**Position Paper on John Smith of the 8th US Congress**

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**Topic 1: The First Barbary War**

As a member of the 8th US Congress, it is with pleasure to represent the perspectives of the 1st New York Congressional District. Through my views as a Democratic-Republican, I will be providing effective solutions to combat the piracy and tyranny occurring on the North African coast.

The United States is at the edge of becoming a power in the global world. However, the four Barbary States are impeding the American dream of being a prosperous nation. The United States will not succumb to their demands to permit passage through this territory. The United States was built to fight for the downtrodden. Americans will not be the downtrodden or oppressed people; they will rise up and fight. The British Empire attempted to restrain Americans and their spirits, but failed. Now our very beliefs and the values of our institutions are being called into question. The obvious solution is straightforward; the only possible solution is an attack on the Barbary States.

To achieve this US goal there is a need to create a marine fleet to leave American protection in our own hands. John Smith knows that America should no longer be dependent on the European powers for military aid. USA wishes to gain global influence and to accomplish this, we will take our fate into our own hands and fortify trade relations, military strength and multilateral relationships. The Barbary States hinder our approach to a stronger economy. Their relentless attacks on American trading ships and merchants have disrupted trade in that region which cripples our nation’s economy and thus a fleet of ships must be created to tackle this situation head on. Without conflict there can be no end. The creation of a coalition between the Americans and Swedes will end the tyranny. Sweden has been at war with the Tripolitans since the 1800s and with America creating a dominant fighting force to work alongside the Sweden fighters a future without these four nations ruled by Pirates is in sight.

**Topic 2: Madison vs Marbury Case Trial**

This case brings to question the power the Supreme Court of the US (SCOTUS) and Judicial Review. State and Federal Governments should always be in check and the state judiciary branch must have the proper power to perform their duties. John Smith believes that the federal branches of justice must have less power than the state justices. This inequality of power will not only lead to the further scrutinization of the constitution, but also to balance out power, an inequality of either is intolerable to Americans.

“Big Government”, that is the phenomenon where there is more federal involvement in state affairs than state involvement. Each state should be given the chance to do what it needs to be successful. This is why state justice systems should keep more power over state issues than the federal justice system; so that they may solve and control their respective states without the need of federal involvement. An example of “Big Government” is the institutionalization of the First Bank of the United States spearheaded by Alexander Hamilton but opposed by Thomas Jefferson. The First Bank of the US’s creation meant to Hamilton as a means to curb national debt. To Jefferson it meant that merchants and investors would benefit at the expense of the majority of the population. The federalist view of giving the federal government an inequality of power meant that country interests were kept at heart. The Democratic-Republican push to provide the states with more power and keep the federal government only there when need be would be a proper solution.

John Smith wholeheartedly believes that American’s should have a just judicial branch that has the power to solve state issues without the need for a federal branch to oversee all works balances power equally. The restriction to this solution is Judicial Act of 1801. This act essentially abides by the misaligned federalist view and gives the federal judicial branch enough power to most any case. This undermines the need of a state judicial branch. By ousting and invalidating this act, we can work together towards a new judicial system that is fair, equal and just to each and every individual. But most importantly, state judicial power is meaningful and essentially reaches a dynamic equilibrium between the state justices and the federal justices

**Topic 3: Louisiana Purchase**

The Louisiana Territory Purchase stands in the way of American glory of land, money and power. The initial reasoning of the purchase was to secure the Port of New Orleans because of the strategic point it was with the open seas. Later, the purchase of the Louisiana Territory was much more than control over a simple port. John Smith believes that purchasing the Louisiana Purchase aids America in more ways than one way, access to more Coastal ports, such as the New Orleans, a vast collection of resources that is available to Americans, and by doubling American Territory. This congressman wishes to see the US work towards a better future and that future can only be achieved with the purchase of the Louisiana Purchase.

The financial burden France is facing during these times gives the US a chance to purchase this territory at a fraction of a cost. This physical expansion of the United States of America will call to order a new governor to maintain this new territory and thus the expansion of the House of Representatives and the Senate is imminent with the purchase of this land. Any settler willing to explore this new land will be given incentive to document and report to the governor in charge of all discoveries to ever expand USA. Finally, to better suit the American future, the undesirable territory will be left to the native Indians and all territory that is rich in resources and close to water be left in possession of the US. Since New Orleans will be a central hub for international trade, just like New York; there must be a strong US presence in that area and surrounding area to reinforce our ownership. Any hostility will be met with a of the United States forces.

The purchase of this territory raises the question of whether the government has the power to purchase this land. The greatest obstacle regarding the purchase of the Louisiana Purchase is whether or not the constitution allows for the purchase of large scale Land purchasing deals. On one side of the coin, there is the notion that we do not have the power because the constitution does not recognize that fact. However on the flipped side, there is the idea that it is an implied power to purchase land. It will expand our borders further inland which will give access to hundreds of reserves of mineral and other resources. Furthermore it complies with the primary goal of obtaining New Orleans and the coastal ports. There is only one straightforward solution, either do or do not.

In conclusion, John Smith has an unbreakable stance against the prospect of potentially limiting America. The Barbary States, the Constitution and the potential Louisiana Purchase can all push America forward into a better nation, or the bureaucracy can impede those efforts to build a better USA. John Smith is convinced that by pushing for the greater good of the American People should be in the hearts of every congressman. The American dream is almost there for America, the solutions proposed for each issue will hasten the time it takes to reach the American dream to benefit the Nation’s citizens.