employment annually for the recycling industry, including collectors, processors, and manufacturers. Another \$600 million are generated from local reuse companies. That is \$1.2 billion annually. If you take these numbers from Los Angeles and expand them to a national level, the amount of revenue would be huge. The amount of revenue would far exceed the costs of this proposal.

Recycling should be made a habit. It's beneficial environmental and economic impacts are what make the availability of recycling bins so important.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass a law providing funds to states to install an equally sized recycling bin for every trash can in all public parks and areas.

Proposal No. 0614

Name: Melissa Can
Delegation: San Gabriel Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

All States Should the Gardasil Vaccination For All Eighth Graders

JUSTIFICATION:

All States should mandate the administration of all three stages of the Gardasil Vaccine to incoming male and female eighth grade students in order to prevent against various types of human papillomavirus (HPV) and cancer. For males this vaccination prevents against 90% of genital wart cases, and for females it prevents against 70% of vaginal cancer cases and 50% of vulvar cancer cases. Both sexes are to receive the complete vaccine, which consists of 3 injections over 6 months. Those who oppose the vaccine claim that because Gardasil prevents against a sexually transmitted disease that the governments shouldn't get involved in children's sexual lives, however as a nation we have moved past this once we mandated health classes in 5th, 7th, and 9th grades. Many parents feel that the administration of the vaccine is not needed for sexually active teenagers, however its long-term effects prevent against cancer. This vaccine will save the nation millions of dollars as fewer individuals are diagnosed with cancers that Gardasil can prevent.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Beginning in 2015, all states will add the Gardasil vaccine to the immunization records requiring physician signatures for children's entrance into schools. Health insurance plans must cover the cost of this vaccine as well, but for uninsured, eligible children, the Vaccines for Children program will help.

Proposal No. 0615

Name: Alec Kings
Delegation: SPPY/San Pedro

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Topic of Concern: To better identify sexual offenders

JUSTIFICATION:

Justification: Megan's Law is run by the Department of Justice and its sole purpose is to let the public become aware of registered sexual offenders. The website is named after the horrible tragedy of the 7 year old New Jersey girl Megan Kanka. Her family was unaware of a registered sexual offender living across the street from them, and sadly the girl was raped and killed. In the wake the Kanka's sought for every State to have some sort of sexual offender registry. There are roughly about 747,000 registered sexual offenders nationwide, which has risen about 140,000 new sexual offenders since 2006 when Congress enacted the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act(which imposed new requirements for state sex offender registries and created a national database incorporating information from those registries). The act also mandated three tiers to classify sexual offenders with tier III being the most severe sexual offenses and tier I being the least. By law 25% of registered sexual offenders are disclosed from the public but the remaining 75%(or 560,250 people) are put into these national databases for public use.

The problem is that these national databases are not up to date, and there needs to be more improvement for the public to use. That's why I propose to include the date of the most recent conviction in the description, as well as the date they were released from prison if they went. Doing this along with coloring the map would let the public be more aware of the kinds of sexual offenders around them and if they are actually dangerous or not.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Actions to be Taken: On every national sex offender website to color the dots of sexual offenders on the map based on the severity of the persons sexual offense (ex. tier 3=blue, tier 2=green, tier 1=yellow). To mandate to include the date for the most recent conviction and the date from which they were released from incarceration.

Proposal No. 0701

Name: Sarah Hinstorff
Delegation: Palo Alto Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Applying a national Value-Added Tax, VAT, to goods sold in America.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States requires drastic measures to combat its debt crisis. We must stop spending more than we are taking in. We can't delay addressing this problem any longer. Fortunately, there is an answer. To fix our monetary problem once and for all, the United States should enact a VAT, Value Added Tax, similar to that of countries such as members of the European Union, The United Kingdom, Australia, Japan, and Canada. The tax would generate revenue at each stage of the production process. This means that the tax not only applies to consumers, but to big businesses and manufacturers as well. At each stage of production, the tax is applied to the value added. The consumer will not see the clear tax, but will have to pay more for goods. With a VAT, the price of everything a consumer buys would already have a tax built into the price. For a shirt that costs \$10, the \$10 would already include the new tax. State and local sales taxes would be calculated upon the final transaction, as they are currently.

VAT rates will be modeled similarly to the European systems. England provides a clear example of the breakdown of taxed goods: a small VAT is applied to domestic gas and electricity/energy-saving materials and a full VAT to most other items. Books, newspapers, children's clothes, and most food items are exempt from the tax. The United States will begin with a Value-Added Tax rate similar to Canada and Japan's 5% or Australia's 10% and will include the same list of exempt goods as England's. Exported goods or services sold abroad would not be subject to the VAT. Goods and services imported to the US will be taxed to preserve equality between American and international manufacturers.

For a Value-Added Tax, everyone contributes because every citizen is a consumer. The tax utilizes the entire American population, expanding the tax base and broadening the focuses of tax revenues. According to Bloomberg news service, "a 10 percent VAT wided Tax will build a new type of revenue and avoid painful cuts in critical government services. The VAT is the fairest and surest way of putting the United States back in good economic standing.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will implement a Value-Added Tax, which will apply to the majority of goods and services sold within the country. Funds raised through the tax will be designated to repaying the nation's debt.

Proposal No. 0702

Name: Jose Sanchez
Delegation: SDSC/Mission Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To lower our dependency on deforestation by allowing the growing of products to compete with paper made from trees that are the reason behind deforestation. This Proposal will focus on allowing the use of hemp for paper in the United States.

JUSTIFICATION:

Deforestation will continue to be a problem unless we try to decrease our dependence on it. Allowing the monopolization of paper products to be only manufactured with trees will take a huge toll on the forests we take the trees from. According to "Facingthefuture.org" the net loss of the world's forests is estimated at 7.3 million hectares (18 million acres) per year.

Trees are made up of only 30% cellulose; the other 70% of the tree must be removed using toxic chemicals, until the cellulose can be formed into paper. The higher the percentage of cellulose in a plant, the better, because fewer chemicals need to be used and less work needs to be done before the paper can be made. Almost any plant in nature with a strong stalk is better suited to make paper than trees, especially hemp because it is made up of 85% cellulose.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To allow the growing of industrial hemp. Having the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) create a way to obtain a license to grow hemp. These will be hard to obtain and will require a large amount of background checks and a lot of paper work. Losing it will be easy; for example, having 3 different occasions of having THC levels over 0.5%. The goal of regulation is to prevent using the hemp in was other than industry and manufacturing. To make the dependency of deforestation come down companies that buy hemp paper will receive a tax break.

Proposal No. 0703

Name: Nicholas O'Brien
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls to make illegal the seizure of cellular devices in the American public school system in an effort to benefit school faculty members, students, and cellphone bill payers.

JUSTIFICATION:

Throughout the American public school system it is common for faculty members to strip students of their cellular devices in order to prevent distraction and cheating. Although a seizure of these cellphones is an effective way to mitigate such issues, new, problematic occurrences come with it.

It is an unnecessary hassle for school faculty to label, store, and manage confiscated cellphones, in addition to dealing with the acrimony of upset parents.

Although the purpose of a student's cellular device seems to revolve around the usage of social media applications, games, and unrequired communication, a significant sense of safety is lost when a student is deprived of his or her cellphone.

Cellphone companies continue to charge individuals for devices that have been confiscated by the public school system.

If passed, this proposal will make illegal the seizures of student-owned cellular devices by public school officials and bestow the responsibility of upholding this enforcement on local school boards. Officials on local school boards will provide a form that will read a student's right to disallow said seizures at the beginning of each school year.

Schools will be free to practice their own policies and regulations but will be required to avoid the confiscation of such cellular devices. Actions such as detention, suspension, and expulsion will be used in place of confiscations in order to reduce usage and distraction, while multiple versions of tests and temporarily put away cellphones will regulate cheating.

If school officials feel the need to confiscate a cellular device for reasons regarding the safety of others, then they must involve local police officials to obtain a warrant for the search and seizure of said cellular device.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The seizure of cellular devices will be outlawed in the American public school system, and local school board officials will be required to inform students of this enforcement each year.

Proposal No. 0704

Name: Mahwish Yazdani
Delegation: Northwest/SV

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The death penalty is inefficient and costly.

JUSTIFICATION:

Criminals that are sentenced to the death penalty have to wait anywhere from a month to an infinite amount of years to be sentenced to death, and even though it may not be of concern to the actual criminals it is most definitely a concern for all the citizens of America. One man by the name of Troy Davis was convicted of murder on August 19, 1989 he was not actually sentenced to death until September 21, 2011, twenty two years later. Troy Davis was in a secure facility for those 22 years where he was kept in isolation, he went to court over a dozen of times with numerous appeals to the court. Death penalty cases cost 3.6 million to the taxpayers per case, while keeping a prisoner in jail for life costs around 1.2 million. The amount of money it takes to sentence a person to death is more than to cost to keep them alive in prison for the rest of their life.

The death penalty has also been questioned to go against the 8th and 14th amendment. The 8th amendment which prevents cruel and unusual punishments states "Excessive bail shall not current conviction for the death penalty in America is by a lethal injection which is questioned weather to be a cruel and unusual punishment. In many cases involving the death penalty is told that the convicted person's 14th amendment right was not taken into consideration. This Amendment prohibits state and local governments from depriving persons of life, liberty, or property, without certain steps being taken to ensure fairness. In order to correct the current death penalty it should be taking out of the legal system and replaced with life long prison sentence while having to work, weather that is for the government in a safe facility or picking up trash. Hundreds of men and woman sentenced to the death penalty wait day in and day out to pay for the crimes they committed; the death penalty should be removed from our system, because it is a waste of money.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The State of California should change the current death penalty clause that states, "The punishment of execution, administered to someone convicted of a capital crime." and replace it with life in jail.

Proposal No. 0705

Name: Poppy Denyer
Delegation: Santa Monica

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for a change in the measuring systemâ€”from our Standard American system to the Universal Metric system.

JUSTIFICATION:

As of today, the United States is one of three countries that has not adopted the International System of Units, also known as the Metric System. Despite America's long history with SI units, measuring remains a long, complicated mystery in the United States. A football field is measured in yards while footraces prefer meters. Mechanics measure the power of an engine in horsepower while they measure the displacement of the engine in liters.

Our measuring status has held us back in terms of commerce, science, and trade. Throughout many years, companies and industries have recognized the tough competition rising against international interests. As globalization increased, foreign customers wanted, let alone required, that the United States' products be labeled in metric units. We have seen a small shiftâ€”about 30 percentâ€”in companies recognizing these issues and converting to the metric system; however, the progress has been slow.

In 1975, Gerald Ford and Congress passed the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 in order to coordinate and plan the increasing use legislation.

In addition, the metric system is easily divisible and convertible. The metric system avoids confusing dual-use of terms, such as the inch-pound systems' use of ounces to measure both weight and volume. In order to succeed, the American people will need to understand the metric system. The United States has merely been derailed by a lack of commitment. The U.S. has failed to restrict or prohibit the use of traditional units in areas touching the typical American citizen, such as construction, education, and trade. Converting to the metric system would eliminate myriad complexities of how our standard units work.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass a Congressional mandate requiring a national conversion as well as allowing metric-only labels on consumer goods. In addition, there shall be appropriated funding to schools that will be used for purposes such as including education in the metric system. The United States will be able to pay for this national alteration from the revenue of benefits or trade.

Proposal No. 0706

Name: Araseli Mendez
Delegation: Weingart East Los Angeles

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Replacing the Death Penalty with Life Imprisonment

JUSTIFICATION:

The Death Penalty is not necessary in our nation because it violates our right to life as stated in the US constitution. Capital punishment is irrevocable and once the damage is done its done. All judicial system decisions can make mistakes and as long as the death penalty continues to exist, innocent people will be executed. For instance Juan Melendez spent 17 years on Florida's Death Row for a crime he did not commit. In December 2001, his conviction was overturned because prosecutors at his original trial had withheld key evidence. Innocent people are often sentenced to death row. Since 1973, over 140 people have been released from death rows in 26 states because of innocence. Nationally, at least one person is exonerated for every 10 that are executed.

The death penalty is a waste of the people's money because it has no public safety benefit. It has been shown that it costs 10 times more money to kill a convict in death row than someone on a life sentence. For example, California and its death penalty, if it were to be replaced by life in prison without parole, the state would be saving \$170 million dollars annually. Many law enforcement professionals have agreed that capital punishment does not deter violent crime. Police chiefs nationwide found that the death penalty is lowest among many other ways to reduce violent crimes. Instead of giving our money to kill why not invest it into creating a better economy with more jobs or education. This will likely deter violent crime. The FBI has found the states with the death penalty have the highest murder rates.

Sources

<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/costs-death-penalty>

<http://www.aclu.org/capital-punishment/case-against-death-penalty>

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/death-penalty/numbers>

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add an amendment to replace the Death Penalty with Life in Prison.

Proposal No. 0707

Name: Josh Ooghe
Delegation: Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Lack of homeless shelters.

JUSTIFICATION:

Homelessness is a major problem in our cities. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, more than 1.5 million were homeless at some point last year. Of that 1.5 million 38% are chronically homeless and 66% have mental health and/or substance abuse problems. As many as 5,000 homeless people die each year due to lack of shelter. These people need help.

The homeless need medical assistance, food, and someone to care for them, but what they really need are more shelters. There are over 3,000 shelters in the US, but there are almost 650,000 people without a place to stay on any given night, which means that for every shelter, there 215 homeless people. If passed, this proposal will drastically increase the number of homeless shelters in large cities. In addition, the proposal will partially pay for itself, because giving people a place to stay will reduce health care costs.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass a law providing funding to cities with a population of over 300,000, to provide shelters for homeless people. Funding shall be sufficient to provide shelters at a ratio of 1 shelter for every 150 homeless persons in the city.

Proposal No. 0708

Name: Michyah Butler
Delegation: Crenshaw

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Teacher Evaluations by the Student Body

JUSTIFICATION:

Across the nation, there are many ineffective teachers. Nearly one third of high school students drop out each year because of the teacher's inability to productively explain the subject material. 56% of principals admit to inflating teacher ratings. 30% of principals say that the teacher's tenure would prevent the teacher from being dismissed regardless of the teacher rating. Due to poor teaching styles, students cannot fully comprehend the material that is being discussed. This leads to poor student performance with assignments, tests, projects and many times with their overall grade in the class. Many students become frustrated and discouraged and feel that some type of action needs to be taken. Often times, students do want to learn the subject material, but feel the teacher is the main reason that they are unable to understand what is being taught.

This problem can span the academic career of the student. Unfortunately, many of these teachers are not discovered to be unproductive by their schools or advisors, and as a result, they continue to ineffectively teach.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Require the department of education to mandate the establishment of a formal complaint procedure by the student body. Under this mandate, students will be allowed to write a formal petition against the teaching style of any ineffective teachers. This petition must be signed by at least 70% of the students enrolled in the teachers' overall classes, within the same subject.

Upon receiving these signatures, students turn in a copy to the school's administrative board and must also submit a copy to the school district. After receiving the complaint, the administrative board must act within three months, to create a student review panel to evaluate the teacher. The review panel will consist of a mix of 15 to 20 students from the same subject level that are not attending the school. All reviews will be part of the evaluation records of the teacher. The few selected students who are evaluating the teacher will receive 2.5 credits. The teacher will only be allowed to teach something from their current lesson plan. They will be allowed two weeks to teach the subject material.

At the end of the review period, students assisting with the review must take a test on the subject material that was taught. If 70% of the class passes, then the teacher may resume regular teaching duties. If 60% of the class does not pass, the teacher must then undergo an intensive teaching review class approved by the school board prior to teaching students for academic grades. If there is consistent failure then dismissal is recommended.

Proposal No. 0709

Name: Noah Staninger
Delegation: SDSC/Rancho

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Establish an International Food health control

JUSTIFICATION:

This proposal states that all nations trading edible goods must have a health code. All imported food will be inspected by agents of the receiving country and sent back if anything is found in the food that could pose a threat.

Each country's food and drug administration will oversee this process and carry out the inspections. If a foreign food product comes into a country contaminated, then said food will be returned, to where the food was processed and investigated.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Countries unwilling to this agreement will be subjected to an embargo. This also requires foreign drugs and livestock to be overseen by the country's health regulations. International health code laws will be updated to meet appropriate standards.

Proposal No. 0710

Name: Jackson Chin
Delegation: Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Creating a revenue source for low-income housing developments in the US.

JUSTIFICATION:

There are too many homeless in the US, along with renters and homeowners who can't afford their housing. According to the U.S. Census Bureau there were 6.2 million poor households in the US paying more than 50% of their incomes on rent in 2010. The purpose of this proposal is to get money for improving existing low-income housing developments or creating new developments, so there would be more affordable housing for people that are low-income or homeless. Affordable housing is a development that offers low or no rent, depending on the type of housing development. This proposal would help people find a permanent affordable place to live in or somewhere to stay until they have enough money for other suitable housing. Not only that, this proposal would take more homeless off the street. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness there were 636,017 homeless in the US.

This problem requires a source of revenue to support these developments. Funds could be obtained from a one time fee of \$250 per jumbo loan originated (an estimated 400,000-500,000 jumbo loans are originated per year). Jumbo loans are typically loans that exceed \$417,000, depending on the location. The proceeds will of these fees could be used to create a fund for affordable housing, managed by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress would adopt a law that creates a dedicated source of revenue for affordable housing development. The source of revenue would be a fee on every jumbo mortgage originated after this proposal is enacted.

Proposal No. 0711

Name: Jayne Skinner
Delegation: Diablo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Lack of available organs for patients requiring an organ transplant.

JUSTIFICATION:

Advances in surgical and diagnostic techniques have substantially increased the success of organ transplant operations. In 2000, a total of 22,827 organs were transplanted in the United States. However, in the preceding decade, the discrepancy between the number of available organs and the number of patients requiring a transplant operation has increased significantly. Organ sale, the process of allowing or encouraging consenting adults to become living kidney donors in return for money, has been proposed as a possible solution to the seemingly chronic shortage of organs for transplantation. The shortage of transplant organs is a major problem beyond dispute. An average of 15 patients die every day in the US whilst awaiting an appropriate organ. There are currently over 117,000 people in the United States that are on transplant waiting lists. About 75,000 Americans are on the waiting list for kidney transplants alone. In the coming year, just 23,000 people will receive the transplant they need to survive. That is less than 20%. In the next year, over 6,500 patients will die waiting on a transplant list. At least 1,200 others will fall off the list because they develop complications that make them too sick to withstand a transplant. Due to the serious shortage in available organs, a large black market has developed to traffic human organs. Traffickers may force or deceive the victims into giving up an organ or cheat victims who formally or informally agree to sell an organ by not paying them fully or not paid for the organ or are paid less than the promised price. Organs that are commonly traded are kidneys, liver and the like; any organ that can be removed and used, could be the subject of such illegal trade. The development of a legal, regulated mechanism for donor compensation is the only means of effectively eliminating the demand for this covert activity. Not only would legalizing the sale of organs close down the black market, it would also improve safety for both donors and recipients by enabling safety rules and regulations to be enforced. By legalizing the sale of organs, thousands of lives will be saved each year.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress passes legislation that legalizes the sale of human organs through a safe and regulated process.

Proposal No. 0712

Name: Joann Hwang
Delegation: Culver-Palms

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

An act to suspend federal and state government intervention in parking arrangements for all private business parking structures.

JUSTIFICATION:

The fifteenth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, signed into law by President Bush I on July 26, 1990, has come and gone, but it has not been successful. In fact, it has cost us untold billions, increased the pestilence of labor disputes, and even increased the ranks of the unemployed among the disabled population (because it made them more expensive to hire).

But even before this law was passed, there was a visible reminder of government intervention in society on behalf of the disabled that remains very apparent to this day: handicapped parking.

It happens all the time. You see what appears to be an empty parking space on the other side of the parking lot. But when you drive over there you are not able to park. Not because someone has already taken the space—the space may have been vacant all day—but because it is a handicapped parking space. Fines for parking in these spaces can exceed \$150 in some areas.

And yet many of the people using them don't seem handicapped at all. Many of the spaces go unused for hours at a time. And many of the stores with the most handicapped parking spaces have the fewest handicapped patrons.

Now, no one can be against the idea of special parking for the handicapped. However, there is a case against the various laws passed by state governments which mandate that a store have x-number of handicapped parking spaces.

Opponents of liberty and the free market would have everyone believe that without government intervention there would be few or no parking spaces reserved for the handicapped. But like the ideas that people would go hungry without food stamps or children would be malnourished without the federal school lunch program, nothing could be further from the truth. There is no reason to believe that handicapped parking would disappear if left up to the free market. In fact, a proliferation of special parking spaces could occur if businesses were allowed to manage their own parking.

Businesses that wanted to cater to the handicapped would certainly not remove any of their handicapped parking spaces. To the contrary, they might even add more of these spaces. Businesses that don't see many handicapped patrons (like Home Depot, which has the largest number of handicapped parking spaces of any store in most cities) might cut back the number of their handicapped parking spaces to a reasonable number.

Proposal No. 0713

The free market is a wonderful thing. Without government handicapping the market, business owners are free to cater to a diverse clientele, a select clientele, or somewhere in between. The options are endless, but only if parking, and all seemingly mundane activities, are left to the free market instead of the government.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

An act to remove B1, B2 and B3 from Section 22511.7 of the Parking for Disabled code and Section 22519-Regulation of Offstreet Parking code.

22511.7. (a) In addition to Section 22511.8 for offstreet parking, a local authority may, by ordinance or resolution, designate onstreet parking spaces for the exclusive use of a vehicle that displays either a special identification license plate issued pursuant to Section 5007 or a distinguishing placard issued pursuant to Section 22511.55 or 22511.59.

(b) (1) Whenever a local authority so designates a parking space, it shall be indicated by blue paint on the curb or edge of the paved portion of the street adjacent to the space. In addition the local authority shall post immediately adjacent to and visible from the space a sign consisting of a profile view of a wheelchair with occupant in white on a blue background.

This paragraph applies only to signs for parking spaces constructed on or after July 1, 2008, and signs that are replaced on or after July 1, 2008.

(3) If the loading and unloading area of the pavement adjacent to a parking stall or space designated for disabled persons or disabled veterans is to be marked by a border and hatched lines, the border shall be painted blue and the hatched lines shall be painted a suitable contrasting color to the parking space. Blue or white paint is preferred. In addition, within the border the was constructed on or after July 1, 2008, and painting that is done on or after July 1, 2008.

(c) This section does not restrict the privilege granted to disabled persons and disabled veterans by Section 22511.5.

22519. Local authorities may by ordinance or resolution prohibit, restrict or regulate the parking, stopping or standing of vehicles on any offstreet parking facility which it owns or operates. No such ordinance or resolution shall apply until signs giving notice thereof have been erected.

Name: Lexie Maechler

Delegation: El Dorado

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Eliminate policies that prevent high school students from participating in sports due to grades

JUSTIFICATION:

A high school student should not be prevented from participating in a sports program due to their grades. In California, high schools require that in order to play on a team sport, students must have a 2.0 grade point average (GPA). This should not be the national standard. Opponents of the policy argue that California and other states should offer students the option of an intermission or after-school program to allow them to improve their grades. Such programs would provide more equal resources for all students. In Maryland and Connecticut, students have this option and school districts have been pleased with the results of such programs. Critics will argue that not being able to participate in a team sport may serve as motivation for students to keep up their grades in school. This has been shown to be incorrect. In a recent Los Angeles study, it was shown that LA's No Pass No Play rule did not result in any improvement of grades of students.

Students who wish to play sports should not be restricted from not playing due to their grades. Already, participation in sports teams is very competitive and students that make the teams should have the option to play. Elimination of such policies will reduce stress and anxiety among high school students. Many states are already enacting similar policies to the one in California.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Department of Education should develop a national policy eliminating any grade or GPA restrictions for participation in high school sports.

Proposal No. 0714

Name: Melissa Can
Delegation: San Gabriel Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

All States Should the Gardasil Vaccination For All Eighth Graders

JUSTIFICATION:

All States should mandate the administration of all three stages of the Gardasil Vaccine to incoming male and female eighth grade students in order to prevent against various types of human papillomavirus (HPV) and cancer. For males this vaccination prevents against 90% of genital wart cases, and for females it prevents against 70% of vaginal cancer cases and 50% of vulvar cancer cases. Both sexes are to receive the complete vaccine, which consists of 3 injections over 6 months. Those who oppose the vaccine claim that because Gardasil prevents against a sexually transmitted disease that the governments shouldn't get involved in children's sexual lives, however as a nation we have moved past this once we mandated health classes in 5th, 7th, and 9th grades. Many parents feel that the administration of the vaccine is not needed for sexually active teenagers, however its long-term effects prevent against cancer. This vaccine will save the nation millions of dollars as fewer individuals are diagnosed with cancers that Gardasil can prevent.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Beginning in 2015, all states will add the Gardasil vaccine to the immunization records requiring physician signatures for children's entrance into schools. Health insurance plans must cover the cost of this vaccine as well, but for uninsured, eligible children, the Vaccines for Children program will help.

Proposal No. 0801

Name: Emilie1 Jajonie
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

100% Biodegradable Cigarette Filters

JUSTIFICATION:

Cigarettes are damaging not only the health of the smoker but the smoker's environment every time they smoke. Although cigarette filters are said to be biodegradable, it takes several years to decompose and they never fully decompose. Cigarette companies should be required to produce cigarettes with only biodegradable filters to aid in the fight against pollution. Additionally, biodegradable filters are made from natural materials and are in fact healthier for the smoker too.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Cigarettes produced and distributed in the United States of America must have a 100% biodegradable cigarette filter. Any company producing and distributing cigarettes without a 100% biodegradable filter after 2018 are subject to their license revoked to sell the product.

Proposal No. 0802

Name: Henry Hwang
Delegation: Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline project.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Keystone KL pipeline is a proposed international pipeline by an oil company called TransCanada. According to their website, it will stretch about 1,700 miles, cross 6 states (Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas) and pump nearly a million barrels per day of crude tar sands oil. The tar sands are found in Canada's Boreal forest, which is an ancient, previously undisturbed forest. Tar sands oils are very thick and must either be stripped mined out of the ground, or heated with steam underground to melt it in order to flow.

Both of these processes consume tremendous amounts of resources, including water and energy, which results in tremendous damage to human health and the environment. In addition, the pipeline itself poses risks due to spills that threaten water supplies and agriculture.

In 2008, according to Energy Alberta, tar sands mines used 48.7 billion gallons of water, which is about the same amount used by the entire American oil industry in a month. Worse still, after the water is used it is contaminated and toxic. Some of the toxic chemicals make their way to water ways killing animals and affecting people too. In 2010, the Assembly of the First Nations reported that communities downstream of the project were experiencing high rates of cancer.

Tar sand mining is very energy intensive. In fact, in a single day it consumes enough natural gas to power three million homes. As a result, according to a study by the National Energy Technology Laboratory, tar sands production releases about 3 times more greenhouse gas than conventional oil.

Finally, the pipeline itself threatens water and agriculture since it will transport tar sands to refineries in the Gulf of Mexico, crossing America's agricultural heartland in the Midwest. This is a topic of concern because leaks and spills are a common occurrence in such pipelines. According to the Energy Information Administration, there were almost 3,000 significant incidents and 161 deaths involving pipelines in the U.S. In 2010 a tar sands pipeline spilled almost 1 million gallons of tar sands sludge into Michigan's Kalamazoo river.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass legislation making it illegal for any new international pipelines carrying tar sands to be constructed.

Proposal No. 0803

Name: Andy Bleifer
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To increase the age of social security from 62 to 72.

JUSTIFICATION:

The social security law was created by Lindon B Johnson in the 1930's. Since this time period, Americans have become much more health conscious and aware of health concerns. There have been medical advancements as well as nutritional and fitness improvements. Due to a healthier lifestyle, Americans are staying in the work force for longer periods of time. Thus, the billions of dollars spent by the government on these people would be saved and spent on other issues. With this, the economy could further be stimulated in a positive effect and put some sort of help toward the great debt we are in.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will rewrite Lindon B Johnson's law of social security to make it so healthy recipients start collecting money at 72 instead of 62.

Proposal No. 0804

Name: Ilene Umansky
Delegation: Estancia

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

In order to receive one's license, one must give consent to a mandatory Breathalyzer test if pulled over on any national highway. In the case of defiance, an officer is given the right to take that individual's blood sample on the spot without consent.

JUSTIFICATION:

There is no reason why all drivers should not be made to give consent to a Breathalyzer test at any moment. The only reason why one would not consent to a Breathalyzer test would be in the event that he or she was guilty of driving under the influence. It is in the best interest of the public's greater good. Giving the officer the privilege to take a blood sample if a driver refuses a breathalyzer test will convict a higher number of drunk drivers quicker, faster, and more efficiently.

As of now, in order to drive on national highways, one is required to consent to a Breathalyzer test. When a driver refuses a Breathalyzer test, they cannot be convicted unless a blood sample is taken. In order to take a blood sample, an officer must receive a warrant from a judge. Many times when a judge cannot be reached, the blood alcohol level slowly decreases. By the time the officer receives the warrant, the driver's alcohol level could go under the legal limit. In the case *Missouri vs. McNeely*, the police officer took a blood sample without receiving a warrant because he believed that if he had to wait for a warrant, the alcohol would have dissipated under the legal limit. This is a violation of human rights. If officers were given permission to take a blood sample when a driver violates the agreement of a Breathalyzer test, convictions would be more frequent and more accurate. By doing this, many would feel more obligated to be driving under the influence, which creates a safer driving environment for all.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

There is a need to make a law in which every citizen receiving a license needs to agree to a Breathalyzer test when an officer asks at any time. If a person refuses a Breathalyzer test on a national highway, the officer then has the right to take a blood sample without receiving a warrant.

Proposal No. 0805

Name: Raymundo reyes
Delegation: Wilmington

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Mandate the teaching of the Theory of Evolution in public schools.

JUSTIFICATION:

Where did we come from? The best theory that mankind has come up with is Darwin's Theory of Evolution. Despite the massive amounts of evidence supporting Darwin's theory, many still challenge the theory that the existence of man came to be by means of evolution and natural selection.

In a current National Survey of 926 High School Biology teachers, only 28% of those teachers craft lesson plans with evolution being the unifying theme linking disparate topics in biology. 13% of the 926 Biology teachers advocate creationism or intelligent design in their science classroom. The 59% of teachers left want to avoid controversy by only applying evolution to molecular biology and not the evolution of man or other species. "We are the product of 4.5 billion years of fortuitous, slow biological evolution. There is no reason to think that the evolution

In the United States, everyone has the right to believe in whatever they want, but in a science classroom, that science subject should be taught. Individuals have Sunday class to study creationism. School is a place where children go to learn new knowledge and expand their minds. This is exactly what evolution does.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

In public schools, biology teachers will be required to teach evolution as part of the core curriculum for their biology class. They must teach evolution from the Archean era to the Holocene era. Creationism shall not be taught in the classroom.

Proposal No. 0806

Name: Katherine Madrid
Delegation: Santa Anita

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Penalty for cosmetic and household products tested on animals.

JUSTIFICATION:

Thousands of animals suffer, are cruelly treated, and die in painful tests to determine the safety of cosmetic and household products. 94 percent of animal testing is done to determine the safety of cosmetics and household products. The Leaping Bunny Program states that the FDA does not require testing of cosmetic and household products on animals. The FDA has no authority to require a specific product test. Cosmetic and household producing testing on animals has already been banned in Belgium, Netherlands, and the U.K.

The substances tested on these creatures range from eye shadow and soap to furniture polish and oven cleaner. These tests do not help prevent or treat human illness or injury. These animals are often immobilized and put in stocks in which only their heads stick out. They are given no anesthesia during these tests. Many animals break their necks as they struggle to get away. Some of these tests are to test skin penetration, skin irritancy, eye irritancy, and skin sensitization. Their skin also does not react in the same way to the tests as that of a human. 75 percent of Americans are against cosmetic testing on animals. Alternatives to cosmetic testing are less expensive and generally more reliable. These alternatives include cell cultures, tissue cultures, and corneas from eye blanks. The Mercy For Animals organization's statistics also point out that 50 percent of the animals die two or three weeks after experimentation. Most companies also use the fact that their products were tested to defend themselves against consumer lawsuits. These tests are often considered the cheapest and easiest way to prove that an ingredient is safe. It also allows manufacturers to put practically any product on the market. Peta has a list of companies that do not test their products on animals such as: Bare Minerals, Bath & Body Works, M.A.C Cosmetics, and Pure Life Soap Co.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Make it punishable by Federal Law that the company or manufacturer practicing cosmetic and/or household product testing on animals be shut down and/or given a large fine. Changes must also be made by the next fiscal year

Proposal No. 0807

Name: Ryan Gosselin
Delegation: Crescenta-Canada

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The Horrid Condition of the Department of Veterans Affairs

JUSTIFICATION:

The Department of Veterans inability to pay benefits to veterans before they die is increasingly common in the United States. Data shows that long waits for disability benefits arrive too late for it to be of any use to the veterans because they pass away. Some examples of the wait time in major urban areas are 15 months in Chicago, 16 months in New York, and a Year and a half in Los Angeles. The ranks of survivors waiting for these benefits has also surged in the past three years from just 3,000 in December 2009 to nearly 13,000 last December. Last September the agency paid \$437 million in benefits to the survivors of nearly 19,500 veterans who died waiting. This demonstrates a substantial rise from just three years ago when the family members of fewer than just 6,400 veterans were paid \$7.9 million, before their loved ones death.

These veterans are not only from older generations who fought in World War II or the Vietnam War but many are young soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan who commit suicide after their disability claims for post-traumatic stress disorder are denied. Veterans who are denied there benefits are not only suffering from their untreated diseases or disorders, but are also becoming homeless. Since the V.A. cannot process the amount of veterans they have in a reasonable amount of time, the veterans get foreclosed on and lose their houses as well as their jobs.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will enact a bill that will force the processing of all of the current veterans (close to 900,000) at the date of: June 1, 2013. Every month tardy of the deadline will result in a fine of 500,000 dollars.

Proposal No. 0808

Name: Lilli Carlsen
Delegation: SPPY/Palos Verdes

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Reducing the production of disposable plastic bottles.

JUSTIFICATION:

Despite all the recycling programs put in place, only 23% of the plastic bottles made are recycled. The rest go into landfills, or worse in our oceans. The world produces 300 billion pounds of plastic each year; about 10% ends up in the ocean, 70% of which eventually sinks. Is all of this really worth it for the convenience of a bottle that you will immediately throw away? Naturally, it takes a single plastic beverage bottle 450 years to biodegrade. Getting rid of plastic will save our oceans and our land 450 years it wouldn't get back. Plastic beverage bottles require a lot of energy and money. The average person uses 167 plastic beverage bottles a year, when they could just as easily use 1 reusable bottle a year. Additionally, it requires 2,123,827.43 joules to manufacture a single plastic bottle. Energy that could be used somewhere else more necessary. The disappearance of plastic bottles from the United States is the best way to help the environment.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Stop all production of disposable plastic beverage bottles under 2 liters by 2015.

Proposal No. 0809

Name: Annelise Kostrencich
Delegation: SPPY/Palos Verdes

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The destruction of fish farming, or aquaculture, on American coastlines and human health.

JUSTIFICATION:

The sea has been overfished; and yet, people are being told to eat more fish. The simple solution seems to be for humans to breed their own fish for consumption, but it is destroying the ecosystem in the ocean. Thousands of fish grow in large cages and pens in open ocean waters, this fish farming is called aquaculture. Often it takes more small fish to feed the farmed fish than the amount of farmed fish produced. The pellets fed to the farmed fish often fall to the sand and suck the oxygen from all sedentary organisms. Areas that are harvested are polluted with dead fish bodies and blood. Measurements have found that the seabed below a fish farm accumulates about thirty pounds of waste per year. Multiple medicines and pesticides are put into their cages in the water as well.

Fish are harvested in these conditions and are still being consumed by people. In a report from the Environmental Working Group, it was discovered that farmed salmon in the U.S. has the highest levels of PCB, toxic man-made chemicals. Some levels have been detected so high as to cause cancer. Farmed fish have five times the fat of a wild fish, causing them to have 20% less protein. Since our oceans are in a fishing recession, aquaculture was the solution to putting sustainable fish back on the market, employing people from coast to coast; however, aquaculture strips business from the commercial fishermen. Taking farmed fish off the market could spark a significant price raise in fish such as salmon and catfish. It may cause an outbreak of unemployment temporarily in the fishing industry.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Place a ban on ocean aquaculture until the environment replenishes itself and can be evaluated as safe for fishing by the Environmental Protective Agency and the Food and Drug Administration.

Proposal No. 0810

Name: Kaylin Matzner
Delegation: Triunfo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Fast food industries often use inedible parts of animals for the meat, and often put many chemicals into the substances before they are served to the nation.

JUSTIFICATION:

Restaurants such as McDonalds often use eyeballs, hearts, tendons and muscle tissue in meat. The meat is crawling with bacteria; therefore it is soaked in ammonia to clean it off. The ammonia leaves a repulsive taste on the meat, thus it is artificially flavored, and because it is not the color of normal meat, due to it not being actual meat, it is artificially colored as well. 10- into dog food. The patties of the burger are also often undercooked, and are not cooked at the 165 degrees that is needed to kill pathogenic bacteria. On the Taco Bell website, when looking for the ingredients, it just says they are ingredients that are commonly found in the grocery store, but there are a lot of things in the grocery store. The website states that 88% is actual beef, but that leaves 12% of the taco to be chemically enhanced things that one would not normally want to put into his or her mouths.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

All fast food restaurants around the country must use 100% real meat by the date of January 1, 2015 or they will be fined \$100,000. There will be surprise inspections by the FDA to assure the meat is 100% meat.

Proposal No. 0811

Name: Talia Wun-Young
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for the extension of the foster care system to age 21, in order to address and resolve the current issue of foster youth being kicked out of the foster system before they are financially and emotionally independent.

JUSTIFICATION:

Today, when a foster child turns 18, they are removed from the foster care system and forced out into the world. The U.S. Census Bureau has found that over 26,000 foster kids age out of the system per year. Within 18 months of their dismissal, nearly 40-50% of these former foster kids become homeless, and over 51% suffer from unemployment. More startling in fact, over 70% of State Prison inmates have spent time in the foster care system. The lack of a financial or emotional 'safety net' for these former foster youth cause them to struggle to 'make ends meet,' often ultimately making them a burden to society. A small investment to better prepare and advise them during the transitional coming of age period and the years preceding it would greatly lessen foster youth's cost to society.

The cost of foster care per youth is approximately \$20,800 a year, according to a Chapin Hall Brief. Extending the foster care system to the age of 21 would cost around \$62,000, a much more manageable number than the \$55,000-\$110,000 yearly cost to keep a person in prison. This expenditure would also offset the government money spent on welfare, food stamps, Temporary Assistance, etc. which over 60% of foster youth require after emancipation (Chapin Hall Brief). Extending the foster care system to help youth up to 21 years of age will result in higher graduation rates, increased prospect future earnings, and improved choice making skills. Illinois has already implemented an extended program and has found that the new program better prepares teenagers for the real world by allowing them to fully mature mentally.

Keeping foster children in the system would also allow for transitional programs such as the Fostering Connections to Success Act to be put into use. The Fostering Connections to Success Act calls for the implementation of transitional programs within foster care facilities that house youth up to age 21.

United States President Barack Obama lectures that, "Federal, State, and local governments, communities, and individuals all have a role to play in ensuring that foster children have the resources and encouragement they need to realize their hopes and utilizing programs that prepare them for the outside world will allow foster children to truly realize their hopes and dreams"

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will amend Title I-VE of the Social Security Act to extend the age of eligibility for foster care services to 21.

Proposal No. 0812

Name: Claire Garrahan
Delegation: SRV/Valle Lobo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Representatives in the federal government are required to get a background check every 2 years.

JUSTIFICATION:

Right now the only requirements to be a congressperson 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 the 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.

fully qualified. 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 as 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 the history of other industrialized country's it can be noted that people holding federal office positions have made, on more than one account, immoral or inhuman laws against its people. If the proper precautions and checks had been done we may have saved 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 to 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. That is reason enough to expect it of the highest office holders in the land.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

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

Proposal No. 0813

Name: Michelle Castillo
Delegation: SDSC/South Bay Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

My proposal is focused on enhancing the security of the TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) funds issued to those receiving assistance. This proposal will require that each TANF credit card have a photo image of the qualified recipient be placed directly on the credit card to ensure that the actual qualified person is using the federal funds.

JUSTIFICATION:

TANF was created by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act instituted under President Bill Clinton in 1996. This act provides temporary financial assistance while aiming to get people off of that assistance, primarily through employment."In some cases, recipients have exchanged benefits for drugs, weapons, and other contraband. When trafficking occurs unchecked, families do not receive the intended nutritional assistance, and unscrupulous retailers profit at the expense of the American public," said Fong. Phyllis Fong, an inspector involved in the USDA, said food stamp recipients traded their Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits at a discount to corrupt merchants and retailers in exchange for cash. USDA (US Department of Agriculture's) inspector general told a House panel recently that some of the 46.3 million Americans currently enrolled in the federal food stamp program traded their benefits for cash so they could then purchase drugs and guns, among other contraband.

Although these facts prove that many people are misusing the funds awarded by the TANF program; the purpose of this proposal is to not take money away from the needy but to ensure that funds are being used correctly. Although implementing these security measures may extend the process in which people are awarded benefits but in the long run it will assist storefronts and businesses to confirm the identification of the individual thus taking an extra security step that funds are being used properly.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add a constitutional amendment requiring the TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) program funds dispersed in the form of a credit card to require a photo image of each recipient be placed on each card issued. TANF will be responsible to capture each photo image of each applicant when people go in to apply, similar to the DMV, and be placed on the credit cards which is awarded and dispersed.

Proposal No. 0814

Name: Kyle Rosenthal
Delegation: Triunfo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Installing Filtered Hydration Stations in Schools

JUSTIFICATION:

All schools from elementary schools to high schools are required to have a filtrated water system on their campus for students to drink from. Students need to be properly hydrated to get through a school day. Children can focus better when they are hydrated. Also, there will be a slimmer chance of children becoming sick. Many schools have ordinary water fountains, which can have lead in the pipes. Students have gotten lead poisoning from these fountains and it needs to stop.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will require atleast one filtered hydration station to be on the campus of every school.

Proposal No. 0901

Name: Sukhmani Kocher
Delegation: Fremont/Newark

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To make nonfatal victimization and homicidal trials of battered men and women whom have had to use lethal/excessive force in order to defend themselves, more objective to their situations.

JUSTIFICATION:

Current U.S. self-defense laws are based upon a model of two able-bodied men: self-defense is only considered self-defense as long as they both do not utilize arms or any other form of weapons. However, as soon as one of the two individuals involved in the encounter pick up a sort of weapon to use against their opponent, it becomes classified as lethal, or excessive force. In domestic violence abuse situations, the batterer who is used to acting in violent manners toward his/her partner will often show no mercy in heated situations. This often leaves the victim to choose: kill or be killed. According to the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics, females are more likely than males to experience intimate partner violence. On average between 2001 and 2005, nonfatal intimate partner victimizations represented 22% against females age 12 or older, and 4% males age 12 or older. For homicides, intimate partners committed 30% of homocides of females and 5% of homocides of males. Based on basic female anatomy, it is a true fact that the average female is weaker than the average male. However, victims of domestic violence are abused so much that their bodies become even weaker with the progression of abuse. So when these women, and men, are faced in a physical encounter with their abusers, they often do need external assistance to be able to retaliate against their partners' violence. When they do so, however, it is considered to be excessive/lethal force and therefore imperfect self-defense, which often leads these domestic violence victims to being sentenced many years, or even life in jail. According to an FBI study, of the thirty-six women studied who killed their partners, each was charged with first-degree murder. Twenty of the women received jail time, and one received a sentence of fifty years. A woman may be justified in killing under the law of self-defense when she has a reasonable belief in the necessity of force and the imminence of danger. Many battered women who kill their batterers, however, have had difficulty justifying their crime under traditional self-defense laws. Basically, these victims, these men and women are being punished and tortured for defending, and saving themselves from their abuser. It is an unjust manner of treatment for these domestic violence victims, and it's time that a change be made to help them.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

For each homicidal, or nonfatal violent victimization case that goes to trial, a panel of domestic violence experts must be present. This panel must consist of at least one psychologist and at least 2 trained and experienced domestic violence advocates. The domestic violence advocates must have their 40-56 hour training on Domestic Violence (training will vary depending on state), and at least 5 years of experience in the field of domestic violence. The psychologists must be actively practicing psychology, or have actively practiced psychology in the last year. The domestic violence victim accused of homicide may choose to pay for this panel's services on their own, or they may be

Proposal No. 0902

appointed to their case. The appointed panel members will be drafted in the same manner than every U.S. citizen is drafted for jury duty: any and all certified psychologists and trained domestic violence advocates, 18 and over and U.S. citizens, will be called to court and will be mandated to serve as a member of the domestic violence advocacy panel. For every case that they serve as a member of the panel, they are exempt from one year of jury duty. These psychologists and domestic violence advocates will also be allowed to voluntarily sign up for service in this panel by submitting their name to the U.S. Department of Justice, which will manage these lists and send out the volunteers' names and information to state departments of justice. This panel of domestic violence experts will be required to interview the abused and the abuser, if he or she is still alive, and take their analysis of these interviews and of the trial and present them to the judge and the jury, as well as present the testimony in court before any verdict or sentence is announced. Before serving as a member of the panel, each member of the panel must sign a contract for each case that they work on stating that any and all information and analysis compiled of the case must be kept confidential, and that their testimony, as well as their meetings with the judge and the jury, must consist of presentations of unbiased analysis.

Name: Ross Cameron
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The propositions seen on state ballots have become overrun with corruption from super pacs and unions and reform must be enacted to prevent further system abuse.

JUSTIFICATION:

Each voting season there many proposals for the voters to levy their opinion on. These proposals, however, are often not what they seem and are not what they appear to be to the voters. This is because corporations and unions have taken over the system and used it as a corrupt battle ground to push their goals through congress without having to go through the more informed politicians.

This proposal plans on putting the power of the initiative system back where it belongs, in the hands of the citizens. Last year prop 32 was a proposal on California's state ballot. A perfect example of corruption in the proposition system, this proposition used the disguise of cutting cooperation funding in politics to apply a loophole induced attack on the unions, so that the corporations could reign in politics without checks from unions. Nowadays it also requires much larger amounts of the population than when the system was created to sign a petition in order for a given proposition to reach the ballot. This in itself almost guaranties that large funding must be involved with every prop on the voting ballot, taking away the original intentions of the system.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To make reforms in how the initiative system is run by creating a diverse national committee consisting of equal strength members of different political, super Pac, and union groups which would then evaluate each states proposals and search for possible corruption or hidden gains. If corruption is declared, then the group declaring corruption can clearly explain their beliefs in a side column on the ballot that would be clear and easy to see; also on the ballot would be a clearly readable and identifiable column which details by whom each proposition was supported or opposed so that voters can see for themselves the credibility of given proposals.

Proposal No. 0903

Name: Thao Tran
Delegation: El Dorado

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Classification of tobacco and alcohol as a Schedule III drug

JUSTIFICATION:

Schedule III drugs are those that have the following findings: (a) has a potential for abuse less than the drugs or other substances in schedules I and II; (b) has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States; and (c) abuse of the drug or other substance may lead to moderate or low physical dependence or high psychological dependence. Alcohol and tobacco fall under all of those categories yet they are not categorized as a controlled substance.

Nicotine was successfully used as medicine when it was discovered and medicinal alcohol was used in the past. According to the CDC, in 2010, the number of alcoholic liver disease deaths rose to 15,990 and the number of alcohol-induced deaths (including accidents and homicides) rose to 25,692. If alcohol and tobacco were classified as a controlled substance, doctors could write prescriptions and limit consumption. Nicotine and alcohol are the biggest cause of liver damage and cancer. Nicotine and alcohol are considered by our government to be a soft kill that supports the death care industry.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Drug Enforcement Agency and the Food and Drug Administration shall classify alcohol and tobacco as a Schedule III Controlled Substance under the Controlled Substances Act.

Proposal No. 0904

Name: Bryan Bednarski
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for an active measure to legally contain the use of Anabolic Steroids and performance enhancing drugs by professional athletes in the United States, in an effort to preserve the future of professional sports.

JUSTIFICATION:

The legitimacy and honor of professional sports today has been decimated by the illegal use of anabolic steroids and the honors received by players using them. Fans pay billions of dollars every year in the United States to witness whom they believe to be the world's most gifted athletes. Just last year, the National Football League signed a contract with NBC, CBS, FOX, and ESPN totaling \$5.18 billion dollars, all of which will be turned into profit by the television companies before 2022.

On average, urine tests for professional athletes cost approximately \$200.00 (steriodabuse.com); a cost that is covered by the respective sports league. In major league baseball there are 1,280 players on active pro club rosters, and the league pays approximately \$256,000 to test every player only once in a season. The price of the tests, in addition to their ineffectiveness in identifying drugs that players are using today, deters leagues from administering tests reliably.

In order to ensure the fairness and continued popularity of the professional sports industry, this proposal, if passed, would implement a not-for-profit government agency called the United Sports Drug Prevention Service (USDPS), which would research and discover new steroids, while simultaneously testing the athletes' blood or urine for both steroids and narcotics.

The agency will include three individual tiers, each responsible for a different aspect of the agency's purpose. The first branch will be specifically designed for the research of anabolic steroids and developing tests for each. The second branch will consist of the testing agency that will administer examinations to players and provide examination results to the leagues. The third branch will consist of different committees that will act as liaison between each league, including individual teams, and the USDPS.

In the case that a player is found to be using a banned performance-enhancing drug, their respective league will punish him or her no less than a full-season suspension without pay, and a potential fine, the amount of which will be determined by the league itself.

In order to maintain this government institution, professional athletes and coaches who are contracted under any league abiding to the USDPS will be mandated to pay a 1% tax from their annual salaries. With the agency going into effect first in the National Football League and Major League Baseball--with a single percent tax--the USDPS can expect approximately 55 million dollars from the players before any government assistance with its costs. (USAtoday)

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The creation of a Government Agency (USDPS) to handle the research, testing, and regulation of professional athletes using Anabolic Steroids and other performance enhancing drugs.

Proposal No. 0905

Name: Prince Singh
Delegation: San Luis Obispo County

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To increase safety on the internet and regulate it.

JUSTIFICATION:

The internet is one of the most dangerous place where the majority average young adult spend their time on. These dangers can be as insignificant as face-book stalkers to as massive as identity thieves. Statistics show that about half of all young adults ignore this issue by not restricting access to personal information, photos, movie, etc. Over 25 percent of all teens have been bullied repeatedly through their cell phones or on the internet due to not securing anything they post. One victim many have heard about is 15 year old Amanda Todd who committed suicide after being blackmailed for material she posted on the internet.

Even more serious are the number people who have suffered from identity theft. 1 in every 10 American consumer has been a victim of identity theft. The amount of money the US lost to identity thefts in year 2009 alone was about \$54 billion. Worldwide, businesses lose \$221 billion yearly to identity theft. Identity theft is one issue another is the online drug business. Silk Road, a website allows people to buy illegal drugs off the internet in an almost untraceable way.

The internet is full of some of the most intellectual, artistic, and entertaining people in the world but it is also filled with some of the worst scum imaginable and there is little we can do to apprehend these people

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States Government shall make a set of laws for the internet defining what a cyber-crime is and also that all cyber-crimes do have reasonable punishment. To enforce these laws a task-force shall be created that will monitor all traffic on the internet.

Proposal No. 0906

Name: Tony Brisson
Delegation: Sacramento Central

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Establishing charitable organizations across the United States that will concoct vital and specified resources for countries handling with famine (man-made, or natural disaster oriented).

JUSTIFICATION:

a land of plenty. But we're being told that global food prices are rising as supplies become increasingly tight. Although food riots in Tunisia are getting the most media attention now, that's not the only country being affected by this national atrocity. Argentina's soybean harvest has been diminished by hot, dry weather, while flooding in Australia has severely hurt the wheat crop, says Investor's Business Daily (IBD).

Man cannot control the weather, and that is obvious. Would you believe, however that famine today is as much man-made as it is a force of nature, and although natural causes are unpredictable and inconsistent "some of the national policies we have in place currently, are literally killing people by expendable starvation, when adequate supplies really do exist. The African nation of Zambia, for example, declined food aid, mostly corn, from the United States in 2002, even though it was facing a famine that would affect nearly one-third of its people. Why? Because America was offering GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD, and it was the country's policy to reject it. Four years later, Friends of the Earth (an organization in the U.S.) publicly asked governments in the hungry African countries of Ghana and Sierra Leone (were food was offered) to recall U.S. food aid that contained genetically modified rice. Zambian President Levy Mwanawasa set a harsh tone in 2002 when he called the food offered to his famished nation "poison" and "intrinsicly dangerous."

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Given that we actually have the technology to grow larger crops in an easier tone (such as with machines, or less labor for more results, etc.) and fly, by plane fresh food around the world to where it is needed in a matter of hours, the obstructionism and avoidable barriers that are causing starvation when these obvious material abundances are relevant, is inexcusable. "We need

With this tone, we need to employ an action that can guarantee a safety net for these countries. America has always been an abundance of vital resources, and replenishing materials "now it's time for us to step in. In many charity cases, foundations or organizational groups work towards a centralized goal of obtaining food materials, clothing even, and other resources that can be donated to causes in need. Homeless people, children in orphanages, etc. These are all examples of charitable causes that garner necessities for causes in need. Countries should be treated non-the-different. This proposal calls for a solution to be taken that implements charity organizations across the United States. This depletes the dependency on the government (so we do not have a repeat of the 2002 African famine rice dilemma)- and allows for all Americans to help. These charity organizations will have a set list of materials they can and cannot except. All food items, clothing, and vital resources will be disposed to the countries in need.

Proposal No. 0907

Name: Markus Boehme
Delegation: SDSC/Magdalena Ecke

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Regulating Welfare

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States is paying for individuals receiving welfare, who are not complying with requirements for financial aid.

From 2009 to 2011 the amount of people on welfare was increased from just below 97 million people to over 108 million people. (Fox News). Similarly the amount of Americans on food stamps increased from 27.4 million in October of 2006 to 46.2 million in April of 2012 (SNAP, zero hedge). As the number of people on welfare increases, so does the amount of money going into the program. This is not money that we have to spend; as of right now the national deficit currently stands at \$16,437,374,972,998.89. We do not have the resources to support all of the people on welfare without having a tax increase. Instead of raising taxes, we could enforce the requirements that you must complete to be eligible for welfare. The requirements follow as so:

- A basic lack of gainful employment opportunity through either lack of places of employment or lack of job skill.
- A commitment to self-sufficiency is necessary before any potential recipient can begin to receive benefits. Heads of household must enter into an agreement they will become self-sufficient within a certain timeframe.
- A commitment to cooperation must be signed by the heads of household that they will comply with and continue all regulations and requirements while receiving aid.
- Dependant children must be living in the household. There are some very few exceptions, but generally all dependants must be within the home.
- All minors must be attending school during school days.
- All minors and dependants must be fully and appropriately immunized.
- The recipient must be a minimum of 18 years of age.
- You must be a legal and permanent resident of the state to which you are applying.
- You must be a citizen of the United States or a qualified non-citizen legal resident, (restrictions apply).
- A commitment to complete accuracy and honesty during the program.
- All monetary resources must be divulged. This includes cash within the home, in checking or savings accounts and items of value in possession such as jewelry or electronics.
- A household financial budget must be created and adhered to.
- (welfareinfo.org)

Each state regulates their SRS programs, or Social and Rehabilitation Services programs, they also responsible for regulating who is eligible for welfare.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We create, or retain a federal service regulate who is following these requirements it. They will do this by randomly drug testing individuals, and cross checking that applicants are searching for work with the potential employers. This will not change any of the current legislation concerning welfare; simply create a national welfare regulating service.

Proposal No. 0908

Name: Maya Romero
Delegation: San Luis Obispo County

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Flu Shot Requirements for Hospital Workers with Patient Contact

JUSTIFICATION:

An estimated 49,000 people worldwide have died of influenza from the years 1976 to 2007, and approximately 20% of the U.S. population is infected by the virus each year. Though the movement to vaccinate more individuals against influenza is spreading rapidly, with 132.8 million doses of flu vaccine distributed in the United States alone in 2012, many people continue to resist being vaccinated due to ethical issues, including the belief that vaccines contribute to autism, failure of previous vaccinations to prevent the contraction of flu, and concern regarding mercury in select vaccine formulations. While it cannot be disputed that the majority of members of our society must be granted the freedom of choice as to whether or not they receive seasonal flu vaccines as a result of these concerns, it seems highly logical to mandate that any hospital employee be required to maintain current flu vaccinations and provide records of their having done so to hospital administration each year in order to continue to keep their job. Such individuals have access to immune-compromised patients who are even less likely than the average person to resist and survive a strain of flu, especially while their body is combating another ailment. Furthermore, despite the effort to maintain a sterile medical environment, viruses will run rampant in hospital settings if allowed to do so, and influenza is certainly no exception. Several states such as Rhode Island have already implemented such a law; however, it is being challenged in court by disgruntled employees fired for refusing to comply. This remains an issue of public safety, and we must protect our patients as well as our hospitals from the inevitable and potentially crippling lawsuits that would surely arise from patient infection with influenza while receiving hospitalized care by passing this proposal.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

As part of national health care, the Federal government of the United States of America would require that all hospital personnel in contact with patients receive regular influenza vaccines at the expense of their employer and provide current documentation of having done so in order to maintain employment.

Proposal No. 0909

Name: Sara Cerami
Delegation: Berkeley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Creating punishment for crack cocaine and cocaine the same.

JUSTIFICATION:

Crack and coke are two different forms of the same drug called cocaine. Cocaine also known as coke is the purest form of cocaine while crack is mixed with many other substances, some including ammonia or baking soda. The method of creating crack is to lessen the expense for both the dealer and buyer. So although pharmacologically these two drugs are the same, they have very different punishments for possession and sale. Possession of 28 grams of crack cocaine yields a five-year mandatory minimum sentence for a first offense; it takes 500 grams of powder cocaine to prompt the same sentence. The sentence for crack possession is 43.5 percent longer than for coke possession. African Americans make up 82.7% of crack convictions. This has contributed hugely to the fact that the imprisonment rate for black people is 6 times higher than white people. This proposal would help even the rate out of black and white incarcerations.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The US states will increase the rate of punishment for cocaine so that it is equal to the punishment for crack sale and possession.

Proposal No. 0910

Name: Enoc Rumbo
Delegation: SFY/Bayview

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The use of California as a model state to catalyze a chain reaction among other states (target number is 45%) to recognize same sex marriage as a legal union.

JUSTIFICATION:

California has a high population, along with that, a big percentage of LGBT (Lesbian.Gay.Bisexual.Transgender) members in the population. There is a major division between heterosexual and homosexual partners, that difference is that heterosexual marriages legally recognized in California, but same-sex partners' marriages are not legally recognized by the state. Proposition 8 is a clause stating that marriage in California is recognized as a legal union between a male and a female. Proposition 8 still presents many negative turnouts up to this day that are not only limited to California, but states that have similar laws. The negative points it represents are that it goes against the Equal Protection Clause in the United States Constitution, second these laws treat the LGBT community as inferior, sub-ordinate citizens, third as a country that is progressive, this proposition would help us further our progression than regression, and to fourth, the fact that Proposition 8 is active means people are avoiding California and going to other states to get married which means that money is lost along with citizens. Statistics show that the average American newly-wed couple spends about \$5,000-\$20,000+ per wedding, this number can be multiplied due to legal divorce, and the legalizing of same of same-sex marriage would also bring more revenue through taxes from same-sex partners. A study at the Williams Institute of UCLA has shown positive economical feedback from the legalizing of same-sex marriage. The study placed a fictional New Jersey with a set number of LGBT partners living in the state with 1-2 children, the result of this study shows that 248 million dollars was brought to the state in over 3 years, with 19 million dollars in government revenue and 800+ jobs created along the way.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To repeal section 7.5 of the Declaration of Rights, in the California Constitution, which states that "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."

Proposal No. 0911

Name: Betty Wang
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for a ban on 3-D printers.

JUSTIFICATION:

As a fairly new technology 3-D printing is performed by a materials printer using digital technology. This printer prints layers of material, using thermoplastic, in order to form a 3-D object. One can download the blueprint of an object and program the printer to produce a 3D replication. The technology is used in many fields, such as jewelry, footwear, engineering, and etc. These printers can be purchased online or at stores. However, with 3-D printing comes the controversy of the potential to create fully operational firearms and magazines made of plastic.

3-D printers can print virtually anything from a programmable blueprint. Defense Distributed, a non-profit organization, successfully used a 3-D printer to print and test an ammunition magazine for an AR semi-automatic rifle, loading and firing 86 rounds from the 30 round-clip on YouTube. This merely shows how common and simple the production of a fully functional magazine can be with a 3-D printer. Although the United States does not have a plastic gun issue, action must be taken before 3D printers produce real guns. As the technologies associated with 3D printers advance, it is foreseeable that people will be able to manufacture actual, live firearms. Because these 3-D printed firearms are plastic, they will not go through metal detectors or an airport x-ray machine, which violates the Undetectable Firearms Act. Thus, the transport and production of plastic firearms will not be detected, which may result to potential crimes and dangers.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

There shall be a law made to ban the manufacturing of 3D printers to eliminate the production of plastic firearms.

Proposal No. 0912

Name: Aren Yeghissian-Kanneian
Delegation: Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Allow players to advertise for their own gain on their jerseys in all professional and minor league sports.

JUSTIFICATION:

Advertising on jerseys is something that is done in all professional soccer and makes a lot of money. Popular teams can make up to \$50 million annually from advertisements; however the MLB, NFL, and NBA make more than double the revenue than MLS (Major League Soccer) and the English Premier League, teams could potentially make more than \$100 million from advertisements. However an advertisement on a team's jerseys is not prohibited. Teams just don't want to. Because of this my proposal suggests that players can advertise for their own gain on solely their own jersey. A player, if they chose, may sign a contract with a company which allows that company to have a patch somewhere on their jerseys advertising their company. This regularly would not be allowed because of the contract that players sign with the team. This benefits the player as they can make more money but is also benefits the country, as the income will be taxed 10% and the money will go towards fighting obesity and helping kids stay active and fit.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass a law stating that any sports association has to allow it's players to create a contract with a company to advertise on the jerseys that player wears during games. The advertisement may not be any larger than their team's logo/emblem and the contract must be confirmed by the team the player is a part of. There will be a 10% tax on this advertising contract which will go to the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Proposal No. 0913

Name: Columba Dolan
Delegation: Hilltop

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Hydraulic Fracturing must be banned due to the fact it is harmful to people and it is harmful to the environment

JUSTIFICATION:

Hydraulic fracturing is the process of drilling into the ground vertically then horizontally. Water and a mix of chemicals are injected into the ground at high pressure breaking the rock apart and releasing natural gas. It must be stopped due to the fact that many harmful chemicals that are injected into the ground and these chemicals are toxic and known carcinogens e.g. benzene, formaldehyde, and acrylamide. These chemicals that are put into the ground also contaminate water supplies. This not only affects people, but affects animals too. In places where hydraulic fracturing is being done livestock have become sick and died after being exposed to drilling fluid. In New Mexico hair testing found petroleum residue in 54 out of 56 cattle tested. In western Pennsylvania fluid leaked into a pond where pregnant cows grazed; half of their calves were born dead. If bad things like this are happening to animals that would raise some questions about the potential health effects on humans. This raises cause for concern because these animals produce our milk and our meat we could be consuming these harmful chemicals too. Air testing by an environmental consultant at a farm in North Dakota revealed elevated levels of benzene, methane, chloroform, butane, propane, toluene, and xylem. The evidence clearly shows hydraulic fracturing is detrimental to our environment and our country's farming industry.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will enact a ban against the use of Hydraulic Fracturing due to the health hazards it brings to animals and humans.

Proposal No. 0914

Name: Micheal Huluf
Delegation: Ketchum-Downtown LA

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Providing funding for security in US public schools

JUSTIFICATION:

The Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, Connecticut was a tragic moment in the United States and it gives everyone this question; is my school safe? Events like Sandy Hook have made schools more of a national threat than a place to get an education.

In response to the shooting, school districts such as LAUSD are working with police departments to do daily checks in school campuses. Although it's one way to strengthen security, the police shouldn't interfere because they have other responsibilities to fulfill in their community. Instead of collaborating with the police, there should be a type of security in US public schools that fulfill their security needs.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

In order to enhance security in US public schools, the US government should provide a special fund for the US Department of Education. By increasing all federal income taxes by 0.25%, the US government will use the funds to create a special fund for the US Department of Education and will be specifically use to provide whatever means of security needs based on crime rate of that individual school/community.

Proposal No. 0915

Name: Bobby Lee
Delegation: Tri-Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Removing Age, Residency, and Citizenship Requirements for Office of the President of the United States

JUSTIFICATION:

In Article II, Section I, Clause V, the Constitution imposes three eligibility requirements on the President "based on the office holder's age, residency, and citizenship" that must be satisfied at the time of taking office. The Framers established these qualifications in order to increase the chances of electing a person of patriotism, judgment, and civic virtue. First, presidents must be thirty-five years of age or older. Second, the President must have been a "Resident" of the United States for fourteen years. Third, the President must be a "natural born Citizen" (or a citizen at the time of the adoption of the Constitution). So why are all these of these qualifications are obsolete in today's United States? A few reasons are listed below:

- The most important qualification for any elected office is already put in place: the electoral process. If voters are convinced that a particular person's qualities, experiences, and record are appropriate for the office of the presidency, then it should be irrelevant whether those candidates meet arbitrary qualifications for office.
- There is no evidence to suggest that age or natural-born citizenship correlates with greater political efficacy.
- There are very few people who even hold the political and financial resources to even run a modern-day presidential campaign; removing these qualifications for president will not result in a boon of presidential candidates.
- According to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, discrimination of employment based upon national origin is illegal unless there is a compelling state interest in doing so. Justice Joseph Story asserted in 1833 such a compelling state interest, that the natural-born "citizenship and residency requirement" cuts off all chances for ambitious foreigners, who might otherwise be intriguing for the office." Consider, however, the completely different world we live in today than in 1787, the time the Constitution was ratified, or even 1833. Our world is globalized, with technology being able to connect the United States to any end of the world within seconds. The U.S. has continually seen the entrance of numerous new peoples, races, religions, and ancestries, factions that can be divisive, and yet, the United States remains out of many, one. It should be irrelevant whether our president is a natural-born citizen or naturalized citizen; we should be able to judge his or her loyalty to the country based on the character and record of the candidate, not his or her birthplace or residential area.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will ratify a constitutional amendment abolishing Article II, Section I, Clause V of the Constitution

Proposal No. 1001

Name: Linda Kim
Delegation: Torrance - South Bay

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Voting rights for permanent residents in the United States.

JUSTIFICATION:

In 2011, there were about 13.1 million permanent residents living in the United States. However, these 13.1 million people are not able to vote in any government related elections because they are not a citizen of the United States. Which means that in the 2012 election, 13.1 million voices were not heard. Shouldn't something be done for these voices?

By definition, a permanent resident of the United States is a former "illegal alien" who has gone through the necessary paperwork and process to rightfully have a job and home in the country. To become a permanent resident, one must be sponsored by an immediate family member who is a citizen. However, one of the requirements is that a working permit - approval from the government that one can legally have a job - must be given prior to applying. After, the application process begins. The application process is tedious and is often completed by a hired attorney. Therefore, the cost can be tremendous. The process of becoming a permanent resident can take years.

Physical proof of being a permanent resident is called the green card. It is a card the size of a regular ID or license that is literally green on the back. This card must be renewed every ten years by paying a fee. With this card, one can go out of the country and come back without any trouble. It acts as an addition to one's passport. Permanent residents/green card holders are one step away from becoming a citizen of the United States. One is able to apply for citizenship five years after receiving his/her green card. One can get their green card taken away for not paying taxes, not renewing his/her green card, residing outside of the US for long periods of time or committing felonies that can lead to deportation.

All permanent residents are required to pay the exact same taxes as citizens and are summoned to jury duty. Permanent residents go through the same struggles and hardships as citizens and should be able to say who controls what aspect of the government.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

When given the title "permanent resident" one will be given the right to vote in any type of government election - state or federal - in the United States. The same regulations will apply regarding the taking away of these rights as citizens such as criminal convictions.

Proposal No. 1002

Name: Chris Maresca
Delegation: Desert Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

OBESITY in children

JUSTIFICATION:

at least 1/3 of children these days are over weight and many things can be done to tend to these far too often opened wounds. Kids should be doing more exercise during the summer, most of us play our ps3 or our xbox 360 with our friends but none to more. overweight children within the grades of 6-8 should be required to do summer assignments.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Public schools within the United States of America require the children to do 240 minutes of activities each week, to be signed off by the legal guardian of that child. The activities must include some strenuous activity that is completed during the summer months. If it is not completed, 1/3 of the grade is taken off

Proposal No. 1003

Name: Max Junk
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

A Tax on tea, stamps, and whiskey to stimulate the economy.

JUSTIFICATION:

At the moment there doesn't seem to be any progress in Congress about getting the United States out of its economic recession. Instead of cutting spending in crucial areas such as education or medicare, the United States government should tax tea, stamps, and whiskey. Tea, Stamps, and Whiskey are all crucial items to the standard American person. If taxed the government would raise great revenue. A total of 519 million pounds of tea is imported into the United States annually. 66 percent of Americans drink alcohol, a popular beverage of choice being whiskey. Stamps are also a crucial part of living in the United States. These items are so crucial to daily living that if taxed would quickly get the United States out of its recession.

The United States is currently in debt because of the major wars that it has recently fought. George Santayana once said that "the United Kingdom, to pay of the French and Indian War, raised the taxes on tea, stamps, and whiskey on its colonies. The British too saw the great importance of these items, and realized that they could make great profit if they taxed them. We need to follow in the footsteps of our great ancestors to get out of this major recession.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To fulfill this proposal, Congress will pass a bill that raises the import tax on tea, stamps, and whiskey. This will cause the prices on these items to raise, but will generate a lot of revenue. The profits will go towards paying of the deficit. Once the United States is out of debt, the bill will be repealed and prices will go down to normal.

Proposal No. 1004

Name: Raquel Freeman
Delegation: Westchester

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Many animals, especially dogs in the US are killed in shelters every year.

JUSTIFICATION:

According to the ASPCA, approximately 60% of all dogs put into shelters are euthanized by the end of the year. About 25% of those dogs happen to be purebred. I propose to make a law that mandates police officers as well as army corporations to adopt a certain percentage of these dogs, and train them in their police K-9 programs.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress would mandate that police forces and army corporations looking for dogs for their training programs look to shelters first, and adopt a certain number of dogs from these shelters in order to train them to aid the organization. The government would regulate police stations and army bases, and make sure that shelter dogs are being adopted into police and military programs.

Proposal No. 1005

Name: Jonah Glickman
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Altering Term Limits of House of Representatives Members

JUSTIFICATION:

906 bills, back in 1947-48. The 1994-1995 Congress passed an infamously low 333 bills. The two legislative sessions before the current one passed 460 and 383 respectively, but the most recent Congress passed a mere 219 bills. Why would this happen? It's because of the increasingly partisan nature of Congress, and how the majority of the House is at odds with the President. All of those sessions of Congress were marked by the fact that one party took control of the House after a midterm election while the President was the other party, effectively gridlocking government.

Every two years, we re-elect each member of the House of Representatives, all 435 of them. This leads to a constant cycle of campaigning, since there are really only 14 months between the inauguration into a new congressional session, and when the primaries start in the states for the next election, so the Representatives are always worried about re-election. Also, the party that loses the presidency stalls for the first two years of the presidency, knowing that the House almost always swings back to the minority party in the mid-term elections. With elections only every four years, it gets rid of the mid-term elections, and would lend itself to more progress in government; the majority party would be able to pass legislation without constant gridlock that characterizes our government now, similar to a parliamentary system. Also it saves money, over 4 billion dollars were spent in the 2010 elections.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Revise Article 1 Section 2 of the Constitution, changing the term of each House of Representatives member from two years to four.

Proposal No. 1006

Name: Rachel Dean
Delegation: Miller

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Creating a federal initiative for states to replace traffic lights and stop signs with roundabouts.

JUSTIFICATION:

Roundabouts are circular intersections in which cars do not stop but yield to traffic. Cars enter the flow of traffic traveling counterclockwise and exit at the desired street. Although very well utilized in Europe, roundabouts are scarce in the United States. There is much skepticism in this method of traffic control, but roundabouts are an improvement on stoplights in many ways.

First, roundabouts improve the flow of traffic. Instead of having to stop at a red light, cars only have to slow down and yield in order to enter a roundabout. So, instead of cars impatiently waiting for the light to turn green, people can keep their cars moving and will not have to stop. Studies of three intersections where stop signs were replaced with roundabouts in Nevada, Kansas, and Maryland show that delays in traffic were reduced 13 to 23 percent. Another study done at three intersections in New Hampshire, New York, and Washington showed that, when a roundabout replaced a traffic signal, there was an 89 percent average reduction in traffic delays, and a 56 percent average reduction in vehicle stops. Another study observed ten urban intersections where roundabouts would be suitable, and documented neglected opportunities for traffic delay reduction. It was estimated that roundabouts at these intersections instead of traffic lights would reduce vehicle delay by 62-74 percent, which is equal to about 325,000 hours fewer of traffic delays.

Roundabouts not only improve traffic flow, but they are also much safer. Collisions that are common at traffic signals, such as right-angle collisions, head-on collisions, and left-turn collisions, are eliminated. Also, because the speed limits in roundabouts are much slower, around 20 to 30 miles per hour, collisions are much less serious in roundabouts than at intersections with traffic lights. Studies done at Ryerson Polytechnic University show that the amount of crashes at intersections decreased by 39 percent, and the amount of crashes involving injuries decreased by 76 percent when roundabouts replaced stoplights. Also, the number of collisions that involved fatalities or serious injuries fell as much as 90 percent. Roundabouts are also much safer for pedestrians. Pedestrians walk along a sidewalk on the perimeter of the circular roundabout, and if they need to cross the street, cars yield. Also, the slower speed of cars in a roundabout further increases pedestrian safety.

Roundabouts are also better for the environment. At roundabouts, cars do not sit at traffic signals spewing exhaust into the air. One study done on intersections that replaced stoplights and stop signs with roundabouts showed that carbon monoxide emissions were reduced by 32 percent, carbon dioxide emissions were reduced by 37 percent, and hydrocarbon emissions were reduced by 42 percent. Also, roundabouts can reduce fuel consumption by as much as 30 percent.

It depends on the layout of the roundabout and the landscaping done in the center of the roundabout, but roundabouts are generally cheaper than traffic signals. To construct a two-lane roundabout, it would cost an estimated \$330,000, while traffic signals cost around \$450,000. Also, the amount of electricity and maintenance that goes in to traffic signals

adds to that amount.

All in all, replacing traffic signals and stop signs with roundabouts in the United States would be a huge benefit to drivers and people in general.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States federal government will pass a piece of legislation that would give tax breaks to any state that began to replace traffic lights and stop signs with roundabouts and built roundabouts instead of traffic lights and stop signs.

Proposal No. 1007

Name: Shawn Saxey-Santillo

Delegation: Gardena-Carson

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Create new U.S. subsidies to encourage advances in nuclear [Thorium] power.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United State's malignant dependance on foreign oil is unhealthy, both with respect to the environment and the United State's standing as a world power. Gas prices wildly fluctuate, putting pressure upon the many whose lives depend on it. Foreign countries use this vital source as a point of leverage, creating a weakness of the United States. Furthermore, this very dependance is unsustainable--akin to a drug addict quickly running out of money; while changing the Earth's future, a privilege traditionally reserved for that time's generation. Thus, with energy being an undeniable problem, it is time to expand upon the vast potential of thorium energy.

After two beta decays, thorium becomes ²³³U: a fissile material which can be used in nuclear power plants. While uranium currently fills this role, thorium has slowly gained attention due to its greater availability, greater safety benefits, and the lack of non-fertile isotopes (meaning that it can converted into a fissile material by neutron absorption). A persistent fear in the public eyes pushing against the general advancement of nuclear power is the inherent [public] association of the word nuclear with war. When asked what was the first word to come to mind in response to the word 'nuclear', the most common answer was a combination of 'war', 'terrorism', and 'bombs'. This is in part due to the new generation having grown up under parents whom survived the cold war, and of the media's common usage of quasi-scare tactics in a bid to secure an audience. However, the time for a misinformed populace has passed; doctors no longer use leeches to remove 'bad blood', and thus neither should nuclear be unnecessarily decried by association. Thorium uses a liquid-fuel cycle, limiting the amount of ²³³U existing at one time in the system, effectively preventing access to material which may be used for weapons.

From an environmental stand point, critics often point towards the longevity of used fissile material, and the difficulty in disposing of said material. Thorium, however, produces approximately 1,000 times less long-lived radioactive waste. Drawing upon the recent nuclear tragedy in Japan, thorium cannot sustain a nuclear chain reaction without priming--rendering the possibility of a runaway reaction an improbability. While this may be seen as a disadvantage, the process creates sixty times the amount of energy required to prime said reaction. Upon a final note, thorium is far more obtainable and vast in supply than uranium--another advantage. There are an estimated 1,660,000 tons of thorium in the Earth's crust, available for a lower price than Uranium.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Department of Energy will create subsidiaries to encourage companies to expand upon thorium power.

Proposal No. 1008

Name: Kelvin Ramos
Delegation: Greater Long Beach

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Radio active frequency waves

JUSTIFICATION:

Contact across the globe is possible, it is possible to come into contact with some one 100 miles away with a simple phone call. Frequent use of a cellular device is scientifically proven to cause cancer. CAT scans and MRI's show results that Radio active frequency waves initiate cancer cells on the side the user was most comfortable using their cellular device on. (left or right) The invention of the satellites orbiting the earth alone was revolutionary. This made our nation and the rest of the globe capable of sending and retrieving information eventually integrating cultures. There are many negative effects to this, one of those factors of satellite connectivity is radioactive poisoning. It may only start out with a cell or two, but cancer cells multiply rapidly and hop into the bloodstream spreading to other organs so I would like to reduce exposure to these waves. There are many beneficial factors that follow when the action is taken such as saved lives, and concentration.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Make it mandatory for cell phone carriers to create phones that are not only compatible to bluetooth connectivity, but depend on bluetooth. The new cellular device would not have a microphone intact, so holding up the phone to your ear would serve no purpose. You would have to connect and speak through a bluetooth for phone calls.

Proposal No. 1009

Name: Jacob Bergersen
Delegation: SPPY/San Pedro

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.

Proposal No. 1010

Name: Amy Young
Delegation: Crescenta-Canada

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for the creation of domestic jobs through the improvement of the H-2A guest worker program.

JUSTIFICATION:

In the United States the H-2A program allows farmers and agricultural employers to hire an unlimited number of guest worker and encourages the employment of undocumented immigrants.

At any given time, nearly 80,000 H-2A guest workers are employed in the United States. Most of these workers, typically young men from Mexico and South America, come from desperate economic situations, which make them willing to accept despicable wages and working conditions. With no means of leaving their employer or searching for other work, the guest workers become a disposable resource with no bargaining, political, or economic power.

On top of this, employers are exempt from paying Social Security (FICA) and federal unemployment (FUTA) taxes on wages paid to H-2A workers. This encourages the hiring of guest workers over domestic workers. By eliminating this monetary incentive, Americans could compete equally for these jobs.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress should require H-2A employers to pay an amount equivalent to FICA and FUTA taxes for their H-2A workers. The Department of Labor would use the revenues raised in order to improve the regulations governing the conditions of foreign and domestic farm workers.

Proposal No. 1011

Name: Delaney Wells
Delegation: SPPY/San Pedro

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

A Proposal to Nationally Regulate Laws and Restrictions on School Seclusion and Restraint

JUSTIFICATION:

There are 33 states that do not have laws against restraining students in schools. Nationwide, except for Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Nevada, Wisconsin, Rhode Island, Maryland and ten other states, there have been incidents of children with autism or another disabling mental condition being locked in small, padded rooms without windows on campus during school hours. These rooms are meant for extreme crises in which the child may have a weapon or be in a position to severely hurt themselves or others. Reports of this type of seclusion occur more frequently as punishments for common misbehavior than in emergencies. Such behavior includes cursing, yelling, threatening or hitting other classmates.

Another American boundary crossed deals with the restraint of students. This includes skin shock therapy, chemical restraint, therapeutic duffle bags, and physical restraint by staff. Some states, such as Colorado, have begun to address this issue. The Colorado Department of Education is covered by The Restraint Act of 2000 passed by the Colorado States legislature after several deaths occurred due to the ungoverned use of seclusion and restraint in schools.

The *Selleck v. Board of Education* (1949) requires that school staff must establish rules and keep children safe. The courts strongly enforce this law. It is a right for every student to be in a safe environment at school. By the continued use of restraint and seclusion in schools, the constitutional rights of children in the United States of America are being denied and violated.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to declare the physical restraint, chemical restraint, and seclusion of a student (with disabilities) on campus illegal.

Proposal No. 1012

Name: Kelsey Hess
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for the restriction of government grants to public zoos, and requires that the same percentage of public funds be re-allocated towards the creation of tourist wings at wildlife animal rehabilitation centers.

JUSTIFICATION:

The life of a zoo animal is often a miserable one. Although some animals are on the pathway to extinction, keeping them locked in cages or in small parks is not the way to preserve their species. This proposal outlaws our current day idea of a 'zoo,' and will instead revamp wildlife animal rehabilitation centers.

Over a ten-year process, the United States will stop taking in new wildlife animals for amusement purposes. They will, however, continue and increase their levels of dedication and social responsibility towards the overseas wildlife communities. The animals leftover in zoos after ten years will be transported to each state's rehabilitation headquarters, which will be the last home in each state for tourists to visit healthy and capable animals, until the specific animals die off. Under no circumstances will zoo-raised animals be released into the wild. This is a slow process to rid the state of healthy and captured animals. Over time, only the healthier of the rehabilitating animals will be on 'display' as they are healing, and before they are sent back home.

Since zoos are heavily funded by the government through grants—as are science centers, museums, etc.—this proposal will require that the same percentage of funding provided to public zoos in the last five years (or the average amount) will be re-allocated to these rehabilitation centers. That number can change with the federal budget provided that the percentage allocated to grants remains constant. Tourism is a large concern, which is why visitor wings will be opened at these centers. The tourists will be able to see the healthier, recovering animals when they are not in active rehabilitation, and before they are sent back to their homes in the wild. Tour guides and gift shops will all continue to exist in a delegated wing of the rehabilitation center to encourage and continue this culture of tourism, as well as keep the jobs that zoos currently provide. This can boost our global image by showing the world that we care about animal rights, in order to set an example. The United States has 355 of the 2,000+ zoos in the world, and we have the power to influence a change.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

In ten years time, to make illegal modern zoos, to be replaced with wildlife rehabilitation centers that will be open to regulated public viewing.

Proposal No. 1013

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.

Proposal No. 1014

Name: Yesenia Lopez
Delegation: Santa Barbara

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Government Official Candidacy Requirements

JUSTIFICATION:

A government official is defined as an individual elected to administer a public government. This includes only those that will represent the public rather than a private group of citizens. There are currently few restrictions on the people who can run for these high offices, and no way to ensure that those running for the positions are of the most qualified within our cities, states, and nation. Before an individual can become a candidate, testing and proof of appropriate experience that correlates to the position must be completed. In no way will this limit the diversity and education level of who can run for office because the test will only ensure they possess the knowledge to run their desired position, knowledge they should already have. Testing must be added to allow the best representation of the people. For many of the government official positions the only requirements include age restrictions, including the role of governor. This means they can have little to no experience in government work or policy and become a candidate on the ballot. An example of such ludicracy was in the 2003 governor election after the recall election to remove Governor Gray Davis. The actor Arnold Schwarzenegger ran for governor with no experience in public office and a platform that gave voters only a vague idea about what he stood for, as well as no concise information on his future plans for the state and its deficit, yet he managed to win. With added requirements for becoming a candidate, it can ensure that all candidates have the knowledge to better aid their representative body.

With any career there must be a foundation of knowledge that makes them better suited to do their job, whether it be education or hands on experience. That is why I am suggesting proof of at least two years experience of the government system. This can include an internship, college degree in government related field, previous work within the government, and work within an established organization in a leadership role. The test will have 30 questions regarding ethical reasoning and solving, 60 questions on law and policy, and 30 questions on organization and management of an administration. The test will range according to city, state, and national government official positions. If the person fails to pass the test they will be given two more opportunities in which to retake the test. However after failing the exam three times, the individual will not be permitted to run until the following year as it will be understood that the person is not yet suitable to run such an important office. The examination will take place within the city hall as they are accessible to most of the population, and will be administered by an appointed body from within the government to ensure its validity.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

There will be an administered test added as a requirement before an individual can become a candidate as well as proof of two years experience.

Proposal No. 1101

Name: Addie McNamara
Delegation: Palo Alto Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Plea bargains in the US court system.

JUSTIFICATION:

In the current US court system, less than 10 percent of felonies ever make their way to trial. The remaining 90+ percent are resolved using what is commonly referred to as a plea bargain. A plea bargain, as defined by Black's Law Dictionary, is "a negotiated agreement between a prosecutor and a criminal defendant whereby the defendant pleads guilty to a lesser offence or to one of multiple charge in exchange for some concession by the prosecutor, usually a more lenient sentence or a dismissal of the oth guilty and is granted a lesser sentence if they agree to testify in court against another suspect. While all plea bargains risk the unjust conviction of an innocent man or the lesser sentence of a guilty man, this proposal deals specifically with plea bargains submitted in return for testimony. There are several reasons why the plea bargain system is flawed. First, plea bargains are corrupt and could be considered a form of entrapment because there is an exchange of lesser sentence for incriminating testimony. Second, crime rates increase because criminals see plea bargains as a way out of punishment and thus are less deterred by the threat of jail sentence. Third, a criminal who only decided to testify because it would give him or her a lesser sentence is much more likely to give a false, unreliable testimony. Fourth, the plea bargain system allows criminals accused of the same crime to come off with different punishments, disregarding the basic equality that the United State's guarantees its citizens. Fifth, defendants feel pressure to accept plea bargains even if they may be innocent because they are afraid to risk a trial. Lastly, while banning all plea bargains would surely lead to court clog, banning only plea bargains in exchange for testimony would not have as drastic of effects. Since plea bargains in exchange for testimony provide a means for false convictions, they ought to be prohibited.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Prohibit plea bargains that are submitted in return for testimony.

Proposal No. 1102

Name: Casey Snyder
Delegation: Triunfo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Give the right to vote on statewide propositions to all current prisoners and paroled felons in the United States.

JUSTIFICATION:

Currently prisoners and paroled felons have the right to vote in only 2 states (Maine and Utah) in the United States. An estimated 5.85 million people (as of 2010) with a felony conviction are barred from voting in elections (felonvoting.procon.org). As stated in the 26th amendment: The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age. In recent years several propositions have been passed or struck down by very small margins. As of November 2011, there are 143,643 prisoners in California jails alone, which is a very large amount of people who cannot vote towards these propositions affecting the results and voter turn out.

A citizen of eighteen years or more will not be denied the right to vote on state propositions even if they are imprisoned. By giving these prisoners and paroled felons the right to vote on state propositions it would increase the voter turn out in the election process. These election ballots would be brought to the state prison allowing the prisoners and paroled felons the opportunity to vote as long as they have met the qualifications stated in the constitution.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal Government of the United States of America will give all prisoners and paroled felons the opportunity to vote on state-initiated propositions with the help of the Department of Justice.

Proposal No. 1103

Name: Addie Meyer
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Marking public areas prone to sex crimes/assault with a red flag.

JUSTIFICATION:

According to RAINN (Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network) there is an average of 207,754 rape and sexual assault victims in America each year. That means there is roughly one sexual assault every 152 seconds. Deducting this number would be a staggering accomplishment for our country, and that is exactly what this bill aims to do. Giving communities the ability to see where they should be especially careful in their neighborhoods is something that has never been available before by marking areas with a flag if 5 or more reported sexual assaults have occurred there in the last 3 year, not only will the people of that neighborhood be warned, but the predators included. This bill aims to raise awareness about sex crimes, as well as try to make attackers and their actions not go unnoticed. 50% of all sexual assaults have been reported to happen within a 1-mile radius of the victims home, according to RAINN. Having the ability to see what areas in a neighborhood to be particularly aware of would put the public at less risk when living their daily lives.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

In every area where a violent sexual act that has been reported to the police in the most recent 3 years, a red flag will be placed in clear sight. 5 acts in 3 years qualify an area for a red flag, and each area will be re-evaluated every 3 years. If someone is caught removing, defacing or vandalizing in any way the flag, it will be punishable by law.

Proposal No. 1104

Name: Ryan LaBarre
Delegation: SDSC/Peninsula

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Proposal to require the use of solar energy in all federal buildings.

JUSTIFICATION:

The addition of solar panels to all government buildings in America would spur economic activity and aid the current economic condition. After the substantial but bearable, worthwhile initial investment, federal buildings would see a considerable decrease in their energy costs and over time the panels would pay for themselves. With this new system it is to be expected that the government spending needed to maintain all of its federal buildings will be significantly decreased. This political move would also encourage a greater degree of innovation and competition in the sustainable energy field resulting in more efficient technologies. America is already trailing many European nations' "green" technological advances; this economic field is simply not profitable enough for the American private sector to be significantly invested in at the moment. With this push from the government, there would be an increase in the amount of businesses involved in solar panel technology because of the increased potential profit due to the new legislation. With new businesses emerging and competition increasing, newer and better technologies would also follow because of the connection between demand, competition, and innovation. In turn, the United States would also become a bigger player in the global economy with its new technologies; and in the mean time, the government would be reducing spending on power and at the same time freeing up funds for other projects.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Legislation will be passed which requires all federal buildings to have at least 50% of its south facing roof space covered with solar panels.

Proposal No. 1105

Name: Oluwajomiloju Adeniran
Delegation: Gardena-Carson

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The Penalties for Persons Who Commit Hit and Run

JUSTIFICATION:

All over The United States, people in crosswalks and in bike lanes have to worry, not only about getting run over, but also about the in the horrible scenario of that the person who ran them over would just drive away, without stopping to help or calling for assistance. In many states, the penalties for persons are extremely lenient. For example, in New York, a hit and run is only just a traffic violation, and when someone gets seriously hurt, you are only charged with a misdemeanor. This cannot continue to happen.

The penalties have to be increased significantly. When you accidentally run someone over, it is your moral obligation as a fellow human being to help them out. If you knowingly leave them, dying in the street with no help or comfort, that is essentially the same as stabbing someone in the back and walking away, cool, calm, and collected. A person who commits hit and run should face a trial as if it was an attempted murder, or in the case the victim passes away, murder. They should be judged under the pretense of second degree murder, which is a murder not planned in advanced, but was committed.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States would pass federal legislation that will toughen the penalties on hit and run offenders.

Proposal No. 1106

Name: Kevin DePriest
Delegation: Crescenta-Canada

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Use of Performance Enhancing Drugs (PED's) in professional sports

JUSTIFICATION:

In sports around the world players are reaching new heights every day. Players in professional sports such as the NBA and MLB are breaking records day by day, which has increased fan participation and revenue throughout the last decade. Fans have demonstrated that they are more willing to pay and follow a team if they know they will get ample entertainment from them. This explains the success of the Lakers, the Giants during Barry Bond's time in the league, and other popular sports franchises. Legalizing steroids puts this success on a completely different level. While steroids have been seen as controversial, the results they yield are undeniable. Muscle grows at an alarming rate and puts players at the top of the performance spectrum. These steroids have been banned because of their health hazards and in order to keep the game fair, but I believe legalizing these drugs will only make it safer for athletes to reach their goals.

Just like every sport, the goal for a player is to be the best they can be. Athletes push themselves to incredible levels to accomplish this feat, often putting their life in dangerous circumstances; but it is their choice to do so. Players put themselves at risk every time they step onto the field. PBS and the NFL report that concussions in their games are up to nine per week. Players are putting their bodies in danger every day so why should steroids be any different? Steroids should be legalized because I think science should give us the best athletes possible. Steroids in professional sports (NBA, MLB, NHL, NFL) would not only increase the magnitude and level with which the games are played, but make the game more entertaining. Legalizing the drug gives players a safe environment to use and be supervised in. Most athletes who juice up today are forced to go behind the curtain and have control and governed use over the drugs, making sure their players are not abusing it. Legalization would level the playing field for everyone. Despite it being illegal, a recent report by the FDA stated that nearly 60% of all athletes in professional sports have used PED's in one form or another. The MLB also released its report of drug testing that came back with over 7% of its tests failed, not including anabolic steroids that cannot be traced in these tests. Legalization gives everyone the opportunity to improve their athleticism in a safe and sound environment.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal Government of the United States will require Professional Sport corporations such as the NBA, NFL, MLB, and NHL to legalize the use of PED's by their players if they wish to remain in the US.

Proposal No. 1107

Name: William McCauley
Delegation: SRV/Vista Diablo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To rework the presidential cabinet's confirmation system in order to prevent unqualified citizens from obtaining high positions of power.

JUSTIFICATION:

The presidential cabinet consists of 15 department heads, or secretaries of their department (ie. Secretary of State runs the state department). These cabinet members oversee all operations in their department. As of 2011, cabinet members are paid \$199,700 per year in office, equating to almost \$800,000 at the end of their term. These cabinet members are not elected, however. Instead, they are appointed by the president and confirmed by the senate in a simple majority. This can be a very dangerous practice, as each secretary has full control over his or her department in the case of a loss of contact with the president. Furthermore, in the current system, it is very easy for a president to appoint a family member or friend and still get that person elected. This was just the case with John F. Kennedy appointing his own brother, Robert F. Kennedy as Attorney General, a very real, very powerful position in the U.S. government.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The House and the Senate shall pass a law requiring each cabinet member to receive a 50% vote from both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Cabinet members shall still be nominated by the president. In the event of a member not being elected after a recount, a fallback member shall be chosen by congress.

Proposal No. 1108

Name: Connor Bradley
Delegation: Crescenta-Canada

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Cheating in Public Schools

JUSTIFICATION:

Cheating is a extremely important issue is modern education. Statistics from stanford.edu and caveon.com have proven that 95% of high school students admit that they have cheated. 80% of these student are considered “high-achieving” students. An amazing 51% of these students believe that cheating isn’t wrong at all. Lastly, 85% of these students believe that you need to cheat to get ahead. In my eyes there are three types of cheaters. The first type are the cheaters that use technology to cheat because they are too lazy to do the work themselves. These days, some students are more focused on grades, than actually learning the material, so they decide to cheat. The last type of cheaters are those who are smart but cheat to only get more ahead of everyone else. I believe all cheating needs to stop because it is not morally correct and it puts the non-cheaters at an unfair advantage. But it is impossible to take away technology or the pressure that is put on students, so the only way to solve this problem is to have a standardized punishment. This punishment will include a three strike system. The first time a student cheats, his or her parents will be notified as a warning. In the case of a second occurrence, the student will be suspended and the suspension will be put on their record. The hopefully not necessary third strike will have to result in expulsion. There is no way to totally get rid of cheating, but I believe that this law can only help the situation.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A federal law that includes the three strike system that would be present in all of the public schools in the United States.

Proposal No. 1109

Name: Elliot Kirk
Delegation: El Dorado

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To require all holders of federal office to swear in using a print copy of the US Constitution.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States of America was founded upon the beliefs of religious freedom and separation of church and state. Currently, many US officials swearing into federal positions choose to use a Bible or other spiritual text during their Oath of Office. However, this is a national tradition and not a requirement.

This proposal would require officials to swear into office using the US Constitution, a text which governs the entire United States -- the country which they are going to serve. By swearing on a copy of the US Constitution, the official will be solidifying their commitment to serve his/her country over all other things, including their deity or religious beliefs.

The only presidents who have not used a Bible to swear in on were John Quincy Adams and Theodore Roosevelt. These two highly respected Presidents recognized the foundation that church and state should remain separate. Creating a national standard will allow the United States to more closely match their ideas of separation of church and state, and require officials to commit their Oath of Office to the United States of American and not under any God or any religion.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

During the administration of the Oath of Office, all holders of federal office will be required to swear in using a print copy of the US Constitution. No other texts will be permitted (including the Bible and other spiritual texts).

Proposal No. 1110

Name: John Lopp
Delegation: SDSC/Peninsula

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Proposal to raise the minimum retirement age to 70 years.

JUSTIFICATION:

In the next four decades, the percentage of the population aged 65 and over will dramatically increase. In the same period, the ratio of adults aged 20-64 compared with seniors over 65 is expected to increase by 80%. This shift is happening because of 1) people living longer and 2) families having fewer children. As birth rates and mortality rates decline, the average life expectancy for people living in the United States is expected to rise from 77 years in 2000 to 84.5 years in 2050. Despite this, the average retirement age has been declining. These demographic and behavioral changes, if ignored, will place stress on our nation's economy as well as programs like Social Security and Medicare.

It is estimated that between one-fifth and two-thirds of seniors have not adequately saved enough for retirement. In addition, studies have shown that complete retirement leads to increases in illnesses, declines in mental health, and limited mobility. Prolonging retirement will mitigate the lower standard of living, quality of life, and economic decline that need not be realized by our aging population.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Legislation shall be made to raise the Social Security and Medicaid eligibility age to 70 years. Businesses will also incur a \$1,500 annual fee for every worker under the age of 70 on their pension plans as will be enforced by the Department of Labor.

Proposal No. 1111

Name: Dina Ibrahimzade
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The legalization of prostitution throughout the nation.

JUSTIFICATION:

The purpose of this proposal is not to encourage citizens to pursue a career in prostitution but to clean up the industry that currently exists in order to protect our citizens. It must be understood that regardless of the law of the time, prostitution has always existed and will always exist, in our nation and in every other. Recognize the fact that the majority of individuals involved in the prostitution industry are those who have lived unfortunate lives and were left with limited opportunity. Many are people who were not provided proper educational opportunities, came from poor abusive homes, or were left without families. In 2011 92% of women engaged in the prostitution industry said they wanted to leave prostitution, but were unable to do so because they lacked basic human services such as a home, job training, health care, counseling, and treatment for drug or alcohol addiction (statistic from the Factbook on Global Exploitation). The prostitution industry is unreliable and dangerous, because it operates undercover. Workers of the industry are blackmailed, abused, and raped--all with no means of protection, because should they turn to the police, they could be get arrested for prostitution. Clients account for 60% of the abuse against street-prostitutes, police for 20%, and partners for 20% (statistic from Project Social Art). One study found that 80% of prostitutes have been sexually assaulted, some raped as many as 8-10 times a year or more; only 7% seek help and only 4% report it to the police (statistic from Visual Academy).

Brothels are houses of prostitution. Currently the only legal existing brothels in the United States operate in Nevada. If brothels and other individual prostitution businesses were to be legalized throughout the nation--after placement in approved zones--those individuals 18 years or older who do end up engaging in the business of prostitution will no longer be in the danger of the black-market, they will turn to a legal industry with employers and jobs that will preserve their rights. This would further reduce the spread of STD's throughout the nation as employers would be required to provide regular STD testing for their workers as well as require the use of condoms. As it would be illegal for one to perform the service while having an STD, a worker who contracts an STD while employed may be entitled to unemployment with severance pay. All workers will be required to sign a contract with their employers stating they are aware they are putting themselves at risk of contracting an STD by perusing this career. Specifications for STD testing requirements are to be decided by each state. The federal income tax paid by the workers along with a 'sin tax' on the service paid by the customer would help stimulate the economy. Each individual state may choose to place a state tax on prostitution in addition.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Prostitution should be legalized though out the Nation in order to establish a functioning industry and eliminate the danger of the current incognito business.

Proposal No. 1112

Name: Cooper Anderson
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Citizens of the age 70 and older must renew their driver's license every five years as well as have had an eye examination within two years.

JUSTIFICATION:

As of now, less than half of drivers that are over 70 years old have proved their visibility when renewing their license. Drivers over the age 70 have the second highest risk of causing an accident, the first being the age groups 16-19. In a recent incident a man 89 years of age killed 10 people driving his car through the Santa Monica farmers market. He claimed that he mistook the gas pedal for the brake and panicked when the car took off. He was found guilty of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence as well as 18 years in prison. Not regulating has become something that is not only harmful to not only the victims but also the elderly drivers themselves. Studies show a total of 4,139 people ages 70 and older died in motor vehicle crashes in 2010. It is the responsibility of the Federal Government to insure that people driving under the law are physically capable to do so.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal Government would insure that when 70 or older you must provide proof to the DMV of having taken an eye exam within the past two years.

Proposal No. 1113

Name: Mariele Saunders-Shultz
Delegation: Westchester

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal will create a paid Federal holiday on the day of national elections.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States has the lowest voter turnout when compared to every other country with national voting days. Only 57.5% of eligible voters in the US make it to the polls on Election Day. Compared to other countries, such as Australia and England, who give workers the day off for national elections, the United States falls short by more than 20%. Creating a paid holiday on Election days would encourage and allow more people to get to the polls and vote. It would enable people to be more informed of when Election Day is so that they will be more inclined to vote. This would primarily benefit low-income families who, historically, have not been able to get to the polls because they cannot afford to take a day off work. Providing a day off, with pay, would make getting to the polls a priority. Not only would this improve voter turnout, but it would also create wider diversity among voters; attracting voters from all different socioeconomic backgrounds. As such, our elected officials will more accurately reflect the entire population of the United States.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass legislation that would create a paid federal holiday on the day of elections.

Proposal No. 1114

Name: Troy Gelobter
Delegation: Berkeley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Legalizing Prostitution in Brothels

JUSTIFICATION:

70% of female inmates in American prisons were initially arrested for prostitution, and it is estimated that 80,000 arrests pertaining to prostitution are made each year in the U.S. alone. This costs American taxpayers around 200 million dollars each year. through legalizing prostitution we could solve the problem of overcrowded prisons while saving the American people money.

The average sex worker began this profession between the ages of 12 and 13 years old. These people can't be held accountable for being forced into a job that they had no intention of getting into. For the majority of them they know no other life and sex work is the only work that they can find. Legalizing prostitution would make their lives safer and much more bearable. Without the legalization of prostitution, it is as if we are punishing these sexworkers for decisions that they had no part in choosing. Some of the horrors that sex workers face

daily include: being raped by pimps or strangers - a reported 8-10 times annually - and being brutally beaten by pimps an estimated 58 times per year

Over 1 million people in the US have reportedly worked as prostitutes, it happens even while being illegal. Regulating it would not dramatically increase the occurrence of prostitution but simply make it a safer transaction between the sex worker and their client.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The brothels will be heavily inspected to ensure that all health regulations are being followed and that the prostitutes are being regularly tested and are STD free. The brothel managers must be certified (know health standards, first aid, and emergency CPR). The brothels will pay taxes on revenue, above and beyond standard business taxes, and the proceeds will be given to public high schools or middle schools that provide sex education classes to their students.

Proposal No. 1201

Name: Ruby Muller
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Illegalizing the killing, selling, and importation of meat and other products containing products of dead animals.

JUSTIFICATION:

In our industrialized nation, there is no reason to harm animals when we have other resources for food that are safer to animals, our bodies, and our planet. Animals used in factory farming are often kept in miserable conditions, where they are unable to exercise and do not see the light of day until they are moved to slaughterhouses. Cattle's horns are burned or cut off, they are brandedâ€”causing third degree burnsâ€”drugged, forced to breathe in unhealthy air and eat foods unusual to their normal diets, and they are seldom given veterinary care. According to PETA, seven billion chickens are killed each year, 99% of which have spent their entire lives in confinement.

Vegetarians and vegans have been shown to be healthier than meat-eaters. People who do not eat meat show lessened susceptibility to heart disease, diabetes, certain cancers, and obesity. Meat-eaters have a life expectancy of six to ten years less than their vegetarian counterparts.

As the climate continues to change and the population continues to grow, it is becoming increasingly important to make a drastic change to the dietary habits of Americans. According to National Public Radio, a single hamburger requires 6.7 pounds of feed, 52.8 gallons of water, and 74.5 square feet of land. This is a waste of the precious resources that need to be conserved for future generations. Cows also release the green house gas methane, which is a cause of global warming. It is obvious that this is a problem for the well being of animals, humans, and our earth.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Seven years from the passing of this proposal, the slaughtering of animals for their meat, hides, and other body parts for the purposes of human consumption and production, as well as the importation and selling of these products, will be made illegal.

Proposal No. 1202

Name: Natalie Sullivan
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Insurance Coverage for the Mentally Unstable

JUSTIFICATION:

Justification: The people in America burdened with serious mental illnesses account for a majority of the people who commit suicide, are homeless, engage in acts of violence and make up the prison population. Between 2.3 and 3.5 million people experience homelessness in one year, and one-third of that number are suffering from mental illness. 20-25% of these people meet the criteria for a serious mental illness. Between 5 and 10 percent of the untreated with a serious mental illness will commit violent crimes annually, accounting for 5% (300,000) of homicides in the United States. Not only are the untreated detrimental to others, but to themselves as well. 10-17% of those who have a serious mental illness will commit suicide. In America, there are 2.2 million people in our prisons, 16% of those people are mentally ill. It costs the nation \$15 billion to incarcerate the mentally ill alone. In the past, the money spent in order to assist those in need has been misplaced, paying to support the study and aid of million mentally ill who go untreated. Those affected by these illnesses have found it difficult to obtain the services necessary, either due to a lack of funds or the discrimination of mental health providers against highly symptomatic people with serious illnesses. When so much money is invested in placing the people who can't afford help in prison, it is logical for the nation to invest that money in coverage for the mentally unstable. If we are able to provide for the people who cannot do it themselves, this coverage will keep the mentally unstable off the street and out of jail.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Create an insurance in order to give coverage to the mentally ill using the money from incarcerating those with a mental illness. The rates of crime and homelessness would diminish by providing shelter and therapy for those in need. With the affected off the street and out of our countries prisons, more money will be placed in beneficial places, cutting the costs of prisons nearly in half. The American taxpayer's money that had once gone into supplying the incarcerated will now go to a cause that will lessen the amount of criminals and the homeless, making the streets of our nation ultimately safer.

Proposal No. 1203

Name: Victoria Mills
Delegation: SFY/Buchanan

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The establishment of screening sites on mass transportation systems worldwide to control the spread of infectious disease and prevent pandemic.

JUSTIFICATION:

Reducing the spread of infectious disease in America and the rest of the world would save lives and money on medical care. 10-15% of the population gets the flu every year. During a pandemic 25% of the population gets the flu. The Avian-Flu pandemic of 1918, usually called the Spanish Flu, killed around 40,000,000 people worldwide.

Today's technology promotes the spread of viruses and bacteria. The way we travel and interact on a daily basis acts like a highway for germs, allowing easy passage from one group of people to another, easily starting a pandemic. The World Health Organization predicts at least 7.4 million people world wide could die in the next Avian-Flu outbreak. A system of infectious disease screening on mass transportation methods like airplanes, cruise ships, and trains would stop the spread of infectious disease or at least slow down the rate of infections.

Having a system that screens for infectious disease will allow the disease to be controlled. A lot of the time no symptoms show during the incubation period of an infectious disease. This allows people to spread disease without knowledge that they are even sick. Screening can show disease in people with and without symptoms.

Pre-screening people who are entering the country for infectious disease will benefit individuals by alerting them of the disease presence, as well as countries by controlling the spread of disease. This screening would be apart of homeland security and take approximately 20 minutes. The screening would take place inside of the transportation facility, such as an airport, similar to screening systems designed to regulate plant and animal species travel around the globe. The screening test would check for infectious diseases transmitted through people, via either airborne, droplet, direct, or indirect transmission. Passengers who do not pass the screening test will not be allowed to travel. Screening test should be done throughout the country in major cities as well as internationally.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Homeland security will establish and maintain infectious disease screening sites at all mass transportation systems that will screen for infectious disease. Any infected passengers will not be allowed to travel.

Proposal No. 1204

Name: Moera Ainai
Delegation: Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Enforcing stricter limitations on gun control; banning specific types of weapons.

JUSTIFICATION:

People have fought against gun control by arguing that it goes against the Second Amendment, the right to bear arms, but recent events such as the Newtown, Connecticut school shooting --where twenty innocent children were shot-- was the final straw. Stricter limitations on gun control need to be enforced. The assault-gun ban enacted under President Bill Clinton in 1994, which expired in 2004, decreased the amount of assault weapons traced back to crime by 66%, according to the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence. Assault weapons pose a serious issue because they fire rounds more quickly than standard weapons. Other programs, such as a national gun buy back, can help remove assault-guns purchased since 2004. Banning assault guns takes us one step closer towards preventing devastating events such as Newtown, and will make a meaningful change.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To renew the federal assault-gun ban, enacted in 1994 under President Bill Clinton.

Proposal No. 1205

Name: Loata Fine
Delegation: Eastlake

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal will provide conditional residency for Adults who are working and paying taxes, as well as students brought to the U.S as minors.

JUSTIFICATION:

The U.S was built upon immigrants. Everyday, 1,000 people are getting deported, which means more then 200 citizen shipped children are separated from their mother and or father. There are 12 million people here in the United States that are considered "illegal." Many of the millions are set and integrated into the American society. Immigrants are an essential element in keeping the American economy strong, from fast food businesses to high-tech industry, they are filling an intrinsic need in the labor force. The U.S. government has forecast a shortage of 20 million workers by 2026, prompting many parties to call for a relaxation of the US immigration laws in order to meet the labor demand. The U.S has always been known as the "Land of Opportunities." People of different ethnic backgrounds relocated from their homeland to seek greater opportunities in education. Over three million students graduate from U.S. high schools every year. Most get the opportunity to test their dreams and live their American story. However, a group of approximately 65,000 youth do not get this opportunity; they are smeared with an inherited title, an illegal immigrant. These youth have lived in the United States for most of their lives and want nothing more than to be recognized for what they are, Americans.

Needless to say, despite the opposing claims to the legalization of immigrants, it is evident that most of the research serves to prove that a comprehensive approach to reforming the immigration system in the U.S. could greatly lead to a better economy, increase wages, and lessen the effects of poverty. Ultimately, the nation would benefit and prosper from the decision to give current undocumented immigrants legal residence.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

I agree with Obama's four part plan for comprehensive immigration reform, and I would simplify it to the have the following requirements: encouraging undocumented immigrants accountable for paying taxes, speak English, obtain a criminal background check and they must complete a basic level of education.

Proposal No. 1206

Name: Kaela Elias
Delegation: Berkeley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal will make all public bathrooms in the United States unisex.

JUSTIFICATION:

In Northwest Europe, all public bathrooms are predominantly unisex. Gender segregated bathrooms are a relic from 19th century victorian values that have long since passed. In America, we're ready for this change too. Studies have shown that in places where most public bathrooms are unisex, there's no higher incident of sexual assault, so it's unlikely that this would be a problem in America. Bathrooms are extremely public, so even if an act of sexual assault occurred there would most likely be many witnesses. On a practical note, making all public bathrooms unisex would save time, money, and resources. Public buildings wouldn't have to make two bathrooms and could use that space for other more important facilities. Also, the line at the women's bathrooms tends to be long while the one at the men's bathroom is usually short. If there was only one bathroom, it would be much more efficient. Today, women are forced to wait in a long, tedious line for a bathroom while there's one they can't use only a few feet away. Unisex bathrooms would be almost identical to the ones we have today, however there would be no urinals.

Less than 100 years ago, bathrooms were segregated by race. Today we segregate bathrooms by gender. Are these two ideas really so different? 900,000 people in the United States alone identify as transgender; that's 900,000 people who don't have a public restroom made for their gender. Transgender people face violence and harassment every day. 1 in 12 transgender people in America is murdered. The discrimination against transgender and gender neutral people is a huge societal problem. Implementing unisex bathrooms is something we could do in order to create a safer world for transgender and gender neutral people. Enabling unisex bathrooms would be a simple switch, but it would create major social changes that would create a better, safer future.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States Congress would create a law making all public bathrooms unisex, banning gender segregated bathrooms.

Proposal No. 1207

Name: Alec Allee-Munoz
Delegation: Miller

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Amending the Constitution to place a minimum population for states to maintain their statehood.

JUSTIFICATION:

Living with federalism in the third largest country has its down sides. In the two centuries we have been a country, state borders have been established that do not adequately represent modern population and or political trends. Currently, states have less people living in them than some cities. With this mind set, why shouldn't Los Angeles be its own state as it has over 6 times the population of Wyoming, or New York City with over 14 times the population?! By placing a minimum population of 1.5 million persons, states with as many people as some counties would not be overly represented, as the founding fathers never could have imagined the population densities found in modern metropolises. Furthermore, no political party would be hurt by this amendment as there are five "red" states (Wyoming, Alaska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana) and four "blue" states (Vermont Delaware, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Hawaii, in addition to Washington DC which has representation in the presidential election as it has a population of approximately 600,000).

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Constitution of the United States will add a new amendment reading, "The many states must have a population of one and a half million persons to maintain statehood, and must merge with another county, city, or other political body of another state if the population of a state drops below this figure. Any such merging must be approved by a super majority in Congress, and the Supreme Court shall hear any and all conflict that should arise by such a decision. States completely and utterly isolated from the Continental United States with no way of merging with another political entity will not be affected by this amendment. States jeopardize all representation in the Senate if their population drops below one and a half million persons, and will be disenfranchised of all federal election in which the state participated in."

Proposal No. 1208

Name: Zackary Solati
Delegation: SRV/Vista Diablo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for the requirement of citizenry for all people using governmental programs such as social security, Medicare, subsidization, Welfare, food stamps etc.

JUSTIFICATION:

Right now billions of taxpayer dollars go to Welfare each year. Seventy-one percent of this money goes to illegal immigrants. Why should taxpayers have to support hundreds of free loaders? Right now we are literally trillions of dollars of debt and vast majority is going into helping people that are not contributing to our society. Only when we cut this unnecessary spending can we truly see our true budget issues and figure out a way to fix it.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

As of May first twenty thirteen all persons that apply for governmental aid must have proof of citizenship upon application. Any who do not are given a one month grace period to start the process of gaining citizenship. Any found using these services illegally face immediate deportation. This excludes anyone who is here legally but not a citizen. (i.e. work visa)

Proposal No. 1209

Name: Annalise Beyer-Johnson
Delegation: Conejo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Installing monitoring devices on all civilian owned guns.

JUSTIFICATION:

In Newton, Connecticut on December 14th, 2012, twenty six people were tragically killed in a shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary school. Unfortunately this was far from an isolated incident. Deaths caused by guns is a prevalent problem across the whole country that needs to be controlled. In 2011 there were more than 32,163 deaths by firearms in the United States. Students should not have to live in fear while trying to learn. A school should be a safe and secure place. This proposal will help solve this problem by installing a monitoring device on all civilian owned guns. This device will detect when a gun comes within a 100 yard radius of a school and send a signal that disables the gun so that it cannot be fired. The device is not a tracking device and therefore does not infringe on the gun holder's privacy. It is no different than a GPS on a phone and simply sends signals when the gun is within this radius. If a person disables or breaks the device, it will trigger the gun to lock and the person has to renew their monitoring device at their own time and expense in order for the gun to begin working again. Every three years, gun owners will have to get their gun or guns checked to make sure their tracking device is actively working. Owning a gun is indeed a right but it comes with great responsibility and this will just be another precaution that makes owning a gun safer.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

These devices will be installed into new guns by gun manufacturing companies and the cost of the device will be incorporated into the price of the gun. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) will inspect these companies to enforce that the devices are being installed and working properly. However, the civilians who already own guns will have six months to pay for and have the device installed into their guns. If they do not do this within six months, their gun or guns will be confiscated and this device will be installed with an additional charge.

Proposal No. 1210

Name: Nathen Navon
Delegation: Westside Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

I would like to propose the replacement of coal, as the main source of energy in the United States, with nuclear energy.

JUSTIFICATION:

Nuclear energy produces more energy than coal does, while using much less of our natural resources. Nuclear power produces so much energy that splitting a single atom of uranium makes 70 million times more energy than burning a single molecule of coal or oil. Nuclear energy is much more environmentally friendly than coal or oil as well, producing a fraction of the waste. There are many concerns on the safety of nuclear energy, but we must remember that nuclear energy has only been in use for about 80 years and in this time frame there have only been three accidents that have resulted in minimal human deaths. Coal and oil have produced numerous accidents, the Exxon Mobile Valdese accident and the British Petroleum accident, both of which have taken place in the last 25 years. France uses nuclear power for more than 70 percent of their energy and contributes to a cleaner future by using less resources and producing fewer waste products. The United States relies on coal, natural gas, and petroleum for 70% of its energy, while only using nuclear power for less than 20 percent of its energy. Nuclear power is the most efficient and clean source of power, therefore the United States should adopt the standards of other countries like France and make nuclear power its main source of energy.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The EPA would create taxes that would negatively effect the coal and oil industries, while also making much more difficult for oil refineries and mines to be formed within the United States.

Proposal No. 1211

Name: Sean Weinstein
Delegation: West Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Change the Voting day of Presidential Elections from Tuesday to Sunday.

JUSTIFICATION:

Currently, Presidential Election are held on a Tuesday, which is a normal work day. Many people claim that because they work on Tuesdays, it is either inconvenient or they are restricted in their ability to vote on that day. By changing the day of the elections to Sunday, it will increase the number of people who can vote without causing any financial hardships.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Change title 3 section 1 of the United States Code to read:

”The elections of the President and Vice President shall be appointed, in each State, on the Sunday next after the first Monday in November, in every fourth year succeeding every election of a President and Vice President.” This would change the day of Presidential elections from a Tuesday to a Sunday.

Proposal No. 1212

Name: Georgie Guitron
Delegation: Central/SV

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

TOPIC OF CONCERN: The use of cow manure as a source of fuel.

JUSTIFICATION:

JUSTIFICATION:

The use of traditional fuels has called federal and state energy bills to increase renewable energy sources. We know we can turn to cow manure for the change. Manure as a fuel source happens when manure is heated for several days, allowing bacteria to break down and releasing methane gas. This gas reduces emissions from traditional fuels. A recent study from the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station found that manure use in coal plants, lowers their emissions of nitrous oxide, Which benefits our global warming state. Not only is it benefiting our environment, but it is benefiting dairy farms like in Pennsylvania to not only produce safe milk but power an entire plant resulting in annual saving of 200,000. The Panda Group(Dallas, TX.) plans to run a \$120 million ethanol plant on cow manure. Their energy saving are equivalent to 1,000 barrels or oil per day from the use of manure waste into clean burning fuel to power the plant. So clearly this manure source for fuel is helping large companies financially and it also is helping our earth. The cost has always been a big obstacle, reaching to millions of dollars to complete this process. Fortunately, due to global warming and the cost of foreign oil, many states in America are offering grants to offset the cost or construction. A returning investment is not uncommon because the simplest manner of using cow dung as fuel source can be done.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass legislation on the use of cow manure as a fuel source, and not use the traditional earth harming fuels.

Proposal No. 1213

Name: Tatiana Pavelka
Delegation: Crescenta-Canada

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Nationwide Ban On Cosmetic Animal Testing

JUSTIFICATION:

Animal testing over the years has become obsolete, and it is our job as a nation to push towards safer and more effective alternatives. This proposal sets a five-year limit, in which all cosmetic companies must locate and utilize a different means of trial for their products. In example of alternative methods, research has show that use of: stem cells, bone marrow, cadavers, donated organs, and volunteering from death row inmates, have proven to be twice as effective as animal testing. They have also proven to be more cost effective, in addition to being quick, and less painful for all. Research has shown that only 5-25% of animal tests give positive/useful feedback that is translatable to humans.

I truly believe that with what is out in the world- with all the different methods to test a product's safety, testing on animals who have no say in what happens to them, is extremely outdated. We have moved past the need for this method of testing, and in cosmetics, this is especially true. It is silly to think that humans put animals in danger for some makeup or hair dye- especially with over 50 proven-effective, alternative methods of testing. These animals do not deserve what is happening to them, and we should take the matter into our own hands, and change our method of testing.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

With help of the ASPCA and the FDA, all cosmetic companies discovered to be testing on animals after the five-year limit will receive a \$25,000 fine, the second infraction will result in a \$50,000 fine with company heads facing the possibility of trial under animal cruelty. The third, and final offense will result in the company being shut down, and company heads tried under animal cruelty. All companies must find safe homes or shelters for their test subjects within/after the five years, as well as label all of their products with whether or not they test on animals. Companies that start off without utilization of animal testing, will receive a government seal of approval.

Proposal No. 1214

Name: Tiffani Chanroo
Delegation: South Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To require plain packaging on cigarettes.

JUSTIFICATION:

It is proven that 99% of people who have never smoked before the age of 26 will never start. Although 80% of smokers start before the age of 18 when cigarette smoking is legal. The motivation behind this proposal is to discourage young adults by removing the glamour of smoking. If used to the degree recommended by the manufacturer, 50% of cigarette smokers will be killed from its usage. Seventy percent of the 46 million Americans who smoke want to quit, although only 1.3 million of these people are successful. Although advertisements discourage smoking, the youth currently starts based off of the 'positive' image associated with cigarette smoking. Advertisements fall short in that they do not present concrete images in which prospective smokers are fully discouraged. Despite their efforts, most smokers think that these very prominent risks are exaggerated. Thus, further action should be taken to discourage and fully inform the users of the detriments of cigarette smoking.

This proposal suggests that cigarettes companies be mandated to have uniform packaging, stripping them of making their packaging enticing to the user. Australia has since passed such mandates on cigarette packaging to discourage new users, and thus far has been successful in both discouraging new users as well as influencing current users to quit.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will prohibit cigarette companies from branding their packages with color or images. Rather, each cigarette package will be mandated to have uniform a olive-brown color with a same type labeling, largely covered with a graphic health risk image.

Proposal No. 1215

Name: Austin Madden
Delegation: SDSC/La Jolla

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The creation of gun warehouses as a way to help gun control.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States has had to deal with many unfortunate shootings over the past months like the tragic shooting in Newtown, Connecticut. I believe that we need to do whatever we can to stop this from happening again. While many ideas have been discussed about how to put improve gun control in this country, I believe that one idea that should be given serious consideration is to have all gun owners put their guns in local Gun Banks. While people will have complete access to their guns, people will have to list reason(s) why they are taking their gun(s) out and when their gun(s) will be returned. My suggestion is that there should be a limit on how many times a month they can take their guns out and the duration of each gun can be used. Any time the duration of use is more than a few days the person using the gun will need to provide a legitimate reason (such a week long hunting trip) why the gun needs to be out of the Gun Bank for this extended period of time. If a person fails to bring a gun back, they will pay a fine of \$300. If they continue to not bring their gun(s) back on time, they will lose their privilege of taking their gun(s) from the Gun Bank for some period of time and if they are repeat offenders they may get jail time. Some portion of the fines will be used to help those directly affected by shootings in their area, with the remainder to help pay for cost of establishing and running the Gun Banks.

The Gun Banks will be located throughout the US with locations that will give everyone reasonable access to their gun(s). If need be, there will be a delivery system for people who live in the more rural areas. I believe that the Gun Banks will be old warehouses or other buildings that are may not be in use today to save of the cost of establishing the Gun Banks. The people working as clerks will be veterans in order to give people in service jobs and to get people with actual experience with guns working behind the counters. No ammunition will be allowed in the Gun Banks. People will not be allowed to bring in ammunition or loaded guns. All guns must be empty when entering.

When a person buys a gun, they will have a maximum of 5 days to register the gun at the Gun Bank at risk being fined. Anybody selling a gun, must report the sale to the National Gun Registry that will feed this data in the National Computer System for the Gun Banks. Failure to report a sale of a gun will be considered also receive a fine. If a seller is shown to do this on a continuing basis, that seller may face felony charges and be put in jail.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The U.S. would use this as a solution for Gun Control and pass this as a law.

Proposal No. 1301

Name: Melanie Piedra
Delegation: Torrance - South Bay

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To establish a filter system for social networks to constrain cyber bullying

JUSTIFICATION:

Cyber bullying is defined in Assembly Bill 1156 as any severe act, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act. The law defines bullying as sexual harassment, hate violence or harassment and threats or intimidation that places a student in fear of harm, has a detrimental effect on a student's mental or physical health, his or her academic performance and his or her ability to benefit from school. Cyber bullying has become an issue nationwide for many adolescents. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics there have been a reported 52% of students being cyber bullied. 33% of teens have experienced cyberthreats online, 25% have been bullied through cell phones or the Internet, and 11% of students have had embarrassing or damaging pictures taken without permission. The effect of cyber bullying can lead to low self-esteem, depression, and lead students to attempt suicide. Establishing a filter for social networks can greatly reduce cyber bullying statistics and can aide in controlling what people can and cannot post on the Internet. In the early 1900's the Supreme Court used a legal test called the bad tendency test, which was rooted, in English common law. The test permitted speech to be outlawed if it had a tendency to harm public welfare. The Supreme Court considered this due to cases where people were being punished after speaking or publishing. In the Supreme Court case Schenck V. United States, the Clear and present danger test was introduced. The test limits a citizen's First Amendment rights; it prohibits that if because social networking sites are public because everyone has access to it and can see it.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Creating a Filter system for social networks to use when users are trying to upload, post, or send messages. The Filter will use face recognition software to send an email or text message to the person or persons in the photo. Pertaining to posts, social networks will use similar software that has a function to scan through a post to block out words or groups of words that may be hurtful, degrading, or rude. The government will monitor this process.

Proposal No. 1302

Name: Matt Thomas
Delegation: Estancia

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To put a cap on how high the income tax rate can be at 33%.

JUSTIFICATION:

The reasons that there should be a cap on how high the income tax rate can be at 33% due to the Laffer curve and the history of taxes and their revenues. Arthur Laffer, created the Laffer curve in 1974, to show the relationship between the rates of taxation and the resulting levels of the government's tax revenue. The Laffer curve postulates that no tax revenue would be raised when the income tax rates were at 0%, obviously, as well as at 100%, as no one would be motivated to produce income. Then since at the extreme tax rates (0% and 100%), the tax revenue would be zero, the graph of tax rates and tax revenue will form a curve between 0% and 100%. What we need to find is the apex of the curve in order to maximize tax revenue through tax rates. What many economists, on both the left and the right, agree that the apex of the curve is around 33%. This has been shown throughout history as when income tax rates are lowered, tax revenues have increased. This has been seen throughout the last four administrations that have cut the income tax rate. Under the Calvin Coolidge administration tax rates for the highest tax bracket were cut from 73% in 1922 to eventually 24% in 1929 after the Revenue Acts of 1921, 1924, and 1926. The tax revenue under Coolidge went from \$861 million in 1922 to \$1.16 billion in 1928 after the massive tax cuts. Also under John F. Kennedy's administration, taxes were cut under the Revenue Act of 1964, which included reducing the top marginal rate from 91% to 70%. This tax cut lead to increased tax revenue in 1964 and 1965. Under Reagan's administration, with the Tax Reform Act of 1986, the top tax rate was lowered from 50% to 28%, curbed special deductions, exclusions and breaks; gave most families a tax cut; left the richest 1% paying a slightly higher share of taxes. After these tax cuts, tax revenue increased from \$308.7 billion in 1980 to \$549 billion in 1989. Lastly, under George W. Bush's administration taxes were cut yet again. This time through the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 and Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003. These acts instituted a federal tax cut for all taxpayers. Among other changes, the lowest income tax rate was lowered from 15% to 10%, the 27% rate went to 25%, the 30% rate went to 28%, the 35% rate went to 33%, and the top marginal tax rate went from 39.6% to 35%. After these tax cuts, tax revenue increased again, up until the housing bust of 2008. Tax revenue increased from \$1.78 trillion in 2003 to \$2.57 trillion in 2007. As the Laffer curve and history of tax cuts show, it would be counter productive to raise the income tax rates above 33% as it does not lead to higher tax revenue.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A Congressional Act would be written and passed putting a cap for federal income tax rates at 33%.

Proposal No. 1303

Name: Roak Ely
Delegation: Desert Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

End federal funding to state militias and create a budget independent to that state.

JUSTIFICATION:

State militias are organized to protect the citizens of that state, whether it be from physical harm or constitutional infringements. The militias are to protect the citizens even if the subject causing that harm is the federal government. If the federal government begins to turn against its citizens, the state militias may need to militarize in defense of the people.

If the states must in fact rise against the federal government, they will be put at a serious disadvantage when the federal funds are taken away. Currently in Alabama, \$5.5 million of the National Guard funds come from state taxes, while \$435.5 million come in from the federal government. In times where the militia would have to protect the people from a tyrannical government, a cut like that from the budget can be devastating.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Gradually end federal funding to state militias over the course of 10 years while promoting a strong independent state budget. States will decide how much to fund and where to draw in the money from.

Proposal No. 1304

Name: Cristina Zavala
Delegation: DaVinci

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Making it mandatory for all food restaurant owners who's restaurants receive an FDA grade of lower than an A to post a list a reasons why they did not get an A rating, along with their grade.

JUSTIFICATION:

If restaurants receive an FDA grade that is lower than an A, the restaurant owner will be required to post a list of the reasons why they did not receive an A rating, along with the grade the inspector gave them. There are hardly any restaurants that post grades that are lower than an A. Customers have the right to be well informed about the establishment at which they choose to eat. By posting up the reasons for having a grade lower than an A, customers can make smarter decisions about choosing where to go to purchase food. Some restaurants do not meet up to the FDA's requirements for cleanliness, customer service and proper food packaging. As paying customers, all people deserve the right to know why a restaurant cannot get an exceptional FDA score. If a restaurant is not meeting up to the proper standards of the FDA, and do not let their customers know why, they could potentially be putting the health of their customers at risk. Inspector General Daniel R. Levinson stated, "Each year, 128,000 American they choose to eat, hospitalizations, illnesses and deaths can be prevented."

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The restaurant will be given a fine of \$300 for every week that they do not follow the requirement. The FDA will be enforcing this requirement by performing random inspections within the following month of the grading.

Proposal No. 1305

Name: Jessica Lindemulder
Delegation: Eastlake

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal is for the termination of Assault Rifles due to the high number of deaths they resulted to.

JUSTIFICATION:

For the past year, Assault Rifles have been a big threat to all of the U.S. These high power killing machines should not be in the hands of individuals. In the Second Amendment, which was adopted in 1791, gave everyone the right to bear arms. When the founding fathers wrote the Second Amendment there was lack of security, no police system, and addition to this, the British forced colonists to quarter their soldiers. It is understandable because of how it was then, but it is not the case now.

I, in time of peace be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner described by is close together. Farming then was big, which made distance between neighbors so there is no need to have such high power guns in the hands of the people. In just December 2012, there were estimated 306 deaths by gunnery. This just the amount estimated, who would know how many deaths are unknown or not counted, because there is no way to keep track.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

There is a need for a new and stronger Assault-weapons ban, as well as 10-round cap on magazines and universal background checks. I strongly encourage this act; it can save many lives to come. Overall, Assault Rifles are vicious machines and handling of it should only stay in the military force

Proposal No. 1306

Name: Rachel Sigal
Delegation: SDSC/Mission Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Securing funding for visual and performing arts programs in public high schools.

JUSTIFICATION:

It is imperative to guarantee funding for visual and performing arts programs because of the tremendous creative outlet, essential problem-solving skills, and valuable cognitive stimuli they provide. Several small nonprofit organizations such as VH1's Save the Music Foundation have made valuable contributions to this cause, but consistent, protected federal funds would make even more progress.

The value of music and arts programs has been most evident in recent decades. According to the Arts Education Partnership, a 1995 study demonstrated that students who studied the arts for 4 years scored 103 points higher on the SAT than students who did not. In 2011, a report compiled by the President's Committee of the Arts and Humanities (PCAH) concluded that arts education cultivated, "student motivation and engagement, including improved attendance, persistence, focused attention, heightened education

It is argued that core classes such as math and science are more important than art or music, but in the same PCAH report it was shown that students were able to successfully apply skills fostered in visual and performing arts programs to other areas of study. Regardless of whether or not a student decides to pursue a career in art, they can apply their creative and innovative thinking to their field of choice.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A federal agency will be created to distribute donated funds nationwide under the Board of Education. Donors will be given tax cuts, and the funds will go towards materials and resources for visual and performing arts departments.

Proposal No. 1307

Name: Alex Shaw
Delegation: Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The United States defense budget.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States has the largest military budget in the world, larger than the next 13 countries combined in 2012. In 2011, the U.S. defense budget accounted for 41 percent of the world military expenditure. The 2013 U.S. military budget will be \$633 billion. In 2012, defense accounted for 24% of the budget, making it a plurality of the federal budget. Given the current economic climate, all programs need some budget cuts. However, the U.S. defense budget is larger than necessary, and funds are not necessarily being used very efficiently. For instance, the U.S. government spent over \$77 billion for 187 F-22 Raptor jets (\$143 million each) which have never been used in combat. By reducing spending on defense, money can be put to better use, and even help pay down our national debt, while still maintaining the most advanced, powerful military in the world.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will decrease U.S. federal defense spending by 50 percent. Congress can choose what to do with the money that would no longer be spent, except return it back to U.S. defense. Any additional money that Congress doesn't decide what to do with will go to paying down the national debt.

Proposal No. 1308

Name: Aisha Joshi
Delegation: SPPY/Palos Verdes

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Making Police Officer Psyche Evaluations mandatory every two years.

JUSTIFICATION:

In 2005 Sgt. Richard Willard, a Baltimore police officer shot an armed criminal while on the job. Shortly thereafter Willard started to show symptoms of PTSD. Willard has since been on medical leave since 2009 and in 2012 filed a lawsuit against the police department for not providing counseling as well as denying his request for disability retirement. But Willard's story is not uncommon, he is just one of the countless law enforcement officials who has suffered from PTSD and has even considered suicide.

Within the law enforcement community, 6 to 14% of officers are expected to experience illnesses such as PTSD, anxiety, or depression. Experts say that police officers suffering from PTSD are susceptible to disorientation, often overreact, lack empathy, are hyper-vigilant to the point of paranoia, are quick-tempered and have poor performance due to a lack of sleep.

In most cases, the problem isn't that help is not available; in fact in most cases mental health specialists are available to police officers. At the heart of the problem lies the stigma that criticizes police officers for seeking help. Both male and female police officers are expected to be unwavering symbols of strength, so a call for help is equated to weakness. Over the years suicide as are killed by gun men each year.

All police officers are already required to undergo a psych evaluation prior to being hired so periodic psych evaluations can eliminate the stigma that exists against law enforcement officials suffering from mental illnesses. This will also force officials to seek out the necessary mental help.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass a federal mandate requiring all law enforcement officials to undergo a mental health/ psych evaluation every two years.

Proposal No. 1309

Name: Miranda Chinichian
Delegation: San Luis Obispo County

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To reorganize the Foreign Assistance Budget by increasing the funding towards social and economic developments in outside countries.

JUSTIFICATION:

As of 2010 the United States federal budget spent nearly \$52.7 billion out of \$3.55 trillion (1.5%) on foreign aid. Countries have been requesting aid from the United States for years now, but our assistance has been given to countries that seem to be of self-benefit or has been given at a loss cause. One-third of the foreign budget is given to Israel and Egypt, which are two non-developing countries. Additionally most of the money is given for military aid and armaments. Israel, although in political turmoil, it is an economically stable country. Their standard of living is much higher than many other third world countries, yet they receive over \$3 billion in foreign aid. As of 2010, Israel had spent only \$400 million on their economy, whereas they spent the rest, \$2.8 billion, on their military. These numbers have been nearly constant over the past ten years. Furthermore, Egypt is the second most funded country and mirrors Israel in foreign funding. It receives \$1.5 billion, where \$250 million is spent on economics, and \$1.3 billion on their military. Countries such as Somalia, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Haiti, India, and many more have been funded to a much lesser extent. Although funded, these third world countries are still in deep economic and social turmoil. Money has been given to these countries without the knowledge of where and how to use it. Governments have taken in the money and neglected many areas of their country. We need to decrease the military aid in Israel and Egypt, and instead we should put this funding into American organizations dedicated to helping people globally. This would benefit the United States' economy as well because it would increase the amount of job opportunity, foreign trade, alliances, technological and medical developments.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Legislative Branch will reorganize the Foreign Assistance budget by cutting a majority of our funding to Israel and Egypt, which will decrease the military funding, allowing for an increase in socio-economic aid to more countries. Also these funds will be given to American organizations dedicated to the betterment of outside countries.

Proposal No. 1310

Name: Christian Soto
Delegation: Conejo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Create a Salary Ceiling for all businesses.

JUSTIFICATION:

Currently there exist a large disparity between these two groups with some CEO's earning up to 300 times more compensation than some of their employees and this is a modest case. Evidence of the forty to one type of ratio between CEO's and their employees has shown to be extremely successful; between the 1950's and 1970's America's economy, and in general the international economy was at it's strongest. The CEO's and employees split up the wealth evenly and so everyone received a fair share of the wealth (<http://archive.truthout.org/salary-ceiling-a-lever-change68472>).

This Salary Ceiling system will also give CEO's an incentive to work harder because if they wish to make more money they have to pay their employees more money and bring in more profits. Additionally, the new system will help bring people out of poverty because they will be making more money resulting in some people no longer needing to be on welfare. The Federal government will then no longer have to spend as much money on welfare and redirect these funds to other public services. Having a forty to one ratio will also will help decrease environmental waste because higher earners on the very top of the social ladder determine the trends that are set and often spend a large amount of money on unnecessary things, therefore, encouraging for the classes below them to spend likewise. At the end of this whole spending process there is a large amount of generated waste which can be avoided with a Salary Ceiling.

Currently this system is being used in Japan and has shown to be effective (http://voices.washingtonpost.com/ezra-klein/2010/07/ceo_pay_in_japan.html). For C.E.O's who's income is zero dollars like Steve Jobs, their ratio will be based off their annual stock income. For workers who are part of the company but work in a different country, they will not be included in the ratio. Businesses who do not obey this forty to one ration will be penalized by having a 10% tax raise placed on their business.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A Salary Ceiling is a proposal where CEO's of all businesses can only earn forty times as much money as the lowest earning employee and thereby restricting the large imbalance between the ratio of salaries of the two groups. The United States will pass this through legislation and turn it into a law of which a

Proposal No. 1311

Name: Monica Patton
Delegation: Culver-Palms

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Mandating that Federally aided child abuse agencies include childhood obesity as a form of abuse.

JUSTIFICATION:

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 35% of adults in the US are obese, and this spreading epidemic is a costly one. In 2008, medical costs associated with obesity were estimated at \$147 billion in the US; the medical costs for people who are obese were on average \$1,429 higher than those of healthy weight. In the next decades, it seems like costs will continue to rise as childhood obesity has more than doubled in children and tripled in adolescents in the past 30 years. In 2010, more than one third of children and adolescents were overweight or obese. These overweight children, already at risk for Type 2 Diabetes before the age of 18, will likely become obese as adults. According to the Yale Medical Group, nearly 65 percent of obese adolescents, defined by the CDC as adolescents who have a BMI of 30 or higher (healthy BMI is 20) will still be obese as adults. Some effects of adult obesity include increased risk for cardiovascular diseases, Type 2 Diabetes, asthma, fatty liver disease, gallstones, stroke, arthritis, loss of mobility, and gastro-esophageal reflux. Also, besides the physical effects, there may be psychological effects of childhood obesity. In one study, severely obese children recorded their quality of life with scores as low as children undergoing chemotherapy for cancer.

Current tactics are unsuccessful as the number of obese children rises every day. This mandate will hold parents accountable for providing poor nutrition and living habits to their children which will affect the children for the rest of their lives. Additional federal funds will be given to child abuse agencies to account for the increase in cases; however, these funds will be redeemed by a significant decrease in medical costs in the future.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Any agency whose purpose is to protect minors that receives Federal aid must add childhood obesity as a category of child abuse, to be treated as an equal to malnutrition. However, a mandatory initial warning and educational interview step must occur prior to allegations, and if after 3 months no improvements have been made in the child's health, the agency must proceed with its usual protocol.

Proposal No. 1312

Name: Jack Tomsik
Delegation: Berkeley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Medical malpractice lawsuit award cap

JUSTIFICATION:

Proposal to remove cap on the amount of money that can be awarded in a medical malpractice lawsuit. Currently the most you can win for your pain and suffering damages is \$250,000. This cap was put in place in 1975 to prevent doctors from leaving California to live in a different state under fear of being sued for too much. This amount of money has also not been adjusted for inflation or changes in the standard of living. Although at the time it was a large sum of money, today this is very little compensation for major damages, which can be caused from medical malpractice. The doctors also do not pay the money themselves their insurance company does, doing sued simply causes them to pay higher premiums and most insurance companies make billion dollar profits. Medical malpractice is extremely frequent with 35,000 deaths caused by it each year in the US, and 100% of doctors in high risk occupations and 75% in low risk occupations will have medical malpractice at least once in their career.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

My proposal seeks a fair solution to the problem, which is to standardize law, regarding how much can be awarded (tort) in all states and to have the cap removed in California and in all states. This will ensure juries can award the amount they deem necessary and doctors won't be able to lobby state governments to put caps in again.

Proposal No. 1313

Name: Dylan Donovan-Smith
Delegation: Ventura Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

stopping bank corruption by targeting bank CEO's

JUSTIFICATION:

Banks have been taking advantage of both people and nations. They more often than not cultivate a polluted and corrupted culture of AIG and see people as little more than objects to squeeze money out of. The American branch of HSBC laundered vast sums of money for Mexican drug cartels, terrorist cells and even helped Iran get around U.N. initiated sanctions. Bank of America wells Fargo and Citibank also knowingly foreclosed on the homes of 5000 of American finest; soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen of the military of the United States.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Bank CEO's will be held fully responsible for the actions of their company regardless if there company has been deemed ætoo egulations will be charged adoringly, and punished accordingly.

Proposal No. 1314

Name: Zoe Kleinfeld
Delegation: SDSC/La Jolla

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Failure for strip clubs to offer equal employee benefits will result in a fine of \$1000, to be allocated to Planned Parenthood.

JUSTIFICATION:

Workers benefits for strip clubs depend on how the entertainer gets paid through the club. As with all independently operated businesses, contract employees are not subject to the benefits that "employed" workers are. However, in a field such as the strip club entertainment industry, workers exert themselves in a way that is both objectifying, and also blatantly different from the common job. Furthermore, the legal status of ones employment does not effect his/her expected role as an entertainer. That is, a "contract employee" (defined as a self-employed person) and an employee who is legally hired by a strip club are both expected to perform similar duties. Therefore, all strippers, regardless of worker status, should be allocated equal workers benefits.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Strip clubs, defined as "adult entertainment venues in which stripteases or other erotic dances are regularly performed," must provide equal employee benefits to all entertainers. Failure to do so will result in a \$1000 dollar fine per violation. The funds will be donated to Planned Parenthood.

Proposal No. 1315

Name: Nick Suppa
Delegation: Triunfo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Mandate that any professional athlete convicted of using Performance Enhancing Drugs cannot be banned from their respected sport so long as they confess to using Performance Enhancing Drugs(PED's).

JUSTIFICATION:

Mandating this proposal would bring justification to the professional sports players who have been tainted by the use of this drug. This year, alone, no baseball players were inducted into the Hall of Fame and as a result, this not only embarrassed all the baseball players who were denied but also the entire Major League Baseball (MLB) association. Even when the players confess that they have used these drugs, they are suspended and fined for the confession. Bringing the news back to a more recent event, Lance Armstrong was stripped of all of his medals and all heads automatically turned away from the once loved athlete. Lance Armstrong is actually never to compete ever again. What will he do from here? That was his job, how do you propose a solution to the 41 year old's life? This is wrong in every way and has to be taken into action.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal Fort. will act to pass this proposal to show that it is not just and right to take PED's but rather if the player confesses, they should get a second chance. This will be an issue for the Department of Justice and the proposal will not be taken lightly but something needs to be done to save these professional athlete's careers.

Proposal No. 1401

Name: Sheila Sadr
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Removing the word "God" from government doctrine

JUSTIFICATION:

The definition of God as of the World English Dictionary:

"The sole Supreme Being, eternal, spiritual, and transcendent, who is the Creator and ruler of all and is infinite in all attributes; the object of worship in monotheistic religions."

The pledge in its original form written by Francis Bellamy in 1892 read "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." and the pledge was meant for ANY nation to recite if they wanted. In 1954, in response to the Communist threat of the times, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God". This was a method of propaganda against Communists essentially labeling them as ungodly people. This also served as a form of indoctrination, Eisenhower stated, "From this day forward, the millions of our school children will daily proclaim in every city and town, every village and rural school house, the dedication of our nation and our people to the Almighty. ... In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future."

This is in blatant opposition to church and state, and furthers a monotheistic ideal that America is a nation of God's people. "Under God" implies our nation divisible without God. It teaches that we are subservient to "God" which is not a belief shared unanimously by all Americans, just a portion of them. America has Christians, Muslims, Jews, Atheists, Agnostics, Satanists, Catholics, Buddhists, etc etc etc. It is a pledge to our country, not religious beliefs. We are Americans, this is not a label representing our religious faith, it is a label representing our nation.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

By the first of January 2015, the actual word "God", or any word similar to its meaning, will be removed from government documents, American currency, or any particular principle, position, or policy taught or advocated - such as the pledge of allegiance. Officially separating church and state within our nation.

Proposal No. 1402

Name: Sanam Abedini
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls to replace finals with a review test applicable only for high school students who have failed on previous chapters in the semesters or quarters.

JUSTIFICATION:

For teenagers, high school is a stressful time with increasing demands and pressures. Facing the pressure of finals, students cram months of learning into a week. The added stress brought upon by a heavily weighted test causes lack of sleep and poor judgment resulting in a lower grade. Additionally, low-test scores can make students feel insecure about their intelligence, which encourages them to give up easily. Long hours of studying for finals and pressure over grades can also be dangerous; many students have begun to abuse Adderall, which according to addictionblog.org is a pill prescribed for patients diagnosed with Attention rted that an estimated 15% to 40% of students at high schools use Adderall to get ahead in their classes. Drugabuse.com writes that Adderall causes alertness, concentration and less fatigue with deadly side effects such as heart related problems, mental problems such as new or more aggressive/ hostile behavior and hallucinations.

Replacing finals with a review test for high school students who have failed tests (D or below) in previous chapters in the semesters or quarters would only be beneficial to students and would not go against them. The 10 question (per missed chapter) review test score would only replace the failed chapter tests score only if the student obtained a higher grade than their original score. The review test would only be applicable to high schools that teach students national and state curriculum. This would give students an incentive to achieve higher grades, pass more classes, create higher graduation rates and more college bound students resulting in more jobs to stimulate the economy

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States shall add a review test applicable for high school students who have failed previous chapters as a requirement for all schools that teach national and state curriculum into the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (No Child Left Behind)

Proposal No. 1403

Name: Matt Winkel
Delegation: South Pasadena San Marino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Outlawing the use of military drones for any domestic law enforcement operations as a guard against governmental spying and invasion of citizen privacy.

JUSTIFICATION:

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles “ UAV’s or drones ” have been a staple of U.S. military operations over the past several years. Their successful use in combating insurgents in Afghanistan is well documented. However, as that war winds down, the Los Angeles Times stated this past December that, “It is not a question of whether drones will appear in the skies above the United States a pervasive spying tools that will change the nature of American life? Will we be able to walk out of our front door without wo

Current evidence hints at a flood of UAV’s in our skies before long. Those pieces include the drone go-ahead signed by President Obama in February, pent-up demand by law enforcement agencies, Congress ordering the FAA to promptly test the safety of drones at six domestic locations, advances in technology that are making drones cheaper and more powerful; and weak privacy laws, which do not currently provide adequate protection from this technology. In an interview with the Los Angeles Times, Michael C. Kostelnik, a retired Air Force general who heads the office that supervises the drones for the border protection agency, said that drones are flown, “...in many areas around the country, not only for federal operators, but also for state and local law enfory Intelligence Subcommittee until early last year, said the use of drones by local law enforcement is a mistake. “There is no

Clearly, drones do have a legitimate use in times of emergencies, such as natural disasters, or for use in locating lost or missing people. This proposal would not limit their use in those cases. However, limits must be placed on drones in order to protect the right of privacy, as they allow police to spy on citizens in ways that test current laws. As the ACLU notes, “UAV’S are potentially extremely powerful surveillance tools and that power “ like all government power “ needs to be subject to che

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Congress of the United States will pass a bill, immediately outlawing the use of UAV’s by local, state and federal law enforcement agencies for domestic spying and surveillance.

Proposal No. 1404

Name: Jessica Howard
Delegation: Santa Monica

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

fficking.

JUSTIFICATION:

Child trafficking is the recruitment, smuggling, transporting, harboring, buying or selling of a minor through force, threats, fraud, deception, or coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Trafficking of children, who are vulnerable victims, is an industry that is fueled by demand. To help combat the demand for underage prostitution it would be advantageous to impose harsher children.

According to the U.S. State Department, eighty percent of human trafficking victims are women and up to fifty percent are minors. The U.S. Department of Justice also reported that over 100,000 children in American are victims of human trafficking. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children states that 2.8 million children run away every year, one third of them will be lured and recruited into the underground world of prostitution and pornography. Children who are trafficked for the purpose of setitute themselves.

The U.S. State Department announced that Child/Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing crimes in the world; it is a thirty-two billion dollar industry and the second largest enterprise after drugs. There is an inconsistency in the prosecution of of participating in the sexual exploitation of minors.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

n addition of a fine of 100,000 U.S. dollars. This monetary penalty is intended to offset the cost of investigation and prosecution.

Proposal No. 1405

Name: Treyvaughn Caprice
Delegation: West Contra Costa/Hilltop

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The topic of concern is to make health insurance affordable to everyone Nationwide.

JUSTIFICATION:

About 46 million people nationwide are without health insurance because it's unaffordable to them. President Obama's Patient Protective Care Act (PPACA) (2010) which becomes fully effective (2014) should give a great relief to the low income wage earner by giving them access to affordable healthcare insurance coverage, without disqualification whether working or not. I am comalth and their accessibility to healthcare.

In the last year (2012), health insurance has increased 4.6%. Also in 2008 the health care industry had consumed 9.0 percent of gross domestic products from many countries. The United States, France, and Switzerland are the most spending countries on it. Health insurance should be available to all nationwide. We pay too much money on taxes and due to the bad economy we are faced with shortage of income and loss of employment. How can are government/president ask for so much but yet take away from the working people who keep it alive? About 46 million people nationwide are without health insurance because it's unaffordable to them. Some people who do work are still not able to pay for health insurance. It is crazy that we have to pay for healthcare when we are the richest nation in the world. Employment should not be a required in order to have adequate and comprehensive health insurance. By providing preventative maintenance will help the cost of healthcare go down tremendously. For an example the average emergency room visit is 6 to 10,000 dollars for someone coming in for acute care. Many people suffer many types of illnesses but can't access their medical care because the lack of the medical insurance or the limitations of are stated from the insurance carriers ; such as, hereditary, pre-existing conditions, and accidental exposures to contagious diseases or even pregnancy that is most common.

Healthcare is not just unaffordable to many working people but also unaffordable to many businesses. By having available health insurance it can eliminate wasteful inefficiencies such as duplicate paper work, claim approval, insurance submissions and also fraud. One of the first things that the doctor asks you when you walk into a doctor's office/ hospital is: "what insurance monetary compensation. Affordable medical services actually encourage some patients to go in for more checkups and also preventive care. When healthcare is affordable it will give equal opportunity by decreasing the number of citizens who are economically disadvantaged in society due to their bad health. Out of the 46 million people who don't have healthcare; there are 16.1% of

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

President Obama's Patient Protective Care Act (2010) which becomes effective (2014) should give a great relief to the low income wage earner by giving them access to affordable healthcare insurance coverage, without disqualification whether working or rd to their health and their accessibility to healthcare.

Proposal No. 1406

Name: Christian Pineda
Delegation: Crenshaw

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

All school lunches should be made fresh at the school instead of preparing pre-made meals and also offer vegetarian options.

JUSTIFICATION:

Many school lunches are not prepared at the school. The food is brought in pre-cooked which the school then heats up. At times, the lunches are either burned or under-cooked. This can cause many students to become sick. The pre-cooked foods tend to consist mostly of meat selections and are not vegetarian friendly. Food that is cooked fresh is healthier than pre-cooked foods, which can contain a lot of sodium. Currently, our nation struggles with health issues, such as obesity and diabetes. This issue is ever increasing in our young people. Healthier and fresh food options are better for the overall health and well-being of students

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Schools across the nation should be required to prepare meals at the school, or have vendors that provide fresh meal options. Money that is currently being spent on pre-cooked lunches should instead be spent to purchase fresh ingredients. By preparing the food fresh at the school, schools will be able to provide meals that are properly prepared, healthier for students and include more options for vegetarians.

Proposal No. 1407

Name: Ethan Khanolkar
Delegation: Miller

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Emphasizing Moss Growth through Tax Breaks

JUSTIFICATION:

Today, our world faces problems with pollution and global warming. One way to combat these problems is by growing moss in our communities. Moss has multiple benefits for the environment, including reducing pollution by absorbing harmful gases. According to Shailee Jain and Palvi Raikar, two Indian ecological technology developers, the amount of pollution absorbed by one square meter of moss is about 10g of solid pollutant a year or about the amount a car makes in a year. In addition, according to Dr. Ernest Starkman, it would cost \$1000 per car or \$100 billion to reduce enough pollution in the United States to maintain a clean atmosphere. Moss can also function as a food source to both humans and animals or as a medium to distilling alcohol, similar to potatoes. This would prevent pollution caused by the manufacturing of food and increase the varieties of alcohol available. Last, Moss can be used as an alternate fuel source. Because peat moss is made up of large amounts of carbon, it is ideal for cooking and heating and is often used in Europe or when there are no other available fuels. This would help people avoid wasting income on buying more expensive sources of heat and energy, such as coal and oil.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

In order to protect our environment, the United States must enact a bill that gives a tax break of \$25 per square meter of moss grown to those who grow moss on their property. This would be beneficial to not only the environment and Americans, due to the tax break, but also the government as it would cost \$1000 a year to get rid of as much pollution as moss does in a year.

Proposal No. 1408

Name: Justin Archangel
Delegation: Diablo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Using the National Gross Happiness Index as a Measure of National Health.

JUSTIFICATION:

A Gross National Happiness Index must be established in our country as the most important measure of national health. Now more than ever, we need to focus on measuring and getting back an important aspect of life we have lost in America's past few decades—happiness. We need to measure the amount of happiness our country has, studying what exactly American citizens are satisfied with in their daily lives. Happiness in the United States is something we have strived for ever since our founding fathers wrote in the Declaration of Independence, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are why don't we have an official measure to see how we're doing in our Pursuit of Happiness?

The term “gross national happiness” was coined in 1972 by Bhutan's fourth Dragon King, Jigme Singye Wangchuck, who believed happiness was a key indicator of a country's health. He was right: happiness is good for the well-being of the individual and the nation. In 1979, Lisa Berkman co-authored an important Harvard study of nearly 7,000 adults in California. From the time of the initial survey to the end of the nine year follow up period, those who reported fewer social ties (such as contact with friends and family or organization membership) were more than twice as likely to die, proving unhappiness increases likelihood of death. In 2007, a Harvard scientist named Jack P. Shonkoff found that happiness leads to longer life and reduces risk of heart attack, proving happiness prolongs life. Frederic Luskin, who holds a PhD from Stanford conducted an experiment that included reducing stress and promoting happiness to professionals from Ameriprise Financial Services. On average, participants showed a sales and productivity increase of 24% following the training (Effect of Training of Emotional Competence in Financial Services Advisors 2001-2006). Luskin discovered happiness increases productivity and capital gain. So if we can introduce a measure of happiness in the US in the form of a Gross National Happiness Index, we can identify areas of concern in our population and work to eliminate them in order to move toward a happier and more productive America. Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. For Life, we have the Department of Health. For Liberty, we have the Supreme Court. For the Pursuit of Happiness, we need the Gross National Happiness Index.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Action to Be Taken: Introduce the Gross National Happiness Index as the most important official measure of national health in the United States. Form a multidimensional survey modeled after Bhutan's Gross National Happiness measure, including an overview of performance across the 9 domains of GNH: psychological wellbeing, time use, community vitality, cultural diversity, ecological resilience, living standard, health, education, and good governance. Form new Department of Happiness to collect and interpret data from this nationwide survey to measure the Gross National Happiness Index.

Proposal No. 1409

Name: Trent Dill
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Legalizing and taxing the transfer of funds in online poker

JUSTIFICATION:

Since 2006, the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act has prohibited “gambling businesses from knowingly accepting payment (25 U.S.C. 2201). Currently, United States citizens can legally participate in certain types of online poker, but the businesses behissfully in numerous other countries.

The online poker industry must be rebuilt by revoking the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006. Not only would this provide citizens the freedom to enjoy a game of online Texas Hold'em, it would create jobs and induce economic flow into our currently devastating economy. The companies would be subject to normal corporate income tax rates for their revenues which must be stored in U.S. banks to ensure proper auditing. The United States government could generate a significant amount of money from this taxation, which could be used towards education.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal government of the United States of America would revoke the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006

Proposal No. 1410

Name: Nadeen Hijaz
Delegation: Conejo Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Establish Youth & Government programs around the United States in violent ridden communities.

JUSTIFICATION:

Teens who partake in dangerous activities are subject to a violent lifestyle. 9,700 American prisoners are serving life sentences for crimes they committed before they could vote. Nine percent of the murders in the United States were committed by teens under the age of eighteen. Organizations, such as Youth and Government, focus on laws to help prevent the violent nature these young adults may be destined for.

In the course of a teen's life, an individual is presented with countless opportunities to engage in risky behavior. Teens who participate in extracurricular activities not only benefit the people around them, but they also benefit themselves intellectually by adopting important ideals. This helps them learn the benefit of staying active and preoccupied, so they aren't subject to violence and crime. Teens who are surrounded by violent behaviors are swayed by the decisions of immoral conduct. In today's society, the teens that seem to always get into trouble are the ones who aren't given the opportunity to experience the world and grow as people. Extracurricular activities offer a gateway for teens to spend time and energy productively as opposed to the alternative, violence. When involved, Youth and Government programs can help change a person's life for the better.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass a law to mandate youth programs in states, encouraging their implantation in low-income communities.

Proposal No. 1411

Name: Jason Rosove
Delegation: Triunfo

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This bill is about cars and how each car company needs a hybrid. Some car companies already have this but this bill is mandatory to have a hybrid car.

JUSTIFICATION:

Here are some car companies

- Toyota
- Honda
- Fiskers
- Tesla

There are still some car companies that need to get hybrids. Hybrids can really help the environment with the pollution. Also the other benefit is that cars company can produce more money and will make the buyers more happy that there car is a hybrid.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We need to stand up and save the world one step at a time. This will really help pollution in our areas. each car will have an Mpg of at least 45. Some people may wonder who we are getting the money from...of course the Government.

Proposal No. 1412

Name: Elizabeth Russell
Delegation: Newport-Corona del Mar

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Front of the bottle.

JUSTIFICATION:

Water, is misleading America. It is unfair that the purchasers of these waters do not know what they are drinking, and if this proposal succeeds it will hopefully put a damper on these corporations' sneaky labeling. By presenting the purchaser with a large, bolded definition of the source of the water in the front of the bottle, they will be discouraged to buy it. Imagine how much plastic this proposal could save. The less people buy, the less plastic is thrown in our oceans and the fewer factories that produce plastic pollute the air. By burning just 1 kg of plastic, about 6 kg of carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere. That amounts to a lot of carbon dioxide when you consider that over 50 billion water bottles are bought each year. Bottled water is 1,000 times more expensive than tap water. It is even priced higher than gas. This waste can only be slowed down by one thing; awareness. This proposal will ensure that the consumer is aware of what they are buying. It will get rid of labeling fraud on all companies who wish to have a tax break and it will ultimately lead to a cleaner environment. The public needs to know what they are drinking. The FDA already regulates the bottled water quality, but because FDA's experience over the years has shown that bottled water has a good safety record, bottled water plants generally are assigned a relatively low priority for inspection. Also, in section 165.110 of bottled water manufacturing requirements, the FDA does not specifically require that bottlers use antimicrobial agents in bottled water as long as the water is safe for human consumption. The water we consume from these bottles is under-examined and possibly dangerous; even the FDA admits it. What America needs to do now is take action and make the public more aware of what we put in our body. Concerned about tap water quality, some consumers turn to bottled water, hoping to find a guarantee of safety and quality. But the reality is very different from this expectation: all bottled waters tested by EWG contained some chemical contaminants while bottled waters sold by two national retailers contained signature pollutants at high levels. While it may seem like the better solution to increase restraints on the testing of this water, it is highly improbable these major corporations will obey. The easiest and most efficient action to be taken is to encourage these companies to label where they get their water, on the front of the bottle, so everyone can see. This proposal is intended to be a small step towards a huge problem.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will provide tax cuts for the water bottle companies that label their source on the front of their bottles.

Proposal No. 1413

Name: Maya Alvarez
Delegation: Verdugo Hills

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Laws Concerning Statutory Rape

JUSTIFICATION:

In accordance with the FBI definition, statutory rape is characterized as non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is younger than the statutory age of consent. In 2000, it was found that three of every ten statutory rape offenders were boyfriends or girlfriends and 6 in 10 were acquaintances. Many of said offenses were reported by parents or guardians instead of the actual victim of the act.

At the age of sixteen, humans have typically reached sexual maturation, and can therefore make decisions regarding their sexual life for themselves. By denying adolescents the right to make their own decisions regarding their sex life at the peak of their sexual maturation, we are restraining their growth; and with 2,266,800 people reported to be incarcerated in American prisons and jails at the year-end of 2010, we cannot afford to convict more people simply because we don't trust our youth to think for themselves and give consent.

Statutory rape laws vary state by state, but this proposal suggests making statutory rape a national issue. This proposal would not change anything about regular rape laws, an issue in which sexual acts are committed forcibly without consent. This would simply change the ages of consent (the age for which somebody can give consent to have sex) in regards to statutory rape.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The statutory rape law would be modified to become a national issue and to state that anyone under 18 years of age could not consent to sexual activities, with the following exception:

If the victim is at least 16 years of age and the defendant is no more than 5 years older than the victim.

Proposal No. 1414

Name: Adrian Anderson
Delegation: Greater Long Beach

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Taxation of Illegal Immigrants for Medical Care

JUSTIFICATION:

With the Fiscal Cliff's resolution of thirteen new tax increases, taxpayers across the United States are facing more burden than previously. The cause of these tax increases is in part due to the consistent influx of illegal immigrants into the U.S. over the past half century, a population consisting of an estimated 11.5 million individuals in March 2011 (two-thirds of which have resided in the United States for at least a decade) according to the Pew Hispanic Center. While deportation of these illegal immigrants should be a major concern of the federal government, another major topic of alarm, based mainly on the effects of unauthorized residency in the states rather than the issue as a whole, is the amount of State and federal funding towards social welfare projects which are being drained by illegal immigrants who do not help to afford such benefits. According to the requisite section of Obamacare, "Access limited to lawful residents. If an individual is not, or is not reasonably expected to be for the entire period for which enrollment is sought, a citizen or national of the United States or an alien lawfully present in the United States, the individual shall not be treated as a qualified individual and may not be covered under a qualified health pviduals within the United States boundaries may still receive emergency care from a hospital, however unable to compensate monetarily for the services provided to them. Keeping track of these individuals for payment for the services rendered has long been an unresolved issue that has caused taxpayers to pick up the tab for these noncitizens who are endangering our country's resources.

To address this issue, a regulation on the amount of personally identifying information required upon any individual's receipt of care from an emergency care institution should be enacted in two years time from the writing and passing of proper legislation, allowing a method by which consequent verification of an individual's identity and credit record may be viewed by hospitals, etc. later visited by these individuals. Whereas each citizen of the United States already wields a Social Security Number which would hold an adequate amount of identifying material, illegal immigrants would be required to apply for a Social Security Number encoded with a special noncitizen status within three months of their visit to the emergency care institution, and noncompliance would be grounds for deportation back to the country of origin upon the next visitation to such an institution as a failure to comply with federal regulation. This Social Security Number provided to illegal immigrants would provide a method of tracking credits and illegal residents of the United States for taxation purposes. Any individual holding such a SSN would be required to pay taxes, at present only for medical care provisions. To encourage unauthorized individuals to apply for a SSN, an amnesty of up to \$5,000 in accumulated fees prior to application would be provided. This regulation would require the government to provide emergency care institutions with the materials necessary to record such identifying material as fingerprints, date of birth, etc., though the increase in tax revenues would offset initial input costs in the long run. This method of tracking credits of illegal immigrants may also prove beneficial in

the future for naturalization or deportation efforts.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Unauthorized residents within the United States will be required to apply for a Social Security Number encoded with a noncitizen status to be used for credit and taxation purposes, and failure to comply with application requirements within a three month allowance period will be grounds for legal action and deportation.

Proposal No. 1501

Name: Anthony Thompson
Delegation: Pasadena

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The Creation of a Speed Limitless Zone on Interstate Highways

JUSTIFICATION:

Over a period of the next 15 years the production of a speed limitless lane on interstate highways will be constructed. The unfortunate truth of traffic is that it only worsens as cars become even more necessary in our fast paced society. But traffic is not only a nuisance, it contributes to smog emissions in condensed cities, devastating crashes, and it has been proven to be a contributor of road rage which only leads to more problems on and off the road. The creation of the speed limitless zones on interstate highways will greatly reduce general traffic while giving the freedom of the great open road to drivers who choose to drive in the specified zones.

In order to be eligible to drive in the speed limitless zones, the car and the driver must meet the required qualifications. Drivers who wish to drive in these zones will need to purchase a special license that will qualify them for high speed driving. Additionally, any car in the zone must meet the criteria to be able to handle high speed driving and safety and must display a sticker on the right and back as a record. The funds collected for the special license will be designated directly to the construction or repair of any roads in the speed limitless zone. Not only will this give Americans the liberty we deserve on the highway, it will help the environment, create thousands of jobs, and improve the overall happiness of drivers across the country.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

A speed limitless zone on all interstate highways will be constructed across the United States.

Proposal No. 1502

Name: Jill Zimmerman
Delegation: Salinas

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Replacing the current opt-in system for organ donation with an opt-out system.

JUSTIFICATION:

We all hear stories about those peopleâ€”children, parents, siblingsâ€”who are dying as a result of organ failure and just can't seem to find a donor. According to Donate Life America, eighteen people die every day in the United States as a result of this organ shortage, and over 114,000 people are in need of organ transplants. A proven way to increase organ donation is to adopt an opt-out policy instead of the opt-in system currently in place. This idea of presumed consent is already in use in most of Continental Europe most notably Austria. Garland Science states that Austria has a donor rate of 99.98%. According to Donate Life America, the average for the United States is only at 37.1%.

This policy states that people are automatically added to the donor list unless they specify otherwise. When enacted, this bill will not force personal or religious beliefs on others. Each person is free to remove themselves from the list. This is only an incentive for people to declare themselves as organ donors and to help save a life. It would not be a hassle to remove yourself from the list. Currently, you can register to become an organ donor online, and you would be able to remove yourself through a similar process. According to BBC, this policy would also create more jobs in transplant coordinators to handle the increase in organ donations. People are dying every day. People need these organ transplants. The only way to provide more organs for these patients is to encourage people to be donors by using the opt-out system. Let's follow Austria's example and increase organ donation. Let's save the lives of all those friends, relatives, and neighbors currently on the waiting list for an organ.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States Congress shall pass legislation eliminating the current opt-in system and instead replace it with an opt-out organ donation policy that would be regulated and coordinated by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Proposal No. 1503

Name: Morgan Mayfield
Delegation: Torrance - South Bay

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Strengthening Affirmative Action

JUSTIFICATION:

Affirmative Action is an action or policy favoring those who tend to suffer from discrimination. Affirmative Action must be strengthened because minorities are still being discriminated today. Implementing the Affirmative Action was a temporary solution to end discrimination in jobs and education. President Kennedy signed executive order number 10925 52 years ago, therefore we need to strengthen it to the standards of current issues. By strengthening Affirmative Action we give minorities the chance to succeed. The Affirmative Action creates diversity in the work and education places. Lastly we need Affirmative Action to break stereotypes. In 1978, the landmark Regents of California v. Allan Bakke case made racial quotas unconstitutional. Bakke, a white student, sued after twice being denied admission to medical school, challenging the special admissions used to admit minority groups.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Affirmative Action would be amended to make it illegal to ask religious or ethnic backgrounds college applications. My proposal will also make the colleges refer to people by an application number. In addition a minority would be allowed to file a lawsuit if they felt they were discriminated.

Proposal No. 1504

Name: Sam Holton
Delegation: El Camino

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Voting in impoverished communities and low voter turnout.

JUSTIFICATION:

Currently the US has an astonishingly low voter turnout, especially in impoverished communities where people don't have access to a car, close polling centers, voter education or must deal with time consuming issues such as voter registration. This proposal will increase voter turnout by providing monetary incentive and will create funds to improve representation in socioeconomically disadvantaged areas.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will enact a federal tax of \$20 to each person who does not vote in the presidential election, excepting people in the lowest tax bracket. These funds will go towards funding polling centers placed in impoverished communities and help fund voter education and assistance initiatives.

Proposal No. 1505

Name: Zach Burns
Delegation: Kings County

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal plans to cut tax breaks and provisions given to big oil companies and route the extra funds into research for renewable cleaner energies.

JUSTIFICATION:

As it stands oil dominates America. Big oil companies have monopolized the energy industry, making it unwise and unprofitable to branch into alternative energy sources. Were wind energy used more, the air would be purer. Were ethanol further implemented, fuel would be bountiful. Were solar panels a viable option, the energy would flow infinitely. Big oil companies need to have their special tax provisions removed and have the money put towards clean, renewable energy sources. Big oil companies tax provisions cost taxpayers around \$8 billion annually, \$8 billion that should be directed towards the research of new and innovative clean energy methods.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress would revoke the tax breaks provided to the oil companies and direct the new tax money into programs dedicated to the research of renewable, clean energy methods.

Proposal No. 1506

Name: Ariel Pezner
Delegation: Crescenta-Canada

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Mandatory Influenza Vaccinations

JUSTIFICATION:

So far in this flu season alone, 32.8% of the entire country has tested positive for the influenza virus. As well, 37 children have already died due to influenza related complications. In a world of modern technology and medicine, we have the opportunity to protect ourselves against this sickness; it is called a vaccination. However, for one reason or another, only a mere 130 million doses have been given out this year, in comparison to the United States' population of about 315 million. Of those who remain unvaccinated are a third of our healthcare workers. The flu costs businesses close to 10.4 billion dollars each year in hospitalizations and outpatient check ups. We are exposed to the virus everyday: from door handles, elevator buttons, desktops, to even the air we breathe. The virus can live on a surface for up to 8 hours, and a sneeze can remain in the air for up to an hour. We risk contracting one of the worst strains of flu since swine flu, why wait until it's too late?

This proposal mandates that every citizen of the United States currently working or residing within the borders of the country during flu season receive the influenza vaccine. Flu season is usually from November to April, but for specificity purposes, the start of flu season can be defined as the time from which the first round of vaccinations becomes available to the public. Citizens have exactly one month from the start of flu season to receive their vaccinations. Certain exceptions apply, such as an allergy to the ingredients of the vaccine, health or age objection, and religious objection. Confirmation of the vaccination shall be verified through the schools and work places. Each citizen will have to pay the required cost for each vaccination. However, a \$10 vaccination, which may be offered free by employers, is a justifiable cost when contracting the flu itself can cost a person up to \$1,000 in doctor visits and treatments. Those found to violate this mandate would be required to pay a \$100 fine. The money earned from these fines will be put towards a fund for vaccinating the homeless through homeless shelters.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal government of the United States of America shall pass legislation making influenza vaccines mandatory for all citizens living and/or working within the borders of the country during flu season.

Proposal No. 1507

Name: Valerie Smith
Delegation: West Contra Costa/Hilltop

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Poverty is the principal cause of hunger. The causes of poverty include poor people's lack of resources, an extremely unequal income distribution in the world and within specific countries, conflict and hunger itself.

JUSTIFICATION:

End hunger and poverty in South Africa because I feel we take a lot of things for granted, and other countries need that extra push to help them develop. As of 2008, the World Bank has estimated that there were an estimated 1,345 million poor people in developing countries who live on \$1.25 a day or less.³ This compares to the later FAO estimate of 1.02 billion undernourished people. Extreme poverty remains an alarming problem in the world's developing regions, despite some progress that reduced dollar now \$1.25 a day poverty from an estimated 1900 million people in 1981, a reduction of 29 percent over the period. In Sub-Saharan Africa, the number of people in extreme poverty has increased. The statement that 'poverty is the principal cause of hunger' is, though correct, unsatisfying. Why then are so many people poor? At the end of 2005, the global number of refugees was at its lowest level in almost a quarter of a century. Despite some large-scale repatriation movements, the last three years have witnessed a significant increase in refugee numbers, due primarily to the violence taking place in Iraq and Somalia. It is that bad that 10 million die every year of hunger and hunger-related diseases. Rising food prices may push 100 million people deeper into poverty. But fewer children below five are undernourished - from 33% in 1990 to 26% in 2006. Using national estimates of poverty and inequality in South Africa, the 2007 report indicates strong overall income growth, especially since 2002, resulting in the rise of the income of the poorest 10 and 20 percent of the population. The severity of poverty has been reduced, especially since 2002. However, of concern is that income inequality seems to have increased over most of the period. With regard to target two the report observes a decline from 88,971 cases in 2001 to 30,082 in 2005.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Subsidize the money from the government or take money from the people that make houses and give that to the counties in need of homes and money to purchase food.

Proposal No. 1508

Name: Nick Guthman
Delegation: Culver-Palms

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The admittance of Puerto Rico as an official State of the United States of America.

JUSTIFICATION:

Starting in 1898, the United States has had a great influence in the land of Puerto Rico. American currency is used in Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico is protected by our military, they have a voice (represented by the Resident Commissioner) in our Federal Government, and they are technically citizens of the United States.

However, the citizens of Puerto Rico are considered second-class citizens and are not guaranteed all of the rights of the United States Constitution. They are not allowed to vote for the President and have no vote on legislature that passes through congress. And for almost 100 years they have served under the armed forces to protect the United States.

Puerto Rico does not receive the economic advantage of statehood, and according to reliable sources the long-term economic well-being of Puerto Rico would be dramatically improved by statehood. Puerto Rico's GDP per capita compares favorably to other independent Caribbean nations as is, and is one of the highest in North America (6th highest GDP per capita.) And to our benefit, Puerto Rico would contribute approximately 2 billion dollars annually to Federal revenue (due to taxes.)

Additionally 61% of Puerto Rican citizens would prefer statehood over the current condition.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

On January 1st, 2014, An Act to Provide for the Admittance of the State of Puerto Rico into the Union (The Admission Act of 2014) will be signed into law, which will dissolve the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and establish the State of Puerto Rico as the 51st state of the United States of America.

Proposal No. 1509

Name: Patty Sandoval
Delegation: Southeast Rio Vista

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Legalizing Physician Assisted Suicide

JUSTIFICATION:

Physician assisted suicide is not a new phenomenon; suffering has always been a part of human existence. Request to end suffering by means of death through both physician assisted and euthanasia have occurred since the beginning of medicine. Most physicians receive a request for physician-assisted suicide in some form or another. This alternative is only a last resort, when no other options are available to a patient facing a difficult death. Patients should not be abandoned once it is determined that cure is impossible. Patients must be aware of their own conscience and must be mentally stable to choose this last alternative.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

This alternative will take effect in the department of Health and Human Services. This option only applies to those who have physical terminal diseases. A close relative has to be with the patient when making the decision. If the patient is in coma, for an extended amount of time, physicians must recommend this option to the family.

Proposal No. 1510

Name: Alondra Martinez
Delegation: Southeast Rio Vista

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

To cut ¼ of military spending, including transportation, personnel, and weaponry, which would be spent on education. (Federal Student Financial Aid).

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States spends 851 billion dollars on military funding. Forty percent of the United State's national debt comes from military spending. The U.S is wasting a tremendous amount of money on the military when the truth is they have a stable military so why waste more on the military? Most college students are left in debt after paying for their college education. Twenty five percent of our military spending should go to the Federal Student Financial Aid (FAFSA). This is a Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Anyone who wants financial aid for college will need to fill out the FAFSA. The application is used to determine the dollar amount a family will be expected to contribute towards college. All federal grant and loan awards are determined by the FAFSA. If 25 percent of the military funds was allocated to FAFSA instead, 212.75 dollars would become available for college students. This would help make college more affordable which would allow more students go to college and have a higher education.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Twenty-five percent of military spending should go to the Federal Student Financial Aid in order for college to be affordable. This will increase in the number of students receiving a higher education, which over time will help the U.S. Forty percent of the US national debt comes from military spending. The U.S should prize education not war.

Proposal No. 1511

Name: Kara Thompson
Delegation: Crescenta-Canada

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Prorate Electoral Votes

JUSTIFICATION:

Candidates running for the presidential election spend very little time in states that are known to consistently vote for a democratic or republican candidate. Many people who fit into a minority political party feel that their votes do not have any impact on the overall outcome of the election. This discourages minority voters from showing up to cast their vote on Election Day. In addition, the Electoral College distorts the impact of third party candidates in all states.

This proposal serves to make the nation's electoral votes an exact reflection of the popular vote. This bill would encourage members of minority political parties to vote in the election. The electoral votes would then be an exact percentage replication of the popular vote within the state. Candidates would invest more time and money campaigning in states that may have previously been ignored, and these states would benefit from increased business and influence in future elections.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal government would pass a bill to prorate each state's electoral votes, making them a reflection of the popular vote within the state, rather than the majority vote.

Proposal No. 1512

Name: Sean Campbell
Delegation: El Dorado

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Prohibit the sale of online tattoo kits.

JUSTIFICATION:

Through the Internet today, tattoo kits can be easily be bought online and brought right to your doorstep within a matter of days. Then without any supervision from an adult, an underage child and/or an adult can tattoo themselves, leaving a permanent mark on their body for the rest of their lives. Evidence of this is seen on Facebook with the increase rise of tattoo party events. At these events, underage minors often get together without parental or guardian consent and tattoo each other.

In many states, professional tattoo artists are required to have training in blood-borne pathogens to give a tattoo to a customer. The most common examples of blood-borne pathogens are HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and viral hemorrhagic fevers. Blood-borne pathogens are life threatening diseases that can seriously affect someone's life. Most commercial tattoo artists also utilize a single-use needle system, while tattoo kits are often used more than once. Many health experts argue that only professional tattoo artists with required medical training should be able to use tattoo kits legally.

Currently, tattooing an underage minor is a Class 2 misdemeanor, carrying a maximum sentence of sixty days in jail and a maximum fine of \$1,000. However, there is no federal law against minors tattooing themselves. Any underage minor can go to the store, purchase a prepaid credit card and then buy a tattoo kit online.

Tattoo kits found online often come out of factories with little to no safety instructions. This can cause infections to occur. Some of these infections can lead to serious health issues, especially if these underage minors are keeping their tattoo hidden from their parents. If parents or guardians find tattoos on minors, they might want their child to have it removed, leading to an increase in tattoo removals. Tattoo removals can cost thousands of dollars, whereas the tattoo kit might only cost forty dollars. For these reasons, legislation needs to be created to ban the sale of tattoo kits online.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass legislation banning the sale of tattoo kits online in the United States.

Proposal No. 1513

Name: Anna Tegley
Delegation: El Dorado

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Banning the use of farming factories for raising livestock

JUSTIFICATION:

The Animal Welfare Act (AWA) protects animals such as dogs, cats, hamsters, and most other warm-blooded mammals. However, it fails to protect animals that are found in farms such as cows, chicken, pigs and horses. Every year, millions of these animals experience terrible living conditions on what are called factory farms. Factory farming is the process of raising livestock in confinement at high stocking density. This is a common practice for producing meat, milk and eggs for human consumption.

Factory farming does effect the animals living there, causing stress and significantly shortening life spans. Additionally, their poor living conditions can result in toxins which can lead to a spread in diseases. Scientists have linked that the high stress level for the animals with these harsh living conditions have produced lower quality meat, milk, or eggs. Because animals such as cows, chicken, pigs and horses aren't protected by the AWA, there is legally nothing illegal with the current conditions in factory farms.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass legislation to eliminate the use of factory farming in the United States.

Proposal No. 1514

Name: Vanessa Morris
Delegation: Westchester

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This proposal calls for the ban of rBGH, Oestradiol, Progesterone, Testosterone, and Zeranol, Trenbolone, and Melengestrol, growth hormones which are injected into cattle to increase the supply of dairy products, to ensure the safety of the public health.

JUSTIFICATION:

Tara Lamey was only seven when she hit puberty and, even ten years later, has been forced to overcome emotional trauma and experience growth problems. When your physical body has evolved, the mentality develops at a slower rate, not ready for the sexual progress made. Peter Reed was nine when he hit puberty; the excess testosterone brought by these hormones caused him to be aggressive as he struggled to fit in with children his age. Although these hormones increase the size of the cow and hence the amount of profit, it is causing precocious puberty which is spreading around the country at a rapid rate. Other negative effects of these hormones include ulcers, particularly in the digestive region, a higher risk of cancer, and chronic bone pains. There is a 50% increased likelihood of ovarian cancer if a girl starts puberty before the age of twelve; 40% of girls are having sex before the ninth grade and the tremendous increase in teenage pregnancies puts our country and children at risk. IT is important that we ban these hormones to ensure the security and protection of the population.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass a law to ban the usage of these seven hormones on cattle.

Proposal No. 1515

Name: Zachary Day
Delegation: North Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Discontinue the production of the Penny.

JUSTIFICATION:

It costs 2.7 cents to create one penny as of February 2011. The production of this coin costs us \$300 million in losses annually. Most people don't even care for the coin. I know some people who literally throw it in the trash. Believe it or not, pennies can be hazards if the copper wall corrodes away, leaving sharp edged zinc.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Discontinue the production would save tax payers money, and reduce the amount of money we lose annually, saving us money we can put towards education.

Proposal No. 1601

Name: Lucas Zerah
Delegation: East Valley Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

In regards to War Referendum Amendment.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States military has been chronically at war since 1950. Over 100,000 American soldiers have been lost in battle since after World War Two. Military involvement in Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Afghanistan, Iraq, etc. has resulted in inconclusive stalemates to bitter defeat. The American people are at a point where we must decide whether or not we can dedicate to such destruction.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

This amendment will be put into place to revise and add to Article One, Section Eight of the United States Constitution: "Excluding cases of invasion or situations requiring the defense of the nation, Congress cannot approve declaring war or engage in a police action without more than 50% of voter approval. In this case, a referendum shall be held asking whether or not the United

Proposal No. 1602

Name: Hank Rugg
Delegation: Albany

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Banning the sale of Armor-Piercing Shells (APS).

JUSTIFICATION:

Armor-Piercing Shells are enhanced bullets designed to break through bullet proof vests such as Kevlar. The problem with these bullets is that they are potentially lethal even to people who are armored to sustain average bullets, such as police officers. Anyone can obtain these bullets. A person with a gun license can go to a sporting goods store for example and buy as many APS as they want. Many gun rights groups believe that the Second Amendment, which gives individuals 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 have a right to armor-piercing shells.

The consequence of civilians using APS is that police officers have to worry about getting shot, wounded, and/or killed, even while 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:

Congress will pass a law making armor-piercing shells illegal for purchase by civilians.

Proposal No. 1603

Name: Hannah Benson
Delegation: Verdugo Hills

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Eliminating the tax benefits of being married until the federal government allows gay couples to be married.

JUSTIFICATION:

Many married couples benefit financially from filing joint tax returns. However, committed gay couples do not get the same financial benefits as straight couples when it comes to their taxes because gay marriage has only been made legal in twelve of fifty states. Since the concept of two members of the same sex marrying is so ludicrous to people they simply cannot allow it, and as a well respected country we do not want to allow some couples tax benefits that are not available to others because of their sexual orientation, we should federally outlaw any tax benefits to married couples at all.

Not only would this change in the federal tax code make filing tax returns more fair for our gay citizens, it will increase the amount of money earned from the taxes since the amount paid per couple could increase significantly. 51% of married couples paid less tax jointly than if they had not been married, according to a 1996 Congressional Budget Office analysis. The average amount these couples saved \$1,300. This bill would increase taxes on the 51% of married couples in the US which amounts to about 122,153,400 married American adults. If we tax each couple an average of \$1,300 more, the total amount earned could be as high as \$79,399,700,000, which we desperately need to reduce our national debt.

Here is a list of all the benefits that will be eliminated from the tax code:

A spouse who's losing money in a business may not take advantage of some deductions, including those dealing with the house, but the spouse who's making money may use the loss as a tax write-off.

If the taxpaying spouses have substantially different salaries, the lower one can pull the higher one down into a lower bracket, reducing their overall taxes.

A taxpayer who couldn't pay into an IRA when single can use the joint income to fund one and potentially put away thousands of dollars for retirement while receiving substantial tax benefits.

If both spouses have benefit packages from their jobs, they can pick the most valuable benefits from the two plans.

There's a limit to the charitable contributions that may be deducted in a year, based on income. Having a spouse can raise that limit.

Under federal tax laws, you can leave any amount of money to a spouse without generating estate tax, so this exemption protects the deceased's estate until the spouse dies.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Federal government of the United States of America would change the federal tax code to eliminate all benefits of filing a joint tax return. These restrictions will be lifted after the Federal government passes a law allowing gay couples to be married.

Proposal No. 1604

Name: Isaac Ramos
Delegation: Santa Barbara

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

This bill proposes that corporations stop advertising commercials that influence children and adolescents in a negative way in order to save lives and money.

JUSTIFICATION:

We all know that everyone each day watches TV somewhere either in their home, on their laptop, or on their phone. Kids especially enjoy watching television because of all the shows that are on and the commercials that appear telling them to go buy this product or go eat this turning them little by little into loyal customers. At the same time what some parents don't notice is that their children's minds are being corrupted. The United States is the leading country in the world for the highest rates of violence, and childhood obesity. Part of it has to do with parents, and home life but the majority of its problems are due to the media and its advertising. In the past 14 years since '99 the U.S. has seen more youth gun incidents than anywhere else and in the past 32 years a huge climb in the child obesity rates 30% (22.5 million) of children and adolescents between the ages 2-19. In 2011 kids between the ages of 6-11 saw over 700 cereal ads on television while preschoolers saw 595. Cereal companies spent \$264 million dollars to promote child targeted ads a 34% increase since 2008. Jennifer L. Harris, the lead researcher on the Rudd Study says, "Despite a slight improvement in overall nutritional quality of kids' cereals, children still get a spoonful of sugar every day. They eat the rest of the day for weeks or months then it's very likely for health problems to begin to appear in the child's life even if there were never any past family health issues. Nationwide, it is estimated that annual costs for prescription drugs, emergency room treatment and outpatient services related to childhood obesity total more than \$14 billion, with an additional \$238 million in inpatient hospital costs. Obesity and Diabetes affects more African-Americans and Hispanic families than anyone else in America.

The United States roughly has about 284 million guns in civilian hands and each year about 4.5 million firearms, including approximately 2 million handguns, are sold in the United States. Many children are exposed to gun ads the TV may sometimes show commercials like Nerf showing kids playing with guns that have Styrofoam bullets. At times the Television will not televise it directly at kids but they have their way of doing it. Video game commercials is one of the ways such as the game Grand Theft Auto it shows animated people running around the city blowing things up with guns or other violent video games like Call of Duty, Battlefield or Gears of War. The child gets the idea that guns are awesome and will begin to believe that they are ok to have and play with. If you look around you will see kids playing and pretending to shoot at one another. It's depressing when you see the difference in gun related deaths between the U.S. and the rest of the world. In a year less than 50 people die in Japan due to gun violence, in Germany, Italy, and France it's less than 150, 200 in Canada and finally here in America more than 30,000 people are killed by firearms. In one day more than 30 people will have died because of a firearm 1/2 of them will have been between the ages of 18-35, and 1/3 of them would have been younger than 20 years. The majority of the victims are a mix of African-American and Latino. The expenses for gun violence are alarming gun violence impacts society in many

ways medical costs, costs of the criminal justice system, security precautions such as metal detectors, and reductions in the quality of life because of fear of gun violence. The United States medical lifetime costs for gunshot injuries total roughly about \$2.3 billion and the U.S. taxpayers pay for almost half (\$1.1 billion or 49%) of the lifetime medical costs for gun injuries.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

In order to make this effective I propose that Congress first eliminate all the current menus in fast food restaurants and instead have the restaurant propose a much healthier meal menu. Also for the restaurant to prepare meals much slower and substitute their over processed oils, vegetables, and meats with more organic choices like EVOO which is darker and heart healthier, vegetables with zero pesticides, and a more variety of fresher unfrozen meats. Also Congress should amend Amendment 2 in the United States Constitution the Right to Bear Arms. To allow only military or Public Service personnel like police to carry weapons and not allow civilians to have them. Doing this will save a tremendous amount of money billions of dollars that can go towards education, building repairs, medical uses, or even lessen our current debt and more tax breaks also help save many lives which play a big role for our future.

Proposal No. 1605

Name: Ciara Collins-Parnell
Delegation: West Valley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Revocation of passports as it pertains to delinquent child support payments

JUSTIFICATION:

There is currently a federal law that before any passport is issued, the passport applicant's name is checked against a central name check system. A federal enforcement investigative agency may request that a subject be placed in the passport name check system if they owe more than \$2,500 in arrears before issuing a passport. Since a passport is valid for ten years, up to a decade can elapse between opportunities to deny a delinquent parent's passport. In the meantime deadbeat parents are free to travel the world while their children are being deprived of bare necessities. The Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) estimates that \$100 billion in unpaid child support has accumulated since the start of a national child support enforcement program in 1972.

Currently, there is no mechanism for the State Department to restrict or revoke existing passports. The United States would have to create a mechanism to restrict any existing passport in which an individual owes more than \$2,500 in child support arrears. This mechanism would require that the names of all adults leaving the country as well as any individual who has surrendered their passport pending a criminal action be checked against a name check system to determine if they owe child support arrears. Any individual owing over \$2,500 in child support would be prevented from leaving the country and their passport revoked until the arrears are paid. Passport denial is a proven and successful tool for collecting past-due child support, mainly from those whose income is not subject to withholding or who have hidden their belongings from capture by other collection remedies. Connecticut alone has brought in nearly one-third of the amount of past-due child support that it has collected via passport denials since 2002. On Tuesday, August 14, 2007 The Associated Press reported the price a few paid just for their passport: \$300,491 in back child support payments for a U.S. businessman now living in China; \$46,000 for a musician seeking to perform overseas, and \$45,849 for a man planning a Dominican Republic vacation.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States will add a bill called Pay or Stay that authorizes the right to remove a passport from an American citizen owing \$2,500 worth of child support arrears by passport denial. The Pay or Stay bill would require that the names of all adults leaving the country as well as any individual who has surrendered their passport pending a criminal action be checked against a name check system to determine if they owe child support arrears.

Proposal No. 1606

Name: Tania Trinidad
Delegation: Weingart East Los Angeles

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Abolition of semi automatic and assault fire arms, registration and mandatory background checks on gun consumers.

JUSTIFICATION:

The United States early beginnings grew up on the right to bear arms, our second amendment. In light of recent events, fire arms have been a growing issue in this nation. Statistics show that children between the ages of 5 to 14 in the United States are 13 times more likely to be killed with guns as children in other industrialized countries. (The New York Times) The purchase and owning of a fire arm were written into the U.S Bill of Rights was for personal protection from enemies. But with times changing, our meaning to our rights change as well.

In this great nation, our deaths by fire arms are by far are one of the worst worldwide. Worldwide, the United States ranks in the top 10 countries with high death rates from fire arms. To add to this number, about 34 Americans are killed with a gun a day. Our second amendment guarantees each American citizen to buy and purchase a gun but in these modern times a gun has now interfered with our natural rights, which are the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The United States of America will implicate stronger gun control laws. All assault and semi automatic fire arms will be abolished and will not be sold to any common civilian. Assault and semi automatic fire arms will be used by the US militia. All guns will need to undergo a registration process, including gun shows as well. All gun sale stores will have a mandatory background check on the purchaser. No person with a violent criminal history or has served time in a penitentiary, or has a mental disability will be able to purchase a gun.

Proposal No. 1607

Name: Cassidy Farrow
Delegation: SPPY/San Pedro

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Lowering restrictions on third party candidates for president

JUSTIFICATION:

In our country today, we are suffering from a government gridlock. This leads to nothing getting accomplished, very little legislation passed, and tension on Capitol Hill. Our country has been run by a two party system of Republicans and Democrats for a long time, and it is time for the White House to experience different, new ideas from third party perspectives that will put an end to this gridlock and give third parties a voice. Some third party candidates that run for office are not on all of the states' ballots. This is because each state has different restrictions on how they get on the ballot. In the past 2012 presidential election, Oklahoma had only Barack Obama and Mitt Romney as choices for president. Ohio's ballot restrictions have been argued to be unconstitutional for their burdensome on minor parties. Gary Johnson, who had his name on only 48 ballots, is filing a law suit against the Commission on Presidential Debates for not letting him appear in the presidential debates, even though he met the rule of getting 15% of the nation's vote. Our country is sticking to what it knows, the Republicans vs. the Democrats, and not letting any third party candidate stand a chance. Our country has many national parties that go unnoticed such as the Libertarian Party, Peace and Freedom Party, Green Party, Independent American Party, Socialist Party, Citizens Party, and several more. Many people are forgetting the reason why third parties were so popular in the 19th century, to address the concerns that the two major parties were not addressing. Congress appears to be addressing none of our concerns with the current gridlock. More third parties should go noticed. As voters, we cannot expect the political spectrum to change if we just keep voting for the lesser of two evils.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

To lower the restrictions for third party presidential candidates by only having to receive 2% of the national vote in polls to get on all 50 states' ballots and 5% to participate in the presidential debates.

Proposal No. 1608

Name: Alexandra Bohrmann
Delegation: Desert Family

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Every year, hundreds of thousands of people decide to get tattoos while intoxicated and then regret it later.

JUSTIFICATION:

While under the influence of alcohol, a person's judgements are severely impaired. Inhibitions are drastically lowered and decisions that usually wouldn't be made are made. Getting a tattoo is a permanent choice that a person must live with for the rest of their life, and to make such a decision while inebriated is irrational and illogical. If a person should not be driving while drunk, then they should not be getting a tattoo while drunk.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass a law that requires all customers of a tattoo parlor to pass a breathalyzer test in order to get a tattoo.

Proposal No. 1609

Name: Naomi Harding
Delegation: San Joaquin County

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

The U.S. will end world hunger

JUSTIFICATION:

: Ending hunger in Third World Countries has been a goal of many organizations. Though there is also poverty in the United States, this case is not as severe. In Africa, one in every four human beings is malnourished. In Latin America, one out of every eight people goes to bed without eating each night. In Asia and the Pacific, twenty-eight percent of the people borders on starvation, experiencing the bedeviling pain of perpetual hunger, and in the Near East, one in ten people are also malnourished. So overall, approximately 925 million people in the world are malnourished. What can we do to start to decrease these numbers? First, programs for sustainable agriculture, the government regulation of agribusiness, and social programs can be implemented. One example would be low-impact sustainable agriculture (LISA). This system has three ideas. The first idea deals with technology. Even with better technology that advances agriculture, not all countries can use the same kinds of technology, so technology that benefits a country's type of agriculture and their goals should be found. The next is increasing government regulation of agriculture. An international grain reserve would be set up and it would regulate the production of grain, so that there would not be any surplus or deficit and therefore less hunger. Also, improving transportation of agricultural products and redistributing land are a part of this idea. The last idea is to use social programs. This way, if hunger is caused by environmental disasters or political upheavals there are institutions in place so that people do not go hungry. These can be instituted by organizations already in place (UNICEF, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, etc.).

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress will pass legislation to invest more in agriculture and helping to implement this in different countries with organizations.

Proposal No. 1610

Name: Maggie Gallagher
Delegation: Berkeley

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Making juvenile sentencing rehabilitative rather than punitive.

JUSTIFICATION:

The juvenile justice system was first created because it was realized that minors needed a very different approach in incarceration than that did adults. The areas of the brain affecting judgment and decision-making typically are not fully developed until the early 20's, meaning that minors don't have the same capabilities for judgment and reason as do adults. The youthful brain also has a much greater capability to learn from mistakes and change than does an adult. This means that sentencing programs aiming to reform criminals through education and psychiatric evaluation have great success with juvenile offenders. Since its creation the juvenile justice system has become almost purely punitive. Because of greater publicizing of juvenile crime in the '80s and '90s, sentencing was made harsher and adult sentencing for minors increased. This was meant to scare juveniles away from committing crimes. However, these measures have actually increased the number of juvenile offenders in the US. Today, there are 2 million minors in the juvenile justice system and 250,000 juveniles are tried as adults every year. Trying minors as adults has not been proven to reduce crime rates, and minors tried as adults are 34% more likely to be recommitted than those that stay in the juvenile justice system. They are also 36 times more likely to commit suicide than those in juvenile prisons and are the highest risk group for sexual assault in prisons. Overall, 55% of juveniles who have been incarcerated are arrested again within a year of their release.

The prevalent system of juvenile justice is not the only way. Missouri, previously one of the worst states for juvenile crime in the nation, created an entirely new approach to youth justice focused on rehabilitation and getting to the root of the problem, rather than straightforward punishment. According to the Missouri Department of Social Services, the main tenets of the program are "Small programs, close to home; Humane environments; Group learning; A trauma informed treatment approach; Marriage between has had amazing success. Only 8.4% of offenders are recommitted into the juvenile justice system, and only 6.2% go on to enter the adult prison system. At the time of their release, 86% of the youth are actively attending school and/or actively employed. Implementing the core aspects of the Missouri approach nationally and ending the practice of sentencing minors as adults would give all incarcerated minors the chance to change their lives for the better.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The President and Congress will pass legislation that bans sentencing minors as adults. It also would provide funding for states to implement humane environments, drug and psychological treatment, and education in juvenile prisons to the standards of the Missouri model of juvenile rehabilitation.

Proposal No. 1611

Name: Kristin Choe
Delegation: Verdugo Hills

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

End monopoly of electric power companies.

JUSTIFICATION:

Currently, our electricity is part of a regional monopoly. Depending on where you live, you can only get power from a single source. Having no competing companies give that single company an unfair advantage over all American consumers. Americans spend hundreds of dollars a month on electricity adding up to thousands a year. In the land of opportunity, how can monopolies still exist today? Though regulation by government only allows the company a fixed percentage of profit above cost, this type of regulation often leads to inefficient high costs since the monopoly is still guaranteed a profit. As America is slowly suffocating under a pollution crisis, energy must be privatized and made more efficient as we move toward renewable energy.

Electricity has inherently formed into a natural monopoly solely based on the fact that once the colossal fixed costs involved with power generation and power lines has been paid, each additional unit of electricity costs very little to produce. It was simply more efficient for the government to run it all. But now that the foundation for electric power has been established, we must strive for innovation: Innovation to pursue alternative energy through which efficiency can be compounded significantly in the near future. The only way to accomplish this is through a free market.

With a competitive electric power market, we will no longer be forced to succumb to a single company's rates. The competition will drive down prices, therefore, providing an incentive for electric companies to become more efficient. Also, private companies will be able to invest more in finding other alternatives for energy making a cleaner America. Wind, solar, and water can be further developed in maximizing energy production. This progression in electricity can advance electrical power as a whole, moving America towards an entirely new era of clean energy.

Along with utilizing alternative energy, the competition between the companies will force them to become more efficient with lower costs and better quality. With private companies, their full attention can be put towards improving to modernize and conserve electricity with more efficient production to create cheaper-costing electricity to be used more often as society moves away from fossil fuels. Each company is held accountable in this self-regulating system.

In addition to a free market for power, the increase in the number of power companies across the nation will create thousands of jobs. The newly stimulated electric power market will lower unemployment as well as boost the nation's GDP out of the negatives. With this change in electricity, our nation can move towards a stronger foundation and away from the dwindling resources of fossil fuels.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Department of energy will abolish all regional boundaries of electric companies. Any electric company will be allowed to sell electricity nationwide. The government will subsidize emerging electric companies until a healthy, competitive market has been established.

Proposal No. 1612

Name: Jose Robles
Delegation: Downey South Gate

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Companies that sell their products in the United States must employ a certain percentage of workers in the United States.

JUSTIFICATION:

Countless jobs are outsourced and with our country's current economy, any job that can be saved is a great achievement. In the year 2011, 53 percent of manufacturing companies hired workers outside of the United States. This could be easily avoided if the companies were required to hire workers in the United States. Manufactured products are the one of the main imports. With unemployment rate in the U.S standing at roughly 8 percent our government must implement policies to keep jobs from getting outsourced. In doing so the United State can reduce unemployment rates, reduce reliance of foreign imports, reduce the trade deficit, and increase our shrinking manufacturing sector. The dominant U.S steel industry has shifted to China, electronic manufacturing has been outsourced to Japan, textile industries have moved to Indonesia and Thailand, and pharmaceuticals and call centers have moved to India. Corporations outsource American jobs to avoid paying high U.S wages, worker benefits, and strict labor laws.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Make it a requirement for corporations who import manufactured goods and make 30 million or more a year in sales revenue to employ 15% of their labor force within the United States. Corporations who do not wish to comply with this new law would be forced to pay 12.5 million in a penalty fee plus an additional 5 percent tax on the face value of all imported goods.

Proposal No. 1613

Name: Mia Brown
Delegation: Hilltop

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Adding Regulations to Firearm Laws and making them national.

JUSTIFICATION:

Gun violence is currently the number 15 cause of death in the United States and the U.S. has the highest firearm homicide rates in the developed world. Approximately 78 people die from firearms each day, which means that exactly 28,736 Americans die from firearms each year. 16,603 of these deaths being suicides, 11,250 being homicides, 661 are on accident and 222 are unknown intents. These numbers are ridiculously high and have caused gun violence to be a big issue in our nation. However, this problem can be resolved with the proper action. I Propose a bill that will massively reduce these numbers and save the thousands of innocent lives being lost to an unnecessary misuse of firearms. We must take action against this problem by adding regulations to already existing firearm laws so that they will be more effective. States with the lowest firearm fatality rates have more restrictive gun laws and lower gun ownership rates. Massachusetts being one of the few states with stricter gun laws, showed results that the firearm homicide rate was reduced by 66% between 1994 and 2004. So if gun laws have been proven to work, why don't we have more of them?

The regulations that will reduce the firearm fatality rate in the United States include: (1)you must obtain a license similar to a drivers license, in order to purchase and/or use a firearm, (2)the gun must be registered under your first and last name, (3)you are allowed to carry clips that carry no more than 10 rounds of ammunition, (4)you are allowed to own no more than 10 guns in the duration of 1 year and (5)you must show your license to the seller before a purchase can be made. Before a license can be issued to an individual: (1)You must have completed at least 6 hours of gun training, (2)you must be at least 18 years of age, (3)you must provide proof of a criminal and general background check, and (4)you must provide proof of a mental illness evaluation test.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Congress will add an amendment to the U.S. constitution making these firearm laws national.

Proposal No. 1614

Name: Scott Hicks
Delegation: San Luis Obispo County

TOPIC OF CONCERN:

Restricting the media when it comes to reporting on mass shootings.

JUSTIFICATION:

There have been far too many shootings in our nation's history, all of them tragic. When these shootings take place, many people begin to place blame on a variety of sources, such as guns themselves, violent video games and movies, mental health treatment, etc. While all of these can be argued for and against, too often the media is not considered, when perhaps they are the most influential cause of these shootings.

When shootings such as the tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut and Aurora, Colorado occur, we witness the media run wild with the story. Motivated by bringing in the most viewers, they will sensationalize the event and the shooter, rather than focus on the victims. They create the shooter into an anti-hero, a villain comparable to those in Hollywood movies, because this is what grabs the attention of the viewer. The media networks, as they compete against each other for higher ratings, will show the shooter's name and face every hour, and display the number of people killed as if it were a "high score" of sorts. As they continue to sensationalize the shooter, they will post photos of him or her as a child, show videos of them that have absolutely no relevance to the shooting whatsoever, and try to delve into their mind, as if to reveal a joker-like evil plan. They consider all of this "news", when really it is just giving the horrible murderer attention, which is the least of what they deserve. A mentally unstable person who sees these stories on television, who sees the attention the shooter receives, may go on a shooting spree themselves in order to achieve the same "fame".

Dr. Park Dietz, a forensic psychiatrist, says on the subject, "We've had twenty years of mass murders, throughout which I have repeatedly told CNN and our other media, if you don't want to propagate more mass murders, don't start the story with sirens blaring. Don't have photographs of the killer. Don't make this 24/7 coverage. Do everything you can not to make the body count the lead story, not to make the killer some kind of anti-hero. Do localize this story to the affected community, and make it as boring as possible in every other market, because every time we have intense saturation of coverage of a mass murder, we expect to see one or two more within a week."

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Congress shall pass legislation that restricts the media when it comes to reporting on mass shootings; laws such as no showing the shooter's name, no pictures or video of the shooter, no reporting on the story outside of the community involved, etc.