

1 **SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA**
2 **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**
3 **28th Annual Model Legislature**
4 **November 18th – 21st**
5

6 **BILL ORIGINATES IN:** Premier Senate

7 **BILL NUMBER:** PS1

8 **RECOMMEND FOR COMMITTEE:** PA

9 **AUTHORS:** Anna Stone and Lara Dym

10 **BILL SPONSOR:** Kathleen Babb and Lauren Oakes

11 **SCHOOL/CLUB:** Spartanburg Day School
12

13 **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**
14

15 An Act to Ban Taking and Posting Selfies in Public Places
16

17 BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
18

19 **Section 1:** Selfies will be outlawed in all *public* places.
20

21 **Section 2:** If a selfie is taken in a public place, there will be a fine of \$25 if no harm
22 is done.
23

24 **Section 3:** If damages result from the taking of a selfie, the offender will be
25 responsible for all damages incurred.
26

27 **Section 4:** This law against taking selfies in public places will take place on January
28 1st, 2016 following its passage into law.
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6 **BILL ORIGINATES IN:** Premier Senate

7 **BILL NUMBER:** PS2

8 **RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE:** PB

9 **AUTHORS:** Lily Webster and Hayden Genoble

10 **BILL SPONSOR:** Cooper Hannah and Zion Williamson

11 **SCHOOL/CLUB:** Spartanburg Day School
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13 **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**
14

15 Allowing the option of physician-assisted suicide in the form of a pill for recipients of
16 life sentence in prison who have no chance of parole.
17

18 BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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20 **Section 1:** Any inmate serving a life sentence with no hope of parole will be allowed
21 to opt for physician-assisted suicide.
22

23 **Section 2:** The inmate's life will be ended with a large dose of Secobarbital
24

25 **Section 3:** An inmate must wait 3 years from sentencing before they are allowed to
26 opt for physician-assisted suicide.
27

28 **Section 4:** To qualify the person must have a psychological evaluation to check for
29 the ability to make decisions and to make sure the inmate is in their right state of
30 mind.
31

32 **Section 5:** When signed into law, the first option for physician-assisted suicide will
33 take place on January 1st, 2016.
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS3

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Taylor Birch and Allie Lockman

BILL SPONSOR: Jake Popkin and Sam Freedman

SCHOOL/CLUB: Spartanburg Day School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to prevent the Guantanamo Detainees from being moved to South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: To date, Guantanamo Bay has held 780 detainees since 2002. 64 of the 116 that remain are deemed to be some of the most dangerous international terrorists known at this time, and therefore are not foreseen to ever be released. President Obama has requested to close Guantanamo Bay prison, and transfer the detainees to United States soil to reduce the defense budget. The state of South Carolina must not be an option for the relocation and housing of the remaining detainees.

Section 2: By January 1, 2016 the former U.S. naval base, located in Charleston, South Carolina, must not be considered a sufficient relocation option due to many factors notwithstanding safety and security concerns within the community of Charleston as well as the state as a whole.

Section 3: Knowing it may be more costly to keep the detainees in Guantanamo Bay, the priority of our government should be to protect its citizens. Therefore, the detainees should remain in their current, remote location.

Section 4: Not authorizing the transfer of these detainees to South Carolina would:

- A.** Protect the safety and well-being of all current and future South Carolina citizens;
- B.** Prevent negative financial obligations that would be burdensome on the state of South Carolina;
- C.** Prevent South Carolina from being a future dumping ground for international detainees.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS4

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Rachel Castellani and Andre De Castro

BILL SPONSOR: Selik Hopper and Maddie Stringer

SCHOOL/CLUB: Southside Christian School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act Concerning Maximum Price for Necessary Pharmaceuticals

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: There are no current limitations concerning the prices for necessary pharmaceuticals, an act like this would make it so that any pharmaceutical which makes over a certain threshold in revenue needs to be evaluated by an established committee to determine the maximum price on life saving drugs.

Section 2: Limiting the maximum price of life saving pharmaceuticals will prevent a drastic increase of pharmaceutical prices. This price cap will ensure a just pharmaceutical price for those economically vulnerable.

Section 3: Because the market for over-the-counter drugs is very large, and the supply for said drugs meets the demand, there are not many pricing issues, therefore, over-the-counter drugs, and medicine not related directly to health, are exempt.

Section 4: Potential gain from this bill:

A. Affordable prescription drugs;

B. Decrease in people trying to make money off of drugs that could be sold for less.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first pharmaceutical evaluation will take place on January 1, 2016.

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6 **BILL ORIGINATES IN:** Premier Senate

7 **BILL NUMBER:** PS5

8 **RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE:** PE

9 **AUTHORS:** Keylee King and Emme Bagwell

10 **BILL SPONSOR:** Briana Marler and Samantha Stocking

11 **SCHOOL/CLUB:** Riverside High School
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13 **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**
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15 *An Act to Promote Mental Health Awareness*
16

17 BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
18

19 **Section 1:** Currently, there is no required screening for mental health for high
20 school
21 students in South Carolina.
22

23 **Section 2:** This bill will not require extensive funding due to the fact that the
24 screening
25 will be an online survey created by the American Mental Health Counselors
26 Association;
27 the screening will be conducted in each social studies or science class in the first week
28 of school.
29

30 **Section 3:** The 12th graders will take the screening test on the first day of school, the
31 11th graders will take the screening test on the second day of school, the 10th graders
32 will take the screening test on the third day of school, and the 9th graders will take
33 the
34 screening test on the fourth day of school.
35

36 **Section 4:** This bill will help reduce teen suicides and school shootings by raising
37 awareness for mental illnesses, specifically depression, anxiety, and ADHD.
38

39 **Section 5:** Mental health screenings will be required at the beginning of each school
40 year starting in the school year of 2018-2019
41

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS6

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Campbell Mitchell and Sullivan Corley

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Eastside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Better Prepare Students for Their Future

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently grades 9th-12th are required by state laws to learn certain curriculum that prepares them for college. These include a form of English, History, Math, Science, and a language chosen by the student.

Section 2: By January 19, 2016, students in 11th and 12th grade will have the option to choose their own curriculum giving them the ability to take classes they need in the field of their choice, based on what career they would like to pursue.

Section 3: Cutting the unnecessary courses will allow more time to prepare students for the career they would like to pursue. This option is open to all 11th and 12th grade students who have a certain career that they would like to follow. It will also make a big impact on their college choices depending on the career they choose.

Section 4: This law would cause:

- A.** Unemployment rates to decrease, because students would be more assured of a job or career.
- B.** Getting rid of unnecessary courses to help more students be well-rounded while also having more time for extra-curricular activities.
- C.** Students to have an extra two years of experience towards college and their future careers.

Section 5: When signed into law, this option will be available beginning January 1, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS7

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Jessica Beard and Dylan Grubbs

BILL SPONSOR: Greene and Eich

SCHOOL/CLUB: Hillcrest High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

Burns Art Act

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Increased investment in the fine arts branch of the school system will lead to a level higher f academic learning and understanding of the world around us. Higher levels of academic understanding leads to an increase in the economic income of the effected home.

Section 2: Give a grant to the fine arts departments

Section 3: Limit of grants total for the year allowed is \$1 billion through tax dollars. School districts will receive amounts based on the population of their school district. Title 1 schools will be given an additional 15% in addition to their total population.

Section 4: State, school districts nor school many decide how the money is spent. Money is spent as the art department sees fit.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect at the beginning of next school year.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS8

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PA

AUTHORS: Anthony Furino and Abigail Burton

BILL SPONSOR: Klenotiz and Sorrow

SCHOOL/CLUB: Hillcrest High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An act to add Traffic Cameras

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: There are currently no traffic cameras in the state so if this law is passed we will be putting in speeding cameras, and traffic light cameras all over the state.

Section 2: We will begin by adding cameras to the most populated and congested areas around the state then adding cameras to less congested areas.

Section 3: We will pay for this by adding a \$0.02 per dollar sales tax on all non-edible food products, and a \$0.05 per dollar sales tax on gasoline sales.

Section 4: This will allow officers to work on more serious crimes, and the traffic cameras would be used for the minor traffic offenses like: Running a red light, speeding in excess of 10 miles over the posted speed limit and other low risk offenses.

Section 5: This pass will allow:

A. Officers to not have to do minor traffic offenses

B. Accurate and non-negotiable ticketing

C. Safer streets for our families, and friends

Section 6: When signed into law the tax and work will take effect on January 1st, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS9

RECOMMENDED FOR COMITEE: PB

AUTHORS: Hannah Burns and Avery McMurtry

BILL SPONSOR: Makena Roe and Justin Lively

SCHOOL/CLUB: Bishop England High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Instate a Current Event Class in Public Schools

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The purpose of this class would be to create students who are interested in what is going on in the world around them, and who use their knowledge to benefit the community.

Section 2: This class would be an optional elective in public high schools of South Carolina. It would be available to grades 9-12 and would provide a student with a half credit upon passing the course.

Section 3: The curriculum includes: discussing events as a class, holding debates, brainstorming solutions, interpreting political cartoons, summarizing articles, connecting the present to the past, and looking at causes and effects.

Section 4: When signed into law, this would be enacted for the 2016-2017 school year.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS10

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Aidan Worthington and Andrew Robertson

BILL SPONSOR: Mary Gaillard

SCHOOL/CLUB: Porter Gaud School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

A Bill to Increase Spending on Food Supplies for Poorer Families and Motivate
Workforce

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current funding for people who rely food support programs like SNAP (supplemental nutrition assistance program) in South Carolina well below the national standard. This bill would increase this funding by 20% over 5 years

Section 2: People who are unemployed who qualified i.e. those below the poverty line and unemployed would be given this benefit. Each participant would be given a 4% increase to their average food allowance given by the government each year for 5 years. If the recipient is unable to get a job because of a disability or status, they will be given a 6% raise.

Section 3: Because working status directly affects income, and income affects budget for food jobs would be given by the state to people who rely on these kinds of benefits as a new start

Section 4: This would effect:

- A.** The amount of time people focus on their job not their next meal
- B.** The productiveness of people at work
- C.** Job status in South Carolina
- D.** The productiveness of children in these poorer families at school

Section 5: When written into law the first increase in funding for food programs would be on January 1, 2016

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS11

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Avery Morse and Savannah Carlton

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Eastside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act for Mandatory Tutoring by Teachers

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The out-of-school tutoring fee, on average, costs between \$10-15. In-school tutoring is free, but only offered by some teachers or by peer-tutors.

Section 2: If this bill is passed, free tutoring will be offered at least once a week by core class teachers. These teachers would be compensated for their extra time.

Section 3: This bill would give all students equal access to extra help. Having teachers offer free tutoring gives everyone opportunity to have a one-on-one experience to be more involved in their education and learning experience. This also allows for students to be taught by their own teachers, instead of classmates.

Section 4: Free mandatory tutoring would

A. Raise passing rates in classes

B. Allow for teachers to understand what the class, as a whole, is struggling with

C. Help eliminate economic disparity in student access to help in class

Section 5: When signed into law, free tutoring would be available beginning with the 2016-2017 school year.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate
BILL NUMBER: PS12
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE
AUTHORS: Landry Davis and Heather Sloan
BILL SPONSOR:
SCHOOL/CLUB: Eastside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act Relating To Small Business Tax Breaks In South Carolina
or the SBTBA

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The SBTBA shall grant tax breaks for existing and newly formed small businesses for a period of five (5) years. A small business shall be defined as any business licensed under South Carolina law that has, or will obtain, a maximum of fifteen (15) employees and generates, or anticipates generating, a gross revenue of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) or less in the period of one year.

Section 2: The purpose of this bill is to encourage the formation of small businesses, the hiring of new employees for newly formed small businesses, and to promote the hiring of additional employees for existing small businesses.

Section 3: The businesses eligible for the tax breaks are: Any newly formed small business or any existing small business licensed to do business under South Carolina law.

Section 4: Small Business owners shall be exempt from paying their newly hired employees' payroll taxes for the first five (5) years of the employees' employment with the small business.

Section 5: Newly formed small businesses must start the five (5) years of tax breaks in the first year the small business opens. Existing small businesses may elect to take the tax break in the same year they hire new employees. Tax breaks cannot be saved to be used at a later date.

Section 6: The business owner or their tax preparer will complete and file the business' tax return on time or that business will not receive a tax break for that year and will be responsible for paying any employees payroll taxes that were not paid during the year.

1 **Section 7:** The South Carolina Department of Revenue will keep track of the
2 businesses' tax breaks based on its yearly tax return.
3 **Section 8:** When signed into law, this act shall go into effect January 1, 2016.
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS13

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Nath Kapoor and Salem Rajae

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Eastside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Give Business Owners Choice without being Legally Condemned

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Both corporations and small business owners would have the right to exclude or deny – included but not limited to – workers, products, customers, and taxes because of moral, religious, and personal beliefs or business and economic struggles.

Section 2: Business owners will have the right to do any of the above (with evidence, proof, or reason) without being subject to legal action (such as financial penalties, lawsuits, etc.), giving them opportunities to grow their business in an environment more suited to their belief and opinions.

Section 3: Customers, suppliers, and employers will not have the right to object to the business owner's denial because of his or her beliefs. However, this bill will not support business owners if issues include denial because of rumors or false accusations.

Section 4: Passage of this bill would:

- A.** Allow business owners to manage their company in a more personalized, comfortable environment.
- B.** Let local and large businesses soar in growth because of environmental and legal factors that were never challenged or questioned before, thus raising productivity levels and large-to-small scale economy.

Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will go into effect on January 1, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS14

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Carson Allender and Lynn Marie Tompkins

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Eastside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Take Advanced Placement Class Options out of High School

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current Advanced Placement (AP) classes would be removed from course options in High School.

Section 2: When these selected classes are removed from high schools, students will have an equal changes of acceptance into colleges because colleges will be forced to look closer at SAT and ACT scores rather than the level of courses taken.

Section 3: This bill will promote equality throughout schools. Students who thought they may never have been accepted into college will have a greater chance now because of this bill. We want this bill to pass so everyone not taking AP classes already can be more confident when applying to prestigious colleges.

Section 4: Passage of this bill will benefit:

- A.** Lower class students who don't have the same opportunities as middle and upper class students to take Advanced Placement courses
- B.** Student equality because students would be on equal educational grounds regarding GPA because Advanced Placement class would no longer inflate GPA
- C.** Students applying for college because GPA would measure students equally and colleges would look closer at SAT and ACT scores.

Section 5: When signed into law, Advanced Placement Classes will be removed from high schools beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS15

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PA

AUTHORS: Olivia Treanor and McKenna Roth

BILL SPONSOR: Cole Parker and Thomas Owens

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An act to revoke South Carolina public colleges application fees.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Many students in South Carolina are required to pay an application fee to apply to public colleges within the state. By the time students have applied to at least four to six public colleges they have paid at least three hundred dollars. The high cost may be prohibiting students from applying to more than one college. This bill will allow students to apply to more than one college and not worry about the application fee.

Section 2: Currently the students in South Carolina have to pay an application fee for most colleges they want to apply to. Repealing the fee on public colleges applications will encourage more students to apply to more than one school. Also it will encourage students to apply for in state schools because it will lessen the economic burden. Application fees are a barrier to getting an education and this bill will decrease the barrier between the students and their education. This bill will encourage all students of all social classes. Those that are of lower income will benefit from being able to apply to a greater variety of colleges so that they may choose the best financial and educational option for them. The voucher system for low income students that is currently in place is not enough of a financial incentive, by making the applications free these students will be encouraged to apply to a greater number of colleges, therefore increase their odds of getting into a better school with better financial options.

Section 3: The State Government should fund the money for application fees through the South Carolina State Education Lottery. The money from the lottery will be split between two-year colleges and four-year colleges.

Section 4: We will enforce the bill by making public colleges allow students to apply for free. The Government of South Carolina will be the ones to enforce the bill. If the state colleges fail to comply with waiving state student's application fee, their state funding will be revoked.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS16

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Skylar Clayman and Ben Martin

BILL SPONSOR: Adam Compton and Emory Doppelheuer

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

SUTA Flat Tax Proposal

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This act would incentivize South Carolina employers to hire more employees because it would reduce the SUTA (State Unemployment Tax Act) each employer has to pay per worker. This act would reduce the SUTA (State Unemployment Tax Act) tax rate to a flat and reasonable 1% with no drop-off after gross earnings capped after \$200,000 per year versus \$14,000. Introducing a flat tax would encourage increased employment on the part of businesses because the varying rates of the SUTA tax rate (0% - 7.855%) discourage higher numbers of employment. This is because whenever a business hires an employee, there is a possibility that said employee would have to be laid off at some point in time, causing the SUTA rates to go up for that particular business.

Section 2: The problem of a varying and raised SUTA tax rate has been a detrimental encumbrance upon businesses for 7 years, and has cost businesses not only opportunities for growth and expanded employment, but has also cost businesses in South Carolina nearly a billion dollars due to SUTA Dumping (see Section 3). This problem's solution is in the form of a flat SUTA rate of 1% imposed on companies corporately held in South Carolina, as oppose to the average 3.91% rate. Another piece to this solution is imposing a slightly raised 2% flat SUTA rate on companies corporately held outside of South Carolina, such as Boeing or BMW. These flat and low tax rates will not only encourage corporations to relocate to South Carolina, but will reduce the amount of money lost due to SUTA dumping because the costs for SUTA dumping will outweigh the cost of actually paying the SUTA rate.

Section 3: A major issue with the current system of imposing SUTA rates is SUTA dumping. SUTA dumping methods are ways that employers avoid a higher SUTA tax rate or the raising of their SUTA tax rate. Ways that businesses do this are Corporate Shelling and using the New Employer Rate. Corporate Shelling is when a company transfers its payroll to the purchased entity, essentially moving all taxable payroll assets to a new or undeveloped entity with a much lower SUTA rate. The New

1 Employer Rate is when a company files a registration form requesting a new employer
2 account number (Federal ID Number), essentially resetting their SUTA rate. These
3 methods are the two primary methods of SUTA dumping, which create an uneven
4 playing field amongst businesses and costs the state hundreds of millions of dollars
5 annually.

6
7 **Section 4:** The bill would essentially fund itself, as the money gained from increased
8 taxable assets would go towards the state and in turn to DEW (The Department of
9 Employment and Workforce), which enforces and upkeeps SUTA.

10
11 **Section 5:** DEW (The Department of Employment and Workforce) will enforce the bill,
12 and is currently paid for by the state employers, which would see an influx of revenue
13 due to more corporately held taxable assets within the state of South Carolina. This
14 surplus that our state would come into would allow for further expansion on the part
15 of the state, thereby allowing more legislative acts to be passed and funded.

16
17 **Section 6:** This bill would affect business in South Carolina in a tremendously positive
18 way. Not only would the cost per-employee drop significantly, it would encourage
19 outside business to migrate to South Carolina. It is no secret that companies like
20 BMW and Boeing have brought major employment to South Carolina, and their
21 influence on the state's economy has been conspicuously positive. The amount of
22 similarly sized corporations that are present in the state would only increase, as
23 South Carolina would be a place where businesses have real breathing room and can
24 expand throughout the state, creating jobs and opportunities for all South Carolinians.

25
26 **Section 7:** This bill will take effect on January 01, 2016.
27

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS17

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Annelise Caudell and Amy Gilpin

BILL SPONSOR: Elissa Izumi and Reagan Moody

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to require a background check before purchasing a firearm.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: On June 17th, 2015 there was a terrible tragedy that took place in Charleston, South Carolina. A 21-year old man shot ten people in a church, and nine of them died. Prior to this shooting, the gunman already had a criminal record. If this bill went into effect before this incident, this tragedy may have been able to be prevented. Our bill will require any person that wishes to purchase a firearm pass a mandatory background check.

Section 2: The general idea behind background checks is to check individuals for any criminal or public safety record to prevent them from owning a firearm. We believe that this is legitimate because the state should not allow people with certain mental disabilities and public safety charges to possess firearms. Some may view this as interfering with our 2nd Amendment rights, the right to bear arms, but it is for the greater good and should reduce crime rates in South Carolina. A new study from Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research has found Missouri's decision to repeal its law, requiring all handgun purchasers to pass a background check, led to a 16 percent increase in the state murder rate. People purchasing firearms would have their name run through the National Instant Criminal Background Check or NICS. Some may argue that the government cannot tell people which products they can and cannot buy, but this is also for the greater good of the public and if someone passes the background check, there is no reason they should not be able to purchase a firearm.

Section 3: Funding for the background checks will come from an additional 1% tax on the purchase of firearms and ammunition. A statewide background check typically costs \$10-20. Background checks are not free, but are cheap and easy to do.

Section 4: Individual vendors will enforce the stipulations of this bill. If this became a law, they would be legally obligated to run background checks. If someone fails a background check then there will be no repercussions for those attempting to purchase a firearm. Appeals can be made if someone has a criminal record for a

1 nonviolent charge (drug possession, minor in possession of alcohol, etc.). Appeals
2 would be submitted to the NICS Section's Appeal Services Team and/or the state
3 branch of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF).
4

5 **Section 5:** This bill will be signed into law and take effect on January 1, 2016.
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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS18

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Lindsey Melzer and Jordyn Pomar

BILL SPONSOR: Alexandra Robinson and Kendall Heflin

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Lighten the Stress Level of Students

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: As students in South Carolina, we previously and still currently undergo multiple levels of stress due to the overwhelming number of assessments. We feel that a major cause of this is having multiple examinations for multiple subjects in one day. For example, a survey conducted for the American Psychological Association, proves that 83 percent of teens said that school was "a somewhat or significant source of stress." This bill is an attempt to reduce the level of stress on teens by permitting only one examination from each subject once a week. Basically each subject will be assigned a specific day to conduct examinations aka tests and quizzes.

Section 2: As mentioned in section one, we are highly concerned about stress on students. Students stress out over there grades. Our bill will fix this problem by allowing more time for students to study. In the state of South Carolina, all public schools will follow a certain examination schedule. A rough draft of the basic core subject schedule is: Mondays will be math days, Tuesdays will be science days, Wednesdays will be social studies days, Thursdays will be related arts day, and Fridays will be English days. This schedule does not include students taking more than one class in the same general subject, that can be determined by the specific school. Furthermore, this schedule allows students, teachers, and parents to be more organized as well as remain healthy, balanced lifestyles. However, if there is a need to make up any examinations that a student missed, then the make-up assessment can be taken on any day of the week, as long as it is prearranged with the teacher. Also, if there are days missed sue to national holidays/breaks and or bad weather (snow days) then teachers will be allowed to assign assessments any day on the prior week or the current week, as long as students have a two day noticed. We understand that teachers want to assign assessments whenever because they want to test our knowledge. Although, from a student perspective, it takes more time to fully understand the material so that it can help us in the long run. Specifically, students can focus on studying in one subject, instead of studying multiple subjects at once, as well as receive more time to study, so that it can be useful in real life.

1 **Section 3:** Our bill does not need to be funded, because all it takes is
2 communication and enforcement. Once a final schedule is in act, teachers will then be
3 left to plan lessons and examinations around a specific day. If the teachers don't
4 follow the instructed schedule and assign examinations on their unassigned day, then
5 students will be allowed to retake the same test on the upcoming assigned day.
6

7 **Section 4:** This bill will be enforced by the State Board of Education in South
8 Carolina. Once this is put into place, the bill can be further enforced on a local level
9 by districts.
10

11 **Section 5:** When signed into law by the governor this bill will take place on January
12 1, 2016.
13

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS19

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Ashlyn Kearney and Lindsay White

BILL SPONSOR: Claire Griffith and Ellie Howard

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to delay the starting time of public schools

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This bill would change the current start time for all SC public high schools to 9:45 and change the end time to 4:45. Studies show that, on average, teenagers need nine and a half hours of sleep to perform at their highest level of ability in school. Not getting enough sleep leads to an inability to listen, concentrate, and solve problems, which are basic activities that you are expected to be able to do on a daily basis in any learning environment. On top of this, many kids have extracurricular activities after school. This is also very difficult for individuals who take classes that come with heavy workloads at night, such as honors and AP classes. From these reasons, we concluded that for students to get enough sleep to function at their maximum ability, the school starting time should be later.

Section 2: We propose that school should start 1 hour later, at 9:45 am. Pushing the school start time back one hour makes up for the time difference between that average time and the amount that students should be receiving. If school starts at 9:45, that would push back the end time to 4:45pm. This time is convenient, as most parents have jobs that end around that time. With this start time, the average individual would wake up at 8:00am, rather than 7:00. This means that the average kid that goes to bed at 11:00 will get 9 hours of sleep, which will enable them to be able to better perform their daily tasks at school. With this new start time, students will not be as tired during classes, and they will likely be able to better concentrate and absorb the information they are being taught. This not only helps the students, but will also help the schools. With kids having a better ability to learn, it is only logical to assume that they would then get higher grades. With higher scores on tests, quizzes, and state/national assessments, schools would be much higher looked upon.

Section 3: Unlike most bills, this bill can be put into effect without any additional funding. It would involve altering teacher contracts to allow them to work at different times. It would also change school bus schedules and cafeteria schedules, but it would run like a normal day, simply pushed back an hour. That would mean there is no need for extra funding.

1 **Section 4:** The South Carolina Board of Education, the main governing body of all
2 public schools in South Carolina, will put this bill into effect for all SC public schools.

3
4 **Section 5:** Our bill will go into effect the beginning of the 2016/2017 school year.
5 school year.

6

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS20

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Aaron Compton and Keegan O'Connell

BILL SPONSOR: Leo White and Myles Daniels

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to prevent the abuse of welfare

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Welfare is a program that is designed to help provide the basic necessities for people living in or below poverty. Welfare is paid for by taxes. Unfortunately, this program is often abused by many people to purchase illegal drugs. This Bill would only be implemented for those who are receiving need welfare, not Medicare; the reason for this is because more people on welfare abuse the help they receive than on Medicare.

Section 2: In South Carolina, we have roughly 38,000 citizens on welfare. However, there are no laws that require an applicant to be subject to mandatory drug tests.

Section 3: Drug tests for every recipient of welfare would have an estimated cost of \$500,000 per month. Therefore, if a 53% tax increase on cigarettes was imposed it would provide the cost of the tests. A 53% tax increase is equivalent to a 30 cent raise.

Section 4: The proposed law will be enforced by:

- A.** A signed contract with the recipient stating that he or she is subjected to a monthly drug test while receiving welfare and accepting the penalties of the three strike system.
- B.** A three strike system will be implemented to insure welfare program will not be abused.
- C.** The first strike will be a written warning that will go on a permanent record.
- D.** The second strike results in the size of their check will be reduced for that month.
- E.** The third offense will result in the termination of the recipient from the program. They will be permitted to reapply to the program after six months has passed.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS21

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Phoebe Copeland and Emma Griffith

BILL SPONSOR: Kylie Feniger and Elouise Usry

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Prevent the Homicide and Abuse of Women

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently, South Carolina is second in the nation in the number of women murdered by men, only recently being surpassed by Alaska for the number one spot. The state has been in the top ten on the list for the past decade and topped the list three times in this period. Over the last ten years, more than 300 women have died at the hands of a man in South Carolina. As far as domestic violence, 36,000 cases are reported annually in the state. And too many times murder and domestic violence are related. The state has done little to nothing to help either of these problems, as is illustrated by a steady homicide rate of women by men for the last 15 years. This bill will drop these frightening statistics by inflicting harsher punishments on abusers, and providing more ways for the victims to get help and feel safe. It will also lower the rate of women killed by men, as it would stop these men before they get to the point of killing their victim, as well as moving women to do something earlier because they know their state cares and wants to what's right to keep them safe.

Section 2: Right now, in South Carolina, someone convicted of domestic violence has to be convicted three times before they are charged with a felony. On a first or second offense, they can be fined and put in jail for as little as thirty days. So after a month in jail, what is stopping them from returning to their old habits of abusing their victim(s)? This constant abuse is what leads the abuser to eventually commit murder.

Section 3: Right now, in South Carolina, domestic violence is not a priority. Funding for this bill would come partly from sales taxes, but mostly from state funding. We need more ways for these women to get help. Unfortunately, there aren't enough resources and domestic violence shelters (right now, 46 counties in this state have animal shelters, while only 18 have domestic violence shelters) for every request to get the help they need. Of the victims that don't get help, about 60% return to their abusers. The state would pay to build more shelters that provide care for domestic violence victims. This would include opening shelters in half the counties in the state that don't have them, as well as increasing the funding towards the preexisting

1 shelters so that every plea for help can be met. Taxes from sales tax and property tax
2 would go to any costs related to imprisoning the accusers.
3

4 **Section 4:** We need stricter laws with stricter punishments for domestic violence
5 crimes, so that women can finally feel free from the constant cycle of abuse they
6 suffer through. Local Law Enforcement can enforce this bill by extending the amount
7 of time in prison convicts spend and charge them on their first offence, not third. The
8 cost for holding the guilty accountable would not be that large, but any additional
9 costs involved in detaining and punishing the accused would come from taxpayer
10 dollars.
11

12 **Section 5:** This bill will be beneficial to our state for the following reasons:

- 13 **A.** It will contain people who commit domestic violence.
- 14 **B.** It will provide protection and safety for women who are victims of
15 domestic violence.
- 16 **C.** It will decrease the amount of deaths and domestic violence rates
17 committed in our state.
18

19 **Section 6:** When this bill is signed into law, it will be taken into effect on January 1st,
20 2016.
21

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS22

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PA

AUTHORS: Matthew Foody and Jackson Morrissey

BILL SPONSOR: Lydiah Griebel and Madison Hammond

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Improve Our Roads

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The poor condition of South Carolina roads has caused at least one fatality and numerous injuries, along with car repair bills from blown tires, dented rims, and broken windshields. One reason that South Carolina has bad roads is because South Carolina has the fourth-largest state maintained road system in the United States, but the third-lowest gas tax to pay for the maintenance. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has to maintain over 40,000 miles of roads, but South Carolina politicians rarely raise taxes. The state's gas tax of 16 cents a gallon hasn't been raised since 1987. South Carolina has some of the lowest gas prices in the country. We propose to add an extra 5 cent tax per gallon to help increase the quality of our roads. Though this amount does not seem much, it starts to add up. This will cause people to spend money on gas instead of car repairs which will save people money in the long run.

Section 2: 47% of the roads are considered to be in poor condition and 19% are considered to be substandard, according to fixscroads.com. The average cost to repair a flat tire is \$10 and this does not include the cost to repair dented rims or broken windshields. With damages to cars these amounts start to add up to a lot of money because of the poor roads that we are driving on.

Section 3: There will be no need for funding for this bill as the tax will be added to the price of gas. This law will be enforced by every gas station in South Carolina. the penalty for the gas stations who do not enforce the law will be penalized with a fine of two thousand dollars every week they don't enforce the tax.

Section 4: The benefits of this bill are:

A. We will have better roads. The tax will give SCDOT the money to improve the roads.

B. Cars will not get as beat up because of bad roads. This will help people not have to spend as much money on repairing their vehicles.

1 **C.** With better roads, SC will be able to attach more businesses, as quality
2 infrastructure can be a key component for whether new businesses
3 decide to open in SC, thus creating more jobs.
4

5 **Section 5:** This bill will be signed into law and take effect on January 1, 2016.
6

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS23

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Mary Evelyn Brown and Colleen Daly

BILL SPONSOR: Aaron Potter and Allison Buehler

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Return Bottles and Cans

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently there is not a law in South Carolina that requires its citizens to recycle. This bill would place a 15 cents tax per aluminum and/or glass bottle purchased in SC. Examples of these items are soda cans, water bottles, beer bottles, and wine bottles or wine cooler containers. The revenue generated by this tax will be distributed as follows: five cents to the store for collecting the recyclables, 5 cents towards funding public education in SC, and 5 cents towards improving SC roads.

Section 2: Currently in South Carolina recycling is optional. Either participants pay taxes for it to be picked up (for example those who live in the city limits often pay higher taxes, but receive recycling) or citizens take it to a landfill or recycling center. This law would incentivize all stores to purchase machines that process recyclable material in order to obtain the 5 cents return on each bottle/can.

Section 3: The law will be overseen and enforced by the SC Department of Revenue who will distribute monthly checks to stores, the department of education, and department of transportation based on the amount of recycling received. The recycling will be collected by the non-profit Palmetto Pride and any expense associated with the collection and drop off of recycled items will be taken equally out of the revenue generated prior to organizations involved being paid.

Section 4: The justification for such an Act follows:

- A.** The state recycles 29.2% of its recycled waste. Because of this in effect in other states, there have a higher recycling percentage. For example, California's population recycles 49%, Delaware is 40%, Michigan is 31%, and Vermont is between 30-35%
- B.** The roads in South Carolina are in terrible condition and the schools need to be improved so this new revenue source could help improve to important aspect of SC. There are similar affective acts in other states such as California and Michigan.

1 **C.** South Carolina generates about 4.2 million tons of trash in landfills
2 each year. Inmate crews have picked up over 368,000 pounds of litter.
3

4 **Section 5:** The benefits of this bill are as follows:

5 **A.** The funds from this bill go to the store (five cents), schools and
6 education (five cents), and to help improve the roads (five cents).

7 **B.** This bill will help the environment and it will incentivize people to want
8 to improve the environment.

9 **C.** It will also help reduce the amount of waste generated.

10 **D.** Stores who choose to participate will get more customers.

11 **E.** It would keep parks and roadsides cleaner.
12

13 **Section 6:** This bill will be signed into law and take effect on January 1, 2016
14

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS24

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Alex Simmons and Riley Hill

BILL SPONSOR: Carlyn Dorcas and Brenna Whitehill

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Require All Abortions be Conducted Only When the Life of the Mother is at Risk.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Many women are faced with the difficult decision of receiving an abortion. Although there are many other options to consider about the fetus' life, terminating the pregnancy is always a choice. To reduce the occurrence of abortion, a law should state that the mother must have a deadly condition that requires the need for the pregnancy to be terminated for the mother to survive, in order to receive an abortion.

Section 2: The bill will state that the mother needs to have a life-threatening condition to execute the abortion. If the mother's life is at stake and will die because of the fetus a trained doctor at an abortion clinic, hospital or private practice is allowed to abort the fetus. If the abortion is by medication the woman must have a prescription to obtain say Mifepristone. In South Carolina it is required that an abortion clinic has a license in order to practice abortion. Abortion clinics or any practice executing abortions will have to obtain a new license with a requirement to meet the new standard of only practicing on women with deadly circumstances

Section 3: In South Carolina public funding is already provided for abortion in pregnancies endangering the mother or that are a result of rape or incest. Rape and incest no longer will qualify the mother for an abortion. Without the need for the funding for rape victims or incest the funds previously provided for rape and incest will go to Department of Children and Family Services and Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Section 4: The bill will be enforced by the Department of Children and Family Services, OB-GYNs, Physicians, and any doctor taking part in the abortion. Doctors would be required by law to recommend or perform an abortion only if it is absolutely necessary for the mother to survive. If a doctor is found guilty of approving of the disposal of a fetus without need the doctor will be faced with criminal charges. If the mother is denied an abortion due to not meeting the medical requirements, then DSS will offer the mother adoption options and other places for the child to go once born.

1 The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control would enforce
2 the requirement by requiring facilities to have on record every abortion and proof of a
3 doctor's approval. If the facility is unable to provide the necessary information then
4 the Department of Health and Environmental Control would then be able to be shut
5 down the business. If any doctor or mother is aware or taking part in an unapproved
6 abortion and neglect telling a government official, then they are to be punished
7 according to the extent of the actions.

8
9 **Section 5:** This bill will go into effect January 1st, 2016.
10

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS25

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Jackson Williams and Ben Reeder

BILL SPONSOR: Emily Ko and Madison Taylor

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Lead to More Death Row Executions in SC

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This bill would enforce a time limit of one year from the date sentencing to the date the state execution must take place. Specifically, a person who receives a guilty verdict and is sentenced by a jury of his/her peers to the death penalty will only have one year to appeal his/her case before the state goes through with its execution. The current state death penalty law states that the death penalty can only be enforced when somebody has knowingly created a great risk of death. Crimes that typically receive death penalty punishments are rape and murder.

Section 2: The purpose of this bill is to reduce the tax payer burden of keeping a convicted criminal alive when that criminal has already been given due process of the law and received a death penalty conviction. There has been only 72 executions since 1979, there has only been 1 person executed in the past five years in SC. There are currently 44 people on the South Carolina Death Row being held in the Broad River Correctional Institution. It will cost approximately 17,600,000 these 44 people alive on Death Row in 2015.

Section 3: This bill would be funded through the savings collected by not keeping as many convicted criminals on death row. These additional funds would pay for the chemicals and experts who preform state executions.

Section 4: The Law Enforcement courts will enforce the implementations of the new South Carolina Death Penalty Law.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2016 after the youth governor signs it.

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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS26

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Seth Begley, Eric Sassi

BILL SPONSOR: Jonathan Gundana and Wilson Pate

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to REQUIRE ALL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES TO BE MARKED

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: All traffic enforcement officers' cars will be required to be marked so that any civilian will without a doubt be able to identify the officer. Any police officer assigned to traffic enforcement will be required to have a fully marked car. The side doors and the hood of the police car need to bear the agency's badge or the city seal, as well as emergency telephone numbers. This will not affect law enforcement such as detectives.

Section 2: The purpose of this bill is to help with traffic flow and the continuous issue of speeding on busy roads. When civilians are able to identify a police officer on the road, they tend to slow down. This will help cut the amount of wrecks caused by speeding.

Section 3: The required markings of each car will be provided by money gathered from state highway taxes.

Section 4: Requiring marked cars will not only help to identify officers, but will cut down on the amount of civilians speeding. A representative of the state will follow up on their assigned city police department to confirm the upholding of the law. Reprimand for not upholding the law will be determined by the representative.

Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will go into effect on January 1, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS27

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Sarah Yu and Hannah Underwood

BILL SPONSOR: Abbie Panuccio and Libby Whitney

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Establish a Hate Crime Law in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: A hate crime is defined as a criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender's bias against a race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, or national origin. Examples of hate crimes:

- A.** Physically assaulting someone while using derogatory racial, sexual, etc. words
- B.** Vandalism or "hate" graffiti directed toward a group where it will be seen by members of the targeted group
- C.** Commission of arson to a facility owned by the targeted group

This bill will increase the punishment for a hate crime fueled by hate or prejudice.

Section 2: Currently in South Carolina there is no law that increases the punishment of a crime fueled by prejudice. Moreover, the existing laws do not effectively protect and dignify the victims of the crime and members of the afflicted community. The latest crime statistics collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 2013, asked agencies in every state but Hawaii, plus Washington, D.C., to report hate-crime statistics to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting program. South Carolina had 51 reported hate crimes, ranking the 34th highest rate out of the participating 49 states. Most law enforcement agencies are not required to report hate crimes to the FBI, so several other transgressions may be going unreported.

Section 3: This will be enforced by the state Department of Criminal Justice and local law enforcement. The statutes outlawing types of bias-motivated violence or terrorization are as follows:

- A.** Physical injury, emotional suffering, loss or damage suffered by members of certain groups

- B.** Any person who suffers physical injury, emotional suffering, damage to or theft of his or her property has a just cause of action to intensify the penalty against the person who caused the physical injury, emotional suffering, damage or theft.
- C.** Illicit damage to religious and other property or possessions
 - 1)** Any church, synagogue, mosque, or building used for religious purpose.
 - 2)** Any school or educational center associated with a particular race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, or national origin.
 - 3)** Any personal property
- D.** Use of combustible materials and/or explosives in attempt of arson

Section 4: In the event that the crime is proven to be motivated by hate, the assigned enhanced punishments are as followed:

- A.** Physical Assault
 - 1)** If crime committed is first degree the revised maximum sentence under this section is 12 years in prison
 - a)** Includes injury caused by sexual assault, commission of a theft, and an assault.
 - b)** Likely to produce death or immense bodily harm
 - 2)** If crime committed is second degree the revised maximum sentence under this section is 4 years in prison
 - a)** Assault results in moderate harm to the body sometimes requiring medical treatment
 - b)** Sexual assault
 - 3)** If crime committed is third degree the revised maximum sentence under this section 6 months in prison
 - a)** Referred to as a simple assault/ misdemeanor
 - b)** Slightly injure or attempt to injure
- B.** Vandalism/ Damage of Property
 - 1)** Malicious Injury/property damage- punishment depends on damage value
 - a)** \$5,000 or more- up to 12 years in prison
 - b)** 1,000 to \$5,000- up to 7 years in prison
 - c)** Less than \$1,000- up to 2 years in prison
 - d)** To place of worship- sentence of 10 months to 12 years in prison, depending on severity
 - 2)** Illicit graffiti containing racial, sexist, religious, derogatory slurs
 - a)** Fine- \$1,500 up to \$4,000 depending on severity of offense
 - b)** Potential Jail Sentence- 150 days up to 4 years in jail
 - 3)** Arson
 - a)** Revised maximum sentence is 7 years I prison

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS28

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Rachel Begley, Allie Hall, Anna McGowan

BILL SPONSOR: Robert Shumaker and Brady Johnson

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Teach High School Students About Domestic Violence

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: All public schools will be required to introduce a three part domestic violence curriculum within grade ninth to twelfth year, during a health or PE class. Domestic Violence is a pattern of behavior used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation, often including the threat or use of violence. Other terms for domestic violence include intimate partner violence, battering, relationship abuse, spousal abuse, or family violence.

Section 2: The purpose of this bill is to educate students about domestic violence in order to reduce the domestic violence rate. Safe Harbor, a supporter of this bill, is a special program in South Carolina for victims of domestic violence, helping, sheltering, counseling, and supporting them. Currently, there is no policy for a curriculum for domestic violence, which is why it needs to be taught among the teenagers.

Section 3: The curriculum for the three part domestic violence curriculum will be provided by the state department of education. The domestic violence curriculum will be taught through the health and physical education classes, when the student takes a health or physical education class. The curriculum will be taught for two weeks to prevent interruption of other gym priorities. Students should learn in the curriculum to tell an adult if domestic violence occurs, know what domestic violence is, and ways to prevent it from happening.

Section 4: Domestic Violence is a continuous growing problem in the state of South Carolina, and it must be addressed to our teenagers to help decrease the percentage. South Carolina is the second state in the nation with the highest percentage of men killing women.

1 **Section 5:** The domestic violence curriculum provided by the state department and
2 the program Safe Harbor. The classes will equal three one hour units which will be
3 taught one hour for three consecutive days. If students take this class, who are not in
4 a PE or Health class, they will be allowed to have special privileges, with the
5 guidelines of the student's school. Although this is not a required grade to graduate, it
6 is a required grade to pass a PE or health class. Also, learning about domestic
7 violence is a must among teenagers, and it will help benefit their knowledge and
8 decrease the domestic violence rate.

9
10 **Section 6:** This bill shall go into effect August 18th, 2016 upon the passage and
11 signature of the Youth Governor.
12
13

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS29

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PA

AUTHORS: Alexandra Berry and Parastoo Amlashi

BILL SPONSOR: Bryonna Howard and Megan Felt

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Reduce Minority Bias in Law Enforcement

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Minority bias is an ongoing issue in society. Law enforcement officers have large responsibilities when dealing with alleged offenders, so it is important that officers don't exhibit racial bias towards anyone. Training to reduce racial bias by police could play a crucial role in reducing the impact of prejudice on possible arrests.

Section 2: As of 2008, African Americans and Hispanics comprise of 58% of the prison population, while only making up a quarter of the U.S. population. Training to reduce racial and minority bias in law enforcement will bring awareness to unconscious bias that many people, including law enforcement possess. Officers with no previous refractions and are experienced with at least ten years of experience will provide said training, along with sociocultural psychologists.

Section 3: In order for the anti-bias training to go into affect, ticket fees would provide funding. Per officer, the class would cost \$200 to go through one, six-hour course. Classes would provide officers with realistic scenarios and the constant reminder that bias is not always intentional, but can be prevented through understanding its repercussions.

Section 4: This specialized minority bias training will be a requirement in order to become a part of law enforcement. Upon receiving an infraction due to suspected minority bias, said law enforcer must repeat the training.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS30

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Heath Schoen Sam Fuqua

BILL SPONSOR: Vignesh Rajmohan and Cameron Murr

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

Motorcycle Helmet Law

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: An act to make riding a motorcycle illegal without the use of a helmet. There has been a safety problem in South Carolina with motorcycle accidents. Our bill is to help the safety of a motorcyclist and save many lives. This bill will make the safety of a rider much greater than it was before.

Section 2: More than 80 percent of motorcyclist crashes result in injury or death to the rider. The statistics show that helmets reduce the risk of death to a motorcyclist by 37 percent. Helmets also have been statistically shown to reduce head injury by 69 percent to the rider. The United States saved \$3 billion dollars due to the helmet use in 2010 due to less deaths and crashes to clean up. Also, if all riders would have worn helmets, the United States could have saved an addition \$1.4 billion dollars in 2010. However, helmets do not reduce visibility or impair hearing. (iihs.org)

Section 3: This bill will not have to have much of a fund. The only fund would be that riders would have to buy helmets at their own expense. If a rider chooses not to wear a helmet then the rider will be breaking the law and possibly face future tickets, fines, and/or jail time.

Section 4: This bill will be enforced by law enforcement in South Carolina. The offense of not wearing a helmet while riding a motorcycle would be a ticket enforced by police officers. The result of not following this law could result in heavy fines and possibly prison time. The first time will result in a \$500 fine. The second offense would result in another \$500 fine and 30 days in prison. Any other offenses after this will result in jail time determined by a judge.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect once signed by the governor at the date of June 8th, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS31

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Caroline Ko and Tristan Clark

BILL SPONSOR: Emily Zaino and Rachel Stiles

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to mandate a Study Hall period for all High Schools in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently, in South Carolina, it is not a law for all high schools to offer a study hall period. The option to study periods for high school students are regulated by the individual district. This bill will give students who have not failed a class and are on to graduate a chance to implement a study period into their schedule.

Section 2: The current time for each class of 50-55 minutes would be lowered to 45-50 minutes per class. Study hall will be offered as an elective so if you are not qualified for the study hall option, you can choose a different elective or course for that 35 minute period. A 35 minute study period would give students many opportunities and advantages such as;

A. Time to catch up or get ahead on any class work and/or homework.

B. Time for studying.

C. Time to work on projects or essays, which is extremely helpful to those without computer access at home.

High school students that participate in extracurricular activities or afterschool jobs, will be able to get work done rather than staying awake all hours of the night and cramming.

Section 3: Our bill will not require any funding because an administrator will supervise the period.

Section 4: If, by an administrator advises that the given study period is being abused, it can be taken away or suspended from the student.

Section 5: This bill will be signed into law and take effect in August of 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS32

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Mary Aiesi and Lane Ahmed

BILL SPONSOR: Sarah Taylor and Virginia Cook

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Allow Limited Licensing of Gambling in Horry County, S.C. To Benefit Roads
and Schools in the Entire State

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The state of South Carolina tends to have a bad reputation for their public school system and their roads. The state's public school system continues to be very lowly ranked in their percentage of high school graduates in the country. Also, there are many dangerous roads in this state that have been the cause of a lot of fatal car accidents. With gambling legalized, a lot of money will become available from the casinos, which will then be donated. Roads and the public school system are not the only things that will benefit from the money; a small portion of the profits will also be donated towards helping people with gambling problems, just as the lottery does. Horry County's established infrastructure for tourism will support limited gambling operations in the state of South Carolina. If gambling becomes legal in only part of state, it will end up benefitting the state more than hurting it.

Section 2: With the bill, a state commission will be established with five members that are appointed by the governor of South Carolina. The Commission will establish the rules and regulations of operating a casino as well as the application and approval process for issuing licenses. Each member will serve a 2-year term on the Commission before being reappointed or replaced by the governor. With the casinos open, 45% of the gambling taxes will go towards building better roads in the state, 45% will go towards the public school system, and the remaining 10% will fund programs that help people that have gambling problems.

Section 3: 5 percent of net earnings from gambling operations will pay to the Commission by the casino companies with approved licenses. The casinos themselves will fund to build their casino with the other 95% that they earn from people coming to gamble.

Section 4: The Commission will establish the rules and regulation of the bill that will lead to enforcement of gambling and gaming that is legalized by this bill. The tax

1 revenue from which the bill will generate will pay expenses associated with the
2 commission and incurred from this bill.

3
4 **Section 5:** This bill will go into effect once signed on January 1, 2016.
5
6

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS33

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Patrick Erwin and Jackson Caudell

BILL SPONSOR: Connor Langner and Margie Hill

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Educate Adolescents on Their Citizens Rights

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Teens in South Carolina are unaware of their own rights that they possess as being young adults, such as privacy and search and seizure rights and invasion of privacy rights. This bill would enact the requirement of a teen completing 1 class session annually in high school educating teens about their rights.

Section 2: High schools in South Carolina will be required to schedule the 4 hour class once every weekend throughout the year. This allows ample opportunities for students to take the required class when it best suits their schedule. There are at most 35 students per class. The first 2 and a half hours of the class will focus on explaining the necessary content via PowerPoint, while the remainder of the time would be for 30 minutes review session, 30 minutes of study time, and 1 hour for a standardized 50 question assessment, requiring at least 35/50 score to pass the class. If a student fails, then the class must be retaken at the reduced price listed in the 3rd section. The class would be taught by a local policeman who has the certification to take the class. Once a student has passed the class, he or she would be given a certificate for passing, and the school would document their passing on the student's transcript, as this class will be required to graduate from a South Carolina Public School.

Section 3: The cost of manufacturing the standardized PowerPoints and tests and educating the teachers would be accounted for by requiring a \$65 fee in order to take the class each time, similar to paying for taking a DMV driving test. If a student qualifies for free or reduced lunch at school due to the economic conditions of their family, they can pay for the class at a reduced rate of 25\$, which can be paid in 2 separate amounts- when the student first signs up for the class in advance and when they arrive on the actual day to take the class. Also, if a student fails the class, they will retake the class at the reduced price of 25\$.

Section 4: This bill will be enforced by schools, requiring students to take this class by the end of their senior year in order to graduate.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS34

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Helen Bonduris and Grace Taylor

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: J.L. Mann High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to make animal testing illegal

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Animals should not be used for scientific and/or commercial testing because it is using up more money than it would if we tested these products with alternative methods.

Section 2: Alternative testing methods now exist that can replace the need for animals. For example, human cells from volunteers can be used for scientific and/or commercial testing of products. Artificial human skin can be made from sheets of human skin cells and is grown in test tubes. This can produce more useful and reliable results than animal testing. Scientists can experiment with human cells obtained from volunteers. They can use artificial human skin that is grown in test tubes using human skin cells. They can use virtual models of human molecular structures and predict the toxicity of substance. Another reason why human cells should be used instead of animals is because drugs that pass animal tests aren't always safe or reliable. The last reason why we should not test on animals is because it is wasteful. Scientist put harmful chemicals on innocent animals. Either the experiment works or it fails, but what happen if it fails? They just throw the animal away!

Section 3: Many non-animal tests, such as Vitro, have been compared to animal tests. Vitro has been proven to cost a lot less than animal tests. Vitro is the type of experiments that uses artificial organisms rather than animals that gives back even better results. For example, "a rat phototoxicity test" costs \$11,500 but a Vitro test costs \$1,300. These artificial organism tests would save a lot of money, enabling scientists to conduct more tests and experiments. About \$15-16 billion of taxpayer money goes toward animal testing which is the money that would go towards funding our bill since it will no longer be needed for animal testing. Those that do continue to conduct tests on animals will have these punishments conducted by the USDA:

A. 1st Offense: \$50,000 fine

B. 2nd Offense: \$100,000 fine

C. 3rd Offense: 6 months in prison (judge decides on bail amount)

D. 4th Offense: 1 year in prison (judge decides on bail amount)

1 **Section 4:** The SC Department of Agriculture is in charge of and is enforcing the
2 animal welfare act in South Carolina and would also be in control of making sure no
3 products are tested on animals in the state of SC.
4

5 **Section 5:** When signed into law, this bill goes into effect on January 1, 2016
6
7

1 **SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA**
2 **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**
3 **28th Annual Model Legislature**
4 **November 18th - 21st**
5

6 **BILL ORIGINATES IN:** Premier Senate

7 **BILL NUMBER:** PS35

8 **RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE:** PG

9 **AUTHORS:** Sophia Higgins and Banks Floyd

10 **BILL SPONSOR:**

11 **SCHOOL/CLUB:** Hammond School
12

13 **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**
14

15 An act to prohibit schools from starting class before 9:00 AM.
16

17 BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
18

19 **Section 1:** There are currently no laws that require a later start time for students.
20 Early start times are causing students to lose hours of sleep and leading to
21 exhaustion.
22

23 **Section 2:** This law would lessen sleep deprivation in teens and promote a more
24 focused learning opportunity. Early start times prevent the students' brains from
25 waking up and cause loss of focus and concentration. Teens need around 8-10 hours
26 of sleep each night to function. A study from National Sleep Foundation showed that
27 only 15% of teens get 8 1/2 hours of sleep on school nights.
28

29 **Section 3:** Schools will change their normal scheduling to begin class at 9:00 AM and
30 will continue with the normal hours of school from before.
31

32 **Section 4:** Schools that continue to begin before 9:00 AM will be temporarily shut
33 down while a new schedule is organized. This will be monitored by the South Carolina
34 Department of Education.
35

36 **Section 5:** When signed into law by the Honorable Youth Governor, this law will go
37 into effect January 1, 2016 and will be enforced at the beginning of each school year.
38
39

1 **SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA**
2 **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**
3 **28th Annual Model Legislature**
4 **November 18th - 21st**
5

6 **BILL ORIGINATES IN:** Premier Senate

7 **BILL NUMBER:** PS36

8 **RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE:** PA

9 **AUTHORS:** Mikayla Turner, Morgan Walker, and Taylor McGruder

10 **BILL SPONSOR:**

11 **SCHOOL/CLUB:** Hammond School
12

13 **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**
14

15 An Act to have 3% of Tax Income Decreased for Veterans
16

17 BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
18

19 **Section 1:** The state of South Carolina has a significantly high population of veterans
20 who have fought for our country and our freedom. Through this bill, a percentage of
21 income tax for veterans, both retired and medically discharged, will be lowered.
22

23 **Section 2:** Veterans transitioning to civilian life already have difficulty with obtaining
24 stable and profitable jobs. However, this bill will assist veterans with their financial
25 struggles, help them provide for their families, and if medically discharged, could help
26 them recover from post trauma or fear from previous duties. This bill qualifies for
27 South Carolina state residents only. This bill does not apply to veterans dishonorably
28 dis-charged.
29

30 **Section 3:** Veterans will be granted a card that, when it is presented and validated,
31 will allow them to receive 3% off income tax. Cards will be charged at 7\$ and
32 veterans must apply and fill out a form under South Carolina Veterans Association and
33 South Carolina department of Revenue in order to obtain and clarify the use of said
34 card. The cards will have a special stamp on them so that the government will be able
35 to verify that the card is real and not fraud. Anyone caught using a fraudulent card
36 can be convicted with fraud charges and will result in criminal punishment by law.
37

38 **Section 4:** South Carolina office of Veterans Affairs will reach out to veterans and tell
39 them about the card. They will also help guide them through the paperwork process
40 be-tween the SC department of revenue.
41

42 **Section 5:** When signed into law by the Honorable Youth Governor, this law will go
43 into effect January 1, 2016.
44
45

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th - 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS37

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Lizzie Richards, Mariam Elgeneidy, and Drew Turner

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Hammond School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An act to raise the pay of women to the same amount that men are being paid

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Men and Women are not being paid equal amounts currently in the United States. Women would have to work 60 extra days just to earn what men did by the end of the previous year. On average women get 75¢ for every \$1.00 that a man gets. This bill is imperative in today's world.

Section 2: This bill would help raise the amount of money that women would be getting from their jobs. The three top jobs that pay women less than men are Health Technicians, Counselors, and Pharmacist. These are often typical jobs had by women. This bill will help the women of today. It will show people that men and women are in fact equal.

Section 3: This bill will enforce equal pay for men and women. It will raise women's pay so it is equal to the amount of money that a man gets paid. Companies and businesses will help enforce this law.

Section 4: If companies/businesses fail to comply, they will be fined maximum of \$5,000. This money will come from the company/business.

Section 5: When signed into law by the Honorable Youth Governor, this law will go into effect on January 28th, 2016

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BILL NUMBER: PS38

AUTHORS: Caleb Weis and Gracie O’Riordan

BILL SPONSOR: Hannon, Oliver

SCHOOL/CLUB: Bluffton High School

An Act to Nullify Capital Punishment

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

SECTION 2: All criminals who are already on death row shall still receive capital punishment.

SECTION 3: The death penalty will be replaced with life in prison, without parole.

SECTION 4: The court can also sentence criminals to life in solitary confinement.

SECTION 5: Some believe that life in prison will cost more than capital punishment, but that is not true. In South Carolina a single death penalty case carried out to execution costs taxpayers an average of \$1.1 million more than life without parole. A single death penalty trial, not going to execution, costs approximately \$415,240 more than a non-capital murder trial.

SECTION 6: If passed, will go into effect January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th – 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS39

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: William Schmidt and Serena Lin

BILL SPONSOR: Hannon, Oliver

SCHOOL/CLUB: Bluffton High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An act to decrease sentencing time for non-violent ownership drug crimes

BE IT HEARBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current law for ownership of Marijuana states that the possessor will face up to 30 days and a 200 dollar fine for a first offense. The current law for ownership of any psychedelic drugs for a first offense is a 5,000 fine and up to two years in prison. The current law for ownership of drugs such as math, cocaine, and crack says the possessor will face up to a 5,000 fine and a minimum of three years in prison. This new act would cut fines in half for all first time offenders, as well as prison sentences.

Section 2: This year 19.8% of all arrests in South Carolina have been drug related, and 17.6% of our states prison population were arrested for drug crimes. This would decrease prison population and the state deficit towards the South Carolina Department of Corrections.

Section 3: This bill would not affect subsequent offenders for the aforementioned crimes. Psychedelic drugs include drugs such as LSD and DMT. The current fine, 5,000 dollars, would be minimized to 2, 500 dollars. When this bill takes effect, all people charged will have their fine reduced to 100 dollars, and a maximum sentence for first time offenders would be 15 days. All first time offenders of the math, crack, or cocaine would be given a year and six month sentence, and pay the cine of 2,500. These decreases will not affect anyone currently facing time for first time possession crimes.

Section 4: With a decrease in prison population, lower amounts of our tax money would go to the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Not only would this decrease our state deficit toward the Department of Corrections, but in time a surplus would be created, which this surplus would go to:

A. Rehabilitation programs for drug addicts in our state penitentiaries

B. Education budget

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th-21st**

BILL ORIGINATES: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS40

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Maile Paulmeier and Josefina Martinez

BILL SPONSORS: Libertore, Miller

SCHOOL/CLUB: Bluffton High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

Act to Reform Requirements Needed to Receive Food Stamps

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current state requirements to receive food stamps as a single able-bodied person without dependents are as follows:

- A.** Applicant must receive 1,276 dollars of monthly income or less.
- B.** Able to show proof of citizenship or documentation showing lawful residence in the U.S.
- C.** Provide current/recent health insurance, housing, and utility expense information.
- D.** Resource information such as bank accounts, vehicles, homes, property, insurance, etc.

Section 2: This state reform would add a requirement to receiving food stamps. This requirement would include either volunteering for six hours per week, attending a state job training course, or working 20 hours per week at a paid job.

Section 3: By implementing this bill, money would be saved due to the fact that many people would not comply with the work requirements. In Maine, where this bill has been put into place, 78% of the people who were on food stamps had been removed. If this were to happen in our state, then there would be a significant decrease in food stamp participants. The purpose of this bill is not to completely remove all food stamp participants, but to eliminate the dependency on the food stamps. By putting in place these work requirements, there is no longer a dependency on food stamps.

Section 4: The gained revenue from this bill would go to:

- A.** The increase of job training centers/fairs.
- B.** The availability of public transportation to rural communities.
- C.** The South Carolina Education fund.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28TH ANNUAL MODEL LEGISLATURE
NOVEMBER 18th – 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS41

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Elaine Guo and Giovanna Lopez

BILL SPONSOR: Wheeler, Story

SCHOOL/CLUB: Bluffton High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Require a Mandatory Permit and Required Registration for Purchase of All
Firearms

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current state government does not require the possession of permit to purchase a firearm, and the registration of the purchased firearm afterward.

Section 2: Prior to obtaining the firearm, the purchaser must fill out a permit application form with the local or state government. A background check is then conducted, and buyers must present proof that they have completed a firearm safety course. The initial fee for the firearm permit will be \$50, and every 6 years afterwards it must be renewed with a fee of \$25.

Section 3: The purchased firearm must be registered with local law enforcement within 4 days to record the ownership of the firearm. To register a newly purchased firearm, the buyer must provide a completed application for firearm registration. Part of the application must be completed by the seller.

Section 4: To purchase a special case weapon, which include but is not limited to:

- A.** Shot guns
- B.** Sawed/ Off rifles
- C.** Hand grenades
- D.** Assault weapons
- E.** Machine guns

buyers need a 30-day license. The issuing of these licenses will be similar to the process of issuing permits. A license application must be completed, along with a background check and a safety test. The licenses will be issued by the state government.

Section 5: Current gun owners are required to obtain a license and register their firearms once this bill goes into effect. The normal processes will be completed as if the firearms are newly bought. The deadline is a week after the bill will go into effect, and will be punished with a continuing fine of \$2,000 every week after the deadline.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th – 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS42

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Jonathan Mathews and Katlynne Cuff

BILL SPONSORS: Young, Macioszek

SCHOOL/CLUB: Bluffton High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Provide Free Higher Education and Educate the Workforce

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE BY SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Stipulations - In line with the federal government's College Promise Act. When eligible students apply for federal grants to community colleges, this bill ensures that the state will cover the remainder of their tuition for two years. This bill will seek to assist in the growing demand for a highly educated workforce with college degrees. The bill will:

- A.** appropriate funding on a federal/state ratio of 75/25
- B.** promote South Carolina as a national leader in educating and promoting an educated prepared workforce
- C.** preemptively mitigate financial disadvantage as a factor for not attending college

Section 2: Rationale - This bill will benefit the state, federal government, and individuals with its contribution to educate the workforce. An educated workforce will meet the demands of the increasing percentage of jobs that require at minimum of a bachelor's degree. This percentage currently lies at 35%. With the inclusion of this bill, South Carolina will create a precedent that will be a model for other states in regards to education in the United States.

Section 3: Explanation - In addition to the federal government covering three quarters of the cost, the state will cover for the roughly remaining 30 million dollars. Money will be allocated out of the 2.93 billion dollar lottery fund. More specifically, a \$20 million portion will be appropriated out of the 2.458 billion dollars, assigned for scholarships in the lottery fund, and \$10 million will be assigned for private donations. Businesses who donate an amount to the program will be gifted a tax reduction, depending on the amount donated. Businesses can allocate their donation to a career field of their choosing to fully invest in their workforce. Local communities and business will be encouraged and incentivized to fund their local colleges and universities in order to create and maintain a vibrant local economy.

1 **Section 4: Additional Stipulations** - To furthermore fund and assist this program, a
2 small income tax will be taken out of the recipient's income, depending on said
3 income and years attended at the institution, for a 20 year period. The students will
4 also be required to pay for the books and boarding as needed.
5

6 **Section 5: Qualifications** – To qualify students:

- 7 **A.** Must have at the least lived in South Carolina for a total year.
- 8 **B.** Must have maintained at least a 2.5 GPA.
- 9 **C.** Must have enrolled 1 year prior to receiving a high school diploma or
10 GED.
- 11 **D.** Must have completed at the least 10 hours of community service.
- 12 **E.** Must have exhausted all available state and federal grants.
- 13 **F.** Pay \$50 fee per course.
14

15 **Section 6:** When signed into law, the program will be put into effect as of January,
16 2016 and incorporated throughout the state no later than July, 2016.
17
18

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th – 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES: House of Representatives

BILL NUMBER: PS43

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PA

AUTHORS: Aubrey Wease and Carrie Brendler

BILL SPONSORS: Paulmeier, Martinez

SCHOOL/CLUB: Bluffton High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Set an Age to Retake Drivers License Test

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current state restrictions for driving privileges are based upon physical ability to drive.

Section 2: A restriction on your driver license limits when you can drive or requires that you meet specific conditions when you drive. Thus, requiring elders to retake their drivers test at 65 years of age.

Section 3: As adult's age they are at higher risk of getting into car accidents more often than younger kids like teenagers. If elders do not have any kind of assistance with their medical conditions then they are given a restricted license based on their age. If they're between the ages of 60 and 65, then they're restricted license will require them to have a legal driver in the car with them. If they are 70 or older without assistance, they aren't allowed to drive.

Section 4: If this bill is passed, it will allow the state to improve safety wise as well as our daily lives there will be less of a risk. It will also help economically because there will be less money that the citizens themselves will have to pay There will also be less insurance money that will need to be paid, and finally the state won't have to pay to have the damage on the roads fixed.

Section 5: Revenue from this tax would fund:

A. The making of drivers licenses in South Carolina cities.

B. The use of alternate ways to transport the elders that are not able to drive. For example, they would fund buses, taxis, and car rentals

C. Would help lower the cost of renewing a driver's license for someone over 60 years of age.

Section 6: If this bill is passed, it will go into effect January 1, 2016.

SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA

YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS44

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Bradley Bynum and William Hodge

BILL SPONSOR: Ben Hopkins

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Repeal Ban on Traffic Cameras

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Traffic Safety Cameras would be put up at red lights in the state's three largest cities, Columbia, Greenville and Charleston, to catch illegal activity of drivers. These cameras would take a picture of the driver's license plate and the driver of the vehicle and send them a ticket for running the red light.

Section 2: This would promote greater awareness of traffic safety laws and encourage better driving habits, making driving safer for others. Collected fines, in turn would benefit and fund the state government with more money to spend towards traffic safety and or roadway improvement.

Section 3: \$1,500,000 worth of funds previously used towards School Bus Lease and Purchase could be used instead for the installation of Traffic cameras in major cities in South Carolina. Traffic cameras would be used for ticketing unsafe drivers. A 50% of the money gained from tickets can be used for roadway improvement and the other 50% back towards other state funds.

Section 4: Income from this program will benefit the State in the following ways:

- A.** Improved traffic flow on crowded and rural areas by creating new and more efficient roadways.
- B.** Road repair and improvement will reduce the amount of damage done to vehicles through unsafe road conditions.
- C.** Create jobs for people that are qualified for work in the field of traffic safety and construction.
- D.** Improve overall safety of drivers due to the knowledge of possible tickets because of traffic cameras.

Section 5: When signed into law: cameras will be put up in their respective areas by January 1, 2017.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th – 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS45

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Tre' Canty and Sophia Montanari

BILL SPONSOR: Rebecca Dunn

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An act to require S.C. employers to pay \$1.00 more than the Federal minimum wage

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current minimum wage salary an hour is \$7.25, it can be raised to \$8.25 an hour, which increased about \$1.00.

Section 2: The minimum wage for South Carolina is \$7.25, so it would be raised \$1.00.

Section 3: An increase in the minimum wage would allow minimum wage workers to earn a salary closer to \$8.35 per hour that is considered a living wage for households with two working adults.

Section 4: A raise such as this would:

A. Would help decrease the number of people on welfare

B. Allow workers the ability to pay for transportation to and from work

C. Also allow help reduce the number of children in S.C. who live in poverty, currently 28% of children in the state of S.C. live in poverty and many have parent(s) working full or part time.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first increase will take place on January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th – 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS46

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Jake Powell and Christopher Castro

BILL SPONSOR: Hampton Randall

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to reduce Domestic Violence

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Domestic violence is defined as: A pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person.

Section 2: The current policy for a reported case of Domestic Violence gives the victim of the Domestic Violence the choice of whether or not to prosecute their abuser. This would be changed, so that the abuser is always put on trial. Essentially the case cannot be 'dropped' by the victim.

Section 3: This bill is needed because many current cases of Domestic Violence are being dropped by the victim, even though there is sufficient evidence to prove the abuser guilty, mainly for economic reasons (not economically independent). However the victims' well being is more crucial than their financial standings.

Section 4: This bill will decrease the amount of cases of Domestic Violence because in a lot of Domestic Violence cases the violence continues and can escalate to more serious actions after the case is dropped by the victim, meaning if abusers were punished earlier when the situation was first reported, the victim's abuse would be relieved earlier.

Section 5: When signed in to law, this policy will be put into place January 1, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS47

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Katie Coggins and Logan McLaughlin

BILL SPONSOR: Kailey Grooms

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Require Restaurants in South Carolina to Give Leftover Food to Homeless
Shelters

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Restaurants in major South Carolina cities, such as Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville, would be required to make available all leftover, uneaten food to homeless shelters.

Section 2: Restaurants are throwing away almost 50 million pounds of food a day and 33.7 million tons of food per year is being wasted. If the national food losses could be reduced by just 15% it would save enough food to feed 25 million more hungry Americans. There are over 6,000 homeless people in South Carolina. Restaurants in South Carolina waste about 131,937 tons of food a year.

Section 3: This proposal would require restaurants in major South Carolina cities, such as Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville to make available all the leftover, uneaten food that they have at the end of the day to a homeless shelter. Shelters will be responsible for transporting the food either by using volunteers or through existing vehicles owned and operated by the shelter. Funding for this will come from donations.

Section 4: This proposal will help:

A. Cut down on restaurant food waste

B. Feed the hungry in South Carolina

Section 5: When signed into law, restaurants would start donating their food on January 1, 2016.

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2 **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**
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4 **November 18th -21st**

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6 **BILL ORIGINATES IN:** Premier Senate
7 **BILL NUMBER:** PS48
8 **RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE:** PF
9 **AUTHORS:** Annisa Mahaffey and Sarah Farley
10 **BILL SPONSOR:**
11 **SCHOOL/CLUB:** Mauldin High School
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13 **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

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15 An Act to ban smoking in moving vehicles.
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18 BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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20 **Section 1:** Smoking in moving vehicles would be prohibited.
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22 **Section 2:** Smoking in moving vehicles would be prohibited in order to insure that
23 the vision of the driver is not obstructed by smoke, to prevent possible fires, and to
24 decrease the amount of possible distraction to the driver.
25

26 **Section 3:** If caught with a lit cigarette in a moving vehicle, the first offense will be a
27 \$50 fine. The fine will increase by \$50 for each offense until the offense which will be
28 the revocation of the driver's license.
29

30 **Section 4:** Banning smoking in a moving vehicle will decrease the number of
31 automobile accidents by one percent each year in the United States (seeing as one
32 percent of all motor vehicle accidents in the United States each year occur as a result
33 of smoking and driving).
34

35 **Section 5:** When signed into law, the ban of smoking while in a moving vehicle will
36 take place on January 1, 2016.
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier State

BILL NUMBER: PS49

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Liz Funderburk and Katie Young

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Increase the Number of College Graduates

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current GPA required for a college student to maintain the LIFE scholarship is 3.0, would be decreased to 2.5.

Section 2: The lowered GPA of 2.5 would allow more students to graduate from college that would otherwise consider dropping out of college when they lose their scholarship. This will increase the amount of citizens in South Carolina getting their degree and getting higher paying jobs.

Section 3: Many schools in the state of South Carolina do not properly prepare students for college. South Carolina landed 37 spots on the list of the top 100 worst schools in the Nation. When students that attend these schools that don't properly equip them with the skills and knowledge to be successful begin college, they quickly lose the 3.0 GPA that got them the scholarship. These hardworking students are then in danger of losing the \$2,500 scholarship given to them for their good grades. Without this scholarship, many students have to out of college because they no longer have the finances to pay for college. By lowering the GPA to 2.5 we give these students a little room to make mistakes and get the feel for a college workload. More students will be able to keep the scholarship this way which will increase the number of college graduates in the state of South Carolina. This would increase the number of functioning members in society; these graduates will be paying money to the government rather than receive a check from the government every month.

Section 4: The benefit from this tax would be:

A. The number of college dropouts would decrease.

B. Increase the number of people receiving college degrees and working higher paying jobs.

C. Fewer people working minimum wage jobs and receiving welfare.

Section 5: When signed into law, the GPA requirement will go into effect for the 2016-17 school year.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS50

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PA

AUTHORS: Catelyn Henry and Hannah Gramann

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Increase The Tax on Alcohol and Tobacco Products

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: To raise tax on beer and tobacco products in order to benefit post secondary education. The tax we put on cigarettes and beer is 6%. The tax we put on education in our state is 1% but that only covers education through high school. Currently no tax money goes towards scholarships for colleges and universities. There is no tax on lottery tickets but every lottery ticket sold provides \$.261/\$1.00 towards a scholarship. If you were to win the lottery 7% of that will go towards state tax and \$54.00 implicit tax revenue per capita.

Section 2: The state tax on beer and tobacco will be increased to 10%. 6% of this will go to tax and the extra 4% will go towards scholarships so, we as a state provide greater educational opportunities to our citizens.

Section 3: The scholarship money will come from the new percentages we put on tax. Though tobacco and beer products will increase in price, our education will better from it by giving back some of the money we put on those those items and putting them on scholarships.

Section 4: The increase of this tax will provide the following benefits:

- A.** Scholarships to students who might not be able to afford college otherwise.
- B.** A more educational work force which will attract more companies to locate in South Carolina. This in turn will provide more high quality jobs for South Carolinians.
- C.** The increase in the tax will also help in bringing jobs to South Carolina, because the people will be better educated and have a stronger work ethic.

Section 5: When passed into the law, the tax increase will go into effect on January 1, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS51

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Carly Mihovich and Mia Dillon

BILL SPONSOR: Ben Hopkins

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Increase the Number of Homeless Shelters

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The number of homeless shelters will increase and the quality will improve.

Section 2: An estimated 5,000 to 13,000 people are homeless in South Carolina. This number does not include those on the verge of becoming homeless or in need of basic necessities to sustain life. There are not enough adequate homeless shelters to provide resources to help meet the basic needs of these people.

Section 3: Each city in South Carolina with a minimum population of 14,000 is required to open and establish a minimum of 1 shelter in the next 5 years. These shelters will be established within a 10 mile radius of the city's central downtown area to ensure accessibility. The bill will be funded with the assistance of McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants, along with grants from The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and financial aid from United Way of America. Services that will be provided include:

- A.** Overnight shelter in a safe environment
- B.** Nutritious meals
- C.** Public showers and toiletries
- D.** Access to beneficial resources such as rehab programs, government assistance/welfare programs, job training and job placement assistance, and access to transitional housing opportunities

Section 4: After the enactment of this bill, the chronic homeless population will decrease due to the accessibility of newer shelters and the living condition of those in need of these services will be improved.

Section 5: When signed into law, the planning and development of new shelters will begin January 1, 2016.

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BILL NUMBER: PS52

AUTHORS: James Waters and Aditya Pradhan

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

An Act to Support Worker Benefits

Section 1: Currently there is no tax deduction for businesses who offer worker benefits, which compensations are given to workers which they don't have to pay for. A 5% tax reduction is needed to help benefit these businesses.

Section 3: A tax deduction on businesses will help them spend more money including improving the benefits and encouraging other businesses to give worker benefits

A. Businesses who have worker benefits

C. Medical companies and clinics who provide healthcare for the businesses

Section 5: When signed into law, the first reduction will take place on January 1, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS53

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Kaylee Price and Kaitlyn Broad

BILL SPONSOR: Mason King

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Require the Use of Protective Headwear for Motorcyclist

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: South Carolina currently does not have a law that enforces the use of protective headwear (helmet) for all motorcyclists. South Carolina does have a law that

says that motorcyclist under the age of 21 are required to wear protective headwear but all ages should be required to wear protective headwear.

Section 2: Enforcing this policy will decrease the number of injuries and fatalities involved in motorcycle accidents. Helmets decrease the severity of head injuries and the likelihood of death. The federal government estimates that wearing a helmet reduces the risk of dying in a crash by 37 percent. Unhelmeted riders are 3 times more

likely than helmeted ones to sustain traumatic brain injuries in the event of a crash according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

Section 3: Wearing protective headwear will reduce the fatality rate in our state. This policy will protect the motorcyclist and passenger(s). In 2013 motorcycle helmets saved

1,630 lives. NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) says that if all motorcyclists had worn helmets, 715 more lives would have been saved. Helmets are estimated to be 37 percent effective in preventing fatal injuries for motorcycle riders (operators) and 41 percent effective for motorcycle passengers according to the Insurance Information Institute, Inc.

Section 4: Protective headwear will lessen the damage done to the head in motorcycle accidents by:

A. Preventing brain trauma

B. Protecting the skull from being fractured or broken

C. Preventing spinal cord injuries

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate
BILL NUMBER: PS54
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE
AUTHORS: Jack Thompson and Keegan Mazur
BILL SPONSOR: Mason King
SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Change the Grading Scale

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The state grading scale would change from its current state to a ten-point grading scale; for example instead of an "A" requiring an average of a ninety three or above, a ninety or above would be required to achieve an "A".

Section 2: This new grading system will significantly reduce the stress that is applied to South Carolina's students as well as making it easier for new students to transfer their previous grades from other states.

Section 3: The Grading Scale would change to:

- A.** 90-100
B. 80-89
C. 70-79
D. 60-69
E. 0-59

Section 4: Students would achieve higher grades and transferring to schools in South Carolina would be easier. Students in this grading scale will also find it easier to achieve a 4.0, seeing as only a ninety is needed to achieve an "A" or 4.0.

Section 5: When signed into law, the grading scale will go into effect with the 2016-2017 school year.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate
BILL NUMBER: PS55
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF
AUTHORS: James Kober III and Kelley Tollison
BILL SPONSOR: Lyndsay Wood
SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Make Maternity Leave Mandatory In South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: All employed pregnant women in South Carolina would be granted maternity leave.

Section 2: Current South Carolina State Human Affairs Law prohibits employment practices that discriminate based on gender, including discrimination dealing with pregnancy, and all medical issues related to it. It states that the employer has to provide the same leave benefits to every employee, no matter their disability. This means that as long as all employees are treated equally, the employer is not technically required to grant maternity leave. There is no law that gives the mother time to recuperate from childbirth.

Section 3: For the state of South Carolina, maternity leave would be required for all employed women that are with child. The leave would include three weeks before the child's due date, and up to eight weeks after the delivery, depending on the healing rate of the mother's body.

Section 4: By granting mandatory leave:

- A.** Expecting women would not have to work late into their third trimester of pregnancy, decreasing the likelihood of medical issues.
- B.** The mother's body would have time to fully heal after childbirth.

Section 5: When signed into law, maternity leave will begin to be a required policy on January 1, 2016.

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BILL NUMBER: PS56

AUTHORS: Alex Carter and Trey Stewart

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

An Act to Require Psychiatric Evaluations when Purchasing a Firearm.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 2: The state shall license local psychiatrists to give the examination to individuals to assess the health of their mind. Citizens shall pay the licensed psychiatrists to take the examination.

Section 4: The certificate, or copy thereof, will then be required when purchasing a Firearm.

Section 5: To be signed into law on January 1, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate
BILL NUMBER: PS57
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PA
AUTHORS: Elana Otero and Valentina Hurtado
BILL SPONSOR: Gunnar Wilson
SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Require Job Training for Welfare Recipients

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Those on welfare in South Carolina will be required to participate in job training in exchange for financial assistance from the state, rather than remaining unemployed.

Section 2: Unemployment rates at 6% are in need of a decrease, and those taking advantage of financial aid remain unemployed and are still qualifying for welfare and need to be assigned a state job.

Section 3:

- Citizens that are receiving financial aid through welfare, and they remain unemployed would be required to go through a specific job training program
- The job training will be provided for a specific occupation chosen by the state in order to benefit the state

Section 4: Job training programs will:

- Decrease the unemployment rate
- Fill jobs to benefit South Carolina

Section 5: When signed into law, the first job training will begin January 1, 2016

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS58

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Matthew Alexander and Brianna Goodgame

BILL SPONSOR: Kate Black

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to regulate vehicle safety inspections

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Owners of South Carolina registered vehicles will be required to participate in semi annual car safety inspections. These inspections will be enforced by South Carolina Law enforcement and will cost the vehicle owner a fee of \$13.60.

Section 2: South Carolina is in the top five of states with the most severe car accidents. Some safety experts claim that 12 to 33 percent of all car accidents are due to poorly maintained vehicles. If passed, this bill will help reduce the number of accidents due to poorly maintained vehicles.

Section 3: It is estimated that 20,000 car accidents are related to poorly maintained vehicles, car inspections will be available to people at their local automotive repair shops. New cars will be inspected after the first five years of being driven. The inspections will take place every two years for cars that have been driven for five years or longer. Cars that are ten years or older will be inspected every year.

Section 4: Revenue from the tax:

A: Help fund South Carolina education system throughout the state.

B: Be used to fund the construction of roads throughout the state.

C: Be used to create "Motor Vehicle Repair Shops" as required under Section 3.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first inspections will take place on January 1, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS59

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Rachel Brooks and Marston Copeland

BILL SPONSOR: Kailey Grooms

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Improve Education

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: To change the education requirements for teachers of grades eight and above, in South Carolina Public Schools

Section 2: South Carolina:

- is 51st on the Education Rankings of States (including District of Columbia)
- has an Education policy Grade of C+
- High school teachers are only required to have received a Bachelor's degree in education, and that is not necessarily in fields they would teach
- Students success in school depends essentially on the quality of their teachers, increasing the quality of the teachers would increase the quality of the education received by students. This would eventually would increase South Carolina's placement on the education scale.

Section 3: Requires all teachers to receive a master's degree in the field they would be teaching. However teachers would also receive a 10% increase in their pay, raising the annual salary to roughly 55,000 dollars per year, due to the rigorous requirements that will become necessary for becoming a teacher. Funding for the pay increase will come from a 2% tax increase on families with a total annual income of \$90,000 or more who have children attending the public school system.

Section 4: Will create increase in the rigor of the education requirements to become a teacher. This bill should attract higher quality teachers to promote the field of education.

Section 5: When signed into law, the bill will go into effect on January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS60

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Emily Marshbanks and Summey Ferrell

BILL SPONSOR: Kalynn Benoit

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to require students to get the flu vaccine

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current South Carolina school systems require children attending such schools to get generic vaccines shots like Hepatitis B, Mumps, and Tetanus. This act will require all students to get the Flu vaccine shot.

Section 2: Requiring school children to be vaccinated for the flu will reduce flu related illness in children and adults. A recent study showed the flu vaccine reduced children's risk of flu-related pediatric intensive care admission by 74%. Flu vaccination is associated with a 71% reduction in flu related hospitalizations for adults of all ages.

Section 3: Individuals may receive their flu shot through their primary care physician or at a D.H.E.C. clinic. Any family that has an annual income at or below the national poverty guideline will receive the vaccination free of charge at any D.H.E.C. clinic. All others will pay out of pocket or through their insurance plan.

Section 4: Results of students getting the vaccine would include:

- A.** Cleaner and more sanitary South Carolina schools.
- B.** Decrease of flu cases in the state of South Carolina.
- C.** Lowers the risk of infection for everyone, including teachers, students, students, and administrations.
- D.** Decreased loss of instructional time due to illness.

Section 5: When signed into law the vaccine will be required for all children from kindergarten to the twelfth grade beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS61

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Prince Patel and Nick Hansen

BILL SPONSOR: Rebecca Dunn

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Improve Road Infrastructure

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Arterial roads (major regional roads), Collector roads (distribution roads between local and regional), and Local roads (low volume), would be improved upon to increase durability of infrastructure. To provide funding the state gas tax would increase from 16 cents per gallon to 23 cents per gallon.

Section 2: South Carolina citizens are forced to ride on unsafe poorly built roads. Crudely constructed roads cost the state around \$7 million in legal claims and lawsuits, around \$1,150 per person for fuel, accident-related, and operational costs, and cause citizens to lose valuable time.

Section 3: The South Carolina state government would work with County and City governments in order to establish a plan for the improvement of current local and connecting roads to provide adequate transportation of vehicles.

Section 4: The development of this act would:

- A.** Support the decrease of accidents and traffic complications around local areas.
- B.** Lead to a decrease in the number of deficient routes and major roadways.
- C.** Allow for optimization of functional and structurally sound infrastructure.

Section 5: When signed into law, collaborative efforts between the State Government and municipalities will commence on January 1, 2016.

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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS62

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Leah Hovell and Megan Wait

BILL SPONSOR: Hampton Randall

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

A BILL TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR MOTHERS

Section 1: Any citizen or permanent resident with health insurance who visits a doctor before the fourth month of their pregnancy is eligible to receive a maternity package from the state. These packages will be funded under the social security administration, specifically through revenue made off a football "bowl game" hosted in Columbia, SC. The production and assembly of the packages will produce jobs, as they will be updated annually to allow recognition and create community among women with children born during the same year.

Section 2: All the items are necessary for a mother to take proper care of the infant during the first few weeks of its life. The package promotes prenatal checkups as the mother will have to visit a doctor to receive the package. It encourages breast feeding and environmental awareness by using sustainable materials such as the cloth diaper. It also encourages mothers return more quickly to activities they enjoyed prior to the arrival of their newborn. Countries with similar programs have seen a dramatic decrease in infant mortality rates. The package serves as a parents' first promise to their child, as well as one from the state to the parent, that they want their child to have a good life.

Section 3: The Maternity package will be a lined box with a lid made out of recycled materials, the box will double as a crib. It will contain the following items: Mattress, mattress cover, duvet cover, two gender neutral bodysuits for each season, a hooded bath towel, toothbrush, baby thermometer, diaper cream, washcloth, baby soap, cloth diaper, teething toy, picture book, three letter word book, world map, one bottle, one pacifier, a swaddle blanket, and a carry sling.

Section 4: When signed into law the packages will start being disrupted beginning January 1, 2016.

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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS63

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Madison Barefoot and Caroline Weldon

BILL SPONSOR: Genin Howard

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to prepare high school students for life after graduation
BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current financial literacy requirements found in the Economics curriculum would be expanded to include skills students need to prepare them for life after graduation or college.

Section 2: Students will need knowledge to help them prepare for adulthood, such as how to file taxes and manage credit card accounts.

Section 3: With the expanded curriculum, students will learn how to file taxes, manage credit card accounts, write a job resume, apply for and pay off student loans, save and invest, manage debt, manage insurance, balance a checkbook, and calculate interest. They will also be taught how to better live independently with skills such as how to cook a basic meal, change a tire, basic first aid knowledge, and how to keep a clean and organized home. This will prepare students for when they are of legal age to be independent of their parent or legal guardian.

Section 4: This extended curriculum would:

- A. Prepare students for life after graduation.
- B. Demonstrate how to maintain a successful household.
- C. Demonstrate how to manage one's personal finances.

Section 5: When signed into law, the new requirements will go into effect on January 1, 2016.

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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS64

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PA

AUTHORS: Demetri Coundoussias and Adam Green

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: St Joseph's Catholic School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Increase Job Creation

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Any incorporated company or LLC (limited liability Company) will receive a tax break for that fiscal year for hiring a certain number of employees who were interning at that company.

Section 2: Companies will receive a 2% tax break for meeting the requirements of this law.

Section 3: The interns must be unpaid while interning and must intern for at least 2 months at the company.

Section 4: The number of newly hired employees who had been interns must be equivalent to at least 2% of the total workforce of that company that works in South Carolina.

Section 5: The Company must keep these new employees for at least 1 year unless there is reason to fire the employee in order to prevent companies from abusing this law in order to get the tax break.

A. The employee must adhere to the policies of the company

B. The employee must receive the average minimum pay for their position.

Section 6: This bill will take effect on January 1, 2016

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS65

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Holly Edenfield and Dessa Jones

BILL SPONSOR: Luke Bynum

SCHOOL/CLUB: St. Joseph's Catholic School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Allow Out of School Sports to Count for Graduation Credits

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current state law states that students must have a physical education credit or play two years of a school sport before graduating high school that would be changed to being able to count out of school sports as a physical education credit if they play that sport for at least 8 to 14 hours a week to earn the credit, students could also play a sport for 15 or more hours a week and earn the credit in just one year.

Section 2: Playing an out of school sport for four hours a week over the course of two years would count towards one physical education credit for graduation. Playing more hours a week or more years would add to the number of credits received.

Section 3: A form would be created and must be signed by the coach, legal guardian, principal of the school, and student to log the number of hours spent practicing and playing and must be turned in to the coach of the sport in the school to receive the credit(s). Coaches will sign as the student logs their hours to insure honest times.

Section 4: The number of hours practiced and played in games would have to be equivalent to or more than the number of hours students take in two years of school sports or a semester of gym.

Section 5: The students must play at least 8 - 14 hours a week of one sport or play more than one out of school sport. They could also play in between 15 and 25 hours a week a get their gym credit in one year.

Section 6: This law would take effect at the beginning of the 2016-17 school year

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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS66

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Michael Lynch and Maegan White

BILL SPONSOR: Zac Palmer

SCHOOL/CLUB: St. Joseph's Catholic School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act To Transcribe Grand Jury Hearings

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: In South Carolina, people accused of felony crimes must go before a grand jury. Evidence is presented to the grand jury inquiring if there is enough evidence to go to trial. In South Carolina grand jury hearings evidence is not transcribed by the court.

Section 2: South Carolina courts will begin to transcribe all grand jury hearings. This would allow records of Grand Jury hearings to be presented into evidence during a trial and present to the Grand Jury during the deliberation, the process in which the jury decides if enough evidence is provided to go to a trial.

Section 3: It will act as a deterrent against potential abuse of the Grand Jury system. It will ensure fair treatment and equal court rights to every citizen. It will streamline the hearing and trial process. Finally this law will primarily illimitable the rubber stamp process, which is the ratification and indictments of cases without proper consideration.

Section 4: Records represent hard evidence that protects the integrity of the hearing process in which it is important that fair determination be made on the charged individual.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first hearing to be transcribed will take place on January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS67

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Alaina Hrysikos and Amy Murphy

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Spartanburg High School

Vape is Life Until it Takes Your Life

An Act to ban the use of Personal Vaporizers and Electronic Cigarettes in public and commercial buildings

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current lack of ban placed on Personal Vaporizers and Electronic Cigarettes will be replaced with restrictions of use of these products.

Section 2: The state ban will eliminate use of Personal Vaporizers and Electronic Cigarettes within 10 feet of any public or commercial building.

Section 3: Because Personal Vaporizers and Electronic Cigarettes are suspected to be harmful due to the suspected carcinogenic chemicals, formaldehyde and acetaldehyde produced from the heating of the propylene and glycol, the ban would reduce the spread of these chemicals to those who do not vape.

Section 4: Effects from this ban would include:

A. The reduction of suspected carcinogenic chemicals exposed to nonvaping peoples and children.

B. The possible overall reduction of vaping

C. The possible reduction of under-age youth obtaining Personal Vaporizers and Electronic Cigarettes.

Section 5: When signed into law, the ban will take place on January 1, 2016.

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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate
BILL NUMBER: PS68
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE
AUTHORS: Nan Miles and Ashley Wade
BILL SPONSOR:
SCHOOL/CLUB: Spartanburg High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Require Motorcyclists to Wear Helmets

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently in South Carolina, laws do not require motorcyclists to wear helmets while on the road.

Section 2: This law passed will make it mandatory for all motorcyclists to wear helmets while riding motorcycles on the road.

Section 3: If motorcyclists do not heed this law, they will be fined a minimum of \$50.

Section 4: This law will be enforced by highway and city police, who will have the right to stop any motorcyclist seen without a helmet, and ticket them accordingly.

Section 5: The revenue collected through the fines will fund advertisement of motorcycle safety, in the form of billboards, flyers, and a government program that would travel throughout the state, educating schools and the public on motorcycle safety.

Section 6: When signed into law, this bill will go into effect January 1, 2015.

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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS70

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Min-Seo Song and Connor Mosser

BILL SPONSOR: Randall Hampton

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to reduce the cost of immigration documentation

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current immigration documentation costs approximately \$2,000 per person this would be lowered to \$1,000 per person.

Section 2: The average income of a unauthorized immigrant is \$36,000 per year person with a household of two working parents and three children the annual expenses of living would be approximately \$58,627 per year allowing only \$13,373 of extra revenue a year and with documentation costs of \$2,000 per person that would make the costs of documentation \$10,000, which is a unreasonable amount. Thus, by January 1, 2016 the cost of documentation would be decreased to \$1,000 per person making it a more reasonable amount for immigrants.

Section 3: This would allow the immigrants to afford U.S. citizenship thus decreasing the number of illegal immigrants.

Section 4: The decrease in documentation costs will allow immigrants to afford U.S citizenship and decrease the number of non taxpaying illegal immigrants. This would allow illegal immigrants that were not paying taxes because they were unauthorized citizens to pay taxes every year thus adding the government funds to pay for this reduction in document costs.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first decrease will take place on January 1, 2016

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier

BILL NUMBER: PS72

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Kassidy Gardner & Faith Harrison

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Pickens County Career & Technology Center

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Allow Sibling Rights in Blended Families

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current law states that siblings that share non biological parents are not allowed to see their brother or sister following a divorce.

Section 2: The new law would state that children with non-biological parents would have sibling rights and would be able to see their brother or sister under the following circumstances:

- The child is old enough to understand the situation
 - Recommended Age: Approximately 10-12 years old
 - Would have to be evaluated on a case by case basis
- Supervised visits would be available, but not required if the older sibling demonstrates responsibility.
 - Ex: In order to have unsupervised visits with a sibling, neither child can have an abusive background (drug, sexual, physical, mental, and verbal). Neither sibling can be diagnosed with a mental illness.

Section 3: Siblings that are old enough to drive would be allowed to transport the child. The child could also be transported by a friend or another family member. DSS would coordinate the visit provided all parties were found to be responsible. (No abuse, drug, alcohol, criminal background. No mental illness)

- If concerns were found, visits would be held under the supervision of a DSS officer at the DSS office, park, restaurant, ect., but at the request of a child (age 12 & meeting requirements) visits could be scheduled.

Section 4: Currently in the state of South Carolina, there are many families affected by divorce and/or living with a blended family. Thousands of children are placed into foster care each year. This bill is needed because in the case

1 of divorce, blended family siblings have no rights to see their
2 brother/sisters when the non-biological parent will not allow it.
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4 **Section 5:** When signed into law, the first visitations will take place on January 1,
5 2016.
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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th – 21st**

Bill ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate
BILL NUMBER: PS73
RECCOMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD
AUTHORS: Jonathon Monts and Jeff Woodward
BILL SPONSOR: Jake Valente
SCHOOL/CLUB: St. Joseph's Catholic School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Prohibit Mentally Unstable Citizens from Owning a Firearm.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE MODEL LEGISLATIVE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Firearms need to be restricted from those who cannot responsibly own and store a firearm safely.

Section 2: When a person is buying or being given a firearm, that person will have to be evaluated by a psychologist or physician. People that are not mentally stable will not be able to own a firearm. If a person is living with someone who is not allowed to own a firearm due to mental instability, that person will not be able to store a firearm on the property. However, that person can store the firearm at another location. If a mentally unstable person is inheriting or being given a firearm, that firearm will have to go to another family member.

Section 3: This act will cut down the likelihood of any accidents happening where the mentally unstable person accidentally or intentionally shoots someone else or himself/herself.

Section 4: This will be put into effect on January 1, 2016. People who own firearms prior to January 1, 2016 will not have to go through a mental exam. If someone is classified as mentally unstable after that date, then he/she will have to transfer all firearms to someone who is mentally stable. If someone is classified as mentally unstable after January 1, 2016 and is living with someone who has a firearm that was bought before that date, then the firearm will have to be moved off property.

1 **SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA**
2 **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**
3 **28th Annual Model Legislature**
4 **November 18th – 21st, 2015**
5

6 **BILL ORIGINATES IN:** Premier Senate

7 **BILL NUMBER:** PS74

8 **RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE:** PE

9 **AUTHORS:** Drew Nichols and Alec DiBattista

10 **SCHOOL:** Greenville Technical Charter High School
11

12 **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**
13

14 An Act to Eliminate State Income Tax
15 BE IT HEARBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
16 OF SOUTH CAROLINA
17

18 **Section 1:** The current income tax of 3% to 7% would be eliminated.
19

20 **Section 2:** The point of this bill is to attract people and businesses to South Carolina
21 and also to help residents of South Carolina keep their money that they earned.
22

23 **Section 3:** With state income tax eliminated, sales tax would change from 6% to 7%.
24 The upper class people who make more money will still spend their money on luxury
25 items allowing the state government to still get their money lost from income tax.
26 There would be no sales tax on food so the new bill doesn't not put a bigger burden
27 on the lower class.
28

29 **Section 4:** Elimination of this tax would cause:

30 Section 1: More businesses and more people would move to South Carolina creating
31 more jobs;

32 Section 2: More money in people's pockets;

33 Section 3: More people have money to spend which helps businesses.
34

35 **Section 5:** When signed into law, elimination will begin on January 1, 2017
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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS75

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Haley Stambaugh and Abby Robinson

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Eastside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Encourage After-School Tutoring

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Attendance to after-school tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays is low due to lack of student motivation. If food was provided to students in attendance, there would be an increase in the amount of students attending.

Section 2: If food is provided at after-school tutoring programs, more students would be motivated to attend. The food would be provided by PTSA, restaurant donations, and meals prepared by parent volunteers.

Section 3: If food was provided, then attendance would increase and attract students to get help with school work. This will also help to give students who don't have the opportunity to eat dinner at home a chance to eat. It will also increase grades because it would be an incentive to get help to improve their grades and study abilities.

Section 4: The results of providing food during tutoring include:

- A.** Improving the averages of students and increasing GPAs, SAT and ACT scores
- B.** Encouraging a higher success rate when entering college due to acquiring the abilities to learn new study habits
- C.** As a bonus, this law also provides free meals to kids who might not have the option of evening dinner at home

Section 5: When signed into law, tutoring sessions will supply food beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

**SOUTH CAROLINA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th-21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS76

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Megan Muise and Giovanna Vasquez

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Wade Hampton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Assisted Death

Section I: The current state of physician assisted death is currently not legally active and would be altered to be legal for terminally ill patients who are mentally competent with a shortened life span.

Section II: The number of citizens who were terminally ill and suffering would have the option of dying. At this point in time only five states have a law allowing physician assisted death. In 2013, 0.21% of all deaths were in Oregon were due to the Death with Dignity Act. 22% of patients who died between 1998 and 2002 by assisted death in Oregon were in pain or afraid of being in pain, according to their doctors.

Section III: Because of the number of people suffering from a terminally painful illness each year, the option of assisted death will be offered to those who are mentally competent with six months or less to live.

Section IV: The assisted death technique will:

- A. provides the terminally ill to control their death.
- B. save a loved one who has been asked to help end the suffering from potential prosecution and jail time.
- C.

Section V: When signed into law, the legalization of physicians assisted death will take place on January 1st, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th-21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS77

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Julie Madeline and Olivia Balkcum

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Wade Hampton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An act to mandatory study hall

Section I: Students will be able to get their homework completed or almost completed and turned in on ttime.

Section II: Students without study hall don't have the same opportunities than people with study halls. Accord i ng to LA times, on average high school students are assigned 3.5 hours of homework a week.night, or more than 17 hours a week. Eliminating almost an hour from this s wou ld increase se the student 's hom ework grade and i n turn, overall I I grade. Students are set back on school work because jobs , sports, and extra-curricular activities. Having a study hall will take stress off the student and allow them a specific amount of time to complete some of thei r school work.

Section ill: If students had a mandatory study hall we would ha ve the same chance to excel. Having an extra forty minu tes during school wou ld decrease the amount of studen ts not doing homework.

Section IV: If students had a mandatory study hal l du ring school hours it would :

- A. Increase se their grade average and homework tum in.
- B. Students would be more focused and organized with their school work.
- C. It would give students more ti me to finish thei r homework before sports so they can get to bed at an earlier time.

Section V: It will become effective at the beginning g of the next school year, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th-21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS78

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Schultz/ Knobel

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Wade Hampton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

Saving Families Act

Section 1: The United States federal government said it would like to accept more refugees in the following years. This program will outline a set of guidelines to create safe environments for these refugees to stay.

Section 2: In this program , citizens who agree to house a refugee, or a family of refugees will be considered a host family, and will receive \$13.70 a day per adult, and \$6.85 a day per child to provide the necessities needed for the refugee(s) .

Section 3: In the saving families program, it will provide the necessities to refugees. Citizens of South Carolina can volunteer to house a refugee , or a family of refugees. The citizens who agree to house and provide for the refugees will receive \$13.70 a day per adult, and \$6.85 a day per child. That totals to \$2500 for a six month period per adult, and \$1250 for a six month period per child. The United States State Department is allowing 85,000 refugees in 2016 entrance into the United States, and last year 2050 refugees located to South Carolina, so based on these numbers this program helps to increase the number of refugees located in South Carolina to 3000 refugees in 2016 and future years. The employees needed to run this program will be hired and paid for by the South Carolina Department of Human Services. The money host families are given to provide for the refugees will be funded by the South Carolina lottery. To become a host family the citizen will have to go through an extensive background

1 check, and prove they have healthy living conditions,
2 necessary transportation , and financial stability. A host
3 family will be provided government money for six
4 months, and are expected to house, and care for the
5 refugee(s) for six months, after that amount of time it is up
6 to the family whether or not to continue care for the
7 refugees. A prospective host family must also go through
8 14 hours of training, where they will learn what is
9 expected of them, and what specific care they need to
10 provide.
11
12

13 **Section 4:** This program will promote legal immigration to the United
14 States, and create a sense of community in South Carolina. This
15 state will promote legal immigration by creating a safe and easy way
16 for refugees to come to South Carolina, and to help them acclimate to
17 America 's society by living with Americans. The intent of this program
18 is to be run by the counties of South Carolina, and just to be funded by
19 the government.
20

21 **Section 5:** When signed into law, the saving families program will
22 begin on January 1, 2016

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
26th Annual Model Legislature
November 19th-21st, 2015**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS79

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Alex Diaz and Tommy Khuu

SCHOOL/CLUB: Wade Hampton High School

POST-SUPER BOWL HOLIDAY

An Act to Establish the Monday Following the Super Bowl as a Public Holiday BE IT

HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The public schools and workplaces of South Carolina will recognize the Monday immediately following Super Bowl Sunday as a public holiday, and therefore not having mandatory attendance.

Section 2: The NFL Super Bowl is one of the most watched televised sporting events globally. Following the Super Bowl, workplaces undergo unplanned absences from their employees, making the costs for those absences about 50% more expensive than those of planned absences. Any employees that do end up present at their workplace the Monday after the Super Bowl end up incredibly distracted from work, either because of discussing the events of the night before, or being hungover. Students that stay up late and go to school the next day will be sleep deprived, and also most likely to discuss the game. Hence, they will not be able to mentally focus on any of their subjects.

Section 3: Making the Monday following the Super Bowl into a public holiday will prevent any more costs for absences at the workplace. Research shows that out of 147.4 million American workers, 1.5 million are expected to call in sick on Super Bowl Monday, and 4.4 million could go in late. There would also be close to a loss of \$170 million in productivity. These drawbacks would affect every state within North America. If the following Monday were made a public holiday, then the problem of unorganized and distracted work and school environments would be avoided, especially considering the already great loss of productivity.

Section 4: When signed into law, it will officially go into effect on the Monday following the next Super Bowl and continue to be in effect for every following post-Super Bowl Monday.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS80

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: John Tyler Thompson and Jackson Elgin

SCHOOL/CLUB: Wade Hampton High School

Jobs for Veterans

An act to guarantee all veterans a job when returning from war

Section 1: Many veterans returning from war will end up jobless after fighting for our freedom.

Section 2: There is a huge need for veterans to have jobs because when they get back to the states they can't find a job and can't support their family.

Section 3: Veterans returning from war have a hard time finding jobs. If a company hires a veteran they will get 5% taken off their taxes at the end of the year. For this incentive many people will want to hire veterans because it lowers the taxes that the businesses have to pay.

Section 4: A. It will keep veterans off the street.
B. It will make more people want to be a marine because many are scared they won't have a job when they get back home.
C. It's the right thing to do for someone who has paid for your freedom.

Section 5: When signed into a law, it is active January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS81

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Kayla Roper & Michael Langley

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Pickens County Career & Technology Center

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Allow Educators to Investigate Bullying Outside of School

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently in South Carolina there is no law protecting victims of Bullying abuse when bullying happens outside of the school. The new bullying law will protect and get justice for the victims and the victims' families. Bullying is defined as any unwanted contact: physical, verbal, emotional, and including any bullying involving technology (text messaging, social media, etc.)

Section 2: The new law would stop and/or reduce bullying across the state of South Carolina. The new law would raise the consequences for cases of bullying and when reported to a school official; it would allow educators to investigate bullying and report bullying incidences to authorities. Current consequences are not effective in reducing and stopping bullying from occurring and school officials are not allowed to investigate bullying between students when it happens off school property. The new consequences would be as follows:

- A. 1st Offense – Attend Bullying Awareness Course (To be on school grounds, facilitated by educators and funded through grants and money collected from fines)
- B. 2nd Offense – Community Service
- C. 3rd Offense – \$1000 Fine
- D. 4th Offense – Police Involvement – Criminal Charges

Note: If any other unwanted contact is made, or in severe cases, such as life threatening or violent offenses; the offender's parents would be called and police would be involved immediately.

Section 3: Bullying is killing students all around the world. 90% of deaths of students enrolled in schools are caused by bullying. Students won't come to school because they're scared of being harassed. By the age of

1 14, less than 30% of boys and 40% of girls will talk to their peers about
2 bullying. 17% of American students report being bullied 2 to 3 times a
3 month or more within a school semester. Experts believe this number
4 would be higher if all bullying incidents were reported.
5

6 **Section 4:** Implementing harsher consequences will improve the school
7 environment overall.
8

9 **A.** Attendance will improve

10 **B.** Students will feel safer knowing that bullying will not be tolerated

11 **C.** Bullying creates tension and stress, and when this is reduced or
12 eliminated students overall performance will improve.
13

14 **Section 5:** When signed into law, the first consequence will take place on January
15 14, 2016.
16
17

**South Carolina YMCA
Youth In Government
27th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th-21st, 2015**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS82

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Vishal Jindal, Rita Ni, and Sarah Sultan

SCHOOL/CLUB: Southside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Alter Requirements for a Beginner's Permit and Driver's Licenses

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: South Carolina's Department of Motor Vehicles will be affected, and state roads and highways will be impacted.

Section II: Out of all males between the ages of 15-20, who had been involved in fatal crashes in 2012, 37% were speeding at the time of the crash and 25% had been drinking. South Carolina is ranked as the state with the highest fatality rate on the road. In addition, fatal crashes are the leading cause of death for US teens. Clearly, many young drivers are unlawful and unqualified to drive safely. Therefore it is necessary to keep unqualified drivers off the road and keep the road safe for qualified drivers.

Section III: A law shall be enacted that replaces certain 2015 requirements with new 2016 requirements for driving privileges, while still preserving all 2015 requirements not altered below.

- The knowledge test, required for a Beginner Permit, will be replaced by eight hours of classroom driver's education which includes a test at the end of the course.
- The requirement of eight hours of classroom time for a Conditional License or Special-Restricted License shall be eliminated, since such training should already have been completed for the Beginner Permit.
- The requirement of a total of 6 hours will be increased to 10 hours of driving time with a certified driving instructor in order for a person to obtain a Conditional License or Special-Restricted License.
- As of 2015, a person must wait two weeks if he/she fails the road skills test once or twice. This new act will require a person to wait 30 days after the first or second failed attempt on the road skills test.
- As of 2015, a person must wait 60 days if he/she fails the road skills test after the first or second attempt. This new act will require a person to wait 180 days if the person fails after the first or second attempt.
- As of 2015, a person can obtain full driving privileges if he/she has had a Conditional License for one year and has not had any traffic offenses. With

1 this new act, a person must retake the road skills test after obtaining
2 Conditional or Special-Restricted privileges regardless of whether the person
3 has already had a Conditional or Special-Restricted License for a year.
4

5 **Section IV:** Only the most qualified drivers will be allowed on South Carolina
6 roads. The least qualified drivers will be kept off of the roads, which could reduce
7 fatality on the road.
8

9 **Section V:** When signed into law, no one will obtain a permit or license after 2015
10 without completing the new requirements listed above.
11
12
13

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS84

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Sydney Cornwell and Margaret Shaughnessy

BILL SPONSOR: Representative Jack Young

SCHOOL/CLUB: Greenville High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Raise the Fine for Texting and Driving in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current fine for text-based communications such as texting and emailing while driving in South Carolina is 25 dollars for first time offenders. Distracted driving does not include talking on the phone.

Section 2: Legislation will be passed and a law will be enacted to make texting and driving a traffic violation in the state of South Carolina which will carry heavy penalties for offenders. The first offense for texting and driving will result in a \$100 fine. The second will result in a \$200 fine and the third offense will result in a suspended license for three months. Anything after a third offense will result in a suspended license for six months.

Section 3: Most states in the United States prohibit texting and driving. In Connecticut, when caught texting and driving, the first offense is a 125 dollar fine; the second offense is a 250 dollar fine. In Georgia, offenders are fined 150 dollars and one point is taken from their license when caught texting and driving.

Section 4: Revenue from this tax would fund:

A. Driving education for old and new drivers, along with driver safety training.

B. Road improvements

Section 5: The texting and driving law will be put into effect January 1, 2017.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
10th Annual Model Legislature
November 19th-21nd**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS85

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Myddie Parker and Annabelle Davis

SCHOOL/CLUB: Greenville High Academy

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Require All South Carolina Schools to have Epinephrine on Hand for
Emergencies

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently the law in South Carolina is that we allow schools to have epinephrine on hand. In the 2016-2017 school year South Carolina's public schools will be required to have epinephrine on hand in case of an emergency.

Section 2: A person can go into anaphylaxis within minutes from exposure to an allergen. If epinephrine is not in quick reach, the person's life could be in danger.

Section 3: The fastest way to administer epinephrine is through an EpiPen. This bill would require all South Carolina's public schools to have one EpiPen per school. On average these EpiPens are \$100. We would require the individual schools to put the \$100 in the schools budget to provide the money for the EpiPens.

Section 4: On average this disease affects 1 in every 13 children under the age of 18 in the United States. That is roughly 2 people in every classroom. Requiring all South Carolina public schools to have an EpiPen on hand can save many children's lives.

Section 5: When signed into law this will take place on the 2016-2017 school year.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS86

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Kennedy Perry and Emma Miller

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Eastside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

What Chemicals Are Farmers Using?

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently, farmers are not required to disclose which pesticides and herbicides they are using to encourage crop growth.

Section 2: If people continue to ingest these chemicals without knowing what kind of chemicals are currently in use, then they could become ill or suffer significant damage to their body.

Section 3: If passed, this bill will require farmers/crop growers to disclose the chemicals they use, enabling people to make better decisions about their food choices. This would be very similar to the way manufacturers list ingredients on their food packages.

Section 4: This would address the following concerns.

- A.** A lack of factual information about what chemicals were used in producing food
- B.** Discouraging people from purchasing non-organic foods
- C.** Promoting awareness of harmful chemicals people are exposed to in their food.

Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will take effect on January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS87

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: John Lawler and Grayson Walker

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Eastside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

A Proposition to Cede the Territory of the State of Rhode Island to South Carolina
and Convert it into a Province For Road Material Manufacturing for the State of
South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Rhode Island as a state has contributed next to nothing to the whole of the United States, and even less so to the state of South Carolina. Rhode Island's size is insignificant, they've done nothing of historical importance, and they refused to send delegates to the Constitutional Convention – noting this, it is certain that few people would notice or complain about its disappearance. Considering our failing infrastructure and increasingly patchy roads, the state is in dire need of an improved infrastructure. Rhode Island, being a fairly useless area and already bearing the name "Rhode," would be an incredibly useful site for manufacturing road-building material for the state of South Carolina. Therefore, it will be decreed that the state of Rhode Island will be annexed to South Carolina.

Section 2: Following the annexation of Rhode Island by South Carolina, immediate destruction of all sources and documents referring to Rhode Island as ever having been an independent state will be decreed. All traces of Rhode Island as an independent state will be eliminated, and all former Rhode Islanders will be sent to psychological rehabilitation centers until they profess that there was never a state known as "Rhode Island." The treachery of Rhode Island's failure to send delegates to the Constitutional Convention in 1787 will be avenged.

Section 3: After full control over Rhode Island is realized, funds will immediately be redirected from unemployment subsidies to the purchasing of material for road construction.

Section 4: All houses and public buildings in the former state of Rhode Island will be bulldozed and cleared for the construction of massive industrial factories to produce asphalt and paint for road construction.

1 **Section 5:** Once the aforementioned prerequisites are sufficiently met,
2 construction on road paving factories will immediately begin.
3

4 **Section 6:** The new, intensified asphalt production will mean a subsequent drop in
5 costs for asphalt manufacturing, thereby making the repaving of our roads
6 significantly cheaper and more efficient and would result in the establishment of
7 asphalt production and road-paving as one of South Carolina's largest industries
8 (which, consequently, will mean thousands of new jobs for those out of work).
9

10 **Section 7:** Upon the governor's signature, this bill will become law on January 1st,
11 2016.
12

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS89

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Ali Timms and Anne Marie Faris

BILL SPONSOR: Representative Jack Young

SCHOOL/CLUB: Christ Church Episcopal

A BILL TO Expand Educational Exposure

An Act to increase after school activities for Lower and Middle age students for the purposes of expanding educational exposure

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current state requirement for after school education for lower and middle school would increase from no minimum to a minimum of 3 hours per week per student during the school session/year.

Section 2: The requirement of 3 hours per week per student would be implemented immediately and for a 5 year period.

Section 3: Because an educational requirement such as this would require the school district budget to increase the property tax will be increased by .01 per 1000\$ of home value in the school district.

Section 4: Revenue from this property tax would fund:

- A.** The teachers for the after school programming
- B.** Educational supplies needed to support the educational programming
- C.** Transportation to field trip educational opportunities

Section 5: When signed into law, the first increase will take place on January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS90

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE:

AUTHORS: Naomi Delgado-Sanchez and Fatima Gonzalez

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Eastside High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Fix Roads in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently in South Carolina, there is no requirement for pull-behind trailers, mopeds, and bicycles to be registered for a license plate. If the state made it a requirement the fees would be used for the purpose of repairing roads.

Section 2: All pull-behind trailers, mopeds, and bicycles ridden on the state, county, or city roads would be required to be registered and have a license plate in the state of South Carolina except within residential subdivision and private property.

Section 3: Currently in South Carolina, roads and bridges are degraded and need to be repaired. The taxes collected would be used to repair the roads.

Section 4: When signed into law, the first increase will take place on January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28TH Annual Model Legislature
November 18th-21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS91

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Meredith Hovart and MC Crawford

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Christ Church Episcopal School

Tax on Cigarettes for Rehab Facilities

An act to increase the tax on cigarettes sold in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Current South Carolina sales tax ranges from 6% to 8%. We propose an increase in the sales tax to 10% on all cigarette sales in South Carolina.

Section 2: The tax will go into effect January 1st 2016. Money gained over the course of a year will begin to be distributed in the spring of 2017.

Section 3:

Section 4: The money will come from the sales of cigarettes. The money will go to the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS). They provide treatment and intervention for drug users of all ages in South Carolina. The DAODAS also provides services to prevent people of all ages from getting involved with drugs. Currently the DAODAS only receives 30% of their funding from the South Carolina government. We hope to raise that number to 45%.

Section 6: When signed into law, the first increase will take place January 1st, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS92

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Alexa Kabas and Catherine Hollis

BILL SPONSOR: Matt Jacobsson and John Byrnes

SCHOOL/CLUB: Christ Church Episcopal School

Preschool Play Time

Why children can't sit still during school

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Many children are struggling from social and sensory details, even at such a young age. Recent studies show that children have been more recently diagnosed with ADHD. Some studies show that children are more likely to develop ADHD from the amount of time they are forced to sit still during school.

Section 2: A resolution to this problem would be to give children a longer play time. Recess enables children to develop certain life skills, like communication and teamwork, that contribute to the fundamentals of having good social skills.

Section 3: Children need to have whole-body sensory experiences on a daily basis in order to develop strong bodies and minds. A preschool teacher observed her classes, and noticed that many children would fall out of their seats over three times a day, from being restless. Also children would run into walls and each other. To provide more recess, it would allow children to develop better social skills, a decreased chance of being diagnosed with ADHD, and no more children falling out of chairs, which teaches kids how to improve their focus and have a reduce in cognitive issues.

Section 4: Benefits of this bill would include:

A. Children would start their academic years with an advantage and will not be as clumsy, be more attentive and alert, more emotionally stable, and more socially competent.

B. Having more playtime will also prevent cognitive and sensory issues later on in childhood.

C. Prevents issues such as ADHD.

D. It does not require a huge amount of money to allow more time for children in their preschool years to play more, but still have time to learn.

Section 5: When signed into law, the changes in schedule will take place on the first school day of the new year.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate
BILL NUMBER: PS93
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB
AUTHORS: Emilee Daniel and Molly McConnell
BILL SPONSOR:
SCHOOL/CLUB: NEXT High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Train All Teachers in Defense Against Gunmen

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: In recent years there has been a rising number of gun related situations in schools.

Section 2: To increase student safety we move to require all faculty members employed in private and public schools to take part in state certified self-defense classes specializing in defense against assailants possessing firearms, and how to respond to hostage situations.

Section 3: The required course would entail:

- A.** Basic defense skills for themselves and others.
- B.** How to compose themselves and relay directions to the at risk students in the event that they are threatened.
- C.** How to respond in the event of a threatening gunman.
- D.** First-aid training

Section 4: We will raise the property tax by 0.5% in order to fund these self defense training classes for all educators.

Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will take effect for the 2016-2017 school year.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS94

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Nashon Henry, Sully Amick

SCHOOL/CLUB: NEXT High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Provide Funding for Bike Lanes

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Bike lanes would drastically decrease the amounts of deaths in america.

Section 2: In 2013 over 4,735 deaths were caused due to pedestrian/motor crashes and 48,000 injuries, that was around 12 deaths per day.

Section 3: The cost of bicycle injury and death is around \$4 billion per year.

Section 4: One mile of protected bike lane is 100 times cheaper than one mile of roadway, it costs around \$445,000 per mile of protected bike lane, and \$571 million per mile of roadway.

Section 5: By making 8,988 miles of protected bike lane per year it would be around the same price as the \$4 billion sunk into bike and pedestrian/motor crash deaths and injuries per year.

Section 6: There are no protected bike lanes here in South Carolina.

Section 7: In the US there are about 8,656,070 miles of road, in South Carolina there is about 41,000 miles of road.

Section 8: If we create 41,000 miles of protected bike lane it would cost around \$18,245,000,000 with a South Carolina population of around 4,832,482, if every month the taxpayers put in an extra \$10 it would take around 30 years to finish all the protected bike lanes, and make South Carolina a better place.

Section 9: When signed into law, the construction of bike lanes and taxes will begin after January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS95

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Lucy Manley and Hannah White

SCHOOL/CLUB: NEXT High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Allow for Gradual Termination of Parental Rights in Cases Where Parents
Fail to Meet Custodial Requirements

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Department of Social Services (DSS) can remove a child from parental custody when a child is in physical or emotional danger.

Section 2: After a child is removed from parental custody, and the family does not take the steps necessary to regain custody within six months, parental rights will be gradually terminated.

Section 3: The steps that a parent should begin taking within the first 6 months of DSS taking their child into legal custody consist of the following:

- A.** Drug Test
- B.** Provision of adequate housing inspected by DSS
- C.** Employment held for 6 months at min.

Section 4: The following steps will be taken in order to terminate parental custody:

- A.** The parent(s) will no longer be the legal guardian(s) of the child.
- B.** The parent(s) visitation rights will be revoked.
- C.** The parent(s) will no longer have custody or visitation rights.

Section 5: The steps listed in Section 4 take place at the discretion of a DSS case team after the initial six month period.

Section 6: If all of the actions in Section 4 are implemented, the parent(s) must wait a minimum of two years before reapplying for visitation rights.

Section 7: When signed into law, these regulations will begin to apply to families after January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS96

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Jarquayla Robinson, Caroline Bridwell

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: NEXT High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Improve Domestic Violence Shelters

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: If domestic violence shelters don't have programs to help victims become independent, they will be given 90 days to improve.

Section 2: Funds will be allocated to shelters in order for them to create programs to benefit the health of victims.

Section 3: Domestic violence shelters that don't improve within their time limit will be warned, and must improve and meet South Carolina standards for shelters.

A. After the warning the executive director of the domestic violence shelter will be fined \$2000.00 if the improvement is not made.

B. If the domestic violence shelter executive director hasn't done the improvements after the fine, he/she will be terminated and replaced.

Section 4: A unimproved domestic violence shelter limits the possibility of victims becoming independent. Shelters get packed with people every day so those victims who have been there for a while need to get mentally and financially independent, so they can go out in the world and be successful.

Section 5: We are asking the government to send 1 million dollars to each domestic violence shelter in South Carolina that don't have all the programs to benefit the victims in the shelter. For example (Things we need in everyday life that support us in a healthy lifestyle.)

Section 6: The funding for the money to help the domestic violence shelters will come from the cigarettes and beer beverages taxes, also programs that support domestic violence to stop will help also.

Section 7: When signed into law, the first shelter inspections will begin after January 1, 2016.

Bill Checklist: [] Debatable [] Feasible [] State Importance [] Evidence Support [] Original

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate
BILL NUMBER: PS97
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF
AUTHORS: Emma Maggio and Emily Hefty
BILL SPONSOR:
SCHOOL/CLUB: NEXT High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Reduce the Income Tax on Minors with Jobs

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current income tax is 10% - 15% for single incomes under \$37,000.

Section 2: This bill would reduce a minor's (under 18) income tax to 7%.

Section 3: If minors have jobs they make very little money, and they still have to pay taxes. Minors have to pay taxes even though they don't have the same privileges, such as the ability to vote.

Section 4: 5% of the tax would go to the government and 2% would go to a savings account for the minor. The minor would have access to this account at the age of 18.

Section 4: When signed into law, the first increase will take place on January 1, 2016

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS98

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Dayton Meetze and John Haynes

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: NEXT High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Legalize the "Mistake of Age" Defense Pertaining to Statutory Rape

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Statutory rape is the act of consensual intercourse with someone who is not above age and someone who is the age of consent. The "Mistake of Age" law states that if the person accused of statutory rape was led to believe that the victim was above the age of consent, that the defense can use this in trial. Several states have already taken the initiative to make the "Mistake of Age" defense, legal for the defense to use.

Section 2: As of October 2015, it is illegal to you the "Mistake of Age" law as a defense in court in regards to statutory rape charges in South Carolina. The law states that if the defendant was led to believe that the victim was the age of consent, which is 16 in South Carolina, then the law can be applied. If the person being accused of statutory rape was led to believe that the victim was of age, then the law can be applied as long as there is sufficient evidence to support this claim.

Section 3: The "Mistake of Age" law has certain regulations and guidelines that must be followed/reviewed.

A. Jurors will be given access to social media of the victim and messages between the accused and the victim. They will then decide whether or not the victim can be seen as someone who is of age, or older based on the evidence given to them.

B. Not only will they have access to the victim's social media and messages, but also the person being accused. After reviewing both pieces of evidence, the jury will decide from there.

C. After looking at the evidence, 8 out of the 12 grand jurors would decide whether or not charges will be brought forth or can be used in the case against the victim.

D. This law only applies to the accused if they are under the age of 30.

Section 4: When signed into law, the defense will be allowed in cases after January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS99

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PB

AUTHORS: Peter Sherer, Braeden Thompson, and Sami Dawson

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: NEXT High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Establish a Tax Break for Farmers Growing Organic Foods

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Farmers growing Organic Foods in South Carolina will be provided a tax break on 25% of their crops.

Section 2: The tax break will encourage farmers to grow organic crops instead of genetically modified crops. GMO stands for Genetically Modified Organisms. GMO's can be harmful in many ways. Some of which include: organ damage, infertility, immune system disorders, and accelerated aging. 80% of groceries contain GMO's, and around 90% of all corn and soy crops are genetically modified.

Section 3: The tax break will also reduce the price of crops being sold and encourage consumers to purchase organic foods; therefore increasing the profit of the farmer.

Section 4: When signed into law, the first tax break will affect crops planted and harvested after January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS100

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: D'machia Milom and Jamyia

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Legacy Charter

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

A Bill to Reduce Prices of College

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Colleges should provide funds to pay for housing, books, and a meal plan. According to the College Board, the average cost of tuition and fees for the 2014–2015 school year was **\$31,231** at private colleges, **\$9,139** for state residents at public colleges, and **\$22,958** for out-of-state residents attending public universities. Student debt in the US has reached \$1.3 trillion and rising.

Section 2: The United States is losing well-educated students because of rising costs. Because of reduced costs in Europe, more than 4,600 US students are fully enrolled at Germany universities, an increase of 20%. These fees include \$120 in fees and health insurance. American students are leaving the country just to go to a college where they know they will not end up in outrageous debt.

Section 3: The US wants everyone to have education, but not everyone has the money. Even if they do, when students off to college, they get in debt. If families cannot pay tuition, many intelligent and capable students will have to forfeit their education.

Section 4: I think the US should pass a law that colleges should be free, or maybe lower the prices A LOT and so the professors and anyone who works at a college would still get paid. I think if they lower the prices then more people would come to college and that would help. We should look to Germany for an example. If the US had fair college prices maybe more people from out of the country would come to school here.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS101

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Emani Dawkins and Kayla Gomez

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Legacy Charter

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

A Bill to Legalize the Use of Medical Marijuana

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Marijuana refers to dried leaves, flowers, stems and seeds from hemp plant, cannabis sativa. Marijuana is usually smoked. Some users also mix marijuana into food or use it to brew tea.

Section 2: Marijuana should be legalized for medical purposes, such as chronic pain from cancer or migraines, anxiety, epilepsy, and/or stress.

Section 3: With permission from a doctor, a patient will receive a card. When you get this card, you will be put on a list that will allow you to buy marijuana from an authorized seller called a dispensary. Patients will receive the cannabis by going to the doctor and depending on the case, they will be prescribed medical marijuana to relieve the stress. This drug is the best treatment for his overwhelming pain.

Section 4: Within five minutes of smoking marijuana, the spasms have gone away and the chronic pain is in the process of leaving your body. A couple intakes of marijuana a day helps people with chronic nerve pain feel less pain and sleep better at night.

Section 5: Medical marijuana is more expensive than street marijuana. For 28.5 grams of cannabis, you would have to pay \$100. It is highly important that the medical marijuana is legalized in different states. It is already legalized in states including Washington, Colorado, and California.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS102

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Kiera Jefferson & Lilly Aiken

BILL SPONSOR: Gressette/Latham (Premier House)

SCHOOL/CLUB: A.C. Flora High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to require motorcyclists to wear helmets

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: South Carolina requires motorcycle drivers and/or passengers who are under the age of 21 to wear helmets, we plan to require everyone regardless of their age to wear helmets.

Section 2: This bill will be treated the same as South Carolina's seatbelt laws meaning that drivers will be ticketed for passengers not wearing a helmet ages 14 and younger. Passengers not wearing a helmet age 15 and older will be ticketed directly.

Section 3: The first three offenses will be written a ticket of \$25, \$50, and \$100. Once you have reached your third offense each ticket will be \$75 each.

Section 4: When signed into law, the first enforcement of this bill will take place on January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS103

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Shakayla Gill, Sarah Burns, and Brooke Hudson

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Cougar New Tech

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

Quinquennial Assessment of Driving Abilities

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Drivers above the age of 50 should be required to take a driving test every five years in the United States.

Section 2: Failure to comply while continuing to operate a vehicle will result in the person's license being revoked along with the charge of a fine to be determined by a judge in a court of law. Failure to pay said fine within a thirty day period will result in additional fees. If it can be proven that the understood what they were doing and that their actions posed a risk of causing harm, the defendant may be charged for reckless endangerment.

Section 3: Supporting statistics and facts to consider:

- As people age, they tend to take more medications which could potentially affect their ability to drive safely.
- Several health issues associated with old age can impair driving abilities, such as:
 - Arthritis, which could affect a person's ability to make quick and sudden movements.
 - Dementia and Alzheimer's, which could increase the chance of common driving laws being broken along with a higher risk of injuring themselves in car accidents/malfunctions.
 - Parkinson's Disease, which affects a person's movement.
 - Shrinking of height, which could prevent the person from being able to see everything they need to.

Section 4: Benefits of this new bill would include:

- Assurance that the person in question is still able to operate a vehicle.
- Decrease in the number of automobile accidents.
- Would provide revenue to the state government whether by reduction in costs related to automobile accidents or by money gained through the fine

1 penalty charged to those who neglect to retake their driving test within the
2 allotted amount of time.

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4 **Section 5:** When signed into law, the bill should begin to take affect on January 1,
5 2016.
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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS104

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Wyatt O'Quinn, Cameron Usry, and Roberto Zepahua

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Colleton County High School

Zaxby's and Chick-Fil-A in Schools

An Act to allow Zaxby's and Chick-Fil-A to provide school lunches every Monday in every school district in South Carolina.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: All South Carolina students should get the pleasure to experience Zaxby's or Chick-Fil-A school lunch every Monday.

Section 2: Students that cannot afford this can apply for reduced price lunches. The food will be delivered to the school by Chick-Fil-A or a Zaxby's representative.

Section 3: Revenue from this act would help to provide:

A. Encourage students to attend school.

B. Diverse school lunch.

C. Students that are vegetarian can opt out or eat a healthy meatless salad from one of these restaurants.

D. Contributes to the business of those restaurants.

Section 4: When signed into law, the first increase will take place on **August 15, 2016.**

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS105

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Lance Calcutt, Rett Collins, Cameryn Coursen, and Susanna Seigler

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Cougar New Tech

A New Bill To Assist The Homeless

An Act to Increase the Prosperity of the Homeless Community

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently in America, we have an exceeding amount of homeless citizens, so we will be creating a bill to assist the homeless community.

Section 2: We should add community gardens and more homeless shelters to all major cities in every state. These would include all capitols and all other major cities across the united states.

Section 3: We should do this because this would provide a better life for the suffering citizens and and help the economy by allowing the homeless to resurface and start a new life. This would also decrease the rate of theft because there would be no direct reason for someone to steal to be fed anymore now that they have a guaranteed meal every day.

Section 4: We could get funding from...

- A.** Statewide tax funds
- B.** Volunteer Organizations
- C.** Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Section 5: Said bill would be passed the morning of January 12, 2016 so that it would be able to be put into action immediately after Christmas and new years day has calmed down.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS106

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Robert Dent and Kourtney Jefferson

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Colleton County High School Cougar New Tech

Better Safe Than Sorry

An Act to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: In South Carolina's school systems, there are approximately 4,759 teenage mothers between the ages of fifteen and nineteen every year. Teen pregnancies has been the lowest ever this year (only thirty-six births for every 1,000 girls between the age of fifteen and nineteen), but South Carolina is still in the top fifteen states for the highest teen pregnancy rates in the country.

Section 2: In Colleton County, sixty-eight teenage girls between the ages of fifteen and nineteen became mothers in the year of 2014. Twenty-seven percent of those children ended up falling under the line of poverty.

Section 3: In our school systems, teachers are not allowed to teach/speak about contraceptives (condoms, birth control, etc.) to their students, only abstinence. It should be legal to give students in all South Carolina high schools and middles school if needed. Funding for these contraceptives could come from cigarette taxes and local planned parenthood facilities in every county. Students do not need to get permission from their parents to receive the contraceptive.

Section 4: Before the school can give any contraceptive to any student, which will only be handed out after school to prevent sex on school grounds, each student must sign a Notice of Liability saying that if the contraceptive is ineffective, the school is not liable for the pregnancy. The student or the student's parents cannot sue the school for the ineffective contraceptive; they can only sue the contraceptive company. Students do not need to get their parents to sign this Notice of Liability.

Section 5: Passing this bill will improve:

- A.** The overall teen pregnancy rate;
- B.** Knowledge of safe sex;
- C.** Poverty/crime rates.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS107

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: Kayla White, India Akins, Caprina Smith, Karrington Blakeney

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Cougar New Tech Colleton County High School

Allowing Cellular Devices

An Act to Provide Better Cell Service in Schools

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently, the majority of schools in South Carolina do not allow students to use cellular devices in class. We will be enacting a law to permit the use of mobile devices in schools during certain time periods.

Section 2: We will be lifting the ban of phones in school and eliminate the blockage of service during independent and group work to help students.

Section 3: Though some may argue this will decrease student interaction and engagement in class, it will actually increase student involvement and push them to work more. It will reduce the amount of students being written up and kicked out of class for using their mobile devices, which provides them more time in class.

Section 4: Lifting the ban and allowing service will:

A. Assist students with contacting parents in case of an emergency and access information on their devices.

B. Allow students and faculty to use learning tools that involve mobile devices.

C. Reduce the amount of mobile devices being taken and students receiving referrals for using them.

D. Provide students with a set time in each class period (independent work, group work, and the any time not used for assessments or instruction) to use their phones and allow them immunity from referrals relating to device usage during that time.

Section 5: When signed into law, the bill will begin enforcement the 2016-2017 school year.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS108

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Kayla White, Shakayla Gill, Karrington Reed, India Akins, and Caprina Smith

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Cougar New Tech Colleton County High School

An Act to Provide a safe place for kids

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently, parents of all ages are allowed to drop babies off and abandon them at churches, school, family members homes, hospitals, and other places.

Section 2: We will be taking that action away from the parent/family member to save the children from the many dangers of being left in the street in hope of someone finding them before death.

Section 3: Every year, thousands of children are left in poor conditions due to parents that are unable to properly care for them. We will decrease the amount of children that go missing, get hurt, or end up in foster care by making it illegal to abandon their babies. These things cause taxes to rise, many kids to be homeless, and the death rate of minors in South Carolina to heighten.

Section 4: Save the lives of minors:

A. Decrease the amount of minors that have been arrested for crimes due to no parental guidance or on the streets in gangs.

B. Help maintain death rates relating to gang violence, teenage criminals, and poor health care among minors.

C. Reduce the amount of adolescents that develop mental illness because they lack proper health-care or have experienced traumatic events such as being abandoned.

D. Will be used to strengthen and re-enforce the Safe Haven laws.

Section 5: When signed into law, the bill will begin enforcement the 2016 year.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS109

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PC

AUTHORS: Anni Crook, Olivia Phillips, and Deanna Munro

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Cougar New Tech

Illegal Homelessness in Columbia, South Carolina

An Act to Repeal the Illegal Homelessness Law in Columbia, South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: On August 13, 2013 the Columbia City Council approved the law of making homelessness illegal in the city of Columbia.

Section 2: Current homeless shelters in Columbia are as follows:

1. City of Columbia Emergency Winter Shelter
2. Transitions - Homeless Recovery Center
3. Oliver Gospel Mission- Homeless Shelter
4. Women's Shelter- Main Street Columbia
5. His House Ministries Mission- Homeless Shelter
6. Alston Wilkes Society

Section 3: Columbia should provide halfway houses (state funded houses) for homeless people so that they can get back a hold of their life. Halfway house will be funded from sales taxes on cigarettes, tobacco, and alcohol. In addition, half the income of homeless people living here will be used to pay for bills of the house. Moreover, homeless organizations will help to fund halfway houses when needed. These halfway houses should provide basic life needs, a place that holds job applications, and professional clothing in order to attend these job interviews.

1. However people that plan on taking refuge here will sign a contract saying that they will apply and get a job, will avoid trouble with the law, not participate in drug activities, and will only be allowed to take refuge here for one year, and then they will be told to leave.
2. For homeless people that disabled or unable to get a job will need to apply for disability, welfare, and food stamps.

Section 4: Revenue from this act would help to provide:

- A.** Homeless people with shelter.
- B.** Homeless people with jobs.
- C.** People being off the street.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first increase will take place on **January 1, 2016.**

**South Carolina YMCA
Youth in Government
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18–21, 2015**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS110

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PD

AUTHORS: Maria Sellers and Colleen Taylor

PREMIER SENATE BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Wade Hampton High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Require Nutritional Information of Food Establishments in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This bill will require all food establishments in South Carolina to provide the nutritional information of all of their menu items.

Section 2: Many people *in* America struggle with medical issues that require strict dietary monitoring. The increase in diabetes (both type 1 and type 2) and obesity has led to an increased need for nutritional information that food establishments currently are not providing.

Section 3: Every food establishment in South Carolina will be required to provide the nutritional information for each item on their menu by December 31, 2017. The nutritional information required includes:

- A. Serving size
- B. Calories
- C. Total fat
- D. Saturated fat
- E. Cholesterol
- F. Sodium
- G. Total carbohydrate
- H. Sugars
- I. Dietary fiber
- J. Protein
- K. Percent of daily value based on a 2000 calorie diet

This can be posted on a website, menu, or displayed in clear view of all customers. Failure to comply by the aforementioned deadline will result in a \$1500 fine and temporary termination until nutritional facts are made available. This will be enforced by state health inspectors as a part of their inspection. The restaurant owner is liable for meeting all of the aforementioned requirements.

1 **Section 4:** If enacted, this bill will reduce challenges posed to those with dietary
2 restrictions and improve the general health of South Carolina. This law will take
3 effect on December 31, 2017.
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**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH TN GOVERNMENT
27th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th-21st, 2015**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate
BILL NUMBER: PS111
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE
AUTHORS: Morgan Sweatt and Madeline Heible
SCHOOL/CLUB: Wade Hampton High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Implement More Bike Lanes

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: Bike lanes would be implemented on all public roads in South Carolina excluding highways (major and minor) and freeways in order to reduce the danger of the cyclist and the driver.

Section II: If enacted, the number of fatalities and injuries each year would be significantly reduced, as well as inconveniencing drivers and cyclists. Bike lanes would make the cyclist feel safer, and make drivers more aware of their presence.

Section III: Bike lanes would be incorporated onto South Carolina public roads to ensure the safety of several different methods of transportation. Bike lanes would reduce pollution, promote a healthy lifestyle, and make the presence of cyclists more eminent to drivers.

Section IV: If this proposal is enacted, the number of deaths and fatalities caused by bicycle accidents would plummet. Global warming would decrease due to less pollution being emitted, and both the driver and cyclist would feel safer on our roads.

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**South Carolina YMCA
Youth in Government
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18–21, 2015**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS112

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PF

AUTHORS: McKenley Webb and Ben Keith

PREMIER SENATE BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Wade Hampton High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

Defunding Planned Parenthood

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Planned parenthood would be defunded, decreasing the amount of annual abortions and decreasing the amount of government spending.

Section 2: Planned parenthood is slowly turning into a mass killing of zygotes and fetuses. Defunding this and redirecting the funds to preventing the pregnancies from occuring, is much more humane.

Section 3: Because defunding planned parenthood would decrease the availability of easy abortion procedures, birth control and education on abstinence would be provided.

Section 4: Money originally directed towards Planned Parenthood will be redirected towards increasing knowledge on abstinence and responsible sexual habits and government offering free or reduced cost birth control measures for low income women and/ or families for South Carolinian citizens.

Section 5: When signed into law, Planned parenthood will be defunded effective immediately.

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SCHOOL/CLUB: Wade Hampton High School

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Bill Checklist: ☐ Debatable ☐ Feasible ☐ State Importance ☐ Evidence Support ☐ Original

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
27th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th-21st, 2015**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS116

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PG

AUTHORS: Asa LaBelle and Kate Windey

SPONSOR: Ben Hopkins

SCHOOL/CLUB: Mauldin High School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Increase the Penalty for Assault and Domestic Violence in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current maximum penalty of 30 days jail for first time offenders beating/abusing their intimate partners would be changed to 6 months to a year jail time. Offenders who violate the law in subsequent occasions will face a minimum penalty of 5 years and a fine of \$5,000.

Section 2: There are 36,000 incidents of domestic abuse in South Carolina per year. In 2011, South Carolina ranked first in largest homicide rate among female victims killed by male offenders. South Carolina's rate of 2.54 per 100,000 was more than double the national average of 1.17 per 100,000.

Section 3: Those who violate traffic laws will be required to pay up to ten extra dollars to their ticket, depending on the severity of the crime, in order to fund this act. Fines collected by this act will also go into funding this act.

Section 4: The lengthening of the initial violation would result in a greater fear of violating the law which, in turn, decreases the amount of perpetrators and therefore amount of cases per year.

Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will take effect on January 1, 2016.

**SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
28th Annual Model Legislature
November 18th- 21st**

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Premier Senate

BILL NUMBER: PS117

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: PE

AUTHORS: Erin Russell and Serenity Dotson

BILL SPONSOR:

SCHOOL/CLUB: Legacy Charter

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The purpose for this bill is to prevent animals from being adopted by people who will not care of them and will treat them inhumanely

Section 1: The requirements to adopt from the Humane Society are only that potential owners bring a collar, leash, pet carrier, and money. If you rent a house or apartment, you must have proof that you can have a pet.

Section 2: Background checks will be required for anyone who wants to adopt from the Humane Society. If records include any criminals acts involving animals, the person will not be allow adopt.

Section 3: The Humane Society will begin to run criminal background checks on potential owners after January 1, 2016.