



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# OUR LEGACY STARTS NOW

## 2019 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE CONFERENCE

## YMCA OF THE CAPITAL AREA







**58th LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE  
CONFERENCE  
December 5-7, 2019**

**"Democracy Must Be Learned by Each Generation."**

*The Mission of the YMCA Louisiana Youth & Government program is two-fold:*

- *to encourage and foster leadership through service, fellowship, responsibility, and respect for oneself and others among all participants*
- *to educate and engage students in the process of government from local to international so that they become more active participants in their communities.*

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# GENERAL INFORMATION



# 58<sup>th</sup> YOUTH LEGISLATURE STATE OFFICERS

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Governor	Danielle Pellegrin	Haynes Y&G
Secretary of State	Morgan Hughes	Capt Shreve Y&G
Supreme Court Chief Justice	Isabelle Zelaya	Mandeville Y&G
President of the Senate	Luke Dille	Catholic Y&G
President pro tempore	Olivia Baisier	Haynes Y&G
Senate Floor Leader	Cameron Doyle	Mandeville Y&G
Senate Floor Leader	Brooks Belanger	Byrd Y&G
Speaker of the House	Ella Kutner	Mandeville Y&G
Speaker pro tempore	Annie Blanchard	SJA Y&G
House Floor Leader	Laura Chen	Mandeville Y&G
House Floor Leader	Robert Lawrence	Byrd Y&G

# OFFICIAL OATH OF OFFICE

Members of the Legislature and all other elected officers shall take the following Oath or Affirmation prior to entering the duties of their offices:

I \_\_\_\_\_ (state your name), do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of \_\_\_\_\_ for the State of Louisiana, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and Laws of the United States and this State. So help me God.





# CODE OF CONDUCT

1. No delegate shall leave a YMCA LA Youth & Government function unless with the approval of his/her advisor AND the director of the program is secured. The delegate must be picked up and returned by a parent or legal guardian.
2. Each delegate is legally and financially liable for the removal, defacing, or willful damage to public or private property. This includes the property of fellow delegates and staff, schools, and the hotel. Any act of vandalism, destruction of property, or misuse of a facility may be a crime and will be treated as a potential criminal violation.
3. Food is not permitted in any conference meeting rooms. Beverages are limited to water and coffee.
4. The use of incense, tobacco products, and use of/possession of alcoholic beverages or non-prescription drugs is forbidden at the YMCA LA Youth & Government function.
5. Delegates shall not leave the conference perimeter except to travel to scheduled conference activities. This includes staying in designated areas at the hotel. The hotel pool is off limits for everyone, all the time.
6. Delegates may not visit or be in anyone else's hotel rooms without the explicit permission of their school advisor. Delegates may not be in any room of the opposite sex at any time.
7. All delegates shall be in and remain in their assigned hotel rooms by scheduled curfew and doors shall remain closed until scheduled end of curfew.
8. Delegates shall not invite or receive outside visitors to the conference or hotel.
9. There shall be no room switching in the hotel without the approval of the delegation advisor and the director of the program.
10. There shall be no noise in the halls or rooms of the hotel that would disturb other people after 10:00 p.m.
11. Official observers are registered as part of the YMCA LA Youth & Government conference and are governed by this code. All other visitors to the program are restricted to the assigned areas unless approval is secured from the director of the program. Each delegate shall attend all sessions of the YMCA LA Youth & Government program unless options are designated.
12. **BADGE SWITCHING OR SHARING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Participants will wear their assigned badges at all times when they are not in their sleeping rooms and must be able to produce their badge at all times. Badges are to be worn above the waist and must be visible. Badges are not to be defaced, decorated, or altered in any way. **ONLY ADVISORS CAN REQUEST REPLACEMENT BADGES.**



13. Unless there is a fire, pulling a fire alarm is a serious offense. Hotel alarms automatically summon the fire department and create a great inconvenience and fear for the hotel and other guests.
14. Use of personal vehicles by students at YMCA LA Youth & Government conference is strictly prohibited. Only club and conference advisors and staff may use personal vehicles.
15. Student participation in all dimensions of the YMCA LA Youth & Government conference shall be maintained on the highest plane with utmost respect for fellow delegates, advisors and staff.
16. Weapons of any kind and items that could cause injury or damage to participants and/or property are strictly forbidden.
17. The Program Director has the authority to determine both the appropriateness of appearance and attire of participants during the YMCA LA Youth & Government conference. All participants are to maintain a professional and business-like appearance each day between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Dress codes will be enforced. *Specific clothing not allowed at YMCA LA Youth & Government conferences: miniskirts, extremely tight clothing, bare midriff, shorts, hats and caps. Jeans and athletic shoes are allowed during free time only (refer to schedule)*

I understand that conference delegates are housed four (4 or 5) to each room and that in order to participate in this program, I must share a room and bed with at least one other student of the same sex from my delegation. I further understand that I may not room with anyone other than YMCA conference delegates – not an advisor, parents, or other relatives. I also understand that I may not room alone.

I understand that I may be expelled from all future Youth & Government activities if I have drugs or alcohol at the conference or commit any of the infractions listed on the student code conduct form.

I understand that all fees are non-refundable.

I have read, reviewed with my advisor and understand the Code of Conduct required to attend Youth & Government activities.

**EMERGENCY CARE & TRANSPORTATION PERMISSION** – The YMCA of the Capital Area does not provide accident or medical insurance for program participants. I recognize that participation in YMCA sponsored activities may expose my child to risk of injury. I agree to hold the YMCA and the school system offering the program (if applicable) harmless from any claims that may occur through participation in any activity at the YMCA, or in its programs. In cases of emergency or accident and I am unable to be contacted, I hereby grant the YMCA director or his/her agent to secure proper medical treatment and transportation for my child to an appropriate facility for treatment.

**MEDIA PROMOTINAL MATERIALS** – In further consideration of my child being allowed to participate in YMCA activities, I hereby grant permission for my child’s name, voice, picture and basic personal information to appear on television as a participant in YMCA activities.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# YOUTH LEG RESOURCES



**Thursday, December 5th**

		<i>Candidates</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Senate</i>	<i>Supreme Court</i>
3:00 - 4:30	Registration	Hotel Lobby			
4:30 - 5:15	Committee Chair Training	Sedona III			
4:30 - 5:15	New Delegate Orientation	Sedona I & II			
5:30 - 6:00	Opening Session	Sedona I, II & III			
6:00-10:00	Committee and Group Meetings	Meet on Landing After Opening	Assigned Committee Rooms*	Assigned Committee Rooms*	Sierra IV
8:30 - 9:00	Club Advisor Meeting	Landing			
10:30 - 11:15	Gubernatorial Debate and Devotional	Sedona I, II & III			
11:15-11:30	Pizza Pick-Up	Hotel Lobby			
15 Minutes After Debate Ends	Curfew				
	<b>*House Committee Rooms</b>		<b>*Senate Committee Rooms</b>		
	House Committee Y	Sedona I			
	House Committee O	Sedona II	Senate Committee Y	Mesa I	
	House Committee U	Sedona III	Senate Committee A	Mesa II	
	House Committee T	Sierra I	Senate Committee G	Mesquite	
	House Committee H	Sierra II			
	House Committee L	Sierra III			
	House Committee E	Dining I --> Main Restaurant			
	House Committee G	Dining II --> Behind Restaurant Doors			

**FRIDAY, December 6th**

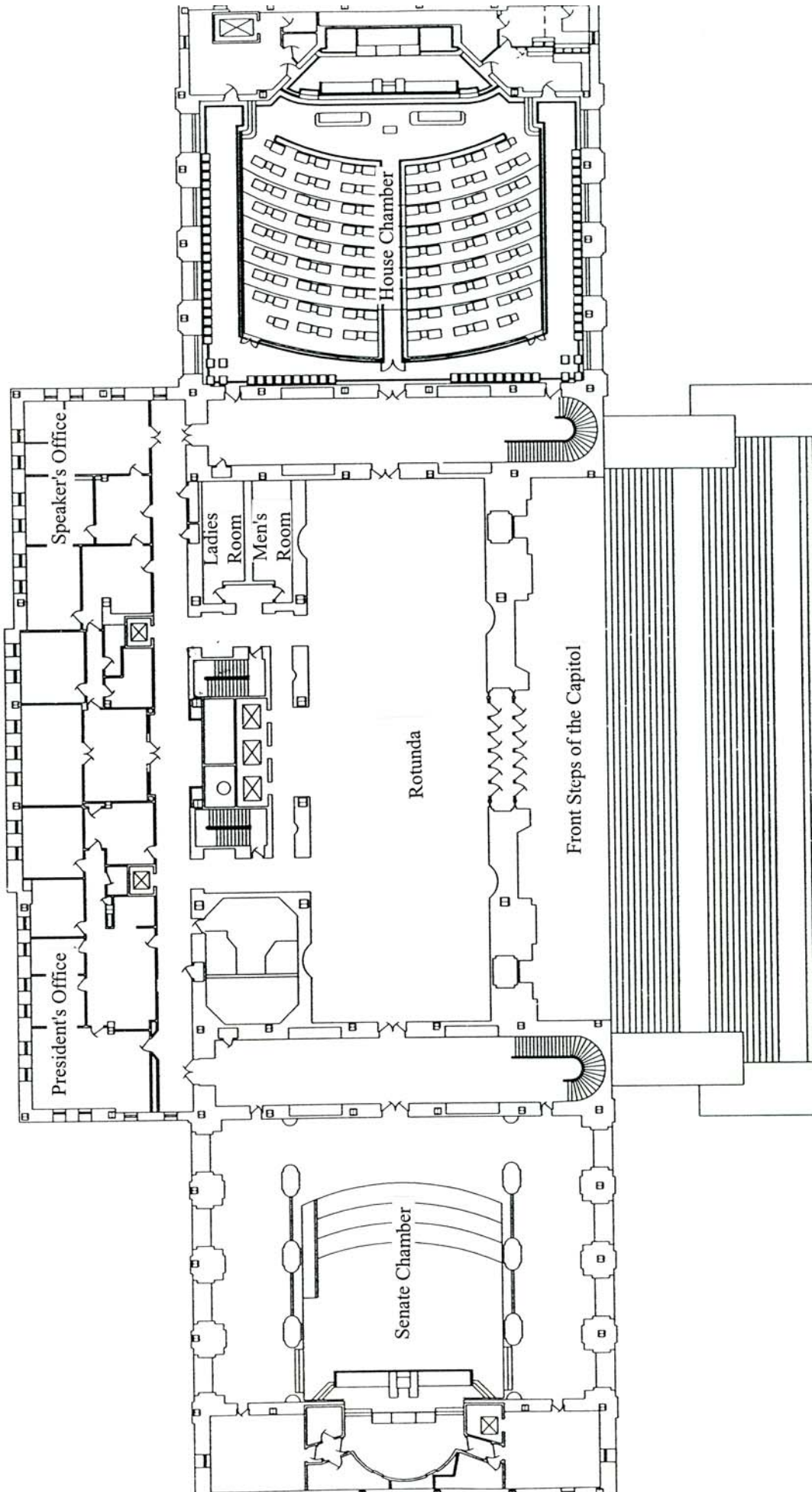
		<i>Candidates and Lobbyists</i>	<i>House Navy</i>	<i>House Gold</i>	<i>Senate Navy</i>	<i>Senate Gold</i>	<i>Supreme Court</i>
7:07 - 8:00	State Board Meeting						
7:30 - 8:00	Delegation Council	Sierra I & II					
8:00 - 8:30	General Session	Sedonas					
9:00 - 11:30, 12:00 and 12:30	Sessions in Progress	Meet in Rotunda for Intent Speeches	House Chamber	Senate Committee A	Senate Chamber	Senate Committee E	Senate Committee F
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch Group 1		Lunch		Lunch		Lunch
12:30 - 1:00	Lunch Group 2	Lunch		Lunch		Lunch	
12:30, 1:00 - 4:00*	Sessions in Progress		Senate Committee A	House Chamber	Senate Committee E	Senate Chamber	Senate Committee F
*4:00 - 4:30	House and Senate Joint Sessions		House Chamber		Senate Chamber		
4:30 - 7:00	Break						
Upon Return to Hotel	Delegation Council	Sierra I & II					
7:00 - 8:30	Governor's Banquet	Sedonas					
8:30 - 9:00	Change for the Dance						
9:00 - 10:30	LEG Fun	Dance - Sedonas			Trivia - Mesa I		
After Devotional	Pizza Pick-Up						
15 minutes after Devotional	Curfew						

**SATURDAY, December 7th**

		<i>House</i>	<i>Senate</i>	<i>Supreme Court</i>
<b>7:04 - 8:00</b>	<b>State Board Meeting</b>			
<b>7:30 - 8:00</b>	<b>Delegation Council</b>	Sierra I & II		
<b>8:00 - 9:30</b>	<b>Plenary Session</b>	Sedonas		Sierra I & II
<b>9:30 - 10:45</b>	<b>Veto Override Session</b>	Sedonas		
<b>10:45 - 11:30</b>	<b>Hotel Check-Out and Change for Closing Session</b>			
<b>11:30 - 12:00</b>	<b>Closing Session, Bill Signing and Announcement of 2020 State Officials</b>	Sedonas		

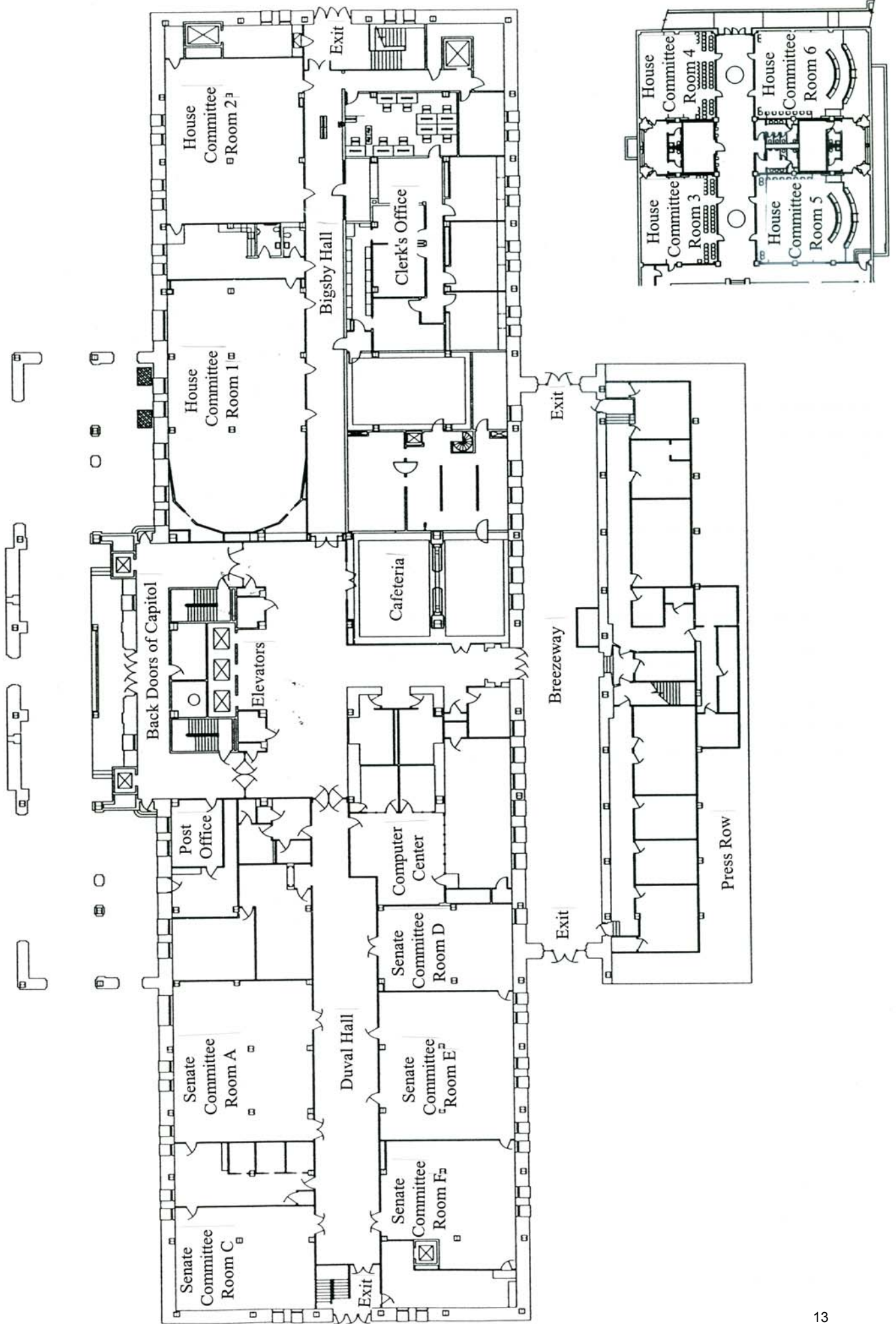
# STATE CAPITOL

1st Floor



# STATE CAPITOL

## Ground Floor



# HOUSE AND SENATE COMMITTEES

Each Senator or Representative shall be assigned to sit on a Senate committee or a House committee. The number of committees will be determined by the Program Staff upon receiving the final number of bills at the conference. Committee appointments shall be determined by the State Board, either randomly or by topic. Committee meetings are held on Thursday evening. Committee time is used to strengthen, combine bills and determine weaknesses. The purpose of Committee is to rank bills by favorable attributes in order to present the best bills on the Floor of the House or the Senate.

All bills in both the House and Senate shall first be scored by their respective committees. Committee Chairs are selected by the State Board and Program Staff between Pre-LEG and the Baton Rouge conference. These Chairs will preside over the proceedings of the committees. Each Senator/Representative on the committee shall present his/her bill to the committee.

## COMMITTEE TIME FRAME

The Committee Chairs will direct the committee to adhere to the following time frame during debate on bills:

- 1.5 minutes for an Opening Statement by the sponsor(s)
- 1 minutes for Questions
- 6 minutes for Debate (alternating speakers in support of and against the bill)
- 1.5 minutes for a Closing Statement by the sponsor(s)

Amendments are not permitted in committees.

## COMMITTEE ACTIONS

All bills shall be ranked on a scale of 1-5 for each criterion with 1 being the best ranking and 5 being the worst ranking.

1. State Importance
2. Feasibility
3. Speaker Knowledge/Presentation
4. Originality
5. Degree to which it is debatable

The degree to which it is debatable and originality criteria will be weighted more heavily than the others, each accounting for 30 percent of the total score.

The State Board will use these averaged and weighted rankings from the committees to create each chamber's docket for the following day. The House and Senate chambers will consider all bills presented in the docket. Only a motion to suspend the rules may rearrange it.



# HOUSE & SENATE FLOORS

If a bill receives a favorable average rating from the committee and the Presiding Officers place it on the docket, the sponsor(s) shall present the bill to the appropriate House or Senate body.

## PROCEDURES FOR BILL CONSIDERATION ON THE FLOOR

### BILL SPONSOR'S OPENING STATEMENT

**3 MINUTES**

- Sponsor may use all three (3) minutes.
- Sponsor may use part and yield rest to co-sponsor, questions, closing statements or the chair.

### TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

**2 MINUTES**

- The presiding officer will open the floor to Questions from the floor. The presiding officer will recognize members of the body to question the bill sponsor(s) on any matter relating to the content of the bill in question until time expires. The questions must be technical in nature and only relate to facts or statistics regarding the bill. Any questions deemed debatable or non-technical by the presiding officer will be called out of order.
- The presiding officer has the authority to deem questions germane or not germane.
- Delegates may only ask one question at a time.

### INTENT SPEECHES

**4 MINUTES**

- Candidates for State Board positions are the only delegates allowed to give intent speeches.
- A speaker may sign up with the Secretary of State for an intent speech from the announcement of the docket up until the presiding officer begins the bill consideration process on the bill in question.
- Intent speeches are limited to two minutes each.

### GENERAL DEBATE

**12 MINUTES**

- The presiding officer will open the floor to general debate on the bill in which members of the body may express their opinions on the bill.
- Each delegate may speak for a maximum of two (2) minutes.
- In the event a delegate does not use all two (2) minutes, he/she may yield to another delegate to speak. This delegate may speak for the remainder of the original two (2) minutes given by the chair. Time may not be yielded if it has been yielded once before.
- The presiding officer will alternate between speakers in proposition and speakers in opposition of the bill. If the first speaker recognized supports the bill, the presiding officer will call for a speaker to debate against the bill, and vice versa.
- The speaker may ask the bill sponsor(s) a question or a series of questions upon being recognized by saying "Will the author(s) yield to a question/series of questions?" The speaker may engage in debate before and/or after the question(s).
- Members of the body may also propose amendments upon being recognized by the chair. In the event an amendment is deemed hostile by the bill sponsor(s), the following procedure will take place:

**AMENDMENT DEBATE AND VOTE****9 MINUTES**

Amendment Sponsor's Opening Statement	2 minutes
Questions	1 minute
General Debate on the Amendment	4 minutes
Original Bill Sponsor's Statements	1 minute
Amendment Sponsor's Closing Statements	1 minute

- For a full explanation of the amendment process, see “Explanations of Parliamentary Motions and Points” further into this document.

**BILL SPONSOR CLOSING STATEMENT****2 MINUTES**

- Once debate has closed on the bill, the presiding officer will recognize the bill sponsor(s) to deliver the Closing Statement to present the arguments for final passage for the final time.
- In the event the sponsor(s) yielded unused time from the Opening Statement, the total time available to the sponsor(s) will be two (2) minutes plus that time.

**FINAL READING OF BILL AND VOTE**

- The presiding officer will convene a vote for final action on the bill.
- The Clerk will read the bill by title only plus any amendments for the final time.
- The presiding officer will ask for the yeas and nays via a voice vote. A simple majority (1/2) is required for passage.
- In the event the presiding officer is unclear as to which side had the majority, he/she may recognize a Division as called from the floor. When a Division is called or the presiding officer is in doubt of the result, he/she will ask the yeas and nays to stand, respectively.
- When a bill is passed by a House or a Senate, it shall then be transported with the presiding officer's signature to the Bill Tracking station staffed by the Program Staff and routed appropriately.

# VETO OVERRIDE PROCEDURES

## OPENING STATEMENTS

4 MINUTES

- The bill sponsor(s) will give an opening statement lasting no longer than two (2) minutes.
- The Governor will then give an opening statement lasting no longer than two (2) minutes.
- Both the sponsors and the Governor may use part of the time and yield the rest to questions or their respective closing statements.

## QUESTIONS

2 MINUTES

- The presiding officer will open the floor to Questions from the floor. The presiding officer will recognize members of the body to question the bill sponsor(s) OR the Governor on any matter relating to the content of the bill in question until time expires. The delegate asking the question must first specify whether the question is for the bill sponsor(s) or the Governor. When asked of the Governor, questions may be non-technical in asking as to the reasons for the original veto.
- The presiding officer has the authority to deem questions germane or not germane.
- Delegates may only ask one question at a time.

## GENERAL DEBATE

12 MINUTES

- The presiding officer will open the floor to general debate on the bill in which members of the body may express their opinions on the bill.
- Each delegate may speak for a maximum of two (2) minutes.
- In the event a delegate does not use all two (2) minutes, he/she may yield to another delegate to speak. This delegate may speak for the remainder of the original two (2) minutes given by the chair. Time may not be yielded if it has been yielded once before.
- The presiding officer will alternate between speakers in proposition and speakers in opposition of the bill. If the first speaker recognized supports the bill, the presiding officer will call for a speaker to debate against the bill, and vice versa.
- The speaker may ask the bill sponsor(s) a question or a series of questions upon being recognized by saying "Will the author(s) yield to a question/series of questions?" The speaker may engage in debate before and/or after the question(s).
- Members of the body may NOT propose amendments to bills during the veto override session.

## CLOSING STATEMENTS

4 MINUTES

- Once debate has closed on the bill, the presiding officer will recognize first the bill sponsor(s) and then the Governor to deliver Closing Statements to present the arguments for the final time.
- In the event the sponsor(s) or the Governor yielded unused time from the Opening Statement, the total time available to them will be two (2) minutes plus that time.

## FINAL READING OF BILL AND VOTE

- The presiding officer will convene a vote for final action on the bill.
- The Clerk will read the bill by title only for the final time.
- The presiding officer will ask for the yeas and nays via a voice vote. A yea vote is a vote to override the veto while a nay is a vote to maintain the veto. A two-thirds (2/3) majority is required to override.
- In the event the presiding officer is unclear as to which side had the majority, he/she may recognize a Division as called from the floor. When a Division is called, the presiding officer will ask the yeas and nays to stand, respectively.

# EXPLANATIONS OF PARLIAMENTARY MOTIONS AND POINTS

Only the following motions and points are allowed during debate.

For all motions save motions to amend legislation, the following procedure will be used:

- A delegate may seek recognition from the presiding officer to make a motion by raising his/her blue placard.
- Once the presiding officer recognizes the delegate, he/she will state the motion.
- If the presiding officer deems the motion appropriate, he/she will call for a second.
- If a second is given, the presiding officer will then ask for objections.
  - If there are no objections, the motion is immediately adopted.
  - If there is an objection or multiple objections, the presiding officer will convene a vote.
- The required majority varies for each motion.

## 1. Amendments to Legislation

- Motions to amend legislation are allowed at any point during the Debate portion of House and Senate floor debates by raising the red placard. They may not interrupt speakers.
- These motions have the effect of changing the verbiage of bills.
- After the committee chair or presiding officer recognizes a delegate's red placard, the delegate will deliver the completed amendment form to the clerk and presiding officer for review.
- The presiding officer is empowered to deem amendments germane or not germane to the legislation in question.
- The presiding officer will then ask the bill sponsor(s) whether they deem the amendment friendly or hostile to the bill.
  - In the event the sponsor(s) deem the bill friendly, the amendment text will be immediately added to the bill without debate or a vote.
  - In the event the sponsor(s) deem the bill hostile, the presiding officer will open debate on the amendment.
    - The amendment sponsor will deliver an opening statement on the amendment for a maximum of two (2) minutes.
    - The presiding officer will open the floor to Technical Questions from the floor for a maximum of one (1) minute.
    - The presiding officer will open the floor to Debate. Each recognized speaker may speak for a maximum of one (1) minute. Upon the conclusion of each speaker's speech, the chair will immediately take back the floor in order to recognize another speaker. The total time for Debate shall not exceed four (4) minutes.
    - The presiding officer will then recognize the bill sponsor(s) to deliver comments on the amendment for a maximum of one (1) minute.
    - The presiding officer will then recognize the amendment sponsor for a Closing Statement for a maximum of one (1) minute.
    - The presiding officer will then convene a vote on the amendment. A simple majority (1/2) is required for passage.

- If a hostile amendment is approved by the body, the presiding officer will direct debate back to the general Debate on the bill as amended.
- In the event a delegate wishes to amend the amendment, the above process will take place with the secondary amendment. Tertiary amendments are not allowed.
- All debate must remain relevant to the question at hand, whether it be the general bill, an amendment or a secondary amendment.

## 2. The Previous Question

- Motions for the previous question are allowed at any point during general Debate of bills or amendments. They may not interrupt speakers.
- Moving the previous question cuts off Debate and moves straight to the Closing Statement.
- In the event this motion comes during debate on an amendment, the delegate must specify which question to move:
  - “I move the previous question on the amendment.” This motion cuts off debate on the amendment and moves straight into the comments from the bill sponsor(s).
  - “I move the previous question on the bill.” This motion cuts off debate on both the amendment and the bill and moves straight into the sponsor’s Closing Statement on the bill.
- A two-thirds (2/3) majority is required for passage.

## 3. Table/Remove from the Table

- Motions to table legislation are allowed at any point during convened sessions of Houses and Senates. They may not interrupt speakers.
- Moving to table legislation defers consideration of the instrument.
- There are three (3) possible options with motions to table:
  - General Motion to Table: This motion simply lays the instrument on the table and may be removed from the table at any point.
    - An instrument laid on the table may be removed from the table with a corresponding motion.
    - “I move to remove [insert bill name] from the table.”
    - The instrument will be returned to its original place on the Docket. If the chamber has moved beyond that point on the Docket, a motion to suspend the rules and rearrange the Docket may be used.
  - Motion to table for a specified amount of time: This motion defers consideration of legislation until a specified time.
  - Motion to table indefinitely: This motion effectively kills the instrument.
- A simple majority (1/2) vote is required for passage.

## 4. Suspension of Rules

- Motions to suspend the rules are allowed at any point during convened sessions of Houses and Senates. They may not interrupt speakers.
- These motions have the effect of adjusting rules in this handbook to satisfy the needs of the floor to properly execute debate.
- The presiding officer is empowered to deem these motions appropriate and admissible.
- The following are common motions to suspend the rules:

- Extend time: Delegates may use this motion to extend time for questioning or debate.
  - The motion must include a specific amount of time for extension.
  - These motions may only extend the general time for questions or debate; they may not extend times for individual speakers' speeches or subsequent questioning.
  - "I move to suspend the rules and extend the time for questioning by two minutes."
- Rearrange the Docket: Delegates may use this motion to adjust the order of consideration of bills on the Docket.
  - These motions may move a single bill, move multiple bills, or force immediate consideration of a particular bill.
  - "I move to suspend the rules and rearrange the Docket so that [insert bill number(s)] appear(s) before [insert bill number]."
  - "I move to suspend the rules and immediately consider [insert bill number]."
- All motions to suspend the rules require a two-thirds (2/3) majority for passage.

## 5. Reconsideration

- Motions to reconsider are allowed at any point during either committee hearings or convened sessions of the Houses and Senates. They may not interrupt speakers.
- Should a bill fail to be reported favorably in committee or pass in a House or a Senate, any delegate who voted against the bill in its initial consideration may move for the committee or chamber to reconsider the bill.
- These motions are only permissible in the body in which the bill failed to proceed. For example, a bill with an unfavorable report in committee may not be reconsidered by a House or Senate.
- "I move to reconsider [insert bill number]."
- If the motion to reconsider passes, the presiding officer will immediately convene consideration of the bill.
- No bill may be reconsidered if it has been reconsidered once before.
- A two-thirds (2/3) majority is required for passage.

## 6. Recess

- Motions to recess are allowed at any point during either committee hearings or convened sessions of the Houses and Senates. They may not interrupt speakers.
- These motions dismiss the committee meeting or session of a House or Senate for a specific duration of time, including a lunch break.
- The committee chair or presiding officer is empowered to not recognize a motion to recess should he/she feel it unnecessary.
- A specific length of time is required in the motion.
- A simple majority (1/2) is required for passage.

## 7. Adjournment

- Motions to adjourn are allowed at any point during either committee hearings or convened sessions of the Houses and Senates. They may not interrupt speakers.
- These motions end committee meetings or sessions of a House or Senate.

- The committee chair or presiding officer is empowered to not recognize a motion to adjourn should he/she feel it unnecessary.
- In the event there will be future sessions, a motion to adjourn must include a time to reconvene.
- In the event there are no future sessions, the motion becomes a motion to adjourn sine die.
- A simple majority (1/2) is required for passage.

#### **8. Point of Information**

- Points of Information are allowed at any point during either committee hearings or convened sessions of the Houses and Senates. They may interrupt speakers.
- A Point of Information is a statement of a fact or statistic to clarify misinformation on the floor or to provide additional insight relevant to the debate.
- Any delegate may rise and say, "Point of Information!" The presiding officer will acknowledge the point by saying, "Rise and state your point."

#### **9. Point of Order**

- Points of Order are allowed at any point during either committee hearings or convened sessions of the Houses and Senates. They may interrupt speakers.
- A Point of Order is used to alert the presiding officer of a perceived error in parliamentary procedure.
- Any delegate may rise and say, "Point of Order!" The presiding officer will acknowledge the point by saying, "Rise and state your point."
- Upon hearing the Point of Order, the presiding officer will either correct the action in question or explain to the delegate how the action in question was in order.

#### **10. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry**

- Points of Parliamentary Inquiry are allowed at any point during either committee hearings or convened sessions of the Houses and Senates. They may interrupt speakers.
- A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry is used to ask the presiding officer for clarification on any portion of parliamentary procedure that causes confusion.
- Any delegate may rise and say, "Point of Parliamentary Inquiry!" The presiding officer will acknowledge the point by saying, "Rise and state your point."
- Upon hearing the Point of Parliamentary Inquiry, the presiding officer will explain the point in question to the delegate.

#### **11. Point of Personal Privilege**

- Points of Personal Privilege are allowed at any point during either committee hearings or convened sessions of the Houses and Senates. They may interrupt speakers.
- A Point of Personal Privilege is used to make a personal request during debate, including permission to vacate the chamber for a brief time.
- Any delegate may rise and say, "Point of Personal Privilege!"
- Upon hearing the Point of Personal Privilege, the presiding officer will either grant or deny it.

# SUPREME COURT PROCEDURES

## **OPENING STATEMENTS**

**10 MINUTES (EACH)**

1. The challenger will present a ten (10) minute opening statement that introduces the basis for the challenge and will answer questions from the Justices.
2. The Attorney General will present a ten (10) minute opening statement to refute the challenge and will answer questions from the Justices.

## **QUESTIONS FROM THE BENCH**

The Justices will have the opportunity to ask either party questions concerning their arguments at any time during either the challenger or the Attorney General's opening statements. The first question will be asked by the Chief Justice.

## **DELIBERATION AND JUDGMENT**

After all proceedings have occurred, the court will enter into a ten (10) minute deliberation, in which the challenger and Attorney General must vacate the room. The Chief Justice may recall the parties to answer further questions brought up in deliberation. As soon as a decision has been reached, both parties will be recalled into the room and the opinion of the court will be delivered by the Chief Justice. Any dissenting opinion will be delivered by a selected justice.

## **HEARING CHALLENGES**

The Supreme Court will vote on hearing challenges. A simple majority of the justices is required to hear a challenge, which can be overruled by the Chief Justice.



# CANDIDATE INFORMATION



## Candidates for Governor



### **Patsy Sims**

**High School:** St. Joseph's Academy

**Youth & Government Activities:** Various Youth and Government clubs for 5 years; active in last year's Youth Legislature conference.

**School Activities:** Youth and Government, Student Council (Freshman Year), Track and Field (Freshman Year)

**Why do you want this office?** I want to make sure that all members, returning and new, have the best Youth Legislature experience possible. I personally know that Youth Legislature has been a passion of mine for many years and I want other delegates to experience that same passion.

**Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.** I believe one of Louisiana's major current issue is education funding and management. Louisiana is 48th overall in education, 49th in higher ed and 46th in k-12. With the upcoming increase in the education budget, our state government needs to make sure that funds are properly distributed to every aspect of our state's education system.

**If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?** If I could have a super power, I would want the power to teleport. Personally, I hate Baton Rouge traffic, and being able to teleport to everything would be amazing.



### **Grant W. Suire**

**High School:** Episcopal School of Acadiana

**Youth & Government Activities:** LEG Senator, Founder and President of ESA LEG, Delegation Council Member, MUN Security Council Delegate

**School Activities:** Cross Country, Youth & Government, Quiz Bowl (Captain), Junior Class President, Student Council Representative, Mock Trial Co-President, National Honor Society, Environmental Club, BETA Club

**Honors & Awards:** French Award, A.P. European History Award, National BETA speech champion, Daughters of the American Revolution Award

**Why do you want this office?** What our generation and our state need now are leaders who are willing to bridge the divides between party, race, and

background that have prevented progress in our government.

**Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.** Louisiana is more a contributor and more a victim to environmental issues than any other state. We must find new ways simultaneously to diversify our economy and protect our coast.

**If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?** I would time travel so that I could study the most effective styles of government and adopt them to our state.

## Candidates for President of the Senate



### **Eliza Casey**

**High School:** Mandeville High School

**Youth & Government Activities:** MUN Delegate (2019), LEG Delegate (2018)

**School Activities:** Youth & Government; Invisible Children; Yoga Club; Powerlifting

**Why do you want this office?** This program helped me find my voice. I hope to inspire others to speak up, and I want to involve myself in a program that motivates so many.

**Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.** Currently, one of the biggest issues facing Louisiana is its poor education system. When education improves, crime rates lower. Therefore, education reform would help tackle multiple problems in the state.

**If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?** I would probably pick shapeshifting. I loved the X-Men movies when I was younger, and I thought Mystique's powers were really fun.



### **Corbitt Driskell**

**High School:** Episcopal School of Acadiana

**Youth & Government Activities:** Vice-President of School Club (Two Years); Founding Member of school club

**School Activities:** Student Government, Honor Council; Drumline (Member for 4 years, Captain for 3); Quiz Bowl; School Band; Charter President of School Performance Group; School Musical

**Honors & Awards:** National Honor Society, Martha Annan Cooper Citizenship Award, Teacher Picked for Student Government, Bronze Metal on the National French Exam

**Why do you want this office?** I believe that no generation has been as openly opinionated and politically active as ours, and I would like to help foster a space where students can practice their skills.

**Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.** The current education budget provides for a lack of funding, specifically within the arts programs, and also gives way to a large educational gap between public and private schools.

**If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?** The power to speak and understand any language in order to better connect with the diverse cultures of the world.



### **Sania Islam**

**High School:** Haynes Academy

**Youth & Government Activities:** Haynes Academy Youth and Government Parliamentarian; Senator and Lobbyist at first LEG; National Judicial Competition (NJC) delegate

**School Activities:** Academic Games (Haynes President); High School Democrats of America (HSDA); Student Council; Louisiana High School Democrats (LAHSD) Communications director

**Honors & Awards:** National LinguisHTIKs Champion; Captain of two-time Academic Games sweepstakes winning team

**Why do you want this office?** I've seen the good teenagers do politically. The issue is, they're expected to understand politics without background. LEG creates perfect opportunities to experience politics. I want to create that for more delegates.

**Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.** Louisiana's education system is one of the biggest things impeding Louisiana's progress. In order to invest in our future, we need to invest in our education which is really suffering.

**If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?** I would choose chlorokinesis, the ability to control plants, like Layla Williams from Sky High and use it to end world hunger.



### **Christin Ransome**

**High School:** St. Joseph's Academy

**Youth & Government Activities:** Participant since Freshman Year; Attended LEG 2018

**School Activities:** National Honors Society; Beta Club; Student Ambassadors; Latin Club; National Charity League; Librarian in the CHS/SJA Chamber Choir

**Honors & Awards:** St. Joseph's Academy 50 Hours of Service Award (9th and 10th grade); St. Joseph's Academy Academic Award (9th and 10th grades for above a 3.5 GPA), National Charity League Spirit Award

**Why do you want this office?** Since I ran for student council in 4th grade, I have loved tackling leadership roles with hard work and a smile. Being voted President of the Senate would allow me to give back my time and talent to an organization that has made such a positive impact on my life.

**Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.**

While this may be cliché, I believe that the set minimum wage needs to be increased. With the cost of living also increasing, the minimum wages of workers also need to be increased for them to be able to live comfortably.

**If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?** Without a doubt, telepathy. With this power, I could know my fellow delegates' opinions about important state issues, and I would be an advocate for their concerns.

## Candidates for Speaker of the House



### **William Bartle**

**High School:** C.E. Byrd High School

**Youth & Government Activities:** Freshman Representative (2017-2018); Historian, Social Media Manager (2019-2020); Debate Leader; Attended LEG (2017, 2018, 2019); Committee Chair at LEG (2019)

**School Activities:** Student Council; Key Club; BETA; Varsity Lacrosse; Varsity Cross Country; National Honors Society; French Club; FCA

**Honors & Awards:** Honor Roll; Louisiana Youth Advisory Council; JV Lacrosse Defensive MVP/Team Captain; Presidential Service Award; Student

of the Month; LYS

**Why do you want this office?** I want to give back to the organization that has given a voice to me, and others. It's an organization that gives a voice to people who otherwise have none.

**Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.** The issue of coastal erosion in Louisiana is threatening our generation's future and does not get near enough attention, we owe it to ourselves to find a solution.

**If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?** I'd choose lightning speed, like The Flash. Who wouldn't want to be Barry Allen?

### **Anil Cacodcar**

**High School:** Episcopal School of Acadiana

**Youth & Government Activities:** MUN (2019); Youth Legislature (2018)

**School Activities:** Swim Team; Quiz Bowl; Model UN; Community Service Club; French Club; Math Team; Mock Trial

**Honors & Awards:** 1st Place State Rally (Pre-Calc); 2nd Place in the National French Exam; 6-Year Superior Piano Award; 1st Place District Rally (Piano II); ULL Quiz Bowl Tournament (1<sup>st</sup> Place); SSNCT National Quiz Bowl Tournament Competitor Chicago; MUN (Best Data Sheet 2019 and Outstanding Resolution 2019)



**Why do you want this office?** I would like to make LEG a powerful and memorable experience for new delegates, and I look forward to engaging in lively debates about topics relevant to our future.

**Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.** With constant developments about climate change, environmental problems are a major issue for Louisiana. As a state, we must address the loss of wetlands, pollution, and rising sea levels.

**If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?** I would choose to be in multiple places at once or teleport because scheduling conflicts can be extremely frustrating and cause a lot of stress.

### **Maya Gunaldo**

**High School:** Mandeville High School

**Youth & Government Activities:** Parliamentarian of School Club

**School Activities:** Student Council (Parliamentarian); Swim Team; National Honors Society; Skipper Buddies; The Conversation; Spirit Club

**Honors & Awards:** Most Spirited (Swim Team); > 100 Service Hours Earned



**Why do you want this office?** Being able to express my opinion on topics allows for other delegates to hear different perspectives which expands their knowledge and debating skills. I would love to help form well- rounded delegates by expressing my point of view.

**Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.** Louisiana's opioid epidemic has taken too many lives throughout the state, but this issue could be prevented with new policies that have been implemented in other states.

**If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?** I wish I could have the magical power of telepathy. I want to know what other people think and to understand the meaning behind their thoughts.

## Candidates for Speaker of the House



### **Olivia Mack**

**High School:** St. Joseph's Academy

**Youth & Government Activities:** MUN (2018-2019); LEG (2018-2019); CONA (2019)

**School Activities:** Drama Club; National Honors Society; Ultimate Frisbee; Youth and Government

#### **Why do you want this office?**

I want to be able to serve our Representatives at this conference and make first time delegates feel comfortable and confident in not only Youth Legislature procedures, but their views.

#### **Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.**

I think first and foremost our state needs to acknowledge our lack of education. Not only is funding disproportionate, the funding that is being received is not being managed correctly or concisely. Our kids are our future; we need to make sure we are investing in them.



### **Andrew Meche**

**High School:** Baton Rouge Magnet High School

**Youth & Government Activities:** MUN (2018-2019); LEG (2018-2019); BRMHS Club President (2019-2020)

**School Activities:** Junior Classical League (VP); Debate Team; Quiz Bowl; Ultimate Frisbee; College Preparedness Club

**Honors & Awards:** LJCL 2019 (2<sup>nd</sup> Place); LJCL 2018 (10<sup>th</sup> Place); 1<sup>st</sup> Place State Rally (Latin II); Southside Debate Tournament (2<sup>nd</sup> Place); Public Forum Debate Tournament (3<sup>rd</sup> Place); National History Bee Qualifier; Summa Cum Ladue National Latin Exam 2018 (Latin I)

#### **Why do you want this office?**

I want to be Speaker, because through YAG I have found a strong, guiding influence that has pushed me to be more active in the overall community of my school as a whole. It's this influence that I would like to spread as Speaker.

#### **Express your opinion on what you consider to be a major current issue in our state.**

Louisiana continues to rank dead last in the nation in terms of education. It is imperative to the future of our state that we invest highly in education, especially in historically marginalized areas.

#### **If you could pick one magical power, which would you chose?**

I would choose to be able to be invisible.

# SENATE BILLS





1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 53**

3 Lauren Gachassin                    Episcopal School of Acadiana

4 **TITLE:** Removal of Party Affiliation from Ballots

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 On all general elections in Louisiana there is the party affiliation next to  
7 each candidate which marks whether that candidate is Republican,  
8 Democrat, Liberterian or Independent. People often attributed their votes  
9 to long-established family traditions. Party identification has become a  
10 central element in our models of electoral behavior. Partisanship within  
11 Party Identification runs strongly throughout the identity of our country yet  
12 the citizens are unaware of who they are voting for. A Reuters poll  
13 released in 2018 found that 34 percent of Republican registered voters and  
14 32.5 percent of Democratic registered voters said they did not know the  
15 names of their party's congressional candidates in their districts. American  
16 citizens are relying too much on party affiliation and not seeking any  
17 knowledge about the candidates they elect to office who are our  
18 representatives in this country. Party labels have been removed from the  
19 ballots in municipal elections in three-quarters of the 50 largest cities in  
20 the country, including Los Angeles and Chicago. Candidates in those cities,  
21 they say, can be members of parties, but the affiliation cannot be on a  
22 ballot. This bill is to remove party affiliations from the voting ballots. This  
23 will encourage the candidates to campaign more to the public and stretch  
24 their message and name to every citizen so that they are aware which  
25 candidates are running for office.

26 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

27 Beginning 2020, The ballots will be written without party affiliation  
28 following the candidate's name. This will apply to General election ballots.  
29 General Election shall be defined as a State or Local election where  
30 candidates from different political parties are vying for the same political  
31 office. This does not pertain to primary and/or caucus elections.

32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 There is no funding for this bill.

34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 This will be enforced by the Secretary of State. There are no penalties for  
36 the bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **SENATE BILL 54**



3 Ceara Johnson C.E. Byrd  
4 Logan Noble

5 **TITLE:** The Personal Organ Recovery Procedure: On-Demand  
6 Organ Recovery and Donation Practice Through the Means of  
7 Private Companies

8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Those in dire need of organ transplants waste their final days on wait lists  
10 in hopes of finding a donor match. The personal marketing of one's organs  
11 is an inherent right of any American citizen, including Louisiana citizens.  
12 This proposed legislation aims to create a system that eliminates the  
13 bureaucratic element of organ transplant waiting lists to allow for a  
14 streamlined and effective organ sharing service. According to NBC, the  
15 majority of those tempted to market their organs for illegal trade are  
16 impoverished. Louisiana currently has a 19.6% poverty rate, above the  
17 national average of 14.6%. As of this past July, 113,000 American men,  
18 women, and children were placed on the transplant list. Each year, the  
19 number of people on the organ transplant waiting list continues to be  
20 much larger than both the number of donors and transplants, which grow  
21 slowly. The American black market organ trade usually involves the  
22 cremation of donor bodies

23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 This bill proposes a system of procedures that would allow for a steady  
25 elimination underground organ trading procedures. Willing donors are  
26 encouraged to sell non-vital organs that are not necessary to everyday life  
27 such as the: kidney, spleen, appendix, gallbladder, a lung, liver. Under this  
28 legislation, the PORP, Personal Organ Recovery Procedure, would go as  
29 follows: A donor is able to enter any hospital for organ recovery. Here, the  
30 surgeon of their choice removes the organ(s) in question. Once removed,  
31 the organs belong to the donor before they are put up for purchase from a  
32 list of private companies. These private organ-collecting companies are  
33 then able to sell the organ to a recipient. The recipient must then pay a  
34 private company for the organ, then the company will pay out to the  
35 respective donor. As an incentive, the private organ trading company is  
36 given a 15% commission on each organ sale, the remaining 85% is given  
37 to the donor. It is the responsibility of the respective organ sharing  
38 company to transport the organ from the donor to the recipient safely. The  
39 proposed PORP system is separate and not in conjunction with the UNOS  
40 (United Network for Organ Sharing). In the event that a person may wish  
41 to donate more than one organ, they may be compensated

42 for each individual organ donated. In the event that the donor passes  
43 during organ recovery procedure, the donor's listed first of kin will collect  
44 payment.

45 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

46 This bill requires no funding from the government. Its intention is to  
47 expand a private market such as to promote economic growth.

48 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

49 There are no government penalties for this proposal. In the case that any  
50 company is unable to transport the organ in time, they will not be  
51 compensated for their work. In the event that a recipient is unable to pay  
52 any company for their work within 24 hours, after the organ is removed,  
53 they will not receive the organ.



2 **SENATE BILL 55**

3 Madeline Mackey C.E. Byrd

4 William Sanders

5 **TITLE:** Locking Up Liars: Mandating the Imprisonment of  
6 Those Found Guilty of the False Accusation of Sexual Assault

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) defines a false  
9 report of sexual assault as, "a reported crime to a law enforcement agency  
10 that an investigation factually proves never occurred." This false report can  
11 lead to people incarcerated for crimes they did not commit, resulting in  
12 struggling mental health, difficulty finding a job that will hire them post-  
13 prison, and resulting in the loss of respect and dignity within their  
14 communities. It's not illegal for someone to mistakenly accuse a person of  
15 a sex crime if they truly believed the person committed it. For example, if  
16 the assaulter was never fully seen. However, if the accuser lacked  
17 reasonable grounds for believing that a crime occurred and reported it  
18 anyway, he or she may face civil or even criminal charges for a false  
19 accusation. Currently, in Louisiana, the person facing the charges for the  
20 false accusation of sexual assault/rape only face 6 months in prison or a  
21 \$500 fine. This penalty is nowhere near sufficient for the amount of  
22 trauma caused to those men/women that are falsely accused. This bill will  
23 allow for the livelihoods of dozens of Louisianians to remain intact, even if  
24 they are falsely prosecuted for sex crimes.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 Following the passing of this bill, the men and women that have been  
27 found guilty of falsely accusing people of sexual assault, including rape,  
28 should be incarcerated for a sentence ranging from 1-5 years depending  
29 on the severity of the lie and to what level of court (city, parish, or state)  
30 the accusation is taken to. The severity of the accusation can be  
31 determined based on the witness's testimony, presented evidence, and the  
32 length of time the case takes to reach its conclusion.

33 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

34 No additional funding is required, as the criminal justice system is already  
35 funded in Louisiana.

36 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

37 Any courts found failing to implement the new penalties for false accusers  
38 will receive a \$1500 fine for their first oversight, with each oversight  
39 following the first increasing the fine by \$500.

40

42 **SENATE BILL 56**

43 Jaya Kasturi Episcopal School of Acadiana

44 Makenna Cullen

45 **TITLE:** Requiring Public Schools to Provide Contraceptives  
46 and Sex Ed Classes

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Currently, in the state of Louisiana, public high schools are not required to  
49 provide contraceptives for their students nor have a location for pregnancy  
50 tests to be dispensed. This is a recurring problem seen in the south. It is  
51 important for students to have a place where they can get contraceptives  
52 so they don't cut any corners on their safety and well being. This bill will  
53 require that all Louisiana public high schools provide free contraceptives  
54 and have access to tests with the privacy of a guidance counselor.  
55 Currently, other states, like Arkansas, Colorado, Massachusetts, and  
56 Maryland are beginning to provide high schoolers with condoms and other  
57 contraceptives. Along with the high schools providing contraceptives, all  
58 students will be required to take a sex safety course on how to use  
59 condoms and other ways of preventing teen pregnancy. A booklet will be  
60 provided for the students who take the class.

61 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

62 Starting the 2020-2021 school year, all Louisiana high schools will have to  
63 provide students with a sex-ed class and also the option of using condoms  
64 and other contraceptives.

65 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

66 This bill will be funded by the local tax dollars of the state. The local and  
67 federal tax dollars are already helping pay for the Louisiana public school  
68 systems so this would be funded under the same thing, only a few  
69 thousand dollars would be needed to cover booklets and contraceptives.

70 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

71 No fine is required for this bill.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **SENATE BILL 57**

3 Elizabeth Mathews Alexandria Senior High

4  
 5 **TITLE:** Required recess for all elementary and middle school  
 6 students

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 A study published in Preventative Medicine showed that young students  
 9 that are given breaks throughout the day perform better in the classroom.  
 10 Studies done by the Journal of Science and Medicine have shown that  
 11 students that are given recess have better overall behavior, longer  
 12 attention spans, and better grades. Students that are given recess worked  
 13 more and fidgeted less than when they were not given recess. Recess is a  
 14 necessary break in the day for optimizing a student’s social, emotional,  
 15 physical, and cognitive development. In elementary school, children begin  
 16 to learn to be part of society. Recess is important in developing children’s  
 17 socialization. They are able to develop their problem-solving skills,  
 18 friendship skills, and kids also learn the difference between aggression and  
 19 assertion when playing with other kids at recess. No student is able to  
 20 concentrate on school work for hours on end. All that keeping students in  
 21 the classroom is doing is making them miserable and giving them a  
 22 negative connotation of learning when teachers, etc. expect them to love  
 23 school and want to do well. If a student is given recess they are more  
 24 likely to enjoy coming to school and they, in turn, will want to be well  
 25 behaved and will try harder if they enjoy coming to school.

26 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

27 The State Education Board would require every school district to ensure  
 28 that their elementary and middle schools have recess. For Pre-K through  
 29 fifth grade, schools will be required to have at least three recess times if  
 30 the students do not have PE every day. Fifteen minutes in the morning,  
 31 fifteen after lunch, and fifteen in the afternoon. If the students do have PE  
 32 then they will have two recess times. The times of these recesses will  
 33 depend on when the students have PE. So, if they have PE in the morning  
 34 they will have a fifteen-minute recess after lunch and a fifteen-minute  
 35 recess in the afternoon, and if the students have PE in the afternoon, then  
 36 they will have a fifteen-minute morning recess and a fifteen-minute recess  
 37 after lunch. For sixth through eighth grade, there will be a required 30-  
 38 minute recess after their mandated 30-minute lunch every day. This will be  
 39 in addition to any PE class that the students have. To ensure that school  
 40 districts are following this law, a twelve-member educational review board  
 41 will be in charge of making sure that all elementary schools and middle  
 42 schools are adhering. The board will convene in August, for the beginning

43 of school, and in January, in case a school changes its schedule for the  
 44 second semester.

45

46 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

47 There would not be any additional funding needed. The lights, electricity,  
 48 and water stay on for several hours after school ends. There will not be  
 49 any need to adjust teacher salaries or contracts because you could extend  
 50 the number of days students go to school to keep the same number of  
 51 educational minutes for the school year by only having four teacher  
 52 professional development days instead of eight. This will not only save  
 53 money but also boost teacher morale.

54 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

55 First offense. If a school district does not comply with this policy, they will  
 56 be put on probation and the member of the review board for that region  
 57 will go in and review the schedules for the schools that are not in  
 58 adherence. The employee of LDOE will also work with the school district to  
 59 adjust the school’s schedules to follow the mandated recess allotments.  
 60 Any schools that fall into this category will also be put on a 2-year  
 61 watchlist to ensure that they continue to follow this policy.  
 62 Second offense. If a school district still does not comply after having a  
 63 member of the review board come in, that school district will have its  
 64 annual MFP funding withheld until they implement the recesses into the  
 65 school schedules.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 58**

3 Beard Ashley C.E. Byrd High School

4 Phillips Kaiya

5 **TITLE:** Nicotine for Legal Teens

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The effects of smoking traditional tobacco cigarettes in or outside public  
8 buildings/areas have been questioned, and this action essentially began  
9 being banned in all states at the start of 2004. However, since 2005, there  
10 has been a decrease in general tobacco smoking (changing from 20.9% of  
11 Americans being smokers to 14% currently) and an increase of electronic  
12 cigarette users from 4.1% of Americans in 2012 to now 14.3% as of 2017.  
13 With this dramatic increase in the use of e-cigarettes, including vapes,  
14 Juuls, mods, etc. by the younger generation, the question of whether this  
15 type of smoking should be allowed around others and on school functioned  
16 trips should be brought to attention. Unlike traditional cigarettes, according  
17 to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), e-cigarettes emit  
18 way less toxic material in their aerosol. They do not significantly pollute  
19 the air indoors or outdoors, therefore meaning that they could be used  
20 near nonsmokers and have no major effect. Many times, e-cigarettes are  
21 lumped in with all the dangers of conventional cigarettes; however, the  
22 benefits and improvements of e-cigarettes compared to regular cigarettes  
23 are often overlooked. Public schools themselves have banned any use of e-  
24 cigarettes on school campuses, yet, on school trips, students should have  
25 the right (as long as they are of the legal age 18) to use these devices per  
26 freedom of expression.

27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 Kids over the legal age of 18 will not be prohibited from bringing their e-  
29 cigarettes to school trips or off campus functions. Teachers/faculty will not  
30 be allowed to reprimand students for bringing their e-cigarettes along with  
31 them. All punishments will be void.

32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 No funding will be required for this bill.

34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 If public schools refuse to allow students to use their e-cigarettes, then the  
36 school will be required to pay a \$500 fine per person that they  
37 reprimanded.

38  
39  
40



41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

42 **SENATE BILL 59**

43 John Cook C. E. Byrd High School

44 Landrum Wallace

45 **TITLE:** Amend "Good Samaritan" Laws Pertaining to Uniform  
46 Controlled Dangerous Substances

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 In Louisiana, we have one of the highest overdose death rate of all fifty  
49 states, sitting at roughly a 25 per 1000 rate according to the CDC.  
50 Thousands die yearly from overdoses which are easily some of the most  
51 preventable deaths in the state. People fail to seek help from fear of the  
52 repercussions which follow from the Louisiana court systems. This is in  
53 spite of overdose immunity laws already in place under the so-called "Good  
54 Samaritan" sections of our legislation. Our society which still has some of  
55 the highest deaths among the US, believes that this immoral misuse of  
56 one's free will is acceptable, and it isn't countering any of the effects, with  
57 the rate of deaths from overdoses continually increasing. Maybe  
58 persecution is just what people need to shock themselves into walking the  
59 straight and narrow? This will lead to a society more responsible for their  
60 own actions, held accountable for their own actions to a more acceptable  
61 degree.

62 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

63 This bill will amend sections to Louisiana's current "Good Samaritan" laws  
64 to exclude the immunity of persecution after calling an ambulance if one is  
65 in the possession and substances in violation of the Uniform Controlled  
66 Dangerous Substance section of the legislation. This will require more  
67 arrests to be made, more trials to be had, and more stress to be put on  
68 our court system, but that is a small price compared to the societal strain  
69 of the high rate of deaths from overdoses which we currently have.

70 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

71 Funding will come from roughly \$173,000,000 state court funding, with a  
72 marginal increase with these amendments yet to be determined.

73 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

74 Anyone determined to have violated or tampered with these processes  
75 involved will be persecuted as seen fit by their local department, with  
76 some oversight on the state level.

2 **SENATE BILL 60**

3 Andrew Moncada                   LSU Laboratory School

4 Daylon Daniel

5 **TITLE:** The Reordering of the Art Credit of the LA Core 4  
6 Diploma

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 In Louisiana, there are three kinds of diplomas: LA Core 4, LA Basic Core,  
9 and the Career Pathway Diploma. Of these, only the LA Core 4 allows  
10 students to qualify for TOPS. Furthermore, this kind of diploma is the only  
11 kind considered by non-community colleges for post-secondary education.  
12 The LA Core 4 requires 3 elective credits and 1 art credit. The required  
13 credits in the LA Core 4 are meant to prepare students for post-secondary  
14 education classes. This makes sense for classes such as math or English  
15 which are widely required to be taken at a basic level in all colleges,  
16 however, most colleges do not require an art class. As such this  
17 requirement is restricting students' choices unnecessarily. A study by  
18 Marguerite Roza (Ph.D.) found that arts classes are the most prone to  
19 being packed with students to save as much money as possible.  
20 Furthermore, these art classes in the study were shown to cost  
21 disproportionately more than core classes. With growing classes of students  
22 forced to take arts, the quality of these classes decreases. Furthermore,  
23 these required art classes prevent students from being able to pursue  
24 areas of interest they wish to pursue in their post-secondary education.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 The government will need to rewrite the requirements of the LA Core 4 to  
27 combine the arts and elective credit. The new requirements will be that a  
28 student to get an LA Core 4 diploma will be four elective credits and no  
29 arts credits. The state of Louisiana recognizes these classes; Fine Arts  
30 Survey, Art, Dance, Media Arts, Music, and Theatre Arts as classes that  
31 give the one necessary art credit. This list of classes defined as an art class  
32 will be added to the elective classes list and reward the amount of elective  
33 credit that the class in its art from would give an art class.

34 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

35 No funding is necessary for this bill.

36 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

37 There are no penalties for this bill.

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42 **SENATE BILL 61**

43 Adam Guillory                   LSU Laboratory School

44

45 **TITLE:** Minimum wage increase for tip-based professions

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 In the United States, the minimum amount an employer can pay an  
48 employee is \$7.25, if a state wants that to be higher, then they can, in  
49 some states, it is lower, Louisiana's minimum wage is \$7.25. With this  
50 addressed, there is a massive loophole in this wage which is justified by  
51 culture. This loophole is that if a worker receives tips, their wage is cut  
52 down to \$2.13, and the worker then takes the tip. Therefore, if a worker at  
53 a restaurant, for example, received \$3 in tips during one hour, they would  
54 be making \$4.25 per hour plus their tip of \$3, making the tip completely  
55 worthless, and if they received a \$10 tip, they would be reduced to \$2.13  
56 plus their tip, earning the employee \$12.13 for that hour, instead of the  
57 \$17.25 they earned.

58 Why is this a problem? An employer employs people and should be the  
59 one paying them directly, not the everyday consumer. A tip should be an  
60 addition, and if someone felt an employee did well helping them, then they  
61 can be rewarded through the act, but the employer should always bear the  
62 responsibility of payment.

63 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

64 This change would be implemented fully in January 2025 in order to give  
65 business owners enough time to adjust their payments and create no  
66 sudden changes that could negatively effect businesses. Therefore, it  
67 would be best to implement this slowly, raising the hard minimum wage \$1  
68 every year until 2025 when it will be raised \$1.12 and will be equal to  
69 other minimum wage professions.

70 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

71 As this bill is focused on private sector issues, no funding will be required  
72 outside of any funding already allocated to enforcing minimum wage laws.

73 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

74 Failure to comply will result in the same penalties as if a business owner  
75 failed to comply with current minimum wage laws.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 62**

3 Corbitt Driskell                      Episcopal School of Acadiana

4

5 **TITLE:** Remove Louisiana from Napoleonic Law

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Of the 50 states in the United States of America, Louisiana often follows its  
8 own traditions and rules. This is no different in the legal system of the  
9 state. Louisiana currently follows Napoleonic Law whereas every other  
10 state follows a system of Common-Law. The main difference between the  
11 two systems is the fact that Louisiana Judges make court decisions solely  
12 by the words of the law, whereas Judges in every other state are told to  
13 follow the precedent of former court decision. Common law provides an  
14 easier code of judgment for both judges and criminals. The  
15 implementation of common-law allows for Louisiana judges to gain the  
16 knowledge of other states who have had similar legal issues when faced  
17 with new types of cases. Without common-law, judges are forced to make  
18 new interpretations of the law everyday, adding stress to both the judge  
19 and the criminal. Common-law allows for criminals to find previous  
20 examples of their crimes and see how they are most likely to be punished.  
21 The addition of common-law allows for criminals in the state of Louisiana  
22 to predict their punishment and allows for Judges in the state of Louisiana  
23 to gain legal help from past court decisions and other states.

24 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

25 This bill will be enacted on January 1, 2019. The period between passing  
26 and enactment of this bill will allow current presiding judges to review the  
27 new form of law. This period will also allow for judges to make necessary  
28 databases and contacts that they see fit.

29 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

30 No state funding is necessary for this bill.

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 No penalty is necessary for this bill.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 63**

3 Carter Nugent Haynes Academy

4 **TITLE:** Non-smoking Incentive Cooperation Effort (NICE)

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 Nation-wide, 17.1% of legal adults smoke cigarettes. In Louisiana, this rate  
7 is 22.8%. The state of Louisiana spends an average of \$5.8 million a year  
8 for tobacco prevention, however Louisiana sees an average of \$477.4  
9 million in tobacco settlement payments each year. Smoking-related  
10 healthcare costs the state over \$1.89 billion a year, and smoking loses  
11 \$2.49 billion relating to workplace productivity. The state of Louisiana is  
12 plagued by cigarettes and high smoking rates, and many companies are  
13 yearning for effective solutions to combat high smoking rates and restore  
14 workplace productivity. Much of the lost productivity in the workplace  
15 comes from smoke breaks. According to Louisiana law, smoking is  
16 prohibited in all government and private workplaces, schools, childcare  
17 facilities, restaurants, retail stores, and recreational/cultural facilities. In  
18 order to comply with Louisiana statutes, almost all companies allow  
19 smokers to take frequent smoke breaks during each shift, which adds up  
20 to approximately 20 minutes every day. Considering that the average  
21 American worker receives 15 vacation days each year, taking daily smoke  
22 breaks leads to an average of 3.33 missed work days in a fiscal year. In  
23 order to effectively combat smoking without penalizing smokers, the  
24 people of Louisiana need to embrace NICE.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 This bill requires all businesses owned and/or operated within Louisiana  
27 territory to give all full time employees who do not take smoke breaks 3  
28 extra vacation days a year. Any employee who begins taking smoke breaks  
29 during any given year will forfeit their vacation days for the following year,  
30 even if they have quit by the time the following year begins. All employees  
31 who stop taking smoke breaks during a given year will gain their 3  
32 vacation days immediately, however if said employee begins smoking  
33 again after they have used their 3 extra vacation days, that employee will  
34 lose their three extra vacation days for any following years until they once  
35 again quit smoking and will forfeit three of their original vacation days for  
36 the following year as well.

37 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

38 This bill requires no funding. All companies will pay for this program  
39 themselves. If a company falls under debt and becomes at risk of  
40 bankruptcy because of this bill, such company may file bankruptcy under  
41 chapter 11 or 13, requesting debt relief from the federal government  
42 under the reorganization statute.

43 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

44 Any employee who is denied their vacation days retains the ability to sue  
45 their employer for violating the NICE. All employees who feel as though  
46 their employer is violating NICE may feel free to contact the U.S.  
47 Department of Labor Office of Labor Management Standards (OLMS).

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51 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

52 **SENATE BILL 64**

53 Ethan Langley Alexandria Senior High

54

55 **TITLE:** Meme Hour

56 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

57 Kids nowadays just need a good laugh during school hours. Giving them  
58 the ability to have 1 hour out of their school day to look at amazing  
59 memes would raise student happiness at school and allow them to be  
60 more energized and productive in class. Being able to laugh with your  
61 friends over an amazing meme before class reduces stress levels and  
62 lowers blood pressure making you feel more refreshed for your next class.  
63 Most kids aren't particularly happy at school and will do anything to escape  
64 the reality of calculus to lay eyes on a beloved meme about Mike Wazoski  
65 just to have a little giggle with their buddies.

66

67 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

68 All schools in the state of Louisiana must dedicate 30 minutes to 1 hour  
69 during the school day, allowing students to get their meme on.

70 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

71 No additional funding is needed due to the fact that it is active during  
72 school hours with no extra power being used from the school.

73 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

74 Schools that refuse to implement this "Meme Hour" will have a member of  
75 their school board attend their school to ensure at least 30 minutes per  
76 day is allowed for the meme hour. If the school does not comply they will  
77 be fined \$3,000 gradually increasing with every offense.

2 **SENATE BILL 65**

3 Andrew Heltz                      Baton Rouge Magnet High School

4 William Barber

5 **TITLE:** Reform Louisiana's Voter Registration Laws

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 After Reconstruction, African Americans were allowed to vote, but this  
8 wasn't strictly enforced. Many Black people were prevented from voting  
9 with literacy tests anyway, especially in southern states. However, these  
10 policies were made illegal, and voter turnout for minorities has increased  
11 since, up until its peak in the late 2000s to early 2010s. In more recent  
12 years, 30 of the same southern states have introduced discriminatory  
13 voting bills are doing similar, more subtle things today that decrease all  
14 voter turnout, but especially the voter turnout of non-White groups, with  
15 16 of those 30 enacting the bills. They have removed privileges for early  
16 voting and same-day vote registration, which affect all voters negatively,  
17 but they especially affect Black and Hispanic people. To represent these  
18 kinds of people better, but also to make it easier for everyone to vote, it is  
19 important to prevent these methods of voter registration from being  
20 banned in Louisiana.

21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 If passed, this bill will require both same-day vote registration and  
23 government-issued voter ID to be allowed for identification for voting in  
24 Louisiana, and will also require early voting.

25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 This bill would require no funding.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 This bill would require a fine of \$800 per vote administrator that does not  
29 comply with these voting policies.

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43 **SENATE BILL 66**

44 Pratima Pinnepalli                      Lee Magnet High School

45 **TITLE:** Improving English as a Second Language (ESL)

46 Programs

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Many ESL (English as a Second Language) programs in schools are not  
49 fully equipped to prepare their students with usable English. Many students  
50 leave the program without minimal fluency, and their education is limited  
51 because of it. These students can not attend higher ability classes, even if  
52 they have the potential, because many schools do not have the funding to  
53 hire individual teachers who teach those subjects in a different language.  
54 Instructors only need a 12 hour course and valid teaching certificate to  
55 teach in ESL classrooms. Teachers should be responsible for insuring  
56 actual progress in the fluency of students learning English.

57 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

58 Each student in an ESL program must have 1000 dollars added to the  
59 average budget for their program, this is not uncommon, as those with  
60 Individual Education Plans (IEP's) can be awarded up to \$4000 more than  
61 the average spending per student. A test will be developed that tests a  
62 person's functional English ability depending on the number of years they  
63 have been in the ESL program. Students will be tested in the beginning of  
64 the year, and depending on their score, they will be expected to show  
65 some improvement on the exam by the end of the year. Ideally, students  
66 will manage to score an 85% or higher on the exam to be considered  
67 fluent. The program would aim for moderate fluency within 3 years.  
68 Money shall be awarded to schools per student they can fully move into  
69 regular English taught classes.

70 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

71 No additional funding is necessary, there is already money available in a  
72 school's budget for special student circumstances. The money awarded per  
73 student movement to English classes will come from a .05% tax on  
74 tobacco and nicotine products. Additional money raised from this fund that  
75 is not used over the year, will remain in the Education budget for use in  
76 the consecutive year.

77 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

78 If over 40 percent of students in the program do not show more than 6  
79 percent improvement on the exam at the end of the year, then the  
80 instructor of the class must be placed on review by the school. If no  
81 improvement occurs within students in a period of 4 years the teacher  
82 must lose their ESL certification. They may still teach, but they will no  
83 longer be qualified to teach in the ESL program.

2 **SENATE BILL 67**

3 Jack Fenner Captain Shreve High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** To Recognize Columbus Day as a State Holiday Along  
6 with Indigenous Peoples' Day

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Columbus Day needs to be recognized as a holiday again. Christopher  
9 Columbus was a prominent figure in the finding and colonizing of the New  
10 World. Many states, including Louisiana, have changed Columbus Day into  
11 Indigenous Peoples Day. While this is a nice step forward towards a new  
12 progressive era, Columbus was still a prominent figure in the founding of a  
13 new world.

14  
15 The removal of Columbus Day can be seen with the implementation of  
16 Indigenous Peoples Day. A movement was sparked when light was shed  
17 on the fact that Christopher Columbus showed disrespect and cruelty  
18 towards the Natives of the Americas. Because of this information, many  
19 believed the holiday of Columbus Day should immediatly be replaced.  
20 While this information is troubling and should spark controversy, the  
21 monumental discovery made by Columbus should still be honored. A  
22 joining of the two holidays would serve to honor both the man who  
23 changed the world forever and the indigenous people of Louisiana that are  
24 in much need of representation and acknowledgement in our society.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 This bill will rename "Indigenous Peoples Day" to "Indigenous Peoples and  
27 Columbus Day." All other aspects of the holiday will remain the same.

28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 No funding is required for this bill.

30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 This bill has no penalties.  
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42 **SENATE BILL 68**

43 Lane Booker Captain Shreve High School

44 **TITLE:** Make Louisiana the First State to Only Observe  
45 Daylight Savings Time

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 The time system that 48 U.S. states use today is called daylight savings  
48 time (DST). Arizona and Hawaii don't participate in this observation of  
49 DST, as well as American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.  
50 Louisiana has somewhat of a big variety of recreational activities within  
51 it,Àòs borderlines, such as fishing, hiking, and hunting. Sunlight is so useful  
52 for these activities, and the standard time that Louisiana is currently in use  
53 of is taking away from the outdoor hobbies that many Louisianans take  
54 part in.

55 Also, school hours lasting for such a long period of time cuts off a lot of  
56 student's time to be outside in the sun. Using the past year as an example,  
57 daylight savings time began March 10, 2019 which made for longer  
58 daylight hours. When daylight savings starts, the time is changed one hour  
59 forward at 2:00 A.M. ending standard time. DST came to an end for the  
60 year of 2019 on the third of November, which meant that the 48 states  
61 that participate in DST would have to  
62 change their clocks back an hour. The end of daylight savings makes the  
63 sun set sooner in time. This bill would move Louisiana one step towards  
64 giving citizens more enjoyable free time.

65 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

66 All of the states that are in obligation of changing their clocks twice a year  
67 are familiar with losing an hour of sleep in spring. The effect on the  
68 Louisiana citizens will not differ from having standard time. There will be  
69 no purpose of slowly changing the time or practicing switching times since  
70 DST has been proven to not cause harm in the past. Normally the daylight  
71 savings would start in spring and DST is planned to start March 11 of  
72 2020. This bill will take effect on March 11, 2020 so that there will be no  
73 complications.

74 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

75 This bill requires no funding.

76 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

77 A penalty/punishment is not needed for anyone that does not abide by this  
78 bill. If the majority of the state changes the time on their clock on March  
79 11, than anyone not changed to the correct time will be out of sync with  
80 all other Louisianans.



2 **SENATE BILL 70**

3 Christina Tucker                      Captain Shreve High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Adopt an "A/B" Alternating Day Block Schedule for All  
6 Schools

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 An A/B block schedule will give teachers more time to prepare for classes  
9 and give students time to comprehend what they're learning. Students will  
10 have less homework each day, and teachers can spend more time helping  
11 students. This schedule will give students eight courses instead of seven.  
12 The extra time will give teachers a chance to have debates, class  
13 discussions, or learning games while still having time to teach. Teachers  
14 can also have reviews in the beginning or at the end of each class to go  
15 over what they did the last time students were there or to go over what  
16 they did that day.

17  
18 If a student misses one school day, it will be the equivalent to missing two,  
19 but this schedule will give them more time to catch up on work and learn.  
20 School districts around the U.S. say that block scheduling is more effective  
21 than the traditional schedule because it offers students more instructional  
22 time and students can focus and get more accomplished. The American  
23 Association of School Administrators says there is overwhelming evidence  
24 that proves that the school environment can be affected positively by the  
25 A/B schedule.

26 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

27 Day A will have 4 classes that last 80 minutes and a one hour lunch break  
28 in between the first two classes and the last two. Day B will have another  
29 4 different classes with 80 minutes and a one hour break in between the  
30 first two classes and the last two. On the 5th day that week, students will  
31 attend all their classes for a shortened period of 40 minutes with a one  
32 hour break in between the first four classes and the last four. This will give  
33 teachers a chance to see all their students in one day in case there is  
34 anything someone missed and to prepare them for the next week.

35 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

36 The Minimum Foundation Program will handle all funding.

37 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

38 Any school that does not follow this bill could be shut down.

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42 **SENATE BILL 71**

43 Hrilina Rakhs                              SummerStone Academy

44  
45 **TITLE:** Cord of Approval - recommends schools accord  
46 students to record their civic dedication by cordially allowing  
47 them to wear their cords at graduation.

48  
49 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

50 Louisiana High Schools should allow students to wear cords they have  
51 earned through Community Service Organizations such as 4-H, Boy Scouts,  
52 Girl Scouts, Louisiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council, and YMCA Youth  
53 and Government, at graduation.

54  
55 These students have earned their cords because of the substantial amount  
56 of time and effort they put into serving their communities. These students  
57 have brought honor to their schools and their schools should support their  
58 dedication to their communities by allowing them to wear their well-  
59 deserved cords at graduation.

60  
61 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

62 This law just needs to be approved. This law should be put in effect by  
63 January 1, 2020, in time for 2020's graduating seniors.

64 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

65 There should be no cost to the schools. The cords are already being  
66 provided by the Community Service Organizations.

67 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

68 Schools are graded by the state on a number of factors; this law could be  
69 one of those factors. Does the school comply with this law? If the school  
70 complies with the law, they will gain that point. If the school does not  
71 comply with this law, they will not gain that point.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **SENATE BILL 72**

3 Kiera Lesky Haynes Academy

4 **TITLE:** To Ban the Use of Toxic Dispersants in Response to  
 5 Oil or Hazardous Substance Spills

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 On April 20, 2010, the disaster that would become known as the  
 8 Deepwater Horizon oil spill or the British Petroleum (BP) oil spill began -- a  
 9 tragedy that spilled 200 million gallons of oil into the Gulf and vastly  
 10 increased the rate of coastal erosion and the rate of mortality among many  
 11 Gulf species like the brown pelican and dolphin. Like other oil spills prior,  
 12 BP utilized chemical dispersants to combat the oil. In theory, chemical  
 13 dispersants that are poured over the spill break the oil into smaller droplets  
 14 that sink to the ocean floor. These droplets are then more easily  
 15 distributed throughout the ocean and broken down by microbes in the  
 16 water. During the Deepwater Horizon spill, BP dumped 770,000 gallons of  
 17 Corexit 9500 into the Gulf of Mexico. Compared with 12 other top  
 18 dispersants, Corexit is most commonly used and 10-20 times more toxic.  
 19 The EPA and NALCO have found it to cause respiratory problems, harm to  
 20 the red blood cells, the kidneys, and the liver, and cancer as well as other  
 21 medical complications among clean up workers who handled the chemical.  
 22 A study from Georgia Tech found that the Corexit used during the spill  
 23 increased the oil's toxicity by 52 times and a study from Florida State  
 24 University found that the chemical actually suspended the degradation  
 25 process of the oil causing it to exist longer damaging underwater  
 26 ecosystems for generations. Although dispersants most directly affect  
 27 marine life farther down in the ocean, its ability to bioaccumulate allows it  
 28 to remain in the flesh and build up causing a passing of the toxin at higher  
 29 levels with each predator and prey exchange. This chemical mixture causes  
 30 a decrease in fertility among sealife and therefore dwindling populations.  
 31 While Louisiana's seafood industry's total economic impact is around \$1.9  
 32 billion, there was an almost universal decrease in revenue among  
 33 fisherman after the spill. This impact could continue to be felt as the lack  
 34 of proper cleanup molds the Gulf's ecosystem and aids in coastline  
 35 destruction. Many European countries including the UK have banned the  
 36 specific use of toxic dispersants, and others like Sweden have completely  
 37 banned dispersants as responses to oil and hazardous substance spills.

38 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

39 Following the immediate implementation of this bill, no chemical dispersant  
 40 may be used in response to leaked oil or hazardous substances within  
 41 Louisiana waters unless that chemical is deemed nontoxic by the Louisiana  
 42 Department of Environmental Quality.

43 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

44 This will require no funding from the government as there is already a  
 45 "Water" branch in the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
 46 (DEQ) that overlooks water safety.

47 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

48 The consequence for noncompliance will be a fine of up to \$20,000 per  
 49 gallon of oil or hazardous substance spilled.

50  
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53 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 54 **SENATE BILL 73**

55 Lillie Hauptman Woodlawn high school

56 Aimee Martin

57 **TITLE:** Acadian Act

58 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

59 Acadians are an essential part of Louisiana history, but school systems  
 60 seem to neglect the importance of their story. In Louisiana history,  
 61 students are taught a very brief recap of Acadian history. Acadians were  
 62 private people for a long time in Louisiana. They kept their language and  
 63 heritage to themselves. Acadians speak cajun-french, which is considered  
 64 to be an endangered language. This bill would require schools to include a  
 65 unit on cajun history, language, and civilization.

66 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

67 This will expand the Louisiana history program and will help lead to better  
 68 teachers, as they will be required to know the history of Acadians and  
 69 Acadiana.

70

71 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

72 Some funding will come from organizations that are pledged to better the  
 73 Louisiana history program in schools. Other funding can come from school  
 74 budgets. Overall the only funding needed would be for a rewritten  
 75 Louisiana history state test and possibly new textbooks in the future (5-10  
 76 years).

77

78 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

79 schools that don't follow this act will receive a loss in grants the next year  
 80 and will also not receive funding for extracurricular programs. (this  
 81 excludes poor school district for 5 years after this bill is added.)



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 74**

3 Allandra Washington Neville High School

4 **TITLE:** AN ACT TO: Require all public schools to screen all  
5 students for gifted

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Many children are overlooked in the choosing process of the gifted  
8 program because of, in most cases, lack of engagement in the curriculum.  
9 The current process to receive the gifted and/or talented special education  
10 is through the top 3% of the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program,  
11 formally known as the LEAP test, current and previous grades, teacher  
12 recommendations, and Standardized Test for the Assessment of Reading,  
13 also referred to as the STAR test, to evaluate current knowledge.

14 According to <http://education.ohio.gov>, they are required to identify all  
15 grades from K-12 for the gifted program. Often times, many gifted children  
16 are mistaken for being eccentric instead of acknowledged for the  
17 intelligence they really have. The testing will start at 2nd grade and be  
18 taken every two years after and capped at 10th grade . They may test  
19 back-to-back for the 6th-7th-grade year and 8th-9th-grade year in order to  
20 get the best and most accurate number possible of kids in the program,  
21 but is not necessary 7th grade or 9th grade. The child must take the test  
22 but do not have to follow up with continuing the program. Once a kid is in  
23 they do not have to test in again.

24 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

25 This bill should take effect one year after it's passing. It shall be enforced  
26 through the LEA because their job is "to oversee the implementation of  
27 education policies..." as stated by <https://ballotpedia.org>. According to  
28 [www.davidsongifted.org](http://www.davidsongifted.org), leaving the children who meet the requirements  
29 for the gifted program in regular classes prevents them from reaching their  
30 full potential. All public schools shall test at the end of the year. There will  
31 be time used from the mandatory teacher workshops to share and create  
32 ideas to innovate and customize their curriculum to help accommodate  
33 their students. The test shall be treated as a standardized test and taken a  
34 class at a time. Students must sign-off along with the test administrator  
35 and the principal of that school to ensure they have all taken the test.

36 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

37 To fund this bill, Special Services will put money to this along with the  
38 Louisiana Department of Education because it is treated as a state test.  
39 The number of state funds that a district receives is based on a formula  
40 that takes into account the student enrollment and the property wealth of  
41 the district meaning the number will vary for different schools. The job of  
42 the Special Services is to "providing young children and eligible students

43 with disabilities a free and appropriate public education consistent with  
44 federal and state laws." Therefore, it is in their jurisdiction to contribute to  
45 funding this bill.

46 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

47 If the school is found guilty of not testing a student, which is determined  
48 by the unveiling of the unsigned paper, the district shall be sued in the  
49 court of law for not enforcing this bill as their job implies.

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57 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

58 **SENATE BILL 75**

59 James Phoenix Neville High School

60

61 **TITLE:** Offer a tax break of 2% of income or 25k (minimum)  
62 to business owners for purchasing abandoned buildings and  
63 start new businesses.

64 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

65 Due to the massive amount of abandoned properties in Louisiana  
66 (business-related, homes, or simply blighted), the city is unsightly and is  
67 losing money. That coupled with the number of businesses leaving the  
68 state, causes a growing issue. A problem not only of abandoned properties  
69 but one that is losing money.

70 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

71 January 1, 2022, this would be implemented across Louisiana, district by  
72 district, until it is state wide.

73 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

74 No funding is required.

75 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

76 No penalties.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
2 **SENATE BILL 76**

3 Ellie Williams Episcopal School of Baton Rouge  
4 Emily Berg

5 **TITLE:** Require Sex Education in Public Schools

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Currently, Louisiana does not require sex education for public schools,  
8 while 22 states and the District of Columbia mandate education about both  
9 sex and HIV. This bill proposes that we require sex education in public  
10 schools. Sex education helps reduce problems like STDs and teen  
11 pregnancies. Chlamydia is the most commonly diagnosed STD in America,  
12 and Louisiana has the second-highest infection rate. As of 2017, Louisiana  
13 had around 742 people per every 100,000 get infected with Chlamydia.  
14 Louisiana is ranked first in another STD, Syphilis, which not only affects a  
15 mother but an unborn baby. Congenital syphilis is a disease where a  
16 mother passes her STD onto her baby. This can cause a miscarriage,  
17 stillborn, or death shortly after birth. But if the baby is born with congenital  
18 syphilis, the baby can be born with devastating consequences, including  
19 blindness, deafness, and severe developmental delays. Furthermore,  
20 Louisiana is ranked first in STDs overall and fourth in teen pregnancies in  
21 the United States. For every 1000 teenage girls in Louisiana, 29.1 give  
22 birth. Females under the age of 17 are 21% more likely for their first baby  
23 to be premature and 93% more likely for their second baby to be  
24 premature. Premature births have an increase in potential health problems  
25 and cost, on average, \$60,000. A normal birth costs only \$3,500 on  
26 average.

27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 This bill will be enacted on August 1, 2021. The period between this bill  
29 being passed, and it being enacted will give schools time to develop a  
30 curriculum to add to an existing course. Schools will be responsible for  
31 providing the curriculum, which will have guidelines provided by the state,  
32 including STD awareness and pregnancy prevention.

33 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

34 Public school funding is already paid for in the state budget. The  
35 curriculum would be instituted into existing classes. The money that could  
36 potentially be saved through reduced expenses for health care would more  
37 than offset any additional teacher training costs.

38 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

39 If public high schools do not provide and require the class, the students  
40 unable to take this course during one semester of high school will be  
41 unable to graduate until they meet this requirement.

42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
43 **SENATE BILL 77**

44 William Romero Lafayette High School

45 **TITLE:** Mandate that high school student educational  
46 requirements include the successful completion of a disability  
47 awareness training in all health courses

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 According to the Louisiana Disability Status Report by Cornell University,  
50 more than 7% of children ages 5 to 20 have a disability. Through studying  
51 the connection between bullying and disabilities, it was discovered that  
52 children with disabilities are two to three times more likely to be bullied.  
53 Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the  
54 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, a school must address bullying  
55 towards people with disabilities once it crosses the line of "disability  
56 harassment."

57 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

58 Bullying is often a result of misunderstanding, and a disability awareness  
59 training would help reduce the misunderstanding of people with disabilities  
60 and their experiences. This bridging of the gap would mitigate the amount  
61 of bullying and unintentional negative actions towards those with  
62 disabilities, therefore, satisfying the legal requirement of creating a safe  
63 environment for children with disabilities. This bill would add a disability  
64 awareness training unit to all health courses. This mandate can be satisfied  
65 through the inclusion of a disability awareness training program from  
66 teachers who have successfully completed an official training program. The  
67 training must consist of but is not limited to education on misconceptions,  
68 the negative effects of the use of labels, accessibility, diversity, and proper  
69 etiquette. LANTEC, a company in Louisiana that hosts disability training,  
70 requires a full day to do a disability training. When converted into the time  
71 allowed in school, this course requirement would only take a week to  
72 complete.

73 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

74 The only cost is training the teachers to teach the training. This is a small  
75 cost that can be paid for through Louisiana's pre-existing education fund.

76 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

77 This bill modifies graduation requirements, so all public schools in  
78 Louisiana must follow the mandate.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 78**

3 Jolan Taylor St. Joseph's Academy

4 Emma Hulse

5 **TITLE:** Require law-enforcement agencies to report any  
6 criminal exoneration by the same means of reported arrests or  
7 accusations

8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Current law enforcement agencies inform the public with information  
10 regarding arrests and criminal allegations. This information is often  
11 disseminated via social media (facebook, instagram, etc). Law enforcement  
12 agencies are permitted to post accusations that are not confirmed by law  
13 but are not required to report exonerations. This bill proposes that law-  
14 enforcement agencies be required to report any correlating exonerations  
15 on the same media platforms and level as its respective arrest/accusation  
16 post. This legislation does not intend to harm civilian-police  
17 communication, nor does it limit the social media and mass-media rights of  
18 law enforcement agencies. Rather, it will help to better inform the public  
19 while protecting the assurance of "innocent until proven guilty" found  
20 within the 5th amendment due process rights.

21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 It is the responsibility of the accused to issue a complaint to the district  
23 attorney's office if the corrective post does not follow. Complaints will be  
24 reviewed by an elected committee serving under the state district attorney.  
25 Instances of exoneration include dropping of charges, failure to indict, or  
26 the ruling of a not-guilty verdict. This proposed legislation does not  
27 prevent agencies from posting information regarding arrests and criminal  
28 accusations. It only requires agencies to issue a following media  
29 announcement on the same platform used previously if said accused is  
30 found not-guilty of the allegations included in the original post.  
31 Furthermore, a corrective post is only required if there was an original post  
32 regarding arrest and accusation. This legislation is not retroactive;  
33 however, victims can still retroactively apply for compensation

34 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

35 Funding is only necessary to finance the review committee within the  
36 district attorney's office. Such capital will be allocated from the district  
37 attorney's annual budget. The predicted amount to establish such  
38 committee is \$100,000.

39 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

40 Any law-enforcement office found in violation of the requirements  
41 previously noted may be reported to the district attorney's office. Such a  
42 report must originate from the victim only.

43 Based on the committee's review, the law-enforcement agency may be  
44 fined (an amount to be determined by DA). This money will be placed in  
45 Louisiana's Crime Victim Reparations Fund (previously established).  
46 The victim may subsequently file for compensation from this fund (also a  
47 previously established action). Any application for reparations will continue  
48 to be processed by the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and  
49 Administration of Criminal Justice, and the amount refunded will follow  
50 pre-existing guidelines. The victim may also seek justice in the form of civil  
51 suits (slander/defamation).

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56 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

57 **SENATE BILL 79**

58 Tori Ingrassia Central High School

59 Shaun Breen

60 **TITLE:** Ban the Use of Cell Phones Completely While  
61 Operating a Motor Vehicle

62

63 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

64 The use of cell phones and technology greatly affects all aspects of our  
65 lives; sadly, including our driving. The average driver in Louisiana uses  
66 their cell phone 2.4 times while driving which is putting many lives in  
67 danger. By making all of Louisiana a hands-free zone, we would be saving  
68 the lives of many and creating a safer environment for all.

69 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

70 This law would be implemented beginning January 1st, 2020. To  
71 implement this law nothing physically would need to be done. Educating  
72 the state on the newly changed distracted driving laws and the  
73 consequences until it is in effect would be all that is necessary to  
74 implement the law.

75 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

76 There is no funding required for this bill.

77 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

78 Violators face fines of \$100 for a first offense, \$150 for a second, \$200 for  
79 a third and \$250 for any more offenses. Three violations in a year and a  
80 driver's license could get revoked.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 80**

3 Shaun Breen Central High School

4 Tori Ingrassia

5 **TITLE:** Welfare for the Well Deserved

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana spends entirely too much money on unnecessary funding for the  
8 Welfare program in place. In 2017, Louisiana spent approximately \$1.85  
9 billion, in 2018, \$1.77 billion, and in 2019, they are expected to spend a  
10 whopping \$1.8 billion. The money spent on Welfare could be allocated to  
11 other areas that need more funding like Louisiana’s roads. This law would  
12 help to possibly decrease taxes because the state would not need as much  
13 money. This bill would alter the current qualifications for Welfare by no  
14 longer allowing unemployed citizens of the state to receive Welfare for  
15 longer than three months. This law will allow a three - month time period  
16 to find a job and hopefully become employed. This will promote a work  
17 ethic that will eventually keep more people off of Welfare completely.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 Starting May of 2020, these new qualifications regarding Welfare will take  
20 effect. When applying for Welfare and you are unemployed, the state will  
21 monitor your employment status. After receiving three months of unearned  
22 money from the state, your Welfare qualification will be ERADICATED.

23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 There will be no needed funding for this bill. If enacted correctly, the state  
25 will be saving money and not spending unnecessary funds.

26 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

27 There are no consequences regarding this law being that the state  
28 monitors your employment status and will take away your benefits before  
29 they can be abused.

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38 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

39 **SENATE BILL 81**

40 Myrissa Eisworth Central High School

41 Emily Courtney

42 **TITLE:** Year-round Daylight Saving Time

43 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

44 Currently all states, if they chose to participate, are required to begin  
45 daylight saving time at 2:00 a.m. on the second Sunday of March and end  
46 at 2:00 a.m. on the first Sunday of November. With this bill, Louisiana  
47 would no longer participate in this system of time and would use daylight  
48 saving time (DST) year round. This constant switching back and forth is no  
49 longer helpful. Going back to standard time (ST) actually increases car  
50 accidents. Researchers from Carnegie Mellon University found a 186  
51 percent jump in the risk of being killed by a car for every mile walked and  
52 researchers at the University of Michigan found that 65 pedestrians were  
53 killed by car crashes in the week before DST ended, and 227 pedestrians  
54 were killed in the week following the end of DST. In addition, switching  
55 from ST to DST messes up people's sleep schedules, which can cause a  
56 host of health problems. Studies link the lack of sleep at the start of DST  
57 to car accidents, workplace injuries, suicide, and miscarriages. The early  
58 evening darkness after the end of the DST period is linked to depression.  
59 Finally, this act is no longer applicable. In this modern age of technology  
60 the energy saved from DST is negligible.

61 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

62 This bill will go into effect the November following its passage. The state of  
63 Louisiana will not revert back to standard time.

64 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

65 There is no need for any funding.

66 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

67 There are no penalties required.

2 **SENATE BILL 82**

3 Jeff Pham Lafayette High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Prevent brain drain through creating a subsidized  
6 graduate and professional school program

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Brain drain, defined as “the emigration of highly trained or intelligent  
9 people usually for better pay or living conditions,” is very prevalent in  
10 Louisiana, a state that ranks so poorly in every discernible metric. The fact  
11 that our most talented individuals leave at the earliest opportunity creates  
12 a self-perpetuating cycle that handicaps any future growth for our state.  
13 This bill aims to address that by subsidizing graduate and professional  
14 schools for Louisianians.

15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 A fund will be created in order to provide loans to Louisiana citizens in  
17 order to attend accredited graduate and professional schools across the  
18 United States. The loans, along with the interest accrued during the  
19 forbearance period of X years, will be repaid through a commitment to  
20 reside and work in Louisiana for X years. “X years” is based on the loan  
21 amount. A certain amount of debt will be “repaid” for every year the  
22 borrower resides in Louisiana. By living and working in Louisiana, these  
23 talented individuals stimulate and grow the economy, both in terms of  
24 purchasing power and the potential for innovation.

25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 Funds will be allocated from various other parts of the state budget in  
27 order to establish this fund. Additionally, funds will be drawn from a tax on  
28 the fossil fuel industry in order to promote other industries through this  
29 program. Any additional revenue generated through the Penalties section  
30 will also be placed into this fund.

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 If the borrower chooses to leave the state before their loans are  
33 completely forgiven, the remaining loan amount will have to be repaid with  
34 an interest rate matching that of federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans for  
35 graduate school, which is 6.08% for loans disbursed between 7/1/2019  
36 and 7/1/2020, plus 1%. Additionally, the interest accrued during the  
37 forbearance period will be capitalized, or added to the principal amount, to  
38 be repaid.

39  
40

42 **SENATE BILL 84**

43 Madeline Campbell Dutchtown High School

44  
45 **TITLE:** Prevent stores from locking up contraceptives.

46  
47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 After many surveys done by the CDC, It is shown that Louisiana has the  
49 highest rates of Hiv, STDs, and other sexually transmitted diseases. But  
50 when tracking these cases, a common problem is repeated. That problem  
51 is the stores. Companies like Walmart, Target, and many commercial  
52 stores are all on a repeating trend of locking up their contraceptives, the  
53 contraceptives, in this case, being condoms. And with the already large  
54 strain on teens and young adults to purchase such products, the now  
55 added task of asking a store employee for assistance is becoming too  
56 much. People rather go off without asking them than face the  
57 embarrassment of having to ask. So with this bill, stores will no longer be  
58 allowed to lock up contraceptives. Therefore relieving the stress, and  
59 allowing for people to be safe and protected. And with people being  
60 protected, the total number of sexually transmitted diseases will  
61 dramatically decrease.

62

63

64 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

65 The individual stores will need to remove all locked cases by the year  
66 2020.

67 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

68 This will require no funding.

69

70 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

71 If a store is to still lock up cases, the individual store will be closed until all  
72 restraints are removed.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 83**

3 Calvin Butler Lee Magnet High School

4 Micheal Simpson

5 **TITLE:** TITLE: (M.E.N.T.O.R.) Modern Educators Nurturing

6 Teen Occupational Readiness

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Louisiana has 290 public schools. Of the schools, 31.4% are C, D, and  
9 F rated. Of the astonishing amount of underperforming schools, the  
10 majority of them are in parishes with an overwhelmingly African American  
11 majority. While the parishes with an overwhelming majority of White  
12 students continue to perform at an A or B rating. Claiborne Parish,  
13 Concordia Parish, East Baton Rouge Parish, East Carroll Parish, East  
14 Feliciana Parish, and Franklin Parish are among the districts with the  
15 highest African-American population and each of them has a school  
16 assessment grade of either D or F. East Baton Rouge composes of 28, 756  
17 African Americans in their school system. Calcasieu Parish, Cladwell Parish,  
18 Livingston Parish, St. Tammany Parish, and Ascension Parish are among  
19 the parishes with the highest White population and each of them has a  
20 school assessment grade of either an A or B. Ascension composes of  
21 12,559 White students in their school system. This means we are actively  
22 neglecting the black schools which directly rebels against Title VI of the  
23 Civil Rights Act of 1964. Therefore, we have created the M.E.N.T.O.R act  
24 to rectify our discriminatory education system. We want to combat this  
25 trend of failing schools that underserve their students by presenting them  
26 with occupational pathways that interest them.

27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 Beginning in the year 2022, D and F schools in Louisiana will convert to  
29 M.E.N. members meaning they are required to offer occupational readiness  
30 programs to freshmen students in the following: medical sonography,  
31 water vessel operations, electrical and HVAC training, construction  
32 management inspection, automotive management operations, welding, law  
33 enforcement and crime scene investigation. All students will be offered the  
34 opportunity to test for their certificate in their chosen fields. Students who  
35 do not wish to participate in M.E.N.T.O.R are allowed to transfer schools if  
36 their academic performance is higher than their school's assessment  
37 grade. All C schools will have five years to raise their scores or they will be  
38 annexed into the M.E.N.T.O.R program. Career MENTORS will be expected  
39 to teach twice a week. They can receive a 4% income tax deduction and  
40 companies who send instructors can receive a 5% property tax cut. Or if a  
41 MENTOR is in jeopardy of losing their license they have the option of using

42 the program to complete their probationary periods within two school  
43 years.

44 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

45 N/A

46 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

47 Any instructor in a probationary period who does not attend their class for  
48 more than five days without the approval of the M.E.N.T.O.R. committee  
49 which is comprised of all of the M.E.N. members' principals and is headed  
50 by the Louisiana State Senate Chairman of the Education Committee will  
51 lose their license.





1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **SENATE BILL 85**

3 Cade Acosta Catholic High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Rehabilitation Over Reprisal

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 America's prison population has been on the rise ever since the start of the  
8 War on Drugs, with Louisiana's being far from an exception. The  
9 incarceration rate of the US has risen from 150 inmates per 100,000  
10 citizens in 1980 to 693 per 100,000 in 2013. Louisiana in particular is  
11 nationally infamous for its high incarceration rates (712 per 100,000 in  
12 June 2018). In 2011, 37% of those prison admissions in Louisiana were for  
13 nonviolent drug offences.

14 In contrast, Germany's incarceration rate of only 76 per 100,000 comes  
15 from its use of normalization-focused imprisonment, rather than  
16 Louisiana's focus on punishment. Louisiana has a prison population of  
17 31,756 (0.67% of the total population) and 66% recidivism within 3 years  
18 of leaving prison (compared to Germany's 0.077% population and  
19 recidivism of 48%). Louisiana's high prison population costed \$744 million  
20 in 2018. Three percent of Louisiana's government spending is allocated for  
21 corrections (compared to Germany's one and a half percent).

22  
23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 Prison facilities will no longer be built with the intention of punishing  
25 prisoners by stuffing them into cold, cage-like rooms. Instead, new prison  
26 facilities must be built with the comfortability, independence, and privacy  
27 of the prisoners in mind.

28 Louisiana's high prison population will be reduced by liberalizing nonviolent  
29 drug usage offenses and releasing all prisoners convicted of such offenses  
30 upon the passage of this bill. From then on, those caught using these  
31 substances are now instead given an option between entering an addiction  
32 rehabilitation center in a local prison once a week or participating in some  
33 amount of community service. These rehabilitation centers will house an  
34 addiction therapist, support groups of those within the prison, and a  
35 needle exchange for those struggling with heroin addictions.

36 Those caught selling illegal substances, however, are imprisoned for the  
37 act as usual, except the mandatory minimum sentence will be reduced by  
38 75%, as with all other mandatory minimum sentences.

39 Those in prison will now receive much higher independence and privacy  
40 through an increase in their minimum wage to 80% of the minimum wage  
41 of free persons while requiring them to earn their regular utilities (unless  
42 necessary for the individual's survival).

43 Solitary confinement will be used only sparsely, requiring at least a week-  
44 long break for every two weeks spent in solitary. Prisoners cannot be  
45 placed in solitary for more than two weeks at a time, and only those who  
46 would regularly receive the death penalty (and those who have already  
47 been sentenced with the death penalty or with a prison sentence to life  
48 and/or more than 40 years in length) will be placed in solitary  
49 confinement. While on break from solitary, those convicted as such will  
50 remain separated from prisoners not given such punishment.  
51 Prisoners' mental health will be improved beyond being granted increased  
52 independence and privacy, as they will also be allowed an hour of private  
53 time and an hour of social time if they wish. The prisoners will also be  
54 invited to participate in group-based activities with other prisoners to  
55 improve social health and to promote cooperative functioning in society  
56 upon their leaving prison.

57  
58 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

59 As Louisiana spends an average of approximately \$23,000 per prisoner per  
60 year and 11,700 Louisiana prisoners were imprisoned for nonviolent drug  
61 offences, pardoning them alone would save around \$275 million per year.  
62 As such, this extra \$275 million for 2020 will be allocated toward the prison  
63 facilities themselves for infrastructure and materials needed for the  
64 aforementioned social activities and independence-based facilities. After  
65 this surplus has been spent as such for 2020, the extra money will be  
66 henceforth added into the education budget to fund better public school  
67 systems in order to decrease the number of individuals growing into adult  
68 criminals.

69 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

70 The penalties for nonviolent drug offences, juvenile crimes, and treatment  
71 of death penalties and life sentences will be adjusted as described in  
72 Section II. Additionally, prison guards and workers who deny obedient  
73 prisoners their rightful time for individual reflection or socialization will be  
74 fined, with a starting fine of \$500 that increases by \$500 each time the  
75 officer repeats the offence. Those in charge of solitary confinement will be  
76 responsible for ensuring fair durations of the punishment as described in  
77 Section II. If those responsible fail to comply to these set durations of  
78 confinement, they face a \$500 fine that multiplies each time by the  
79 number of days that those responsible fail to correctly adhere to the  
80 appropriated time.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 86**

3 Jackson Bell Catholic High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Legalize Organ Sales

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In the United States, there are currently over 114,000 individuals on  
8 waiting lists for vital organ transplants. Every 10 minutes, someone new is  
9 added to that list and 20 people a day die never having received that  
10 potentially lifesaving transplant. Currently, only 3 out of 1000 people who  
11 are organ donors have organs eligible after their deaths for donation due  
12 to various health reasons. This dire need for organs has led to a rampant  
13 black market that has arisen to meet demands. According to the World  
14 Health Organization, "The black market accounts for 20 percent of kidney  
15 transplants worldwide." These illicit organ transplants are often unsafe,  
16 unsanitary and even nonconsensual. Both of these issues have the ability  
17 to be solved with a bill which allows for the elimination of the organ deficit  
18 and the illegal trade while also providing for compensation for organs and  
19 a safe place to do so.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 The need for organs is rising while the supply is not, which is why a  
22 system must be implemented by which "donors" are allowed to sell certain  
23 organs to hospitals under sanitary, safe and moral circumstances.  
24 First: The State of Louisiana will allow hospitals to purchase organs directly  
25 from sellers. The seller must fit certain medical criteria decided on by  
26 experts at hospitals where the transplant is occurring. The only person  
27 who can make the exchange is the one from whose body the organ(s)  
28 originally came; no one can sell another person's organs. Second: The  
29 sales price will be set and regulated by the state by organ. The set price  
30 will be considerably lower than the current value of the organs due to the  
31 ability for direct compensation and, therefore, a higher number of organs  
32 entering the market. Third: The state implements a waiting period of 3  
33 months for those wanting to sell their organs to dissuade spur of the  
34 moment decision, and will also limit the amount of organs being sold so  
35 there is not a surplus. Organs can only be sold when there is a demand.  
36 Fourth: Only Louisiana residents are eligible to receive and sell their organs  
37 within the state. This is to prevent "Transplant Tourism" as is common in  
38 Iran and East Asia.

39

40 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

41 The current price for a heart in the United States sits around 1 million  
42 dollars, with kidneys being valued at approximately 250,000. This bill will

43 dramatically drive down the price for these organs due to a perceived  
44 increase in supply due to safe and legal sale. A kidney will sell for 100,000,  
45 and a piece of the liver, depending on the size, anywhere from 2,000-  
46 85,000 USD and Bone Marrow at 3000 USD a sample. Insurance providers  
47 are subject to paying these set prices to prevent exploitation.

48 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

49 Hospitals or doctors which are found to either be increasing prices or  
50 purchasing organs without a license will be subject to penalties. Individual  
51 doctors can have their medical licenses removed for knowingly removing or  
52 inserting an organ. A hospital engaging in such illicit behavior will be  
53 subject to fines with are 5 times what the organ which was replaced or  
54 removed was worth.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **SENATE BILL 87**



3 Luke Bella Catholic High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** End Pharmaceutical Price Gouging

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Millions of Americans are cruelly taken advantage of by big pharmaceutical  
8 companies' ridiculously high prices for life saving drugs. After creating  
9 "specialty drugs" that are necessary to treat deadly disorders,  
10 pharmaceutical companies increase the prices to an astronomical amount  
11 with no thought for the suffering people who rely on their products to  
12 survive. A single prescription for one of the top five specialty drugs costs  
13 \$6,621. Prices for "orphan drugs," or medicine used to treat extremely  
14 rare deadly diseases, are even more ludicrous, with the average orphan  
15 drug costing \$112,000 per person. These prices prevent patients from  
16 getting the treatment they need to survive. Pharmaceutical prices have  
17 been jacked up for necessary drugs from treatments for Wolman's Disease,  
18 a deadly disease that only affects a handful of infants, to the EpiPen,  
19 which is prescribed to over 3.6 million Americans. The United States is  
20 unique in its lack of regulations on pharmaceutical companies unfairly  
21 raising prices. In countries like Australia, there are pharmaceutical review  
22 boards that negotiate fair prices for drugs that pharmaceutical companies  
23 want to sell. A system like this needs to be instituted in Louisiana in order  
24 to save its citizens from unfair price gouging. With it, Louisiana will be a  
25 model for all other states in the Union to follow to stop pharmaceutical  
26 companies from their predatory price setting.

27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 Upon the passage of this bill, a Louisiana Pharmaceutical Review Board will  
29 be created, made up of five officials. The members of this board will be  
30 appointed by the governor, and will be approved by the Health and  
31 Welfare Committee in the Louisiana House of Representatives by a  
32 majority vote. New officials may be put into place when a new governor  
33 comes into office, but those must be approved before they take the old  
34 officials' spots. Their salaries will come from the state's budget for the  
35 Department of Health, and it will be illegal for them to accept contributions  
36 of any kind from pharmaceutical companies. To prevent corruption, these  
37 officials are subject to impeachment if found guilty of any impeachable  
38 offense.

39 This board will negotiate prices of life-saving drugs with pharmaceutical  
40 companies creating them, in order to come up with a fair price. This  
41 mark-up will differ for each drug according to production cost, research  
42 cost, and the necessity of the drug, but it cannot exceed five times the

43 production cost. The board will negotiate all future life-saving  
44 pharmaceuticals wishing to be sold in Louisiana, along with all those  
45 currently sold in Louisiana. After the creation of the board, it will have 8  
46 years to negotiate the prices of all current life-saving drugs for sale in  
47 Louisiana.

48

49 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

50 There is no additional funding required for this bill.

51 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

52 If found selling life-saving pharmaceuticals for a price greater than the  
53 price agreed on by the board and the company, the company will have to  
54 reimburse those affected by the unfair price, pay a \$10,000 fine, and be  
55 subject to any additional lawsuits from the affected parties if further  
56 damage was caused.

2 **SENATE BILL 88**

3 Stewart Roeling Catholic High School

4 **TITLE:** Legalize Recreational Nukes

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution states, "A well  
7 regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right  
8 of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Article I,  
9 Section XI of the Louisiana State Constitution states that "[t]he right of  
10 each citizen to keep and bear arms is fundamental and shall not be  
11 infringed. Any restriction on this right shall be subject to strict scrutiny."  
12 In our current times, the right to bear arms is under attack. Radical leftist  
13 initiatives like "reducing gun violence" and "protecting the lives of innocent  
14 people" are attacking our God-given right to hold whatever military-grade  
15 weapons we want. One area where even quote-on-quote "gun-rights  
16 promoters" like the leftist N.R.A. refuse to protect is the right to bear  
17 nuclear arms. While these arms-control groups will ardently protect the  
18 traditional rifles and associated evolution of such arms that our glorious  
19 Founding Fathers bore in fighting a tyrannical liberal government, they fail  
20 to realize that our Founding Fathers had the vision to see into the future.  
21 They saw that we would develop the capability to end mankind as we  
22 wish, and created the Second Amendment with that specifically in mind.  
23 It is time for Louisiana to take the first step in fully realizing the vision that  
24 our Founding Fathers had for our country -to be the only non-tyrannical  
25 state in the only non-tyrannical country in the world.

26 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

27 The production and consumption of all recreational nukes (including but  
28 not limited to fission or fusion bombs) shall be legalized in the State of  
29 Louisiana on the passage of this bill.

30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 No funding is needed for this bill. There shall be a .01% tax on the sale of  
32 recreational nukes. The subsequent funds shall be saved for a "radioactive  
33 rain"-y day fund.

34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 Any official in the State of Louisiana who attempts to prohibit the legal sale  
36 of recreational nukes shall be brought to a judge and be legally disciplined  
37 accordingly for their refusal to follow state law. If they continue to prohibit  
38 the legal sale of recreational nukes, they shall be found in contempt of  
39 court.

40  
41

43 **SENATE BILL 89**

44 Patrick Chu Lafayette High School

45

46 **TITLE:** Mandate that high school students pass a financial  
47 literacy course as part of graduation requirements

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 Financial literacy is only taught in Louisiana at the end of the high school  
50 Civics curriculum. Because of the minimal importance that the state places  
51 on financial education, many students in Louisiana graduate high school  
52 without the basic skills needed to be financially secure. According to Time  
53 magazine, more than 20% of home renters aged 18-24 overspend their  
54 income by \$100 per month. 26% of adults report that they do not pay  
55 their bills on time. The average debt of students when they graduate from  
56 college is almost \$30,000, while 81% of millennials have at least 1 long  
57 standing debt. These problems can easily be alleviated by providing  
58 students with a practical education of personal finance.

59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 This bill will require that students pass a financial literacy course as part of  
61 the high school graduation requirements. The course must cover, but is  
62 not limited to personal finance skills including interest rates, credit cards,  
63 the stock market, balancing checkbooks, and saving and budgeting money.

64 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

65 The costs of this bill will be to hire additional teachers to educate students.  
66 The money will be taken from Louisiana's existing education fund.

67

68 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

69 Because this bill impacts graduation requirements, students who do not  
70 complete the financial literacy course cannot graduate high school.

2 **SENATE BILL 90**

3 Olivia Rodriguez Lakeshore High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Allow female minors, age 16 and up, to access birth control (oral contraceptive) without parental consent

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7  
8 Menstruation, on average, starts at age 12. That means that for roughly  
9 six years, girls must deal with the cramps, clots, and conception risks that  
10 come with periods. About thirty percent of women in their childbearing  
11 years have an irregular period. So girls under the age of 18 may have an  
12 irregular period and no way to control it. Not only does birth control help  
13 with regulating periods, it also lightens the flow, which helps to alleviate  
14 cramps and abdominal pain. Birth control can also be used as a way to  
15 prevent pregnancy. In 2017, Louisiana came in fourth for the state with  
16 the highest teen pregnancy rate, with 29 out of every 1000 teen girls  
17 becoming pregnant. Young women may not be comfortable talking to their  
18 parents about getting on birth control for whatever reason. This bill gives  
19 minors, age 16 and up, the ability to take control of their health and learn  
20 to take on more responsibilities. If they are allowed to operate a vehicle,  
21 they should also be allowed to ensure that they are safe and healthy.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 Minors age 16 and up will be allowed to schedule an appointment with any  
24 clinic or with their primary care physician, in the hopes of obtaining birth  
25 control. These appointments will be confidential and no information will be  
26 given to the parent unless minor specifically says they are comfortable with  
27 it. Minors must prove, however, that they are financially able to pay for  
28 their own birth control if they wish to get it without parental consent.  
29 Physicians and clinic workers also must make sure that the minor has no  
30 underlying health issues that may affect their use of birth control. If the  
31 doctor believes that the minor is a risk, they can deny the minor access  
32 and bar them from obtaining it without parental consent, only if there are  
33 valid reasons for doing so. Minors will be treated as adults in this medical  
34 sense.

35 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

36 This bill will require no funding as the minors will pay for medication with  
37 their own money.

38 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

39 Any medical malpractice laws still apply.

40

42 **SENATE BILL 91**

43 Patsy Sims Saint Joseph's Academy

44 Christin Ransome

45 **TITLE:** Provide Medical Information from Birth Mothers of  
46 Adopted Children

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 In the United States of America, medical and psychological information is  
49 restricted into the state's registries and is not given to the adoptees unless  
50 consenting biological parents submit family medical history to be accessible  
51 to the adopted child. In Louisiana, if the biological parent does not submit  
52 to allowing the adopted child to have these records, the adoptee must go  
53 to the DCFS (Department of Children and Family Services) Reunion  
54 Voluntary Registry and apply for the reunion registry. To receive any  
55 information, both parties must apply for this registry, if one party applies  
56 or there is no "match" with the other party, the person that registered  
57 cannot have any access to any information concerning the other party.

58 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

59 This bill will require the birthmother to supply medical history (physical and  
60 psychological) extending to the birthmother's grandparents. This  
61 information would include allergies, genetic illness risks, addiction history,  
62 pregnancy information that would affect the child, drug use, any other  
63 genetic mental health issues, and other medical issues that could be  
64 inherited. The information would go through the adoption agency and the  
65 agency will distribute it to the adoptee at the time of adoption finalization.  
66 The information going through the agency assures that if there was a case  
67 of closed adoption, the confidentiality of the biological parent's identity  
68 would still be upheld.

69 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

70 No funding is required

71 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

72 If the birth mother refuses to provide the required medical history and  
73 records, the adoption would become invalid



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 94**

3 Jeffrey Deng Mandeville High School

4 Justin Vail

5 **TITLE:** Automating traffic law enforcement

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Traffic law enforcement in Louisiana, and the United States as a whole, is  
8 irregular, and is often marred by human error; most cases of violent police  
9 confrontation occur during traffic stops, which also happens to be the most  
10 common setting for police interaction. Automating the process would  
11 provide an impartial arbiter and uniform enforcement of speed limits, red  
12 lights, etc. Police would still be able to respond to vehicular accidents, but  
13 the automation would provide an accurate feedback of the events  
14 preceding the accident, which would streamline legal affairs by reducing  
15 witness bias. The enforcement of traffic laws in Louisiana would be handed  
16 from police to security cameras equipped with radars. The radars will be  
17 equipped with a software used to identify the license plates and speed of  
18 the vehicles involved in traffic incidents. After the information is gathered,  
19 reports will be sent to the local police station. Overall, introducing  
20 automation into the enforcement of traffic laws would make the roadways  
21 of Louisiana safer for all.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 Pairs of heavy-duty, weather resistant surveillance cameras equipped with  
24 radars that can assess vehicle speed would be installed first in areas with  
25 high density motor vehicle traffic, then in areas with less traffic. The  
26 cameras' feed will be stored into a short term computer memory database,  
27 where only the footage from the last two hours will be kept, unless  
28 retrieval for legal purposes is necessary (see vehicular accident evidence in  
29 Section I). The footage will be paired with image recognition software as  
30 described in Section I. Before this bill is enacted, the software will be  
31 trained on existing video records from police stations across the country  
32 until the viability algorithm is satisfied, allowing the cameras to accurately  
33 recognize different traffic situations and license plate numbers.

34 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

35 The funds for this bill will initially come from revenue generated by existing  
36 traffic law fines. Once the cameras in high traffic density areas are  
37 established, then the fines from those cameras will pay for the installment  
38 of new cameras.

39 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

40 The penalties for traffic law violations will be the same as existing fines.

41



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 93**

3 Matthew Bickham            Episcopal High School

4 Gregory Field

5 **TITLE:** Louisiana Firearm Owners Protection Act

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 For many years, the Second Amendment has been trampled on by the NFA  
8 Act of 1934, the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, and  
9 the Firearm Owners Protection Act. Despite their intended purposes of  
10 keeping the country safe, they have shown no immediate and measurable  
11 effect on the rate of crime. In fact, many foreign countries that have  
12 instituted any form of gun control during their recession of crime has seen  
13 either a stagnation or increase in violent crime. In addition to this, studies  
14 have clearly shown that the possession of firearms by the general  
15 population actually decreases the amount of violent crime that occurs. For  
16 example, a 2013 study ordered by the CDC reported that defensive uses of  
17 firearms have prevented between 500,000 and 3,000,000 violent crimes.  
18 However, the clear evidence that shows that general gun possession  
19 lowers violent crime does not explain the increased numbers of mass  
20 shootings that are occurring on a monthly basis. The explanation for this  
21 increase in mass shootings can clearly be seen in the prevalence of gun  
22 free zones. In fact, 86% of all mass shootings (shootings that include the  
23 death of 4 or more people) occur in gun-free zones when gang-related  
24 activity is excluded. Lastly, there is a clear constitutional protection on the  
25 possession and ownership of firearms. The Second Amendment had and  
26 still has the clear purpose of allowing individual citizens to bear any arm in  
27 which they prefer in order to defend against a tyrannical government.  
28 Because of this, any and all Federal legislation that limits the ability of  
29 citizens to possess or own firearms is unconstitutional even if its power to  
30 legislate comes from the Commerce Clause of the Constitution. Therefore,  
31 the intended purpose of this bill is to allow the citizens of Louisiana to  
32 carry any firearms in which they see fit, while also circumventing the  
33 Federal legislation that has limited the natural right to keep and bear arms.

34 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

35 All law abiding citizens within the state of Louisiana are not required to  
36 obtain a concealed carry permit in order to carry concealed in public areas.  
37 However, citizens can still obtain a concealed carry permit in order to meet  
38 the requirements of other states. All private businesses have the right to  
39 choose whether their patrons or guests are allowed to bring firearms. All  
40 public schools in the state of Louisiana have the choice to regulate the  
41 possession of weapons on their campuses. However, by default, weapons  
42 will not be allowed on the grounds of public schools. This is up to the

43 discretion of the individual school districts. All firearms or firearm  
44 accessories that are manufactured, sold, and stay in the state of Louisiana  
45 are not subject under the provisions of the NFA. This is to ensure that the  
46 citizens of Louisiana can defend themselves from a tyrannical government  
47 while also staying within the bounds of previous Supreme Court  
48 precedence.

49 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

50 No funding required.

51 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

52 Any Louisiana citizens that are caught manufacturing weapons with the  
53 purpose of distribution to other states without first being registered under  
54 Federal provisions will be prosecuted. Citizens that are prosecuted under  
55 this legislation face a minimum sentence of 5 years, and a maximum  
56 sentence of 15 years.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**



2 **SENATE BILL 95**

3 Amanda Waelde                      Haynes Academy

4

5 **TITLE:** An Act to Protect Student Privacy

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Every year, high school students throughout the state take countless tests:  
8 PSATs, ACTs, SATs, APs, and more. Companies such as College Board and  
9 ACT intentionally deceive these students by claiming to offer free  
10 opportunities by sharing student information with colleges, when in fact  
11 they are profiting from the sale of students' personal information to said  
12 colleges.

13 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

14 Testing organizations such as but not limited to the College Board and ACT  
15 are hereby prohibited from selling student information without the express  
16 knowledge and consent of the student to the sale of their information.  
17 When students are asked, on paper or online, whether they would like  
18 their information to be shared with colleges and other organizations, the  
19 request must explicitly state that the information will be sold to third  
20 parties, that said third parties may be illegitimate, and that said third  
21 parties each have their own privacy policies dictating how the information  
22 is used and shared. Students will be defaulted to opting out of any data  
23 sharing, including that required for entry into sweepstakes or scholarships.  
24 To be entered into any such sweepstakes, they will have to explicitly  
25 consent to the sale of their information. Moreover, students are entitled to  
26 know exactly what information will be shared and whom it will be shared  
27 with before they consent to its being shared.

28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 This bill requires no funding.

30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 For every student whose information is shared in a manner that violates  
32 this bill, the company who sold the information will be subject to a fine of  
33 \$1,000.





1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 96**

3 Samantha Sevin                      Archbishop Hannan High School

4 Taylor Davidson

5 **TITLE:** Motion to Implement Economic Subsidies and Tax

6 Exemptions to Diversify Louisiana’s Economy

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 This motion is designed to bring economic prosperity back to Louisiana.

9 According to usatoday.com, in 2018 Louisiana was tied with New Mexico

10 for the 4th poorest state in the Union. Louisiana’s average household

11 income is \$46,145 and Louisiana has the highest unemployment rate in the

12 Union. Louisiana also has a high median youth unemployment rate of

13 14.73%. These subsidies and tax exemptions are designed to bring the

14 industries of service, manufacturing, technology, and renewable energy to

15 the state to supplement the industries of fossil fuels, commercial fishing,

16 etc.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 Louisiana currently exercises a tax of a median of 26.5% on all tobacco

19 products sold in the state. Louisiana has the 5th highest rate in the United

20 States for smoking. The economic subsidies and ability to offer tax

21 exemptions would stem from an increase in taxes placed on cigarettes

22 from the current amount to 35% on all tobacco, vape, and e-liquid

23 products sold in LA. Additional taxes of 15% will be implemented on soft

24 drinks, candy, and cocoa products. This bill will also eliminate the tax on

25 bottled water. Subsidies will be paid per new job added each year the

26 company qualifies. A 15% tax exemption will be implemented in the 2nd

27 fiscal year the company qualifies and a 10% tax exemption per fiscal year

28 beginning in the 3rd that the company qualifies. An additional 3% tax

29 exemption will be implemented if at least 75% of the company’s

30 employees are individuals who have resided in Louisiana for at least 2

31 years.

32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 This resolution will allocate \$150 million to a fund that will provide each of

34 the following per company that qualifies. Requirements to receive funding

35 are the company must be in business for 2 fiscal years, the company must

36 have made at least \$25,000 profit per fiscal year in the last 2 fiscal years,

37 and the company must employ at least 50 people. There are six categories

38 these subsidies are broken down into. The company will receive the

39 following for new jobs only. \$4,000 per job added with pay below \$20,000

40 a year. \$ 8,000 per job added with pay at least \$20,001 a year to \$40,000

41 a year. \$12,000 per job added with pay at least \$40,001 to pay of \$60,000

42 a year. \$16,000 per added with pay at least \$60,001 a year to \$80,000.

43 \$20,000 per job added with pay at least \$80,001 per year to \$100,000 per  
44 year. \$24,000 per job added with pay at least \$120,000 per year.

45 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

46 Companies must maintain at least 80% of the jobs it added in the 1st fiscal

47 year or it will lose its tax exemptions until it adds at least 80% of the jobs

48 back. The company will not receive subsidies during that time.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 97**

3 Elizabeth Cox Mandeville High School

4 Elizabeth Casey

5 **TITLE:** Ban the Use of Sell-By Dates on All Food Sold in

6 Louisiana

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The United States wastes roughly 40 percent of the food it produces per  
9 year. This amounts to 133 billion pounds and \$165 billion dollars worth of  
10 food wasted. Part of this waste can be attributed to confusion over the  
11 dates printed on most food products including: sell-by, best-by, and use-by  
12 dates. Use-by dates, according to the Institute of Food Technology, are a  
13 "directive of the date by which the product should be eaten". Best-by dates  
14 indicate a date by which a product tastes best (not when a product has  
15 gone bad). And, sell-by dates are primarily meant for the retailer and  
16 suggest how long a product should stay on the shelf. The sell-by date on  
17 food products is not intended for consumers yet a national survey  
18 conducted by the National Consumers League, Johns Hopkins, and Harvard  
19 found one third of the population (37%) said they always or usually throw  
20 away food because it is close to or past the date that appears on the  
21 package. Also, 84% of consumers throw out food based on date labels at  
22 least occasionally. Consumers toss products despite the sell-by date only  
23 accounting for 10% of a products life, wasting perfectly good food. Product  
24 date labels are not federally mandated. In fact, the label laws that exist  
25 vary state by state. In Louisiana, date labels are only required for eggs.  
26 Companies choose to put labels on their products and choose the dates  
27 when they "think" their product will be expired or best-by. Getting rid of  
28 sell-by dates will eliminate confusion among consumers and help prevent  
29 food waste in Louisiana.

30 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

31 Manufacturers have 1 year from the passage of this bill to remove sell-by  
32 dates from their products being distributed to Louisiana stores. The  
33 responsibility of checking the bills implementation will be delegated to The  
34 Food and Drug Unit of Louisiana (FDU) and the Food Safety and Inspection  
35 Service (FSIS). The FDU and FSIS inspectors will check for implementation  
36 during their usual inspections of food that is sold in Louisiana.

37 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

38 This bill requires no funding.

39 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

40 If a manufacturer is found still selling his or her product with a sell-by date  
41 1 year from the bill's passage, the manufacturer will have to pay a \$5,000

42 fine. The fine increases \$2,500 annually if the product continues to harbor  
43 a sell-by date.



44 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

45 **SENATE BILL 98**

46 Anna Leyrer St. Joseph's Academy

47 Shreya Reshamwala

48 **TITLE:** Extend the No-Retaliation Policy to New Workplaces

49 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

50 Louisiana law protects those who are discriminated against for reasons  
51 such as race, gender, age, etc. by establishing a policy of no retaliation  
52 after a case against those who discriminate is established as found in the  
53 Louisiana Commission for Human Rights. However, the no retaliation  
54 legislation does not apply after a victim of workplace discrimination applies  
55 for a new job. Currently, employers may choose not to hire them based on  
56 their history of being vocal about unfair treatment, though they may be  
57 very qualified for the job in question. For example, women are being  
58 rejected when applying to jobs after making statements about their sexual  
59 assault experiences in the workplace according to NPR. After an experience  
60 of sexual assault, many women want to leave their current, toxic  
61 workplace and start in a safer work environment. Instead of being able to  
62 move past the traumatic experience of coming out as a victim, women are  
63 set back by their honesty and work toward justice against sexual  
64 assaulters.

65 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

66 This will expand the current legislation against retaliation in the workplace  
67 to protect those who file discrimination cases to also defend a victim in  
68 their future workplaces. In turn, an employer cannot reject a person for  
69 making a case for unfair treatment at a past job. The court will decide if it  
70 is unlikely that a person was discriminated against through the job  
71 application process or in the new workplace in question by looking at the  
72 employee's qualifications and background. The court will decide whether  
73 that person was rejected, fired, etc. based off of previous openness about  
74 being a victim of discrimination or based off of the lack of qualifications or  
75 cross checked accounts of mistakes or poor behavior at the workplace.

76 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

77 No funding required for the implementation of this bill.

78 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

79 Current penalties for other types of employment discrimination would  
80 apply to this expanded definition of retaliation in the workplace. These  
81 include the employer on trial having to pay for lawyer fees, loss of work  
82 fees, backpay, etc.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **SENATE BILL 99**

3 Peyton Sias            Lafayette High School

4 **TITLE:** Should People in Prison be Allowed to Vote?

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 According to Louisiana law, people who are currently held in some form of  
7 correctional facility aren't allowed to vote, and until recently they weren't  
8 able to vote until they had served the entirety of their sentence - including  
9 parole. Currently formerly incarcerated people are able to vote 5 years  
10 after being released from prison; however, that is not enough. That is 5  
11 years during which a person who was isolated from the larger society can't  
12 choose who will represent them in local, state, and national positions. This  
13 can create apathy and can contribute to the high recidivism rate of  
14 incarcerated people. So in order to remedy this problem, currently  
15 incarcerated people should be able to vote in elections while serving their  
16 sentences. This would keep them connected to the world outside of their  
17 correctional facility, and this will help reduce the recidivism rate as they  
18 will feel as if they are a part of the community and will have an easier time  
19 integrating back into civilian life. This would ultimately reduce costs on the  
20 taxpayer because fewer people would return to jail and this would lower  
21 the overall prison population; meaning less money spent on prisons and  
22 prisoners and more money for the citizens of Louisiana. Under this bill,  
23 prisoners who are currently serving the sentences would be able to vote on  
24 voting machines within the facilities that they are being held in. This bill  
25 will help connect incarcerated peoples to the outside world and this will help  
26 make our state more democratic and fair.

27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 Prisoners will be able to vote in the facilities that they are currently being  
29 held in on machines that will be brought in. This voting will occur and 2  
30 weeks prior to early voting for the general populace on machines supplied  
31 by the parish that the facility is located in, and this will help alleviate costs  
32 as the parish would not have to buy more voting machines in order to  
33 accommodate the prisoners. Just like in the real world, prisoners won't be  
34 forced to vote but will have the option to. Also the prisoners will be able  
35 to register to vote either online on computers supplied by the facility or on  
36 paper.

37 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

38 The bill requires about 1.5 million dollars in order to account for  
39 transportation costs of the voting machines and to pay for the computers  
40 that people will register on as well as the payment of those who help the  
41 prisoners fill out the registration forms.

42 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

43 The penalty for failing to provide the adequate tools for voting or  
44 registration will result in a fine of \$25,000 from the facility.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**



2 **SENATE BILL 100**

3 Joshua Quarterman

Lakeshore High School

4 John Thomas Hayth

5 **TITLE:** Go the Toll Nine Yards to make I-12 Safer

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Interstate 12 is known as one of the most dangerous stretches of road in  
8 Louisiana and America. From 2004-2008 there were 15 fatal accidents.  
9 That is the eleventh highest amount of fatalities per mile in America. Toll  
10 facilities in the U.S. have lower fatality rates than U.S. roads overall. The  
11 Fatality Analysis Reporting System of the National Highway Traffic Safety  
12 Administration’s National Center for Statistics and Analysis reports that in  
13 2005 the overall road fatality rate for the U.S. was 1.47 fatalities per 100  
14 million vehicle miles traveled. The fatality rates for urban and rural  
15 interstate highways in 2004 (the last year for which data was readily  
16 available) were .55 and 1.21 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled  
17 respectively. The fatality rate for toll facilities was slightly lower than the  
18 rate for urban interstate highways and significantly lower than the rate for  
19 rural interstates. Of the toll facilities, toll roads had the highest fatality  
20 rate, at 0.52 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled. The fatality  
21 rates for toll bridges and tunnels were significantly lower, at 0.27 and 0.14  
22 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, respectively. This bill hopes  
23 to combat the dangers that I-12 poses to drivers by making it a toll road.

24 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

25 This bill will be enacted on January 1, 2019. Louisiana Interstate 12 will be  
26 converted into a toll road. This bill will be implemented by the Louisiana  
27 Department of Transportation and Development. I-12 will have 8 electronic  
28 tolling stations on each side of the road. Each will be 10 miles apart. The  
29 toll will be \$0.42 every mile for two-axle vehicles and \$0.50 for vehicles  
30 above two-axes. All money from the tolls will go to maintaining I-12. The  
31 initial profits will go to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and  
32 Development until the construction cost is paid back into the LaDOTD  
33 budget. After the construction costs have been paid back in full, profits will  
34 be given evenly to all the school districts that I-12 passes through.

35 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

36 This project will need \$80 million. These cost will be covered by the  
37 LaDOTD budget and federal grants. Any remaining funds will go back to  
38 the LaDOTD. This money will be eventually paid back into the LaDOTD by  
39 the tolls’ profits.

40 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

41 The penalties for trying to bypass these new toll roads will be the same as  
42 bypassing current tolls. The registered owner of the vehicle that bypassed

43 the toll will be sent a notice that they must pay the toll and a small fine, if  
44 they don’t comply or contest within 30 days they will be demanded to pay  
45 the toll and face prosecution. If the owner proves they were not the driver  
46 during the incident they will only be liable for the toll fee an no further  
47 penalties.

48  
49

50 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**



51 **SENATE BILL 101**

52 Christian Cooper

Neville High School

53 **TITLE:** AN ACT TO: provide a 2% tax break to businesses  
54 that appropriately provide recycling bins.

55 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

56 Recycling is a crucial factor in making Louisiana beautiful. My bill is an act  
57 to provide a two percent tax incentive to businesses that appropriately  
58 provide recycling bins. Louisiana is only at a 6.3% recycling rate. This  
59 means that only 6.3% of our state’s waste is recycled (Keep Louisiana  
60 Beautiful 2019). Making recycling bins available to citizens in local  
61 businesses would increase the statistic given. If Louisiana reduces the  
62 amount of waste that is not reprocessed; it would help stabilize a healthy  
63 environment. Air pollution is a problem all over the world today with 92%  
64 of our air being polluted (Kennedy 2019). In Oklahoma manufacturers  
65 started using recycled paper and cut their pollution by 73% and their  
66 water pollution by 35% (Brenner 2018). If companies using recycled paper  
67 cut such a substantial amount of air pollution there, why are we not trying  
68 to do that here? According to World Health Organization, “The health  
69 effects of air pollution are serious -one third of deaths from stroke, lung  
70 cancer and heart disease are due to air pollution.” Louisiana is ranked fifth  
71 in the country for toxins (Forbes 2017). Making Louisiana a more  
72 environmentally friendly place by allowing recycling available will show  
73 citizens it does not require a lot of effort to make a change. Giving  
74 business the incentives will allow them to help this alteration happen.

75 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

76 The state government will give business owners incentive to have their  
77 containers by January 1, 2021. With this year’s long-time period the  
78 elected officials will have time to prepare citizens and business owners for  
79 the change.

80 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

81 There is no funding needed.

82 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

83 There are no penalties.

84



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **SENATE BILL 102**

3 Tamiyah Rhine Captain Shreve High School

4  
 5 **TITLE:** Raise Minimum Wage

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The minimum wage in Louisiana is only \$7.25. It was raised \$0.70 from  
 8 \$6.55 to \$7.25 in 2009. It has not been raised since. In Louisiana, the  
 9 Census Bureau shows that 18.6% of lived Louisiana residents live below  
 10 the poverty line in 2018. According to statistics, Louisiana is one of the  
 11 poorest states in the United States. Poverty has always been a major issue  
 12 in Louisiana. Raising the minimum wage could decrease the poverty  
 13 percentage. Although Louisiana doesn't have the lowest minimum wage in  
 14 the United States, raising the federal minimum wage could decrease the  
 15 poverty rate in Louisiana and help this state no longer be known as a poor  
 16 state.

17  
 18 Restaurant workers are the main focus in this bill. Increasing the minimum  
 19 wage will help parents provide for their family better and not rely on  
 20 government welfare. It could also drastically decrease the amount of  
 21 homelessness in Louisiana. Waiters that work in restaurants would no  
 22 longer get paid based on their tips, as their salary would increase. Studies  
 23 also show that 35% of homeless people have jobs in the fast food  
 24 industry, but their salaries are not enough to live on.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 The minimum wage will increase by \$3.20.

27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 Funding would come from inmate taxes. Currently, the average tax dollars  
 29 that go towards inmates in facility is \$94.82 per inmate, per day. Prisons  
 30 allow their inmates to eat three full meals a day, watch television in their  
 31 cells, and go outside to the large prison yards to exercise and  
 32 communicate. While convicted felons are given everything, innocent  
 33 people are working hard to provide for themselves and their families and  
 34 barely making ends meet. This is unfair.

35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 This bill has no penalties.  
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42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 43 **SENATE BILL 103**

44 Kaela Merritt Neville High School

45  
 46 **TITLE:** An Act To: require high schools to offer ASL as a  
 47 foreign language.

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 In Louisiana, there is an extreme shortage of sign language interpreters.  
 50 For the 800 deaf or hard-of-hearing people in Southwest Louisiana, there  
 51 are only 3 interpreters. The Louisiana School for the Deaf helps students to  
 52 succeed in gaining their education and communicating with their peers and  
 53 teachers, but what happens afterwards? What happens when those  
 54 students are thrown into a world where they are unable to communicate  
 55 with those around them. This is why American Sign Language (ASL) should  
 56 be offered as a foreign language course in all Louisiana high schools.  
 57 Having this course will not only introduce students to the possibility of one  
 58 day becoming a sign language interpreter but will also allow them to  
 59 communicate and connect with those who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.

60 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

61 For this bill to take effect, teachers with a degree in ASL along with the  
 62 Louisiana Board of Education would work on creating a curriculum in the  
 63 beginning of the 2020-21 school year. This curriculum would then be  
 64 implemented and offered to high school students by the 2021-22 school  
 65 year.

66 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

67 There is no funding.

68 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

69 Should a school district not offer ASL as a foreign language, the district will  
 70 be fined \$100 per high school per year that it is not offered.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 104**

3 Abhay Basireddy Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

4 Robert Xing

5 **TITLE:** Clean Energy For Louisiana Through Nuclear Power

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana has only two nuclear power plants, both owned by Entergy.  
8 Combined, they produce 94% of the state's emission-free electricity, but  
9 only 16.9% of the state's total electricity. In contrast, natural gas produces  
10 62.9% of Louisiana's electricity. Additionally, nuclear power only emits 13  
11 tons of carbon dioxide per GWh, compared to coal with 979 tons and  
12 natural gas with 462 tons. Moreover, nuclear energy in Louisiana alone  
13 prevented the emission of 10.61 million metric tons of carbon dioxide, with  
14 the national amount totaling to 528 million metric tons. Nuclear power  
15 plants do not produce any greenhouse gases and produce power over  
16 88% of the time in the last three years, making them improve air quality  
17 and act as a reliable source of electricity. Nuclear fusion (the process by  
18 which the sun produces its energy), as opposed to the widely-used process  
19 of nuclear fission, produces radioactive waste which decays to safe levels  
20 more quickly compared to fission. Additionally, fusion uses 'light atoms,'  
21 or light isotopes of hydrogen as fuel, which are not as dangerous to the  
22 environment as uranium. Burning coal and using other traditional methods  
23 to create electricity adds to the greenhouse effect, which in turn leads to  
24 rising sea levels, which have and will continue to have a devastating effect  
25 on Louisiana: losing 25 square miles of land per year, coastal erosion,  
26 mass flooding, potential relocation of coastal communities, hypoxic (lower  
27 oxygen concentration in seawater) areas of the Gulf of Mexico leading to  
28 less fish caught, etc. With so many environmental benefits from nuclear  
29 energy and nuclear fusion offering a safe alternative to nuclear fission, the  
30 Louisiana state government must support nuclear power and nuclear  
31 fusion research to lead the way to a safer, cleaner, and greener tomorrow.

32 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

33 The Entergy nuclear plants at River Bend and Waterford will have their  
34 current licenses renewed and extended from their current expiration dates  
35 of 8/29/2045 and 12/18/2044 to 8/29/2065 and 12/18/2064 respectively,  
36 provided on the condition that within the time frame allotted until the  
37 current expiration dates, these plants will establish safer waste policies  
38 whilst conducting more research into commercial nuclear fusion. Effective  
39 immediately, each ton of coal produced will have an additional \$1.00  
40 excise tax as well as a \$1.50 sales tax on each ton of coal purchased by  
41 companies. The new revenue for the state generated from the coal will be  
42 directed towards grants to Entergy to allow for the building of more

43 nuclear plants and to conduct more nuclear research at a reduced property  
44 tax of 8%, subject to the same requirements for the current plants as  
45 stated above. Compared to surrounding southern states like Arkansas,  
46 Mississippi, and Alabama, Louisiana already has a relatively low coal  
47 consumption rate in addition to the dominance of the natural gas industry  
48 in net energy production, thereby leaving a comparatively lower strain on  
49 energy production through the new taxes. As of 2017, Louisiana also had  
50 the lowest total electricity costs in the nation, having the lowest residential  
51 costs and the second-lowest industrial costs, despite being the 6th-largest  
52 consumer of energy in the Southeast. As such, Louisiana stands in an ideal  
53 place to begin to transition into higher levels of nuclear power production  
54 at little detriment to both the economy and the consumer.

55 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

56 Funding for this bill will come from the additional \$1.00 tax on each ton of  
57 coal produced for coal-producing or coal-mining entities and an additional  
58 \$1.50 tax for each ton of coal purchased by consumers. This will collect  
59 appropriate funds to replenish the loss from reducing property taxes and  
60 appropriating additional funding for nuclear fusion research.

61 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

62 Failure on Entergy's part to comply with the above requirements for all  
63 current and future nuclear plants will result in a reconsideration of the  
64 offending plant's operation license renewal as well as a fine of 5% of that  
65 fiscal year's total revenue. Corporations and consumers that fail to pay the  
66 proper coal excise taxes will be subject to the same penalties as other  
67 forms of tax fraud and evasion.

2 **SENATE BILL 105**

3 Alejandro Canas Lakeshore High school

4  
5 **TITLE:** Taxation without representation. Minors improperly  
6 taxed.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Taxation without representation occurs when a taxing authority, such as  
9 the government, imposes taxes its citizens and other entities but fails to  
10 provide them with a political voice through elected representatives. Minors  
11 who are forced to pay income taxes are in clear violation to this motto.  
12 They are taxed without the civil right of choosing a representative. Even in  
13 the District of Columbia, citizens get shadow representatives. Minors get  
14 nothing; they are forced to pay state income taxes without the benefit of  
15 choice. In the state of Louisiana income tax ranges from 2%-6% .Minors  
16 under age 18 enrolled in school may work up to 50 hours during any week  
17 that school is in session less than 3 days or during the first or last week of  
18 the school calendar, regardless of how many days school is in session for  
19 the week. If a minor worked 48 hours at a minimum wage of \$7,25. The  
20 state tax would be\$270.26 yearly. This is only the state tax. The total  
21 income tax yearly would be \$2,244.20. This is also with no other  
22 deductibles. That might not seem like a lot but, that money could be put to  
23 use in terms as college savings.

24 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

25 This bill would be implemented January 1, 2020. As of Jan. 1 all minors  
26 paying state income taxes in the state of louisiana would no longer pay the  
27 aforementioned taxes.

28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 Requires no funding.

30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 Companies refusing to participate will be 100 USD for their first offense.  
32 1,000 USD after a second offense. After each offense a mandatory pay  
33 raise of 3% for the employee.

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42 **SENATE BILL 106**

43 Carson Thorpe Mandeville High School

44 Cohen Early

45 **TITLE:** Reading Reform  
46 To: Implement reading and comprehension reform in  
47 Louisiana public schools.

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 Currently, Louisiana is ranked 48th in cumulative education and 46th in  
50 education for grades Pre-K through 12. This bill aims to improve learning  
51 through increased funding to two crucial elements of schooling: reading  
52 and comprehension. Specifically, Pre-K aged children will have access to  
53 better resources (books and testing guides), and librarians for all grades  
54 would be required to get a Masters in Library Science Degree (a long-  
55 standing requirement in \*\* other states) Librarians are responsible for  
56 matching children with books and fostering a love of reading that carries  
57 on throughout high school and well into their adult lives. Despite this,  
58 librarians without the proper certifications are being hired to save money.  
59 The transfer of funding would offset these extra costs of salary raises to  
60 meet the professional standards. When students have access to the tools  
61 they need to better master comprehension skills, it results in increased test  
62 scores and better understanding of the material presented.

63 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

64 If put into effect, the requirement for librarians to have a Masters in  
65 Library Science Degree will immediately be put into effect for incoming  
66 librarians in 2020. Any current librarians without the degree will have three  
67 years to enroll and up to five years from the implementation of the bill to  
68 obtain the degree. A literacy program will be devised by a panel of  
69 educators, librarians, and the state superintendent to decide what book  
70 titles should be required in the school libraries. These titles would be  
71 reviewed and updated every ten years.

72 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

73 Funding will come from the state through the Minimum Foundation  
74 Program, which mandates funding for all Louisiana schools.

75 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

76 The guideline of the bill will be added to the Louisiana Public School  
77 education curriculum, therefore the penalties will mirror the penalties of  
78 schools not teaching required curriculum.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **SENATE BILL 107**

3 Elijah Mallory Woodlawn High School  
 4 Joseph Sant

5 **TITLE:** Castration instead of reparation

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill seeks to expand current Louisiana castration laws to all sex  
 8 offenses and repeat offenders which at its present, only applies it to  
 9 offenders convicted of sex offenses against minors. This is being done in  
 10 an effort to create a more severe punishment and instill fear for  
 11 perpetrators who commit a crime of this caliber.

12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 Once the perpetrator receives a proper conviction, the actions will be  
 14 carried out by a licensed physician who will conduct the operation either  
 15 surgically or chemically.

16  
 17 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

18 This proposition, if passed will be paid for by an extra sales tax on Viagra  
 19 and adult store products (XXX).

20 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

21 If not implemented a series of increasing fines will be placed until carried  
 22 out.

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36 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 37 **SENATE BILL 108**

38 Daniela Garcia Haynes Academy

39 **TITLE:** Enforcement of Louisiana Law Act 271 HB 473

40 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

41 Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) is in place to develop  
 42 training standards for peace officers in the State of Louisiana. "Peace  
 43 Officer" means any full-time, reserve, or part-time employee of the State,  
 44 a municipality, a sheriff or other public agency, whose permanent duties  
 45 actually include the making of arrests, the performing of searches and  
 46 seizures, and is responsible for the prevention or detection of crime or for  
 47 the enforcement of the penal, traffic or highway laws of this State.

48 One of the responsibilities of POST is to certify officers for duty by  
 49 evaluating the applicants' performance on POST examination and  
 50 completion of a statewide examination. However, in the United States,  
 51 Louisiana is least likely to revoke a police certification. As of 2017, only six  
 52 officers have ever had their certification revoked for misconduct. Under the  
 53 law, state authorities can strip ex-officers of their POST certification only if  
 54 they're fired for misconduct or criminally convicted and if the officer's  
 55 former agency specifically requests the certification be revoked.

56 Act 271 HB 473, which was signed in 2017, mandates that an officer's  
 57 P.O.S.T. certification be revoked in the case of a criminal conviction and  
 58 allows the Council to hold revocation hearings for other disciplinary  
 59 reasons, including if an officer has been terminated in a case involving civil  
 60 rights violations and all administrative remedies have been exhausted,  
 61 conviction of a misdemeanor involving domestic abuse battery or a felony,  
 62 and failure to complete additional training requirements.

63 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

64 The POST council will be able to consider on its own the revoking  
 65 certifications for officers convicted of any felony or of a misdemeanor  
 66 involving domestic abuse and hold any hearing they deem necessary. The  
 67 POST council will also submit all of its decisions to the Superintendent of  
 68 the State Police.

69 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

70 This bill would require no additional funding to the Peace Officer Standards  
 71 and Training Council as it is only adding stricter regulations on an already  
 72 existing law.

73 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

74 If it is reported or shown through statistics that the Council is not fulfilling  
 75 the expanded responsibilities of its role or showing any bias regarding  
 76 certification hearings, the Council member will be replaced by another  
 77 person with the proper qualifications.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 109**

3 Sania Islam Haynes Academy

4 **TITLE:** A Reformed Electoral Congress

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 In the 18th century, the United States was founded as a revolutionary  
7 country in the concept of a republican democratic government, a  
8 government based on the power of the people, yet the United States has  
9 thus far awarded the presidency to five men who were specifically not  
10 chosen by the people, and if we continue with the policies in place, there  
11 will be far more. The United States, a country based on consent of the  
12 governed, has steadily had slightly over a 50% voter turnout rate in  
13 presidential elections for the past four decades. Meaning half of America’s  
14 population chooses not to have a vote in their government and even more  
15 does not have an voice. If the federal government will not insure people  
16 their voice, the state of Louisiana will insure it to its citizens. Only about  
17 58% of Louisianians voted for the republican candidate in both of the last  
18 two presidential elections, and yet that is the direction in which all eight of  
19 Louisiana’s electoral votes went each time. That is 42% of Louisiana’s  
20 citizens whose votes were disregarded. A more proportional electoral  
21 congress increases voter turnout rates seeing as more people feel their  
22 vote has an impact. This is evidenced in Maine which opted for a more  
23 proportional electoral system a few years ago and now has one of the  
24 highest voter turnout rates in the country at around 73%. This “winner  
25 takes all” system we have in place not only misrepresents and discourages  
26 the citizens of Louisiana, but it sways politics. It turns candidates away  
27 from certain areas because it is seen to be so unlikely to win any votes  
28 from that state. With a more proportional electoral system, Louisiana  
29 would attract more diverse candidates and receive some of the perks of a  
30 swing state. The electoral college system in place disgraces the very  
31 concept of democracy and must be reformed.

32 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

33 Louisiana’s eight electoral votes will be distributed to candidates based on  
34 their percentage of our popular vote, meaning each candidate will win his  
35 or her percentage of the eight. Numbers will be rounded to the nearest  
36 whole electoral vote, except in the unlikely case of a vote being split  
37 exactly in half, in which case, the vote is to go to the candidate with the  
38 plurality of the popular vote. This will be put in effect for the 2020  
39 presidential election and all presidential elections following.

40 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

41 This bill requires no funding.

42 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

43 This bill requires no penalties.



44 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

45 **SENATE BILL 110**

46 Cooper Ferguson Mandeville High School

47 Mason de la Houssaye

48 **TITLE:** Create a Just Corporate Income Tax System

49

50 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

51 Corporate greed has led to a plutocratic system of exemption and evasion  
52 under the current Louisiana tax code. This is nowhere more exemplified  
53 than in the complexities of corporate income tax. Lobbying efforts and  
54 underreporting revenue have completely nullified the effectiveness of the  
55 corporate income tax. Louisiana must not be complacent as we are robbed  
56 of millions of dollars while corporate profits soar. The ineffective corporate  
57 income tax is not simply a problem for state revenue either; although  
58 Louisiana has a relatively low tax burden, a convoluted tax code creates a  
59 hostile environment for startups and small businesses. Instead of focusing  
60 on gaming this system, enterprises should be encouraged to maximize  
61 their growth in Louisiana. Structural reform is needed to ensure an  
62 equitable system for all businesses and the continued success of the state  
63 of Louisiana.

64 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

65 Instead of paying a corporate income tax, all corporations and entities  
66 taxed as corporations for federal income tax purposes, while deriving  
67 income from Louisiana sources, will be required to turn over a portion of  
68 their stocks to the government in the form of non-voting shares. The  
69 Department of Revenue will be charged with shifting the current corporate  
70 income tax liabilities to a comparable share amount, negating any  
71 exemptions. These non-voting shares will be treated as any other share of  
72 the companies stock, and the dividends paid out by these companies will  
73 supplement the previous tax structure.

74 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

75 There is no additional funding required for the implementation of this bill.  
76 The Department of Revenue will offset the restructuring of the tax code by  
77 redeploying the resources saved by the simplified tax code. Instead of  
78 countless audits and investigations, the Department will only need to  
79 ensure that the payments to the state’s shares are the same as all others.  
80 Revenue will also go up as companies will be unable to avoid their tax  
81 liability and instead will be able to focus on increasing profit.

82 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

83 The current penalties applicable for tax evasion will carry over to the new  
84 code.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 111**

3 Alex Benoit Haynes Academy

4 **TITLE:** Gradually Increasing Teacher Salaries for a Better  
5 Louisiana

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The great Whitney Houston once said, "I believe the children are our  
8 future." We need to look to her wisdom now more than ever because or  
9 great state of Louisiana currently ranks 48th in education. Education is the  
10 backbone of our society, and teachers are the vertebrae that keep it in  
11 place. However, teachers constantly go undervalued and underappreciated  
12 for the integral part they play in our society. The average salary for public  
13 school teachers in Louisiana is only \$50,000, which is \$2,200 below the  
14 southern regional average. Additionally, forty to fifty percent of new  
15 teachers quit within the first five years of starting, indicating a startling  
16 trend of a decreasing supply of such an integral profession. On top of this,  
17 stressed teachers struggling financially cannot devote their full energy into  
18 shaping the minds of the next generation, leading to our children receiving  
19 an inadequate education.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 Starting the next Fiscal Year, teachers will see a yearly raise of \$1,100, and  
22 a raise of an additional \$1,100 the following year. This would bring  
23 Louisiana's teachers to the regional average salary in just two years.

24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 The projected cost for this project is \$100 million. What better way to fund  
26 the education of the next generation than to take from the industry that  
27 poses the biggest threat to their future: the Tobacco and Vape industries.  
28 Louisiana received nearly \$460 million in revenue from tobacco products  
29 and 2 million from vaping products in 2019. Louisiana currently taxes vape  
30 products as five cents per milliliter. This bill would increase that rate to  
31 fifteen cents per milliliter, allowing for a projected revenue of \$6 million.  
32 This \$6 million from vape products and an additional \$94 million from  
33 Tobacco revenue would be enough to cover the cost.

34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 Any noncompliance on the part of the school systems or nicotine industries  
36 will be met with a substantial fine to be determined by the Louisiana Board  
37 of Education.

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43 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

44 **SENATE BILL 112**

45 Faith Woods St. Joseph's Academy

46 Nicole Mann

47 **TITLE:** Establish Mandatory Rehabilitation for First Time Non-  
48 Violent Drug Offenders

49 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

50 Over 51% of Louisiana's prison population is non-violent offenders.  
51 Current Louisiana law incarcerates non-violent drug offenders, and in the  
52 2016 Fiscal Year the state spent about \$17,000 per person in incarceration  
53 costs. The cost to the state becomes exponential as inmates are not  
54 rehabilitated leading to high recidivism rates as the addictions that sent  
55 inmates to jail originally go untreated. Recidivism is the tendency for  
56 offenders to re-offend after release from jail. The purpose of this bill is to  
57 refocus the Justice System on rehabilitation rather than pointless,  
58 ineffective punishment. Rehabilitation costs should not exceed the current  
59 cost of incarceration, but if the immediate costs of rehabilitation do  
60 outweigh incarceration costs, Louisiana will still save money as it will  
61 reduce recidivism and subsequently future incarceration costs

62 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

63 The recommended sentence for first time nonviolent drug offences will be  
64 moved from jail time to required time at a rehabilitation center. The  
65 length of time in rehabilitation will depend on the treatment needed.  
66 Inmates will receive individualized care from a government-funded facility  
67 to attempt to battle addiction and reduce recidivism rates. Following the  
68 passage of the 2017 Criminal Justice Reform packages, government-  
69 funded rehabilitation became an option for the convicted able to show  
70 willingness to address their addiction. This bill would make this current  
71 option mandatory for all first-time offenders rather than an option for  
72 judges to choose from when sentencing. This sentencing change would  
73 come into effect January 1, 2020.

74 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

75 This bill will utilize funds no longer allocated for prison expenses to fund  
76 rehabilitation centers for first time non-violent drug offenders. The fines  
77 paid by those convicted of drug crimes will be added to the funding for  
78 rehabilitation centers. These fines will allow the rehabilitation to remain  
79 partially self-funded by those committing the crimes.

80 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

81 If a Louisiana judge refuses to enact the change in sentencing, then they  
82 will be brought before a judiciary commission. There the judiciary  
83 commission will determine whether to publicly censor the judge, suspend  
84 the judge with or without pay, or remove them from the bench. This form  
85 of oversight is already in place in the Louisiana Judiciary System.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **SENATE BILL 113**

3 Jerliah Chrisentery Southern University Lab School

4 Michael Wicker

5 **TITLE:** An Act to End the Use of Solitary Confinement in  
6 Juvenile and Adult Correctional Facilities

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Solitary Confinement is defined as "The isolation of a prisoner in a separate  
9 cell as a punishment". Research shows that solitary confinement has many  
10 negative impacts on health, especially in youth. Solitary confinement  
11 causes extreme suffering, particularly when solitary confinement lasts for  
12 months or years. According to the American Psychological Association,  
13 solitary confinement puts inmates at a "grave risk of psychological harm",  
14 and can also result in panic attacks, depression, and even hallucinations,  
15 hypertension and mood disorders. Juveniles who are put in solitary  
16 confinement, suffer even more as they are not mature enough to  
17 withstand the horrendous conditions. Kalief Browder was incarcerated and  
18 spent 800 days in solitary confinement at the age of 16. At age 22, he  
19 committed suicide as a result of his experience. State Department of  
20 Corrections should end the use of solitary confinement for incarcerated  
21 juveniles and adults.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 Local and state corrections departments will need to develop programs and  
24 procedures to use in lieu of solitary confinement since it is proven to cause  
25 more harm than good. These programs will use positive reinforcement  
26 and create an environment of rehabilitation. This will require additional  
27 training for correction officers, and officials to learn how to address  
28 adolescent development, deescalating situations without harm ,and  
29 putting juveniles at flight risk.

30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 This bill will require prison and jail systems to adjust budgets to include  
32 training and rehabilitation programs.

33 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

34 If this bill was to become a law the course of action would be to fine the  
35 prison or/and cut state funding.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

42 **SENATE BILL 114**

43 Brandis Lee Southern University Laboratory School

44 A'Mya Price

45 **TITLE:** Requiring Public Schools To Have An Emotional  
46 Support Communication App

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Most teens today face a plethora of challenges that can pose problems if  
49 not handled properly. Some challenges they face include, bullying, peer  
50 pressure, and depression, just to name a few. Research shows that  
51 adults think with the prefrontal cortex, the brain's rational part, while teens  
52 process information with the amygdala, the emotional part. As a result, the  
53 way teens handle challenges is not always the best way and could lead to  
54 destruction. Some forms of destruction include drinking, smoking, and  
55 underage sex, but the most extreme form is adolescent suicide. Often  
56 times, teens who attempt suicide and those who have actually committed  
57 suicide show signs of mental disorder. Mental disorders involve instability  
58 in all or most areas of one's emotional state of mind. According to the  
59 Suicide Prevention Resource Center(sprc.org), "suicide is the 3rd leading  
60 cause of death of adolescents nationally and in Louisiana." Adolescents  
61 have a hard time finding someone to communicate with to cope with all  
62 the challenges set before them. In order to decrease the suicide rate, we  
63 will require all public schools to have a communication app where  
64 adolescents can seek emotional support in areas that are needed. The app  
65 will put them in direct contact with a staff member that will help them sort  
66 through their feelings, put things in the right perspective, release tension,  
67 and help them find solutions to the problem other than self harm.

68 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

69 Mainly all public schools in Louisiana provide their students with devices  
70 such as chromebooks and iPads. We require that a communication app  
71 between the students and certified school staff be installed on their  
72 devices. Each student will have a personal account on this app where they  
73 will be able to contact a certified staff member to help cope with the  
74 challenges they are facing. The staff member(s) will provide the student  
75 with comfort and guidance in getting through their time of difficulty.

76 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

77 No funds are needed because schools are required to have a student  
78 information system which includes a way of communication. We are just  
79 enforcing the use of it.

80 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

81 The consequences for breaking this law would be a cut in the school's  
82 state funds.



1	<b>LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019</b>	40
2	<b>SENATE BILL 115</b>	41
3	Angel Johnson	42
4	Myael Powell	43
5	<b>TITLE:</b> To Shorten the School Days	44
6	<b>SECTION I: BACKGROUND</b>	45
7	The proposed bill will improve the Louisiana Education system for students	46
8	up to their high school senior year. Louisiana is currently 48th in the	47
9	ranking for education. This is not acceptable considering the wealth of the	48
10	states of Louisiana. This bill will be to shorten school hours. The school day	49
11	will be at 5 hours. There will be four to five classes each day incorporated	50
12	with lunch.	51
13	<b>SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION</b>	52
14	For this bill to take effect there must be an increase in education funding.	53
15	Each region of Louisiana will give 5% of their taxable earnings to the	54
16	board of education. To make sure that the education system is in proper	55
17	motion, the state must have each teacher agree to a 5-10 year contract.	56
18	This contract will ensure the students get enough stability to work in the	57
19	new learning conditions.	58
20	<b>SECTION III: FUNDING</b>	59
21	This will be funded and enforced using the budget of and by the Louisiana	60
22	Department of Education. The state government will oversee the bill and	61
23	its duties due to the fact that it is up to the state government to determine	62
24	the policy for education in the state.	63
25	<b>SECTION IV: PENALTIES</b>	64
26	This bill would take place in Louisiana and affect all of the parishes, and	65
27	school districts in Louisiana	66
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		80

# HOUSE BILLS





1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 120**

3 Tate Broussard                      Episcopal School of Acadiana

4 Anil Cacodcar

5 **TITLE:** To Require Crude Oil Manufacturers to Plant a Tree for  
6 Every Five Barrels Drilled

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 In recent years, the scientific community has amassed overwhelming  
9 evidence that the drilling of fossil fuels negatively impacts the  
10 environment. This dialogue has concluded that rising sea levels,  
11 desertification, habitat loss, and decreases in freshwater supply are all  
12 indirect effects of crude oil drilling. These effects are particularly evident in  
13 Louisiana, where every one-hundred minutes, a football field of land is lost  
14 to coastal erosion. Trees are essential to coastal wetland environments  
15 because their roots anchor to the ground and alleviate the natural effects  
16 of erosion. Because the state government provides generous incentives  
17 and tax exemptions for oil companies, oil companies should repay the state  
18 through taking environmental responsibility for their actions. Even though  
19 tax incentives are necessary for a healthy oil industry, the government  
20 gives \$3,500 in tax incentives per person to mostly oil companies. In  
21 comparison, the national average is \$633 per capita. Therefore, requiring  
22 oil companies to plant trees would not disrupt the economy. Rather than  
23 leaving the state with depleted tax sources and a devastated environment,  
24 oil companies should repay the state by planting trees along coastal sand  
25 bars and to help combat subsidence and wetland loss.

26 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

27 This bill mandates that every company that extracts crude oil from  
28 Louisiana or its territorial waters must plant one tree for every five barrels  
29 of oil extracted. The Army Corps of Engineers and the Louisiana  
30 Department of Environmental Quality would be in charge of assessing  
31 where these trees should be planted. If no suitable reforestation  
32 opportunities are to be found in Louisiana during a certain period, the oil  
33 companies would pay \$1 per 5 barrels of oil extracted into a reserve fund.  
34 This accounts for the cost to plant one tree, and the fund would be used to  
35 address unexpected costs that the program encounters. The trees will be  
36 from in-state nurseries or imported from regions with similar ecosystems  
37 and environmental conditions. The companies would be required to submit  
38 to yearly inspections by a state inspection team to insure these plants are  
39 being cared for properly. The oil companies would be responsible for  
40 planting these trees and hiring workers under the supervision of the  
41 Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, which would record the  
42 number of seedlings planted.

43 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

44 The total cost of transporting, planting, and nursing a tree costs anywhere  
45 from fifty cents to two dollars per tree. Considering the crude oil  
46 production of Louisiana in 2018 was 37,000,000 barrels, the program  
47 would cost oil companies a total of \$9,250,000 annually. When compared  
48 to the sale price of five gallons of crude oil, around \$275, the cost of  
49 planting a tree accounts for merely 0.5% of this sale price. However, this  
50 money would be enough to plant 7,400,000 million trees per year in  
51 coastal environment In comparison, seventy-million seedlings were planted  
52 in Louisiana in 2018.

53 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

54 Repeat offenses and defiance would be prosecuted in state courts for  
55 penalties up to \$50,000,000 for crude oil drilling companies.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 121**

3 Chandler Milligan C.E. Byrd

4  
5 **TITLE:** State Allergen Information Disclosure at all food  
6 service establishments.

7  
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 In 2014 the FDA started requiring restaurants to label the nutrition content  
10 on all products. This information included total calories, calories from fat,  
11 total fat, saturated fat, trans fat, cholesterol, sodium, sugars, carbs, fiber,  
12 and protein. I propose to take this a step further and add ingredients to  
13 the list of nutritional facts and figures. By adding the ingredients, it takes  
14 the guessing game of if patrons with food allergies can consume the  
15 chosen meal safely. With nearly 32 million people in the US suffering from  
16 food allergies this would help both the individuals it impacts and the  
17 business owners. People with food allergens spend on average 25 billion  
18 dollars a year on food without allergens such as gluten, soy, dairy,  
19 peanuts, tree nuts, and shellfish. By giving the restricted consumer a  
20 peace of mind they would be able to spend that money at restaurants and  
21 food chains without fear of allergens, thus boosting local business.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 In order for this to take effect, the restaurant owners will need to have a  
24 copy of all the ingredients in each dish available online or in print upon  
25 request. Active as of January 1st 2020

26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 There is no funding necessary for this bill. This bill is a net neutral bill  
28 meaning there is no cost to the state. In other words, a budget expansion  
29 is not needed because it is budget neutral. The cost to the restaurant  
30 owner/manager should be negligible.

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 If the ingredients information is not available or found on an online source  
33 the establishment shall be fined \$1000 which will then be placed in the  
34 Louisiana General Revenue fund.

42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
43 **HOUSE BILL 122**

44 Emma Turner C.E. Byrd

45 Emma Booker

46 **TITLE:** Consent of both parents before abortion

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Since the landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision, abortion  
49 has become a popular form of birth control throughout the United States  
50 and in the state of Louisiana. Specifically, in Louisiana, there were 9,920  
51 reported abortions in 2017, which is the equivalent of approximately 10.6  
52 abortions per 1,000 women of reproductive age. Today, most abortion  
53 activist groups focus on the woman's right to choose; however, this bill  
54 aims to expand paternal rights in the decision-making process before an  
55 abortion occurs. Although women bare the burden of carrying a child,  
56 ultimately, every child belongs equally to both the father and the mother  
57 as 50% of the child's DNA comes from each parent. As such, it is only right  
58 that the father has an equal say in the fate of the child before birth.  
59 Therefore, this bill requires that written paternal consent be provided  
60 before the performing of an abortion.

61 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

62 This bill would be implemented on January 1st, 2021. In order for an  
63 abortion to occur in the bounds of the state of Louisiana, a notarized  
64 written consent of both the father and mother must be presented. If the  
65 mother does not desire the child but the father does, the father will be  
66 held responsible for the financial needs of both the child and mother  
67 during and after pregnancy. If after the birth of the child, the mother still  
68 does not want the baby, the father will gain full custody of the child  
69 immediately following. There is an exception to this bill if a pregnancy is  
70 the result of rape, incest, or is life-endangering. Therefore, this bill applies  
71 only to healthy pregnancies resulting from consensual sexual intercourse.

72 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

73 No funding is needed for this bill, as criminal justice systems are already  
74 funded in Louisiana.

75 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

76 The penalty for breaking the law of this bill would be in regard to forgery.  
77 If the consent signatures are found to be forged, then appropriate  
78 penalties for forgery already in place by the state will be implemented.  
79 This includes either a \$5,000 fine, up to 10 years in prison, or both,  
80 depending on the discretion of the judge. A fine will also be imposed on  
81 any medical clinic found to be performing abortions without both maternal  
82 and paternal consent. This fine will be no less than \$5,000 and no more  
83 than \$10,000 for a first time offender. Fines can increase at the discretion  
84 of local law enforcement for clinics with multiple offenses.

2 **HOUSE BILL 123**

3 Dawson Bond C.E. Byrd

4 David Shaw

5 **TITLE:** Add a Financing and Budgeting Course as a Fourth  
6 Required Math Course in High Schools

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 As we all know, Louisiana is last in most matters of education. Louisiana is  
9 worst in adults without a bank account, we rank 47th on a financial literacy  
10 test, 43 rd for high school diplomas,  
11 47th for bachelor’s degrees, 46th for paying back only the minimum on our  
12 credit cards, and 42nd for both adults without savings, and adults who  
13 borrow from non bank lenders. We are also the worst in overall financial  
14 literacy. This is why we believe that adding a financing and budgeting  
15 course as a fourth required math class is a necessary step in bettering  
16 Louisiana. Many high school graduates are fiscally irresponsible, especially  
17 in Louisiana, and this is backed up in the statistics. We believe a high  
18 school course such as this would greatly benefit students in college and for  
19 the rest of their lives. A financing and budgeting class would help  
20 drastically low financial literacy rates improve and help Louisiana residents  
21 and the economy.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 The three mandatory math courses already in place are Algebra I,  
24 Geometry, and Algebra II. This class would be added to the required math  
25 courses needed to graduate high school. Classes like pre-calculus, calculus,  
26 advanced math, and other math courses offered could still be taken with  
27 this new required course. This financing and budgeting class would be  
28 taught by already employed math teachers who teach non required math  
29 courses. This course would be implemented into both the TOPS and  
30 JumpStart graduation programs. The first graduating class required to  
31 complete this course would be the class of 2021, which would put this bill  
32 into effect next school year.

33 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

34 This bill requires no funding.

35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 No monetary punishments would go into effect; if Louisiana schools did  
37 not require students to take this course beginning in the 2020-2021 school  
38 year, their students would be unable to  
39 graduate.

40

42 **HOUSE BILL 124**

43 Jack Eli Ford C.E. Byrd

44

45 **TITLE:** Abolish course fees in the public school system

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 Nearly three million dollars in course fees are collected annually by school  
48 teachers in Louisiana. Average fees range from five to three hundred  
49 dollars per course, putting the economic lower class at  
50 a disadvantage. Those who can not afford course fees are punished often  
51 by not being eligible to participate in school events and organizations. The  
52 state constitution guarantees all kids living in  
53 Louisiana the right to a free education without discriminating based on  
54 gender, race, and economic status. The practice of imposing course fees  
55 contradicts our rights, and this bill proposes the  
56 abolishment of collecting fees on mandatory courses allowing for all  
57 enrolled students to have an equal education without fear of repercussions  
58 from the school.

59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 This bill will be enacted at the beginning of the 2020 and 2021 school year.  
61 All public schools will no longer be able to collect cash fees on all courses  
62 henceforth. It will be implemented by the Parish  
63 School Boards and School Administrations.

64 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

65 No funding is required for the bill.

66 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

67 If a school teacher is found collecting course fees, in all cases, the teacher  
68 must return the exact amount of money collected from the student back to  
69 the student. The first violation will result in a  
70 written reprimand by the school administration. Any future violations will  
71 result in the deduction of the total amount of money collected from his or  
72 her next paycheck.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 125**



3 William Bartle C.E. Byrd

4  
5 **TITLE:** End the rape kit backlog and begin a tracking system  
6 of rape kits

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The following terms are defined as the following...

9 Rape Kit : a package of items used by medical personnel for gathering and  
10 preserving physical evidence following an allegation of sexual assault.

11 According to www.endthebacklog.org, the leading force behind the push to  
12 end the rape kit backlog, "Each kit represents a survivor who underwent  
13 the lengthy and invasive rape kit exam and reported the rape to the police.

14 So why have so many gone untested? Because for too long, the value of  
15 rape kit testing has not been fully understood, and adequate resources  
16 have not been allocated. And right now, there is still more we do not know  
17 about the backlog than we do know. But things are changing. Reform is  
18 happening." In 2014, Louisiana enacted a law requiring the state crime lab  
19 to conduct an annual audit of rape kits. In 2015, the lab reported 1,333  
20 untested rape kits. Kits with a known suspect are not required to be  
21 tested. State law does not require testing of backlogged rape kits, tracking,  
22 or notifying victims of the location and status of their kits. In 2017, the  
23 Louisiana legislature adopted a resolution directing the State Police Crime  
24 Lab to to study and make recommendations regarding an effective  
25 statewide tracking system for rape kits. As of now, such a tracking system  
26 does not exist. Louisiana Act No. 354. With this law, the state created the  
27 Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission to recommend a  
28 standardized kit as well as statewide protocols for forensic medical  
29 examinations. The attorney general must make sure the recommendations  
30 are implemented. One important note is that of the most recent audit, 128  
31 Louisiana Police Departments refuses the audit and therefore the number  
32 of rape kits is undoubtedly higher. It is unknown how much higher, as we  
33 have no access to those records, nor does the state government.

34 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

35 The implementation of this bill be simple. It will require the State Police  
36 Crime Lab to conduct a new method of tracking rape kits, and notifying the  
37 victims that have been traumatized by these sexual assaults with adequate  
38 funding. The Attorney General's office will be in charge of this new system  
39 and method. The country as a whole is reforming in this area, it's time for  
40 Louisiana to take the initiative and be the first in an important area rather  
41 than waiting to be the last to make a difference again. The victims deserve  
42 better.

43 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

44 The Federal Department of Justice already allocated money to New  
45 Orleans annually for cases of sexual assault. This is mainly due to the  
46 incredibly high rates of untested kits in New Orleans in comparison to the  
47 rest of the state. In total, the city of New Orleans possesses 471 untested  
48 rape kits. The entire state of Louisiana possesses 1,333, although 128  
49 Police Departments refused to be audited and therefore the number of  
50 untested kits is higher than stated. To test these 471 rape kits New  
51 Orleans has been given a total of \$2,721,034 since 2014. In addition, New  
52 Orleans has been awarded \$906,660 to implement a program to track and  
53 report untested kits. Due to this funding, 471 of the 1,333 untested kits do  
54 not require state funding. The remaining 862 kits will cost the state of  
55 Louisiana \$4,979,896 dollars, and the implementation of the tracking  
56 system will cost the state \$1,659,322 dollars. The state of Louisiana  
57 currently allocates \$0 in its budget towards sexual crimes of violence, so  
58 money must be taken from elsewhere. This will be paid for by the Justice  
59 Department's 2018-2019 allocated Louisiana budget funds.

60 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

61 If a police department refuses the audit state funding will be cut by 25%  
62 the first time, and increased by 10% thereafter.

2 **HOUSE BILL 126**

3 Charlie Martin C.E. Byrd

4  
5 **TITLE:** The Building of Toll Roads on major Interstates and  
6 along major highways

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Louisiana is filled with roads and they aren't being taxed. This is a major  
9 revenue source that hasn't been tapped. Other states have put tolls on  
10 their roads or building toll roads by their major highways. A great example  
11 of this is the system Texas has put in place. Toll booths will be put on  
12 major in state interstates such as I-210 in Lake Charles, I-220 in  
13 Shreveport, and I-310 in New Orleans. Toll booths will also be put on  
14 major highways 1, 3132, 5, 171, and 175. The tolls will cost \$1.00 or \$0.50  
15 if you buy a sticker. The sticker system is used by many states such as  
16 Texas will cost \$20 per year this is because a new sticker will be issued  
17 each year to keep up revenue. If your going on a trip and would like to not  
18 be slowed down by the booths you can send a planned route to the  
19 government and you can then print out a paper with bar code to scan at  
20 the booth. The bill will be sent back to you and it must be paid 30 days  
21 after receiving it. Semi-trucks will cost more going through toll booths at  
22 \$5.

23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 The construction and modification of the roads listed above will require 6  
25 months to 14 months to complete. In the time the booths are being built  
26 the stickers will be distributed and a special department to oversee them  
27 will be set up as well. This will only affect roads not leaving the state.

28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 This bill requires about \$300 million which would be taken out in a loan.  
30 The revenue from the tolls will first go to paying the loan off. After the  
31 loan is paid off the profit of the tolls will be divided evenly between funds  
32 for maintaining the roads and education for the state.

33  
34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 There are no penalties.

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40

42 **HOUSE BILL 127**

43 Peyton Bowman C.E. Byrd

44  
45 **TITLE:** The Reality of Professional Sports

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 When it was renovated the Superdome costed 174 million dollars.  
48 However, the state annually pays 9.5 million with a 2% annual increase.  
49 This deal was made in 2005 and has affected the local and state economy.  
50 Within this deal there are 4 million dollars in new taxes to help pay for the  
51 stadium. Louisiana ranks 50th in an economic ranking of the states , that  
52 being said, the state having to help pay for a stadium doesn't exactly help  
53 the state's current situation. Alongside this is the trend that a city that  
54 hosts a professional sport franchise experiences an economic decrease.  
55 Currently, New Orleans plays host to two pro sport franchises these being  
56 the New Orleans Saints and the New Orleans Pelicans. This bill proposes  
57 the complete relocation of these franchises as they only hurt the state  
58 economically.

59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 This bill goes into effect as the contracts for each team expires or if the  
61 deal enters an option year and then they will cut off the contract at that  
62 point. The money will then be reinvested into preserving our coastlines and  
63 our education system. The stadiums will then be demolished and the lots  
64 will be considered public property so the city of New Orleans can decide  
65 what to do with it. However, the lots must be under construction within a  
66 year. After something has been built on the lot then the tax will stay in  
67 place for at least a year. However, the period of time that the lots aren't  
68 under construction will take the time from the from the year that was  
69 allotted so that the tax should stay in place in order to incentivize the New  
70 Orleans government to get something built on the lot as quickly as  
71 possible.

72 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

73 The current stadium taxes will stay in place until the stadium is demolished  
74 and the park is built to help fund this transition. However, afterwards the  
75 taxes will be slowly opted out in order to allow for a period of time in  
76 which the city of New Orleans can use this extra cash flow towards  
77 renovations or other projects.

78 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

79 If the New Orleans government hasn't started started construction on the  
80 lot by the time that the one year allows then they will be forced to pay for  
81 the construction themselves and will receive no state support as a result.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 128**

3 Brennan Belanger C.E. Byrd High School  
 4 Brown Snyder

5 **TITLE:** Extending Daylight Savings Time in Louisiana

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Daylight Savings Time happens every year in many different countries  
 8 around the world. This system starts at 2:00 AM on the second Sunday in  
 9 March and ends at 2:00 AM on the first Sunday in November. Daylight  
 10 Savings Time started in 1784 under the direction of Benjamin Franklin.  
 11 However, The United States did not standardize this system until 1966  
 12 when the Uniform Time Act was passed. Daylight Savings Time in the  
 13 United States used to be from the first Sunday in April to the last Sunday in  
 14 October. However, in 2007 George W. Bush added four extra weeks to it  
 15 resulting in the new dates. Although Daylight Savings Time is used in  
 16 approximately 70 different countries including the U.S., not all states follow  
 17 this system. Both Hawaii and parts of Arizona do not follow Daylight  
 18 Savings Time, and California and Florida are trying to observe Daylight  
 19 Savings Time continually throughout the year. With that being said, this bill  
 20 would extend Daylight Savings time in Louisiana making it continually  
 21 throughout the year. This would benefit the state of Louisiana in different  
 22 ways including saving energy and saving money. The state of Louisiana  
 23 will save energy because less energy spent on artificial lighting is being  
 24 used during Daylight Savings Time. Lastly, Louisiana will be saving money  
 25 because there will be less money spent on the energy that is being used  
 26 when it is not Daylight Savings Time.

27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 Beginning with the start of daylight savings time in 2020(2:00 AM on  
 29 Sunday March 8),this bill will extend daylight savings time continually  
 30 throughout the year in the state of Louisiana. This means that clocks will  
 31 move an hour ahead on the second Sunday in March and will not move  
 32 back an hour on the first Sunday in November of 2020. After this date,  
 33 official time in Louisiana will no longer change at the designated Daylight  
 34 Savings Time dates. This will result in Daylight Savings Time happening  
 35 continually throughout the year.

36 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

37 There will be no funding required for this bill.

38 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

39 There will be no penalties required for this bill.  
 40  
 41



42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 43 **HOUSE BILL 129**

44 Parsons Jack C.E. Byrd High School  
 45 Bowen Duke

46 **TITLE:** Antler Restriction Law in Louisiana

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 A law on antler restrictions in Louisiana is designed to improve the age  
 49 structure of the buck component of the deer herds. By implementing antler  
 50 restrictions, it allows more male deer to reach maturity, therefore  
 51 increasing the size of antlers. Texas began implementing Antler restrictions  
 52 in the early 2000s. Before antler restriction laws, Texas Parks and Wildlife  
 53 Department surveys showed at least 70 percent of the bucks taken by  
 54 hunters have been less than 3 1/2 years old. In many of the counties, 1  
 55 1/2-year-old bucks make up as much as 60 percent of the annual harvest.  
 56 In those counties, very few bucks - as few as 4 percent or even fewer in  
 57 some counties - have lived to 4 1/2 or older.

58 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

59 Under antler restrictions, hunters are allowed to take only bucks wearing  
 60 antlers with main beams having an inside spread of 13 inches or more, or  
 61 at least one unbranched (spike) antler. Deer hunters are allowed to take  
 62 two bucks per season, but only one of those bucks can have antlers with  
 63 main beams 13 inches or wider. Antler restrictions are designed to protect  
 64 most bucks until they are at least 3 1/2 years old.

65 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

66 No extra funding should be required, game wardens will be responsible to  
 67 enforce the new law.

68 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

69 The penalties should be monetary and also possibly loss of hunting  
 70 privileges for repeat offenders.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 130**

3 Bennett Wicker C. E. Byrd High School  
 4 Hunter Thrasher

5 **TITLE:** Corporal Punishment Ban In Schools

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill will ban all forms of corporal punishment in schools. Corporal  
 8 punishment is physical punishment which usually involves hitting, and is  
 9 intended to cause pain to a person. This does not include physically  
 10 restraining students in order to protect them from a greater danger. It is  
 11 most often practiced on minors, especially in schools. This bill will ban the  
 12 practice of corporal punishment in public and private schools in Louisiana.  
 13 Louisiana is one of nineteen states where corporal punishment is allowed  
 14 in schools. There were more than 11,000 cases of corporal punishment  
 15 recorded in Louisiana during 2008. This ranks the state tenth in the nation  
 16 for most use of corporal punishment in schools. This bill will make students  
 17 feel more comfortable while in school. Students can learn better without  
 18 feeling pressure or fear of being hit by a teacher.

19  
 20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 The law will be applied to all public and private schools in Louisiana.

22  
 23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 There is no money needed for this bill to be implemented. Therefore, no  
 25 taxes will not be raised because of this bill, nor teachers salaries be  
 26 lowered.

27  
 28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 School teachers may be charged with child abuse or assault and battery  
 30 for violating this law. This decision shall be made by the court.

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 32  
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 34  
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 37



38 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 39 **HOUSE BILL 131**

40 Morgan Banta Archbishop Hannan High School  
 41

42 **TITLE:** Enact a Close in Age Exemption

43 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

44 The current age of consent in Louisiana is 17. If two young adults under  
 45 the age of 17 have consensual sex in Louisiana, both can be convicted of  
 46 statutory rape under current laws. There are 25 states that have close in  
 47 age exemptions, Louisiana not one of them. These laws protect young  
 48 adults from extreme consequences for consensual acts. Some of these  
 49 consequences include being labeled a sex offender and being prosecuted  
 50 with possible jail time.

51 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**


52 This bill will be enacted once passed. Any youths age 14-15 can consent to  
 53 intercourse with anyone up to 2 years older than them, while 16 year olds  
 54 can consent to intercourse with anyone up to 3 years older than them.


55  
 56 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

57 There is no funding necessary for this bill.

58 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

59 In order to make certain that this bill is not taken advantage of, minimum  
 60 sentences for statutory rape related cases will be raised. Each minimum  
 61 monetary fine will be amplified by 1.5 (Ex: \$1,000 minimum will become  
 62 \$1,500), and each sentence will gain 1.2 times the minimum at the very  
 63 least.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
2 **HOUSE BILL 132**  
3 Matthew Pellittieri Archbishop Hannan High School  
4 **TITLE:** An Act to Decrease the Number of Abortions in the  
5 State of Louisiana  
6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**  
7 Most people, regardless of their opinion on how restricted they think  
8 abortion should or should not be, believe at the minimum that the process  
9 should be rare and only used in scenarios relating to the physical or mental  
10 health of either the mother or the child, severe negative economic impacts,  
11 or other situations wherein the birth of a child would severely alter the life  
12 of the mother. As such, this bill would ensure that women seeking  
13 abortions for other purposes, such as inconvenience, would be unable to  
14 receive that service, while also protecting and providing for those women  
15 who would have sought abortions for more serious reasons.  
16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**  
17 This bill will be enacted on January 1, 2020. Abortion will be made illegal  
18 beginning at the start of the second trimester with exceptions for the  
19 physical or mental health of the mother, and even then, only when the  
20 infant cannot be delivered alive. In addition, abortion at any stage prior to  
21 the second trimester will be illegal with exceptions for rape, incest, or  
22 danger to the mental or physical health of the mother. In addition,  
23 mothers and more broadly, families, will be able to apply for government  
24 assistance that is specific to their needs. This service, separate from WIC,  
25 will provide supplies and money to mothers who prove that they have no  
26 other way of providing for the newborn infant(s). It will be provided by the  
27 Louisiana Department of Health. Finally, the Department of Health will also  
28 be responsible for the placement of advertisement on billboards and online  
29 encouraging safer sex practices and adoption. No restrictions will be  
30 present regarding age in situations involving the need of birth control.  
31 **SECTION III: FUNDING**  
32 The new restrictions on abortion will require no funding. To account for the  
33 cost of the assistance program and marketing campaign, funds will be  
34 reallocated from other portions of the Department of Health's Budget.  
35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**  
36 A doctor who performs an illegal abortion will be subject to no less than 5  
37 years but no more than 10 years in prison, and the revocation of their  
38 doctor's license. Any other individuals involved in an illegal abortion  
39 procedure will be subject to up to 1 year in prison and a fine of up to  
40 \$10,000, as well as the revocation of any medical licensing they may hold.  
41

42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
43 **HOUSE BILL 133**  
44 Sean Brooks Episcopal High School  
45 Adam Azmeh  
46 **TITLE:** The Best Solution to Child Obesity  
47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**  
48 Louisiana is ranked 47th in child obesity among 10-17 year olds with a  
49 whopping 35.9% of children being obese, making child obesity a major  
50 problem for the state. To solve this we will be opening up various lifestyle  
51 changing summer camps for overweight children, starting at age 8. At  
52 these free camps, obese children will be taught the importance of hard  
53 work through manual labor. This labor will help the state on infrastructure  
54 projects including, but not limited to construction on roads and bridges.  
55 The children will be fed and housed free of charge to the family. Because  
56 "obese" is defined as having a BMI of 30 or more, the children will be held  
57 at the camps until their BMI drops below 30 or they turn 18. This bill will  
58 increase the quality of life for all citizens of Louisiana by making us a more  
59 healthy and advanced state.  
60 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**  
61 Every year, parents of obese 8 year olds will be given the option to  
62 volunteer for the health camp. If 25% of obese 8 year olds are not  
63 enrolled in camp, a drawing will be held to fill the empty slots. By 25% of  
64 obese children joining the camps, our obesity rank will skyrocket towards  
65 the top of the country.  
66 **SECTION III: FUNDING**  
67 Funding for this will come from the existing infrastructure budget because  
68 the state will no longer need to pay construction men. According to the  
69 Department of Health, childhood obesity costs the state \$2.9 billion for  
70 chronic disease prevention, so this saved money will also help with funding  
71 our camps.  
72 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**  
73 Those who dodge the camp raffle will incur the same punishment as those  
74 who dodge the draft.

2 **HOUSE BILL 134**

3 Maudry Anne Nichols Episcopal of Acadiana

4  
5 **TITLE:** Limiting the number of children in a household, based  
6 on family yearly income

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Louisiana spends around \$10,000,000 a year funding families through  
9 welfare like the Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program.  
10 Although the program only lasts 60 months, the majority of families still  
11 live below the poverty line. This is giving families money, with the amount  
12 depending on the number of children they have, and not giving the motive  
13 to find income elsewhere. Families could have as many children as wanted  
14 and be given money for it. With more children, the more money is given.  
15 For example, a family of three is given around \$240 a month, while a  
16 family of five is given about \$327. If a family would need more money a  
17 month, they would have more children, instead of finding a higher paying  
18 job. To deflate the abundance of money from the state for children, this  
19 bill would limit the number of kids people are allowed to have depending  
20 on the household's yearly income. Only financially stable families would be  
21 able to have children. For example, A family of two working adults would  
22 need to make around \$55,000 a year, which is the amount of all expenses  
23 of a three-person household, to be able to have one child. This will remove  
24 all costs of any child dependent welfare.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 To implement this law, all children living in a family that makes less than  
27 the minimum amount for the amount of children they have must be  
28 removed from the family. The child will then be placed in a facility in which  
29 they are unable to leave to see their family. The family may get their  
30 children back if they meet the required yearly wage. If the child turns 18  
31 and their family is unable to gain the income required, they are released  
32 from the housing provided. This will cause those families to work harder  
33 and make more. This law would take place a year after the bill is passed,  
34 to give families time to prepare and find a way to make a higher salary.

35 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

36 The government would have to fund the housing for the children taken.

37 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

38 If a family was found with more children than allowed, all the children are  
39 taken. Those children are not allowed to be given back, even if they have  
40 the required income.

42 **HOUSE BILL 135**

43 Harun Vemulapalli Dutchtown High school

44 Matthew Lass

45 **TITLE:** Standardized Testing For All

46  
47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 The SAT provides a measure of academic inequality at the end of  
49 secondary schooling. In so far, SAT scores predict student success in  
50 college, inequalities in the SAT score distribution reflect and reinforce racial  
51 inequalities across generations. Race gaps on the SAT's are especially  
52 pronounced at the tails of the distribution. Statistically, studies have shown  
53 that the reason we have this inequity is due to lack of access to test prep  
54 for African Americans, Latinos, other minorities, and people of low  
55 socioeconomic groups. By forcing schools to give students free test prep as  
56 well as equal free access to take the SAT or ACT in 10th and 11th grade so  
57 minorities and people of low socioeconomic groups have an equal playing  
58 field to be able to go to college and help our economy in the long run.

59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 Prior to 2020's Fall ACT period, schools will be given materials that include  
61 tests and test prep. Test prep will be given to students optionally everyday  
62 after school and the free SAT and ACT will be given to students at two  
63 periods sessions in the school year.

64 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

65 Funding for this project will come from Louisiana taxes that were directed  
66 towards education.

67 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

68 Noncomplying schools will have reduced funding as a result of no  
69 implementation of the test or test prep.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 136**

3 Jenna Einsel Dutchtown High School  
 4 Brianna Glover

5 **TITLE:** Nightlock for lives

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The rise of gun violence in schools and many school shootings have  
 8 resulted in multiple undesired deaths in young teenagers. This is because  
 9 it is easy to get into a room full of frightened students when doors are  
 10 improperly barricaded.

11 The NIGHTLOCK Lockdown 1 device, which is one of two devices, uses  
 12 strength from the floor to uphold force. It works on any outward- and  
 13 inward-swinging doors and when installed at the floor like directed, it  
 14 remains out of reach to intruders attempting to enter conventional  
 15 classroom and office doors by breaking the glass window. By using this  
 16 product, we can save the lives of students in Louisiana.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 This bill is planned to go in effect within the 2021-2022 school year for all  
 19 public schools in Louisiana.

20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 The funding for this bill will be provided by the state government, similar  
 22 to other safety features in school.

23 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

24 It will be up to the school administration to assure that teachers comply  
 25 with the law and use the device. For schools who fail to install the devices  
 26 as a whole, their school rating will be negatively impacted due to the  
 27 deduction of points from inspections.  
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43 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 44 **HOUSE BILL 137**

45 Peter Kaiser Episcopal School of Acadiana  
 46

47 **TITLE:** Using Louisiana’s Rivers for Hydroelectric Power

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 Louisiana has many major rivers that flow through the state that could  
 50 easily be used to make hydroelectric power for the state. If we installed  
 51 underwater turbines in the Mississippi river alone it would produce a lot of  
 52 megawatts of energy and just a single turbine could produce 700,000  
 53 kilowatt-hours per year. These turbines could be used to help power the  
 54 state’s electrical grid and it would also reduce the amount of greenhouse  
 55 gas released into the atmosphere which would help the environment that  
 56 many people are trying to protect. If this bill is passed the hard part would  
 57 be funding the construction of the turbines however the amount of  
 58 electricity produced would make back the money very quickly.

59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 The turbines would be implemented over several years in order to focus on  
 61 one river at a time, most likely starting with the Mississippi River. After the  
 62 Mississippi River turbines have been installed, we would move to the  
 63 Atchafalaya River. In order to install the turbines, it would require help  
 64 from several hydroelectric technology companies that can build and install  
 65 the turbines.

66 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

67 In order to fund this project, it would require anywhere from \$300 million  
 68 to as much as \$2 billion dollars depending on how many turbines are  
 69 installed and how efficient the turbines are. However, the most likely cost  
 70 for an efficient but not extremely expensive would be about \$600-700  
 71 million. The money would likely have to come in both an increase in  
 72 income and sales tax as well as changing the budget.

73 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

74 There are no necessary consequences for breaking this law because of the  
 75 fact that it is more of a plan of implementation.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 138**

3 Ava Munoz                    LSU Laboratory School  
 4 Annalise Duncan

5 **TITLE:** Free Pre-K Education

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Oklahoma implemented a free pre-school program for all children of the  
 8 age of 4 but not more than 5 by August 1st. Since then, graduation rates  
 9 have increased, and students have a long-term greater understanding of  
 10 the core subjects. The journal Developmental Psychology has conducted  
 11 research that proves that Oklahoma's pre-kindergarten program is  
 12 successful in helping kids prepare for school. Statistics show that  
 13 investment pre-school programs produce billions of dollars and other  
 14 benefits for the federal and state governments. The NEA states that people  
 15 that went to pre-k "acquired more education and were less likely to  
 16 commit crimes than those who did not receive the same level of service."

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 The free pre-school program will be available to all children. If one district  
 19 does not have the facilities to host preschool, the child will be allowed to  
 20 the nearest district offering the preschool. Half days or full days are  
 21 optional. The ratio of kids to teachers must be no larger than 20:1.  
 22 Additional staff will be required if the number of children exceeds 20.  
 23 Schools are required to accommodate any student. Half days ( 2.5 hours )  
 24 or full days (6 hours) are optional.

25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 Funding will come from luxury taxes along with a 5% increase in property  
 27 tax.

28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 Non-compliant school districts will have its "School Report Card" score  
 30 lowered.

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42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 43 **HOUSE BILL 139**

44 Nubia McLaughlin                    Community Coordinating Council  
 45

46 **TITLE:** Protecting Student Artwork

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Many artist have been victims of art theft and never got justice. Regardless  
 49 of the perception people may have of an artist or the value of artwork,  
 50 stealing is stealing no matter what. Stealing should be dealt with for the  
 51 crime that it is. When Talented Art Students put their artwork on display or  
 52 enter their work in art competitions through a school, the school should be  
 53 liable for making sure that students' work is not stolen or harmed in any  
 54 way.

55 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

56 If this bill is approved, it should go into effect as soon as possible. Schools  
 57 should be held accountable by the Louisiana Department of Education  
 58 when it comes to ensuring the protection of student artwork in order to  
 59 reduce theft and any other harmful acts.

60 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

61 This bill should not require any funding.

62 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

63 Schools that fail to protect student artwork or to take proper actions when  
 64 necessary should be investigated by the state. Once investigated, those  
 65 responsible for not handling the situation(s) properly should face  
 66 consequences given by the state (suspension without pay at least). Those  
 67 who steal or harm the artwork of a student should be convicted and dealt  
 68 with by law enforcement.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 140**



3 Lily Coats Haynes Academy

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5 **TITLE:** Louisiana's stores: There's "trash talk" in there too

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In the United States, specifically, Louisiana 10% of all food waste comes  
8 directly from grocery stores. 50% of this food waste being thrown away is  
9 still edible. This food should be donated to food banks and homeless  
10 shelters considering the food isn't gonna be sold anyway. Some stores  
11 have taken it upon themselves to sell "ugly food" at a discounted price so  
12 it's not wasted. Nonprofits like Bracken's Kitchen have older food donated  
13 from local grocery stores to help with their Food Truck Feeding program.  
14 Their program consists of a food truck and donated goods. The members  
15 of this organization cook meals for families so that less food is wasted or  
16 sent to landfill. All Louisiana Grocery stores should donate unsold food that  
17 is still edible to nonprofits, homeless shelters or food banks ensuring that  
18 all citizens of Louisiana are adequately fed. The participating stores will be  
19 compensated by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 By 2022 Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will offer tax  
22 compensation for all stores in the state of Louisiana that donates unsold,  
23 but edible food to a non-profit organization, a homeless shelter, or a food  
24 bank. To get this compensation an annual report must be derived and a  
25 record of the transaction must be complete with who and where the  
26 donations went to. This Louisiana official document must be signed by  
27 donating and receiving parties ensuring that food is up to code and that  
28 the donation was legitimate. The compensation will be up to 15% of the  
29 value of goods donated.

30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 To fund this project, non-profit organizations can donate to this fund as  
32 well as the Environmental Quality Department budget putting \$300,000 in  
33 as a starting amount. To continue this project the sales tax in Louisiana  
34 will go up 0.05%. This will be a small amount of money compared to the  
35 amount of waste that will be saved from a landfill.

36 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

37 Since this bill is not requiring stores to donate, no penalty for the overall  
38 project will be necessary, but if rotten or below code produce or unusable  
39 food waste is donated then their compensation that was awarded must be  
40 repaid four times.

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42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
43 **HOUSE BILL 141**



44 Landon Boykin C.E.Byrd

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46 **TITLE:** Legalization of Marijuana

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 In 2016, 17,000 people were arrested for misdemeanor possession of  
49 marijuana in Louisiana. This is 15-60 days in jail per person. It takes nearly  
50 \$55 per day to house an inmate, that's over \$14,000,000 to house inmates  
51 for misdemeanor marijuana arrests. If legalized, that's 14 million dollars  
52 allocated to go towards infrastructure for our roads, schools, hospitals, and  
53 other things internally flawed in our state.

54 In its first fiscal year, Colorado generated over 45 million dollars in tax  
55 revenue. In terms of Louisiana's population compared to Colorado's, that's  
56 nearly 37,000,000 dollars. Colorado has surpassed 1 billion dollars in tax  
57 revenue from marijuana sales, cultivation, growing, etc.

58 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

59 Passing this bill would allocate 51 million dollars for infrastructure and  
60 other internal services. This is not only 51 million dollars this year, next  
61 year its 14 million more saved in incarceration of inmates for the years to  
62 come. Not only that, revenue will only increase from there. There would  
63 not be much money required to pass this bill, as investors looking to  
64 expand their business will move in on any state legalizes, first come first  
65 serve. Not only would this generate lots of money, violence and crime  
66 rates in Louisiana could significantly fall. If there's a legal way to get it,  
67 there won't be people killing each other over it.

68 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

69 No funding needed.

70 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

71 No penalties.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 142**

3 Maddie Scott Mandeville High School  
 4 Kelly Sullivan

5 **TITLE:** Tax the use of all checkout bags

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 As commonly known, plastic waste is a worldwide problem rapidly on the  
 8 increase, only contributing to the downfall of our environment. 100 billion  
 9 plastic bags are used every year in the United States with 100 million  
 10 marine animals being killed by plastic bags annually. Not only are plastic  
 11 bags destructive, paper bags give off greenhouse emissions, contributing  
 12 to global warming. The ultimate goal of this bill is to encourage an  
 13 increase in the bring your own bag movement. Seeing that other states  
 14 and cities have implemented this legislation and have received highly  
 15 successful results, we've decided that it is Louisiana's turn to take a step  
 16 towards saving the Earth.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 Checkout bags include single-use plastic bags, reusable plastic bags, and  
 19 paper bags, all of which are harmful to the environment. All customers  
 20 who use a checkout bag in retail stores will simply be taxed 10¢ per bag.

21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 This bill doesn't require any additional funding, whatsoever. It requires a  
 23 10¢ tax per checkout bag, paid for by the consumer. In the long run, this  
 24 bill is actually bringing in money towards the Louisiana State  
 25 Government, money that will be used towards coastal restoration and  
 26 other environmental problems in Louisiana.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 If a store or company violates this legislation, the case will be evaluated by  
 29 a judge to determine the specifics of their punishment of fine or arrest  
 30 based on the severity of the situation.

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39 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 40 **HOUSE BILL 143**

41 Jacob Jordan Captain Shreve High School  
 42

43 **TITLE:** End the Sale of Ready-Made Alcohol Beverages at  
 44 Drive-Thrus

45 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

46 Over 3000 people were killed in drunk driving related crashes in Louisiana  
 47 from 2003-2012. This averages out to 348 crashes each year or almost  
 48 one every day. A major cause of these crashes is drinking in the car rather  
 49 than earlier during the day. Many liquor stores and daiquiri shops have a  
 50 drive-thru window. By pulling up to the window and ordering an alcoholic  
 51 beverage, a driver is given a styrofoam cup with a piece of tape over the  
 52 straw hole. So long as the tape covers any openings, this is considered a  
 53 "closed container."

54  
 55 Many people that order from a drive-thru window will drink their alcoholic  
 56 beverage while driving by simply moving the tape to the side or lifting it up  
 57 to make room for the straw. After taking a sip, all they have to do is  
 58 replace the tape. This process is very simple yet illegal. By ending all drive-  
 59 thru liquor sales, this bill will eliminate the use of taped cups and prevent  
 60 some alcohol related accidents.

61 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

62 All drive-thru sales of alcoholic beverages will end within six months of this  
 63 bill's passage.

64 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

65 No funding is required for this bill.

66 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

67 1st Offense - Liquor License suspended for 30 days and \$1000 fine  
 68 2nd Offense - Liquor License suspended for 6 Months and \$5000 fine  
 69 3rd Offense - Liquor License suspended for 1 year and \$10,000 fine  
 70 4th Offense - Liquor License revoked



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 144**

3 James Auer Captain Shreve High School

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 5 **TITLE:** Create an Organization to Get Rid of Nutrias in  
 6 Louisiana

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The nutria is the most infamous invasive species in Louisiana. With its  
 9 beaver-like teeth, webbed feet, and rat-ish tail, it is easy to understand  
 10 that the nutria is not naturally from Louisiana. The nutria constantly eats  
 11 away at plants that are local and native to Louisiana. While there is a  
 12 bounty on the nutria (\$6 for each one killed), there is not a dedicated  
 13 organization to get the nutria completely out of the state of Louisiana.  
 14 With this bill, an organization would be created to eliminate the nutria.

15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 This bill will be implemented through a new organization being checked up  
 17 on bi-weekly by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries on how many  
 18 nutria they have killed. They would have to document how many nutria  
 19 were killed every week. This will be an entirely new organization run by  
 20 the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 The funding for this bill will come from an increase in the cost of hunting  
 23 licenses by \$0.50.

24 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

25 This bill has no penalties.

37 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 38 **HOUSE BILL 145**

39 Tanvi Dhaka Episcopal School of Baton Rouge  
 40 Mia Pulliam

41 **TITLE:** Random Alcohol Screenings in Local Bars

42 **HOUSE BILL 145**

43 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

44 Louisiana police have reported more than 28,000 car accidents involving a  
 45 driver with a positive blood alcohol concentration, and there is an  
 46 estimated total of 49,000 crashes each year in the state involving alcohol.  
 47 To combat this, we developed a bill that will require bars in the state of  
 48 Louisiana to conduct a minimum of 12 weekly randomly held breathalyzer  
 49 screenings of its patrons as they are leaving the establishment. If the  
 50 customers are found to be over the legal limit (0.08% blood alcohol  
 51 content) but are accompanied by at least one other person, they must  
 52 either allow another member of their party to transport them to their  
 53 destination, or they can stay in the establishment until they are back  
 54 underneath the legal limit. If they are alone, then they must have some  
 55 other transport service, such as a taxi, uber, or associate transport them to  
 56 their destination, or they can stay in the establishment until they are back  
 57 under the legal limit.

58 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

59 This law, if passed, will go into effect on January 1st, 2020, to give the  
 60 bars enough time to prepare and purchase all equipment needed for the  
 61 breathalyzer tests. The bouncers at bars will conduct these types of  
 62 screenings, but if a bouncer is unavailable, bartenders will be tasked with  
 63 conducting the screenings. Each bar will be required to document all of its  
 64 screenings once a month through an online website to ensure compliance  
 65 and hold the bars accountable for their tests.

66 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

67 No funding by the state will be needed. Each bar will be required to  
 68 purchase at least two breathalyzers. Bars do not need to buy breathalyzers  
 69 that utilize fuel cell sensors and only need to purchase the most basic  
 70 kinds that cost around \$150 each and can still detect traces of alcohol. The  
 71 bars will also be required to recalibrate their breathalyzers after every 300  
 72 tests.

73 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

74 Each bar will be required to document all of its screenings once a month  
 75 through an online website. If the establishment does not meet the quota in  
 76 a particular month, then they are given a warning. Each establishment is  
 77 only eligible for one such notice per year of operation. If such an incident  
 78 occurs in that same year after a warning is issued, then the establishment  
 79 will be fined \$8,000. The fine will increase by \$1,000 for every additional  
 80 month after that. If the bar conducts the tests but does not document the  
 81 appropriate amount of screenings done each month, they will be fined a  
 82 \$100 penalty that will increase by \$100 more each month the bar  
 83 continues not to document its screenings. If the subject of a screening  
 84 resists or leaves the establishment without meeting the parameters of  
 85 release, then the individual will be fined \$50.

2 **HOUSE BILL 146**

3 Anthony Eulate Captain Shreve High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Phone Confiscating in School

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In schools throughout Louisiana if a student is caught with their phone out  
8 when they are not supposed to be on it, the teacher is able to take it up  
9 for a certain amount of school days. If the district's policy is 3 school days  
10 and the student had their phone taken on a Friday, then they would not  
11 get it back until Wednesday. This is not the best idea because it makes the  
12 student angry when they could have just been telling their parents  
13 something over text.

14 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

15 Instead of being able to confiscate a student's phone for a certain number  
16 of school days, the teacher will be required to give the phone back to the  
17 student at the end of the hour. The teacher would have to give the  
18 student a warning before taking up their phone. If the student repeatedly  
19 gets their phone taken away, the teacher could give them some form of  
20 detention or in-school suspension.

21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 This bill requires no funding.

23 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

24 If a teacher confiscates a student's phone for longer than the class period,  
25 the teacher will be fined with a misdemeanor with a fine of \$15 and no jail  
26 time.

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43 **HOUSE BILL 147**

44 Lana Intrchoodech Captain Shreve High School

45  
46 **TITLE:** Start School Later

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 The bill proposed is to start school later. Studies by the sleep doctor,  
49 Michael Breus, have shown that the mind is most effective for learning  
50 starting at 10:00 a.m. This would also give more time to sleep and make  
51 sure children are getting the necessary amount of sleep for growth. This  
52 bill would change the starting time of school to 10:00 a.m. and the ending  
53 time to 5 p.m. This would help more parents to be able to pick up their  
54 children after school rather than riding the bus, finding after school care,  
55 etc.

56 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

57 For the bill to go into effect, school hours would change to 10:00 a.m. - 5  
58 p.m. Also, buses' time for picking up students and dropping them off will  
59 be changed to an appropriate time for their arrival to school based on  
60 where they live and will pick them up as soon as school ends.

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63 This bill will go into effect August 10, 2020.

64 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

65 No funds will be added for this bill to go into action. Teachers, faculty, and  
66 bus drivers' wage will remain the same due to the same amount of hours  
67 of school that we currently have.

68 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

69 For those who do not follow the law and don't arrive to school on time,  
70 after a certain amount of days based of the states' opinion they will go to  
71 court for lack of attendance and get a fine up to \$250.

72

5 **TITLE:** Eliminate Water Pollution in Louisiana

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The state of Louisiana is considered to have the most polluted water in the  
8 whole United States. Louisiana has over 300 manufacturing plants that all  
9 emit harmful chemicals and waste in the water. Lakes, rivers, ponds, and  
10 even the Gulf of Mexico have all been impacted by pollution. Not only does  
11 this pollution ruin the environment, but it also kills and mutates wildlife in  
12 its vicinity. Most people would prefer to swim in clean and clear water to  
13 enjoy their time. This bill aims to eliminate all pollution emitted by  
14 manufacturing plants in Louisiana. This would improve the water quality in  
15 Louisiana, and more tourists would come to Louisiana, raising the state's  
16 income from tourist profits and taxes.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 All manufacturing plants will be required to clean up and remove all water  
19 pollution within a five mile radius of their plant. The companies that own  
20 the facilities would be responsible for the cleanup of the water. The  
21 companies would be required to use their own profits to clean the water.  
22 A representative from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
23 will be sent to visit all manufacturing plants across the state. The  
24 representative would explain the purpose of the bill and how it should be  
25 followed. Within 6 months of receiving this information, the companies  
26 must have begun the clean-up process, or they will be fined. Companies  
27 would have 5 years to begin and finish the cleaning process.

28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 This bill requires no funding.

30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 If these companies do not comply with the bill they may be fined. The  
32 fines would start at \$750,000 and would increase by \$100,000 for every  
33 month the cleanup process has not begun. If the cleaning process is not  
34 complete within the 5 years, the companies will be fined. The fines would  
35 start at \$2,000,000 and would increase by \$1,000,000 dollars every year  
36 after the deadline that the cleanup has not finished. A time extension may  
37 be administered if there is a problem outside of their control.  
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40  
41

46 **TITLE:** Improving Mental and Social Health for School-Age  
47 Children Reducing Risks of Lifetime Trouble

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 In today's society, at least 1 in 5 children are affected by mental health  
50 conditions. Some of these conditions include depression, anxiety, and  
51 suicidal thoughts. Social health is driven by social media including  
52 Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It is far easier to develop measures in  
53 place to create a sense of healthy wellness in the lives of kids rather  
54 than struggling to fix the negative outcomes that arise from untreated  
55 conditions. Creating a healthy wellness in kids begins early in life. I  
56 propose the following solution to this complicated topic. Beginning in 6th  
57 grade and continuing until graduation, there should be monthly small  
58 group sessions in school to discuss a topic that is relevant to mental  
59 health. Educators would lead the discussion on methods to identify the  
60 problem and how to address them in the most constructive way possible  
61 before they begin. Focus should be on how to prevent these negative  
62 feelings from arising and what to do if this does happen. Attendance  
63 should be mandatory. Topics could include how to handle bullying, peer  
64 pressure for drug and alcohol use, family dynamic struggles, and body  
65 images.

66 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

67 The educators who lead these discussions must be fully trained in the  
68 topics they lead. They will need extensive training in how to facilitate  
69 difficult conversations with young adults. The school board will have to  
70 create funding to help with the training process. The program should be  
71 targeted to begin at the start of the school year of 2021. This will give time  
72 to identify the educators and the training protocol they will follow.

73 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

74 The cost of the program will depend on the going rate for mental health  
75 education. Some of the costs can be offset by grants from mental health  
76 advocates, or volunteers, who are social workers or counselors. Budgets to  
77 the school's system may need to be adjusted, but if the program works  
78 well, the financial investment will be recouped in the form of a healthy,  
79 thriving school.

80 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

81 The program will be mandatory in all schools in Louisiana.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 150**



3 Bryce Lopez Captain Shreve High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Pay Due to Play

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill is aimed towards college athletes in Louisiana. College athletes  
8 use their skills to play their sports while hardly getting rewarded. For  
9 example, LSU football is ranked the 5th most profitable college football  
10 organization in the country. LSU brings in nearly 75 million dollars in  
11 revenue each year, with nearly \$15 million coming from jersey sales. While  
12 the colleges are making all this money from the jersey sales of successful  
13 athletes, the athletes that work for multiple hours daily to make the name  
14 on the back of the jersey worth anything don't make any profit off the  
15 usage of their names.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 The bill could be implemented as soon as 2023. This will give colleges  
18 enough time to create agreements with their athletes to determine the  
19 portion of the sales each will get based on a percentage of the overall  
20 sales. This law will be implemented in all Louisiana colleges, and will only  
21 pertain to an athlete for the time they are eligible to participate in  
22 athletics.

23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 For this bill to be implemented, there will be no needed financing. The pay  
25 for each athlete will come directly from the sales of their jerseys and usage  
26 of their names.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 Athletes not being paid will be allowed to transer from that college to  
29 another without penalty.  
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35 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
36 **HOUSE BILL 151**



37 Zoe Folarin Alexandria Senior High School

38 **TITLE:** A Greener Louisiana, A Brighter Tomorrow.

39 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**  
40

41 **HOUSE BILL 151**

42 The Louisiana environment has faced many challenges over the past few  
43 decades and is likely to face many more severe issues in the following  
44 years. Unfortunately, our state performs terribly on multiple environmental  
45 friendliness metrics. When compared to other states, Louisiana has the  
46 lowest percentage of recycled waste, is ranked number 5 for the highest  
47 carbon dioxide emissions, and is cited as having some of the nation's most  
48 polluted waterways. These statistics only represent a small part of a much  
49 larger and alarming crisis that the state is facing. To solve, or at least  
50 minimize, the problems Louisiana is met with action must be taken to  
51 encourage the state's residents and businesses to adopt more  
52 environmentally beneficial habits. This bill, amongst other things, aims to  
53 make recycling a more accessible means of waste management, expand  
54 the amount of research available regarding the Louisiana environment, and  
55 incentivize the use of cleaner means of energy production. These  
56 measures will ensure that both our state and our state's people will be  
57 healthier for generations to come.

58 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

59 This bill, if passed, will require the following: All public areas must have an  
60 accessible recycling bin. Funding must be provided to build a recycling  
61 center if there is not already one within 80 miles of each town. Reward  
62 \$5,000 to \$30,000 grants to research projects that are deemed useful  
63 which focus on gathering new information about the state's environmental  
64 health. For any project that is awarded a grant, the organizers of the  
65 project must write an annual report on their findings and have their project  
66 reviewed bi-annually to ensure that the money is being spent efficiently  
67 and that the project is indeed useful. If the project is deemed inefficient or  
68 no longer useful, the grant will be revoked. Give a \$200 tax cut to any  
69 residence or business that obtains part of its energy production from  
70 renewable energy sources. Require all fossil fuel-powered energy plants to  
71 use carbon capture technology. Review all chemical plants in the state and  
72 create a comprehensive list of what waste is being released by each plant,  
73 where it is being released from, and how much is being released. The  
74 information collected will be used to create a list of demands that plants  
75 that are deemed particularly harmful must follow.

76 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

77 The bill will be funded through \$50,000,000 from the budget of the  
78 Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and the application of a  
79 Multipurpose State Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

80 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

81 The owners of public areas that do not have an accessible recycling bin will  
82 be fined \$500 annually. Fossil fuel-powered plants that do not use carbon  
83 capture technology will be fined \$10,000 annually. Chemical plants that do  
84 not agree to make changes will be fined \$10,000.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 152**

3 Olivia Mack Saint Joseph's Academy

5 **TITLE:** Reform our Louisiana Police Officers

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Unsurprisingly, only 57% of the US population have confidence in our  
8 police. 136 people in Louisiana have died by the hands of our officers,  
9 according to US Census Data, and of those dead, 26 were unarmed. While  
10 it is easy to blame the men and women who ultimately protect our state  
11 from countless crimes, we need to recognize that the blame should lay  
12 with the strenuous conditions that they are continuously placed under.  
13 According to the America Addiction Centers, more than 20% of police  
14 officers are at risk of developing PTSD, Trauma Related Disorders, and  
15 Substance Use Disorders. Psychology Today reports this could be equated  
16 to long hours, unpredictable schedules, exposure to critical incidents, and  
17 high rates of on-the-job injuries. Not only this, but how is a police officer  
18 supposed to approach a situation with the intent of being a peacemaker  
19 when all they are drilled on are defense mechanisms and firearm tactics?  
20 When police officers are trained to act without assessing the situation, it  
21 leads to cases like Kenneth French, a nonverbal schizophrenic, who was  
22 killed by an off-duty police officer that shot 10 rounds from his handgun.  
23 When de-escalation training was added to the police departments in 2009  
24 in Dallas, Texas, the 147 complaints dropped to 53, and by 2016 the  
25 excessive force complaints dropped to 21. De-escalation training teaches  
26 officers to slow down, create space, and use communication techniques to  
27 defuse potentially dangerous situations. It gives officers strategies to more  
28 calmly deal with people who are experiencing mental and emotional crises.  
29 With an adjustment to the training requirements for the state of Louisiana,  
30 we could see more confidence in the Police Department and also see the  
31 number of deaths and injuries on citizens inflicted by police decrease.  
32 Mental health and de-escalation training must coexist, because if our  
33 officers are breaking under the pressure of their job, they cannot be  
34 expected to continue with added skills and a lack of awareness.

35  
36 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

37 There are two-parts to this plan; de-escalation (A); mental health  
38 professional (B):  
39 (A) De-escalation training will be a requirement in class/course work for  
40 law enforcement officers in order to graduate from any academy  
41 recognized by the state of Louisiana. Training will be similar to the Law  
42 Enforcement Active De-escalation Strategies (L.E.A.D.S) program. It will

43 also be added to officers already required in service training: two hours will  
44 become the minimum amount of de-escalation training needed to meet  
45 requirements.

46  
47 (B) The Louisiana Police Dept. combined with the Louisiana Peace Officer  
48 Standards and Training Council (POST), will hire licensed mental health  
49 professionals for the purpose of testing and improving the well-being of  
50 Louisiana officers. If the Mental Health Professional has diagnosed a police  
51 officer with PTSD, Depression, Borderline Personality Disorder, or has been  
52 highly recommended by said professional to not continue the job, they  
53 would not be eligible for fieldwork and would require regular meetings,  
54 with the health professional until they are deemed "mentally fit." The  
55 amount of mental health professionals hired depends on the amount of  
56 officers and departments. The estimated amount of professionals would be  
57 35. The estimated cost for these Mental Health Professionals is \$2 million.

58  
59 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

60 (A) To provide for de-escalation training, every department will regulate  
61 the funds already given to compensate for training.

62  
63 (B) Louisiana Police Departments will have the option to receive a \$2.1  
64 million grant available through the Law Enforcement Mental Health and  
65 Wellness Act (LEMHWA) Program. If a grant is not received, a 0.05% tax  
66 will be applied to the alcohol and tobacco industries. The extra money will  
67 be used to further help the mental health of police officers through  
68 medication and paid leave or compensating de-escalation training.

69  
70 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

71 (A) If a Department continues to recognize police officers without the  
72 additional de-escalation aspect of their required course work, said  
73 Department will have 0.6% taken from their funds every pay period until  
74 all police officers (accepted after the bill comes into effect) have the  
75 needed training. This would be around \$555,830.70. The punishment for  
76 not having the minimum amount of hours, in the context of in-service  
77 training, will continue to be the same as it currently is.

78  
79 (B) If the regulated number of mental health professionals (dependent on  
80 the jurisdiction of the Louisiana State Dept.) are not hired in the given time  
81 frame of two years after the passing of this bill, 0.1% of funding will be  
82 withheld from said Department until all Mental Health Professionals are  
83 hired.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
2 **HOUSE BILL 153**

3 Nick Delahaye                      Episcopal High School of Baton  
4 Rouge

5  
6 **TITLE:** Amelioration of Louisiana Inmates Initiative

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Louisiana has about 35,700 people incarcerated as of 2016, which is  
9 double the national average. About 56% of inmates in Louisiana local jails  
10 are imprisoned for drug-related crimes, many for possession. Many of  
11 these inmates are addicts, and are sent into prison with withdrawal  
12 symptoms causing them to go mad, in some cases injuring other inmates  
13 or prison guards. An interview was conducted by VICE in 2018 by an  
14 inmate in a Kentucky prison who was incarcerated for drug related crimes.  
15 He told the reporter that he used to smoke one and a half packs of  
16 cigarettes a day. He had to spend 3 weeks in solitary confinement due to  
17 an incident where he assaulted a prison janitor. A warden in the same  
18 prison then invented a new product allowing prisoners to vape, known as  
19 the Crossbar program. It allows prisoners to smoke e-cigarettes during a  
20 designated period. After this program was implemented, the prison saw an  
21 exponential decrease in violent crimes in the prison. Prisoners used this to  
22 slowly ease off their withdrawal systems, which was proven beneficial to  
23 reduce violent crimes. To protect our LEOs and penitentiary workers, this  
24 bill will institute the Crossbar program statewide in local jails and holding  
25 facilities.

26 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

27 This bill will be in effect by the year 2035 in order to allocate funds. It will  
28 give prisons a stockpile of Crossbar e-cig devices.

29  
30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 A nickel tax will be implemented starting in 2020 for funding.

32 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

33 No penalties.  
34  
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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
42 **HOUSE BILL 154**

43 Isabella Knighten                      LSU Laboratory School  
44 Ella King

45 **TITLE:** Require Businesses to Give Paid Leave to All New  
46 Parents

47  
48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 As indicated by the Family Medical Leave Act, a mother can take as long as  
50 twelve weeks of unpaid leave for the introduction of a child and any  
51 inadequacy that happens because of the pregnancy. Paid leave is up to the  
52 discretion of the employer, meaning that women can be penalized for  
53 having a child because men are not obligated to take maternity leave. This  
54 bill would require organizations with an excess of 100 workers to pay six  
55 weeks of maternity leave for both women and men after the birth or  
56 adoption of a child. These advantages would be part of the twelve-week  
57 FMLA maternity leave law, so six of the twelve weeks would be paid.

58  
59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 This bill would influence parents who document for maternity leave after  
61 January 1, 2020. It will level men and women monetarily and help to close  
62 the gender wage gap. It would likewise secure single mothers who are  
63 monetarily incapable to take maternity leave. Since independent  
64 companies make up fifty-two percent of Louisiana's private workforce, this  
65 bill would require an organization to give paid leave in the event that they  
66 have 100 employees or more.

67 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

68 The financing for this bill will originate from the business. Qualification for  
69 this bill will be equivalent to if a parent were filing for the FMLA maternity  
70 leave: they would need to work for a secured employer, work for that  
71 employer 1250 hours before the beginning of the leave, and have worked  
72 for that business for a full year before meeting all requirements for  
73 maternity leave. In the event that the parent neglects to meet these  
74 prerequisites, they would not be qualified for this bill.

75 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

76 Any organization found not adhering to the terms recorded in the bill and  
77 in the FMLA's terms and conditions will be made to repay any employee for  
78 whenever that is unpaid under this bill.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 155**



3 Michael Coogan                      LSU Laboratory School  
4 Towns Heroman

5 **TITLE:** Cutting down on voter fraud- requires all voters to  
6 show their ID card

7  
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Voter fraud is a problem all over the United States including Louisiana. This  
10 bill would create a way to identify registered and eligible voters through  
11 having a "voter" symbol , much like the "donor" symbol, on the ID's of  
12 those who are eligible to vote. When going to vote, voters will be required  
13 to present their ID and will only be allowed to vote if their ID is valid and  
14 has the correct marking. The symbol would be a bolded V with the flag  
15 colors printed onto it.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 For those not yet a registered voter they would have to go to the DMV to  
18 get the symbol on their ID once they become eligible to vote. For those  
19 currently eligible to vote and are a registered voter would have until 20  
20 days before the next election that they wish to participate in to have their  
21 IDs updated to be eligible to vote. If for any reason a person has lost their  
22 right to vote the symbol will be removed from their ID.

23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 There is no necessary government funding for a symbol being put on a  
25 Personal Identification Card. Whenever citizens go to renew their licenses  
26 with the symbol they will pay the standard fee for a new license.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 There is no necessary government funding for a symbol being put on a  
29 Personal Identification Card. Whenever citizens go to renew their licenses  
30 with the symbol they will pay the standard fee for a new license.  
31 Section IV Louisiana citizens who do not meet these requirements will not  
32 be allowed to cast a ballot.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
42 **HOUSE BILL 156**



43 Jillian Augustine                      St. Joseph's Academy  
44 Alexis Harvey

45 **TITLE:** Eliminate Time Change

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 Arizona, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico do not participate in Daylight Saving Time  
48 because it is outdated, having originating in 1918. Originally, the purpose  
49 of daylight savings time was to save fuel during WWI, a concept Germany  
50 came up with. The idea was that by changing the hours of the day where  
51 the sun was out, you could adjust what hours of the day energy was used  
52 and subconsciously convince people to use less energy, therefore leaving  
53 more for the war; however, today nobody definitively knows whether it is  
54 true. Later, the same ideology was used in America to continue daylight  
55 saving time in an attempt to lure people out later in the day to continue  
56 shopping in the Depression; however, the daylight during the spring and  
57 summer months is leads to increased car accidents, heart attacks,  
58 workplace injuries and crime. This can be explained by the time change  
59 also disrupting people's internal clocks, called a Circadian Rhythm, which  
60 can further explain the decrease in national health. Because of this  
61 disruption, the citizens remains out of focus, leading to increased accidents  
62 and poor decisions, increasing crime. On the other hand, during the fall  
63 and winter, these areas of life are improved. To solve this issue, this bill  
64 will eliminate time change in Louisiana altogether.

65 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

66 The US Energy Policy Act of 2005 gives states the right to opt-out of  
67 Daylight Saving Time and upon the passage of this bill, Louisiana will do  
68 so. This will mean that the spring of 2020, as well as every spring after  
69 that, Louisiana will not change clocks an hour ahead and will, therefore,  
70 continue to function on standard time. This will also eliminate the need to  
71 change the clocks in the fall. Concerning complications with satellites,  
72 Louisiana can easily be cut out of the satellites controlling clocks, just like  
73 Arizona.

74 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

75 No funding is needed because the state is simply opting out of daylight  
76 Saving Time. It will be up to the federal government to arrange satellite  
77 boundaries, which they agreed to in the US Energy Policy Act of 2005.

78 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

79 No penalties are necessary

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 157**



3 Emma Perrault St. Joseph's Academy  
4 **TITLE:** Take The Profit Out Of Punishment: Abolish Private  
5 Prisons

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 A private prison is a prison that is privately owned and operated, or leased  
8 by private corporations for profit. These private corporations have total  
9 operational control given by the government. They have financial  
10 incentives to keep people in prison for longer and under worse conditions.  
11 Privately operated prisons are not accountable to voters or public opinion.  
12 Numerous studies show private prisons experience more overcrowding  
13 than public prisons and offer fewer psychiatric and educational services. In  
14 the short term, private prisons are economically alluring compared to  
15 public prisons because of the fewer regulations, lower salaries, and the  
16 increased profit made per prisoner. However, private prisons profit from  
17 long term incarceration and recidivism. This system is not sustainable as it  
18 leads to long term damage for the people in the system needing  
19 rehabilitation and justice. This bill bars Louisiana state and local  
20 governments from contracting with private companies to provide and/or  
21 operate incarceration or detention facilities. In recent years, Louisiana has  
22 ended deals with major private prison corporations (GEO Group Inc. and  
23 CoreCivic) and brought the ownerships of its two former private prisons  
24 back to the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections. Despite  
25 these changes, several prisons and jails in the state are still operated by  
26 private companies, most notably LaSalle Corrections. This bill prevents a  
27 future of private prisons returning in Louisiana and enables the state to  
28 take a vital step in improving its prison system by realigning its goal for  
29 rehabilitation of human beings instead of economic gain.

30 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

31 Privately owned and/or operated incarceration and detention facilities in  
32 the state must end contracts with private corporations within two years  
33 and return to public management. A one-year extension can be provided  
34 by the Attorney General for those facilities that cannot reasonably comply  
35 with the two year extension.

36 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

37 This bill requires no financing.

38 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

39 This bill has no penalty as funding (reimbursement), incentives, and  
40 permissions for contractors who provide service is being removed.  
41 Contracts of this type are null and void without authority from the  
42 legislature.

43 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
44 **HOUSE BILL 158**



45 Bradford Nguyen Lee Magnet High School  
46

47 **TITLE:** Funding for Mental Health Care Centers

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 There is a need for increased funding for mental health programs and  
50 centers in Louisiana. According to a study shown by the Mental Health  
51 America, Louisiana is ranked 41st across the states in access to mental  
52 health care. This measurement includes access to services for  
53 rehabilitation as well as the cost of insurance and quality of services and  
54 care. In 2009, Louisiana's mental health spending was nearly \$72 per  
55 resident, according to a study from the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation.  
56 Four years later, that dollar amount fell to \$55 per resident. With access to  
57 more services, people suffering from addictions or disorders such as  
58 depression or anxiety can get the treatment they need. These improved  
59 treatments allow these people to fully adapt to society and allow them to  
60 function without obstacles or barriers in their lives.

61 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

62 All of the funding from the taxes on alcohol and various cigarette and e-  
63 cigarette products and accessories will be allocated evenly between all of  
64 the psychiatric hospitals in Louisiana. Each hospital can use the funds for  
65 their own needs such as improved infrastructure or technology.

66 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

67 The funding will come from a 0.5% tax on alcohol and various cigarette  
68 and e-cigarette products and accessories.

69 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

70 There are no penalties for this bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 159**



3 Emily Marionneau                      St. Joseph's Academy  
4 Lydia Poche

5 **TITLE:** TO: Ban the use of red light cameras from Louisiana  
6 intersections

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Many motorists in Louisiana have experienced, or know someone who has  
9 experienced, the fate of receiving a red light camera ticket. According to a  
10 Louisiana newspaper, the Advocate, the red light camera company in  
11 Louisiana and across the country, Verra Mobility, has collected \$10 million  
12 in fines from more than 80,000 citations in the city of Baton Rouge alone  
13 since its establishment. The idea of red light cameras, speed cameras, and  
14 other photo enforced cameras issuing tickets is highly controversial, not  
15 only in the state of Louisiana, but throughout the entire nation. In fact,  
16 many people have questioned their constitutionality. In addition, there has  
17 been no proof that the establishment of a red light camera decreases the  
18 rate of accidents at a given intersection. Thus, the installation of red light  
19 cameras can be considered an additional extortion by motorists. The red  
20 light camera tickets are not considered "moving" violations. In traffic law, a  
21 non-moving violation has a less severe punishment and it does not appear  
22 on one's personal record, so the intent is not designed to affect one's  
23 driving record. Rather, their intent is just to seize more money from  
24 Louisianian motorists. Additionally, the privately owned red light camera  
25 companies make between 30 and 50 percent of the revenue generated by  
26 the automated traffic enforcement systems. As of June 2019, eight states  
27 have eliminated the use of red light camera tickets. Their reason for doing  
28 so is that drivers claim the presence of red light cameras increases rear-  
29 end accidents due to drivers slamming on their breaks in order to avoid a  
30 violation by being caught on camera. Conclusively, red light camera tickets  
31 do not significantly decrease accident rates at intersections and only  
32 accomplish obtaining money from otherwise innocent Louisianian  
33 motorists.

34 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

35 This bill will require the disbandment of red light camera companies issuing  
36 tickets to people whose cars were recorded running a red light. This does  
37 not require the removal of all cameras from intersections, it just bans the  
38 issuing of tickets.

39 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

40 No funding is needed for this bill.

41 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

42 If the red light camera company issues a ticket to a citizen within the state

43 of Louisiana, then the state will cancel the contract with the company and  
44 they will no longer be allowed to operate in the state of Louisiana.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 161**

3 Carter McLean                      Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

4 Akshay Basireddy

5 **TITLE:** The Milk Act: To authorize the sale of quality  
6 unpasteurized milk in Louisiana to benefit small farm  
7 commerce in rural areas

8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 The Milk Act will amend R.S. 40:921(A) and 922(A) of the Louisiana  
10 Revised Statutes of 1950 to authorize the sale of unpasteurized cow's milk,  
11 goat's milk, and other dairy products in Louisiana. This bill benefits small  
12 farms in rural communities by allowing them to branch out in minor dairy  
13 production and sell to their community and booming markets for natural  
14 foods. Small farms can sell directly to consumers and grow their  
15 businesses without having to be subservient to large companies. Because  
16 unpasteurized milk cannot be distributed in Louisiana, small farms are shut  
17 out of the dairy industry by corporate industries that essentially  
18 monopolize pasteurization infrastructure and the dairy market. Income on  
19 raw milk or raw dairy products is reliably \$4 - \$8 per gallon and rising,  
20 equaling over \$90,000 annually for a farmer with a moderate herd of milk  
21 cows. The Milk Act will, therefore, healthily diversify the income and  
22 available markets of small farms. The milk or dairy products sold under the  
23 Milk Act must be Grade A, following the US Public Health Service Milk  
24 Ordinance and Code, and explicitly identified as unpasteurized or "raw" to  
25 consumers. Pasteurization is the process of quickly heating milk to  
26 extremely high temperatures to kill pathogens. However, unpasteurized  
27 milk is almost always safe compared to other foods if collected from  
28 natural, grass-fed, free-range cows, is clinically shown to improve the  
29 immune system, and does not carry many pathogens and diseases  
30 attributed to misconceptions about raw milk. Illness due to raw milk  
31 consumption exist but are negligible compared to other legal food - raw  
32 and pasteurized milk causes only 0.4% of foodborne illnesses in the US.

33 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

34 R.S. 40:921(A) and 922(A) of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 will  
35 be amended, authorizing the sale of unpasteurized cow's milk, goat's milk,  
36 and other dairy products. This amendment would be brought to the  
37 attention of the town councils in rural areas. The Milk Act does not apply to  
38 corporate entities or confinement dairy farms because unpasteurized  
39 confinement milk contains pathogens and few of the benefits of  
40 unpasteurized free-range milk. The producer of the milk cannot be liable to  
41 lawsuits by consumers unless the dairy was produced in a non-sterile  
42 environment, the dairy was not marketed as unpasteurized, or the farm

43 did not meet humane standards of Louisiana State Animal Welfare Laws.  
44 All cheese made must also be cured at or above 95 degrees Fahrenheit.  
45 The law will come into effect in January of 2022 to allow farmers to  
46 prepare for the possible addition of cows and goats to their farms.

47 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

48 The Milk Act requires only minimal funding for the sporadic inspection of  
49 each farm's unpasteurized milk products for sale. Official registration after  
50 an initial inspection for a license is also required for farmers wishing to sell  
51 raw dairy products. This funding will be from readjustments in the budget  
52 of the committee of Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural  
53 Development.

54 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

55 If a farm does not meet the regulations for the milk and dairy products  
56 and/or production, they will receive a fine of \$1250, and their raw milk  
57 license revoked for six months. Farms are not responsible for occasional  
58 foodborne illnesses if their dairy is explicitly identified as unpasteurized to  
59 consumers.

2 **HOUSE BILL 162**

3 Wren Barrouquere Lee High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Bill for the Coverage of Transgender Hormone  
6 Therapy Under Louisiana State Medicaid

7  
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 The issue of funding hormone therapy is not one of beliefs, or of lifestyle,  
10 but more so it is an issue of mental health and human rights. Transgender  
11 people experience something called "gender dysphoria". Gender dysphoria,  
12 according to the American Psychiatric Association is "a conflict between a  
13 person's physical or assigned gender and the gender with which [they]  
14 identify." Gender dysphoria can be crippling to the mental stability and  
15 health of the individual experiencing it. The dysphoria can be so degrading  
16 to the mental health of these people that "41% of trans adults said they  
17 had attempted suicide..." says the non-profit agency SAVE. If funding is  
18 offered for hormone therapy for transgender individuals, the suicide rates  
19 may decrease.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 This bill shall allow for the coverage of hormone therapy for transgender  
22 individuals under Louisiana State Medicaid or any Medicaid programs  
23 provided or administered by the state of Louisiana. The individuals shall  
24 verify: That they are transgender by providing a diagnosis from a licensed  
25 psychiatrist, or psychologist. That they are covered by Louisiana State  
26 Medicaid or any Medicaid programs provided or administered by the state  
27 of Louisiana.

28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 This bill shall be funded using 13% of pre-existing Medicaid funds.

30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 If the state fails to properly fund the coverage of transgender individuals  
32 under Medicaid or any Medicaid programs provided or administered by the  
33 state of Louisiana, then 13% of funding shall be removed from another  
34 state program under the Department of Health and reassigned to the  
35 program for funding transgender individual's hormone therapy.

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42 **HOUSE BILL 163**

43 Mason Thomas C.E. Byrd

44 Trey Deal

45 **TITLE:** Repeal the Death Penalty

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 Every year Louisiana spends 15 million taxpayer dollars on the death  
48 penalty. We need to repeal the death penalty in order to save millions of  
49 dollars and redirect them to other areas that need funding. Louisiana is  
50 among 30 states that allows the death penalty as a form of criminal  
51 punishment. Currently, executions in the state are on hold due to a federal  
52 suit against Louisiana over its lethal injection protocol. The death penalty  
53 cost an average of 1.26 million dollars per inmate vs 45,000 dollars to  
54 imprison an inmate for a year. The death penalty is archaic and cost us far  
55 too much money that we don't have in the first place. The best option is  
56 for us to ditch the death penalty and just imprison inmates.

57 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

58 Rather than execute prisoners we would sentence them for life saving the  
59 state tens of millions of dollars and we would use the saved money to put  
60 it somewhere else of much needed funding.

61 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

62 Requires no additional funding just the redirection of money to more  
63 needed areas.

64 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

65 None.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 164**

3 Jalen Kennedy C.E. Byrd

4  
 5 **TITLE:** End discrimination against nonviolent criminals

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Make it illegal for jobs to discriminate against nonviolent criminals.  
 8 This bill will stop jobs and other companies from discriminating against  
 9 nonviolent criminals who have been reformed and looking for a job.

10 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

11 Employers will not be allowed to discriminate against criminals who are  
 12 nonviolent offenders.

13 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

14 This bill requires no funding.

15 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

16 The penalty will be a fine of \$600 dollars if companies and local businesses  
 17 refuse to hire them on that sole basis. We could use the fine money for  
 18 prisons to help inmates find jobs when their release date is close.

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34 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 35 **HOUSE BILL 165**

36 BreElle Mitchell Neville High School

37 **TITLE:** To remove the ethnicity box from all college and job  
 38 applications.

39 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

40 An act to remove race/ethnicity from all work and college applications. In  
 41 1965 the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission was established to  
 42 enforce laws against workplace discrimination. So there should be no need  
 43 for the "Race Box" on applications of any kind. One black Ph.D. professor  
 44 from Purdue University, who is on the job market and asked not to be  
 45 identified, explained that concern: "I used to check the box next to 'black'  
 46 or 'African American,' but I never got interviews. Just out of spite, I've  
 47 checked 'white' or left it blank, and I got interviews. When I showed up, I  
 48 got surprised or disappointed looks. While many people think checking the  
 49 "Race Box" black or African American could be a leg up many people also  
 50 think that if they check the box they would have a lesser chance of getting  
 51 the job. If a workplace is only dedicated to getting someone who has the  
 52 abilities to get the job done then their race should not be a problem."  
 53 Irasema Ortega a man who grew up in Venezuela and moved to the U.S.  
 54 to look for jobs saw the box and was confused and thought being asked to  
 55 check your race was demeaning.

56 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

57 This bill will be enacted by July 1, 2020 having the "race box" removed  
 58 from all college and job applications. All search committees at workplaces  
 59 need to take off race boxes and giving them months to complete it so by  
 60 the summer of 2020 when someone wants to apply for a job they won't  
 61 feel like they won't be given a chance since they are a different race other  
 62 than white. Also colleges need to take the race box off of their websites as  
 63 well since some people apply online. Taking off the race box will make  
 64 people feel like their given the time of day instead of them thinking that  
 65 people will take one look at the race box see they've checked black and  
 66 discard their applications. Many companies also say they want diversity in  
 67 their workplaces well taking off the race box will make people feel  
 68 welcome and make them feel like their given a chance to show how they  
 69 deserve the job because of their skills and not their race. This law is  
 70 actually similar to the "Ban the Box" law that states that job application  
 71 have to take off all "Are you a felon?" or "Have you been convicted of a  
 72 crime?" "I've seen how a job makes all the difference," says Derreck B.  
 73 Johnson, founder and president of Home of Chicken and Waffles in  
 74 Oakland. "When I give someone a chance, and he becomes my best  
 75 employee, I know that I'm doing right by my community."

76 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

77 There is no funding needed.

78 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

79 We would replicate the laws in San Francisco, California who has a law  
 80 similar to this says that the applicant could bring a civil action for the first  
 81 violation, the penalty for a second violation could be as much as \$1,000,  
 82 and the penalty would be paid to the employee or applicant whose rights  
 83 were violated.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 166**

3 Chloe Miller C.E. Byrd High School  
 4 Maddie Tynes

5 **TITLE:** Mandatory Recycling in Louisiana

6  
 7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The rate of municipal solid waste actually being recycled and composted in  
 9 Louisiana is a problem. According to the 2016 Annual Recycling Report,  
 10 Louisiana currently has a recycling rate of 6.3%. The average rate of  
 11 recycled material in other states in America is 35%. Due to the low rate of  
 12 recycling compared to other states in the United States, Louisiana needs  
 13 the community to participate in the act of recycling. With that being said,  
 14 this bill will aid the low rate of recycling in the state of Louisiana. This bill  
 15 will not only benefit the environment, but will also benefit the economy. It  
 16 will benefit the economy by putting money back into the state from selling  
 17 recycled goods to large scale and local companies.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 In order to make this bill happen, recycling should be mandatory for the  
 20 state of Louisiana. All citizens will be required to recycle all recyclable  
 21 waste. After the waste is recycled, new jobs will be issued in order to  
 22 process and recycle the materials which will be worked by prisoners from  
 23 state prisons. Once the material is processed and made to where  
 24 companies can use it to make other products, they can sell it to large  
 25 companies and the materials could even be put back into Louisiana by  
 26 selling it to the Louisiana producers.

27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 With the usage of penalty fees and income from the processed recyclable  
 29 materials, we can create establishments to process the waste as well as  
 30 pay the state employees who pick up the resident’s recyclable materials.

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 If reported for not recycling, penalty fees will be issued to people who do  
 33 not properly dispose of their recyclable waste.

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39 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 40 **HOUSE BILL 167**

41 Michelle Edavettal Lafayette High School  
 42

43 **TITLE:** Lower the amount of pollution in our oceans

44 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

45 12.7 million tonnes of plastic end up in our ocean every year. Majority of  
 46 this comes from companies that use single-use plastic for their products.  
 47 These non-biodegradable plastics poison and kill up to 100,000 marine  
 48 creatures and 1 million sea birds annually. There is a high concentration of  
 49 these micro-plastics in the Gulf of Mexico due to the Mississippi River who  
 50 is a collector of plastic. To combat this global crisis, I propose to raise a .5-  
 51 1% tax on state corporate income taxes for businesses that do not reduce  
 52 their amount of plastic usage.

53 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

54 Every company that uses plastic who reduces their annual usage by 10%  
 55 will have a tax credit. If the plastic usage doesn't reduce, they will be fined  
 56 a .5% penalty on the their state corporate income taxes. This will raise an  
 57 incentive for companies to reduce their plastic usage. This program will be  
 58 overseen by the Department of Environmental Quality. The funds from the  
 59 tax revenue will be used to help clean up the plastic in our oceans and  
 60 donated towards research into technology that can break down the plastic  
 61 effectively. It will also be used to create systems that efficiently clean up  
 62 the ocean physically. These funds will help support research to develop a  
 63 fully biodegradable, mass-producible replacement for plastic.

64 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

65 This bill will be funded by the existing budget of the Department of  
 66 Environmental Quality.

67 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

68 If the companies do not decrease their plastic usage they will be fined .5%  
 69 for the first 3 years. If their usage still does not decrease the tax would be  
 70 raised to 1%. The tax would be capped at 5% at the end of 15 years.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 168**

3 Nia Pitts Central High School  
 4 River Costello

5 **TITLE:** A Guide to No More Suicide

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana is ranked 28th in the nation for suicide rates. As of 2018, we are  
 8 above the national average. Teen suicide rates are increasing as the years  
 9 go by. In Louisiana 11.3 teens ages 15-19 commit suicide per 100,000  
 10 teens. These rates need to go down and most of the reasons for suicides  
 11 stem from social problems and teens not having a productive outlet to help  
 12 get their problems out. This bill requires that all school districts mandate  
 13 that their faculty are extensively trained in suicide prevention. Also, every  
 14 school campus should have at least one counselor with a psychology  
 15 degree to be able to provide effective counselling. The rationale for this is  
 16 that basic suicide prevention methods are not enough and need to be  
 17 more thorough. Also, having trained counselors more involved in the lives  
 18 of students can help them feel more comfortable to speak out.

19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 This bill will be implemented at the start of the 2021-2022 school year.  
 21 This bill will be implemented by mandating school systems to make sure  
 22 faculty are trained in suicide prevention, as well as each school has a  
 23 counselor trained in Psychology. It will be heavily encouraged that staff will  
 24 be more involved in students' lives to help improve teacher-student  
 25 relations.

26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 State education funds need to be reallocated to allow each school funding  
 28 to hire trained counselors as well as provide proper professional  
 29 development for teachers.

30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 If the school boards do not comply with the rules of this bill then the State  
 32 Department of Education will fine schools \$500 every semester that they  
 33 do not meet all of the requirements.  
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40 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 41 **HOUSE BILL 169**

42 Cameron Brown LSU Laboratory School  
 43 Luke Haskew

44 **TITLE:** Sex Education in Louisiana Schools

45 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

46 As shown with Louisiana having the seventh-highest rate of teen  
 47 pregnancies in the U.S. and much higher STD rates,, sex education across  
 48 the board in the state's schools have not been effective which can be  
 49 attributed to a number of reasons. One of those could be how sexual  
 50 education, if present at all, has not been detailed or comprehensive  
 51 enough to allow for a complete understanding within a student's mind  
 52 about safe-sex practices and how to prevent the spreading of STDs. In  
 53 order to prevent this high rate of teen pregnancy and STD rates, sex  
 54 education must be required to be taken by all students enrolled in public  
 55 schools across the state and at a younger age than usual. Since most kids  
 56 in modern times get their sexual education from unrealistic and glorified  
 57 online pornography, their idea of safety necessities like contraceptives are  
 58 unheard of. In order to combat this miseducation that could possibly lead  
 59 to higher STD rates across future generations who were not taught safe  
 60 practices, sex ed should be introduced in at least 7th or 8th grade and  
 61 extended throughout high school

62 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

63 In order for this bill to be put in effect, schools should start implementing  
 64 simple teachings about the basics of sexual intercourse and how to  
 65 practice it safely in 7th or 8th grade physical education classes, which  
 66 should not take a good amount of time to be taught effectively. Once in  
 67 high school, schools should then be required to teach students about  
 68 specific contraceptives and how to use them, STDs like gonorrhea and  
 69 other safe and realistic practices within their Biology, Health and/or  
 70 Physical Education courses. Again if these are taught efficiently and  
 71 effectively, they should not take away too much of the original course

72 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

73 No funding is necessary for this bill, as the teachers that would teach the  
 74 courses stated above would only receive new curriculum that they would  
 75 have to add to their previous course that contains information that is  
 76 already well known and discovered by doctors and scientists

77 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

78 Funding for all public schools would be reduced by 10% the first year sex  
 79 education is not implemented under requirements stated earlier and  
 80 remain consistent at 15% for all future years.





1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 170**

3 Matthew Jackson                      Community Coordinating Council

4 **TITLE:** ALL Students Matter: teachers, administrators,  
5 residential address nor school district can foresee the impact of  
6 a student.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Our school culture in Louisiana caters more to exceptional behavior than  
9 basic guidelines. Everyone has the freedom to express themselves as they  
10 see best and our current oversight does not seem to care about the impact  
11 this might be having on other students. Statistically the basic score for our  
12 ACT averages around 19. The school, district and state takes credit when  
13 scores excel but as a student I am not receiving as much preparation as  
14 other students in other states or maybe even districts to aide in my ability  
15 to produce the higher scores. How can we get our students to score higher  
16 and dream for better lifestyles? Can we start in Middle School with more  
17 exposure to ways to make a living and course work needed to secure  
18 these types of careers. I believe with an earlier start, we could develop  
19 stronger students and carry Louisiana to a different level.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 Middle school years would be a good time to allow the students to explore  
22 more about who they wish to become as a adult. I recommend we offer  
23 more diversity for classes and exposure to the lifestyles this might offer.  
24 The senior high school years emphasize the particulars with course  
25 offerings. Today we don't have the opportunity to explore various subjects  
26 until we arrive at college. Thus the expense of education could be lowered  
27 if we could begin exploring more options in middle school and waster less  
28 money in college. Middle school emphasis would be 7th - 9th grade  
29 students. Programs within the school would be developed and these same  
30 students would join programs within the state and nation when they enter  
31 into senior high. These programs would extend beyond the district and  
32 embrace neighboring school districts with similar student interest. We are  
33 limited to the size of our school and district, is this fair to the student  
34 population? Is this fair to the state and it's ability to develop each student  
35 to his/her full potential?

36 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

37 Every school district would receive extra funding if they mimic a plan set  
38 aside as the guideline for the State of Louisiana. Each district would be  
39 given up to five years to embrace and implement. Funding stream would  
40 be the allowance currently used in education with extra revenue coming  
41 from the gaming industry or a tax levied on those who support our schools  
42 with learning materials, i.e., computer technology and printed materials.

43 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

44 If a school or district chooses not to participate there would be a financial  
45 penalty for not looking out for the best interest of their student population  
46 levied over a five year plan. At the end of five years it could cap off.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
2 **HOUSE BILL 171**

3 Jack Appleton Catholic High School

4 Grant Thevenot

5 **TITLE:** Reform the Physical Education System to Combat  
6 Child Obesity

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 In the modern day, children are spending more and more time in front of  
9 screens, and less and less time performing physical activities. This has led  
10 to a whole slew of problems, from decreased physical fitness, to higher  
11 blood pressure, and even depression. This has contributed to the child  
12 obesity rate in Louisiana soaring to almost 40%, which is almost 9% above  
13 the national average of about 31% and taking the fourth place medal for  
14 highest child obesity rates in the union. A study performed by the  
15 Pennington Biomedical Research Center in 2012 rated the Louisiana  
16 physical education system as a D, meaning there is insufficient appropriate  
17 physical activity opportunities and programs available to the majority of  
18 Louisiana's children and youth. Louisiana state law only vaguely defines  
19 requirements for physical activity as "moderate to vigorous" physical  
20 activity, with few definitions as to what that entails. This bill aims to clarify  
21 this by requiring 1-2 days of calisthenics per week of physical education to  
22 ensure that children are getting the proper amount of exercise they need.  
23 This bill will also require 1 day dedicated to the discussion of leading a  
24 healthy lifestyle per month of physical education.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 Physical education classes in public schools will be required to have 1-2  
27 days per week of P.E. dedicated to calisthenic workouts, and 1-2 days per  
28 month of P.E. dedicated to the discussion of a healthy lifestyle. Students  
29 that are physically disabled and unable to participate in these calisthenics  
30 will be excused from these workouts with a written note from their  
31 parents. Pre-existing auditors will be assigned to review and test the  
32 quality of these sessions to ensure a high quality education is being  
33 provided to the students.

34 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

35 This bill will require no funding because it will take advantage of resources  
36 already allocated to the affected entities. The maximum amount of funding  
37 will be the amount already allocated to physical education.

38 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

39 Failure to comply with this bill after will result in a \$500 fine, followed by a  
40 \$10,000 fine, followed by repeated \$15,000 fines until the school complies.

41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
42 **HOUSE BILL 172**

43 Will Cole Catholic High School

44

45 **TITLE:** ORGANIZE A QUARTERLY GREEN DAY

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 There is no doubt that the U.S. has a problem maintaining our  
48 environment, and Louisiana, specifically, is ranked the worst at it. Since  
49 1930, 1,900 square miles of Louisiana's coast has eroded. This is the  
50 equivalent of a football field every 30 minutes. The only way for us to  
51 solve it is to actually get to doing something about it. This law would  
52 create State-sponsored Green Days four times a year. Citizens from around  
53 Louisiana would gather to complete projects geared toward bettering our  
54 coast. In exchange for their service, citizens can, but are not required to,  
55 take a small tax reduction of \$250 for each Green Day they work.

56 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

57 Green Day will be an offshoot of the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program  
58 run by the Interagency Affairs & Field Services Division in the Department  
59 of Natural Resources. This office will handle keeping the public updated on  
60 Green Day. The Green Day projects in coastal parishes will be hands-on  
61 work that focus on ways average Louisianans can safely clean up and help  
62 maintain the coastal region. Green Day projects in non-coastal parishes will  
63 focus on helping in ways the local Louisiana Coastal Resources Program  
64 sees fit. All projects will be cleared by the Interagency Affairs & Field  
65 Services Division. Each individual Local Coastal Resources Program chapter  
66 is in charge of keeping track of volunteers and making sure they work the  
67 full 4 hours required for the tax cut. There will be no additional cut for  
68 overtime.

69 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

70 Funding required for the advertisement, planning, and hosting of Green  
71 Day will just be allocated by the Department of Natural Resources through  
72 the Office of the Secretary Management & Finance & Fiscal & Budget  
73 Division in the Department of Natural Resources. The financial incentive  
74 will not remove any money from the budget. Therefore, no additional  
75 taxes would be required.

76 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

77 No penalties are involved in this bill, due to the opt-in nature of Green  
78 Day.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 173**



3 Bailey Faulk Catholic High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** No Middle Man

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana passed legislation in 2017 that banned the direct purchase of  
8 cars from manufactures. This prevents companies, such as Tesla, from  
9 selling cars. In addition, it also raises car prices because the car  
10 manufacturer has to sell the car to a middle man.

11 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

12 Allow the direct selling of cars from manufacturers, reversing the 2017  
13 ban.

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15 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

16 No funding.

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18 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

19 No penalties.  
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35 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
36 **HOUSE BILL 174**



37 Charlie Groves Catholic High School

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39 **TITLE:** Allow Teachers to Carry Firearms During School Hours

40 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

41 The priority for teachers during the school day is to keep their students  
42 safe. However, in today's world it is becoming harder and harder to  
43 guarantee that safety. In 2015 there were over 55 school shootings in the  
44 United States and seven in Louisiana since 2000. The average school  
45 shooting takes approximately 12.5 minutes while the average police  
46 response time is 18 minutes. Because of this, we obviously cannot rely on  
47 the police to arrive in a timely manner. When it comes to school shootings,  
48 every second can be another life and any way we can cut down the time  
49 an active shooter is on the loose saves lives. The only solution to this is to  
50 allow the teachers to protect their students while the police are on their  
51 way. The best way to do this is through allowing teachers to be armed in  
52 order to defend their children.

53 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

54 Teachers who wish to carry will attend a standard firearm safety class and  
55 acquire a license to carry a fire-arm. If there is a teacher carrying at a  
56 school, then a note will be sent home with the students to notify the  
57 parents that there is a teacher carrying a weapon. The teacher's names  
58 who are carrying will be kept confidential in order to keep the risk of a  
59 student stealing the weapon at a minimum.

60 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

61 Requires no additional funding.

62 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

63 If a school does not allow a qualified teacher to carry a firearm they will  
64 receive a fine.

2 **HOUSE BILL 175**

3 Shaan Jindal Catholic High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Create More Intramural and Extra Sports Teams in  
6 Public High Schools  
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**  
8 Since Sports entered High School in America, the amount of students  
9 attending high school has increased dramatically, while the size of sports  
10 teams have remained the same (over fifty million students enrolled in just  
11 public schools). This creates excessive competition for minimal spots on  
12 sports teams, while those who are very athletic but cannot play their sport  
13 at their school are forced out of athletics. Especially surrounding the  
14 obesity crisis in Louisiana, rather than stopping young teens from being  
15 active at an early age, it is our duty to create more sports teams in public  
16 schools.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 We will mandate and provide necessary funding for public high schools  
19 who opt into the program to form secondary and intramural high school  
20 teams and leagues, beyond Varsity and Junior Varsity. These games and  
21 practices will be either played in public recreation centers or at their high  
22 school gyms if space and time allows. The sports that will be played are:  
23 basketball, soccer, baseball, and volleyball, as those are the most popular  
24 sports for boys (and girls, softball).

25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 The funding for this bill will be allocated from the \$8.7 billion already spent  
27 on Louisiana Education, with money coming in from the parents of the kids  
28 if they are able to afford it. In addition, programs will also get sponsored  
29 by local and major companies in order to help funding for jerseys,  
30 coaching, space, and other necessities that parents may not be able to  
31 afford. These sources of money should be ample in order to cover the  
32 minimal costs of the program.

33 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

34 Public schools are able to opt into the program, however there will be no  
35 penalty to any schools who do not choose to receiving funding. This  
36 program is completely optional.

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42 **HOUSE BILL 176**

43 Anthony Nolan Catholic High School

44  
45 **TITLE:** Make School Start Later  
46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**  
47 Most schools in Louisiana start earlier than 8:30; however, the American  
48 Academy of Pediatrics recommends that at 8:30 or later. Making school  
49 start later will increase student’s learning capacities and make school a  
50 better experience for students overall.  
51 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**  
52 All schools with grades kindergarten to 12th grade will start no earlier than  
53 8:30 a.m. Individual school districts will be able to decide what time their  
54 schools end. This will go into effect on August 1, 2022.  
55 **SECTION III: FUNDING**  
56 No funding required.  
57 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**  
58 Schools that do not comply will not be allowed to operate until they do.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 177**

3 Robayet Hossain Haynes Academy

4 **TITLE:** Reduce the time and money spent in college for  
5 students by making certain classes optional

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 College requires students to take certain electives that are not required/will  
8 not help students in their future careers. In fall 2016, LSU developed its  
9 general education core curriculum, which ensures that students attain  
10 basic competencies/earns a certain number of hours in areas such as  
11 writing, foreign language, scientific inquiry, formal reasoning, etc. These  
12 are areas of study that were approached in high school and merely  
13 extended upon in college. Students may want to major in something such  
14 as political science or medicine, but embedded in the core requirements  
15 are classes and extra electives that they may not want to waste money on.  
16 All colleges force students to take extra classes and say those classes are  
17 needed for graduation. They are needed for graduation when they are  
18 barely relevant to the future career of the student. Sticking to the example  
19 of LSU, the cost of admission for one year including room, board,  
20 transportation, and supplies would be from about \$25,000-\$30,000. Most  
21 students, if not all, spend four years at college, paying for the supplies and  
22 books for each class, their room and board, their tuition for each year, and  
23 any other extra expenses. However, if students were not forced to take  
24 extra electives and solely focused on classes for their preferred major, they  
25 wouldn't spend as much money on college, they will finish college faster  
26 depending on their choices, enter the workforce sooner, etc.

27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 This bill will ensure that all public Louisiana colleges/universities establish  
29 an optional elective system that makes previously required electives for  
30 majors optional. After a student chooses a major, that student will  
31 understand that he/she must take the courses required specifically for that  
32 major and that student's future career. All other core classes and/or extra  
33 electives will be optional for the student to take if they desire. This forces  
34 all general education requirements that are just an extension of high  
35 school to become optional and makes students able to focus on the classes  
36 that will affect their careers directly. If a student wishes to take a certain  
37 elective and the college is unable to provide that class for that student,  
38 then the college is required to at least supply the student with either  
39 alternatives for that class, the chance to take it at another facility, or an  
40 online course as a substitute. This bill will be effective at the beginning of  
41 the fall semester of 2022 for all public Louisiana state colleges and  
42 universities.

43 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

44 There is no funding necessary for this bill. Students will profit from this bill  
45 as they will not have to spend nearly as much for college. Colleges will also  
46 not lose any money because if there is enough people that opt not to take  
47 a class, then the facility would not have to spend money on the class  
48 supplies and professor.

49 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

50 Public Louisiana colleges that do not implement this change by the fall of  
51 2022 will be subject to penalties and fines imposed by the Louisiana  
52 Department of Education. Public Louisiana colleges that are unable to meet  
53 all the demands of this bill may confer with representatives of the  
54 Department of Education for possible alternate solutions.

55



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 178**

3 Charlie Roth            Episcopal of Baton Rouge  
4 Jacob Jones

5 **TITLE:** Bail Reform for Non-Aggressive Crimes

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana’s pretrial jail detention rates are the highest in the nation and are  
8 actually twice the national average at 455 per 100,000 residents between  
9 the ages of 15 and 64, according to a 2015 study by the Vera Institute of  
10 Justice (Report). This is very costly to both the imprisoned and for the  
11 taxpayers. Consequences for someone jailed because they cannot put up  
12 bail can include loss of employment, housing, and property. For the  
13 taxpayers, it can cost more than \$6 million per year to jail individuals who  
14 cannot afford to post bail (Report). Reform is greatly needed for both  
15 sides, and this bill will provide just that. This bill proposes the state-wide  
16 implementation of a risk of flight assessment for those charged with non-  
17 aggressive crimes. If the person is found to be not likely to avoid trial, they  
18 will not be forced to stay in jail awaiting their trial.

19 This bill also proposes the establishment of a pretrial services office that  
20 makes sure the defendant stays informed and does not miss their trial  
21 date. These offices are already in multiple states and even in some districts  
22 in Louisiana, but this would implement them state-wide. A report from the  
23 Administrative Office of the US Courts states that the average daily cost to  
24 detain a person in jail pending trial is \$74.61 - much higher in Louisiana -  
25 compared to \$7.17 to supervise a person in the community pending trial  
26 (“Supervision”). This bill would save the state potentially millions of dollars  
27 while allowing those with a low-flight risk to keep their jobs and housing.  
28 Report on the Louisiana Bail System. Louisiana State Bar Association  
29 Criminal Justice Committee, 2018, Report on the Louisiana Bail System,  
30 files.lsba.org/documents/CJC/LSBACJCReportonBail.pdf.  
31 “Supervision Costs Significantly Less than Incarceration in Federal System.”  
32 United States Courts, 18 July 2013,  
33 www.uscourts.gov/news/2013/07/18/supervision-costs-significantly-less-  
34 incarceration-federal-system.

35 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

36 Judicial districts will administer the PSA (Public Safety Assessment) to  
37 determine whether the person charged is likely to miss their trial or pose  
38 harm to the community. This test uses nine factors to predict three  
39 different pretrial outcomes, “Failure to Appear (FTA), New Criminal Activity  
40 (meaning a new arrest) (NCA), and New Violent Criminal Activity (meaning  
41 a new violent arrest) (NVCA). This test will be used until a different test is  
42 created especially for Louisiana. This has been done in states such as

43 Colorado, Ohio, Virginia, and California. If the defendant is found to be  
44 low-risk, they will be let free until the trial. If they are found to be  
45 medium-risk, they will be let free but with a tracker. If they are found to  
46 be high-risk, they will be put in jail without bail. For the Pretrial services,  
47 three to four people per district will be hired to keep files and make calls to  
48 those listed as low- and mid-risk.

49 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

50 Any funding needed for this bill will come from the taxpayer money saved  
51 from not putting the defendant in jail. Any funding required will go towards  
52 the pretrial services aspect of the bill.

53 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

54 N/A



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 179**

3 Joe Patterson                      Episcopal of Baton Rouge  
 4 Tucker Harrell

5 **TITLE:** Legalize Land-based Casinos

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Casino gambling was created to get more money flowing through the  
 8 economy and to create jobs. There are currently 15 riverboat casinos, one  
 9 land casino (Harrah’s in New Orleans), and three casinos on Indian land  
 10 reservations. The current law says that casinos must be docked on water,  
 11 but can have 1,200 feet of land use away from water for gambling space.  
 12 Casinos are great for the entertainment industry and have helped form  
 13 Louisiana’s culture. We believe that casinos should be allowed to expand  
 14 on all areas of land across the state. Truck stop casinos are legal in  
 15 Louisiana, but only video poker is allowed inside. This is not beneficial to  
 16 the economy because no jobs are being created from it. The opportunity  
 17 that land-based casinos offer allows casinos to be much more accessible to  
 18 people, create more jobs as more casinos can be built over land, a safer  
 19 and easier engineered casino if over land, and corporations that own  
 20 property to be able to build just about anywhere (there is much more land  
 21 property available than water property).

22  
 23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 This bill will allow casino corporations to build casinos anywhere in the  
 25 state, land or water, and will allow all forms of gambling on land-based  
 26 casinos. This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020.

27  
 28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 There is no funding required. The casino corporations fund themselves.

30  
 31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 There are no penalties.  
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 34  
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38 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 39 **HOUSE BILL 180**

40 Fox Garon                      Episcopal School  
 41 Saad Ali

42 **TITLE:** Louisiana Cash

43 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

44 Louisiana has a history of failing to properly budget its expenses. It tends  
 45 to pre-allocate its funding before taking in its taxes. This results in a lack  
 46 of funding in some areas which can cause stress and debt to the state.  
 47 This bill will aim to remediate this issue to alleviate some of the debt and  
 48 stress on all aspects of the government’s finances.

49 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

50 At the beginning of the 2021 fiscal year, the state congress will be required  
 51 to use percentages to appropriate funds instead of chunks of money. This  
 52 will solve the issue of not having enough funding for all of the state’s  
 53 economic fields because the fields will not be guaranteed an amount of  
 54 money but a percentage of it.

55 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

56 There is no funding required for this bill.

57 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

58 The percentage of money spent over the budget will be the same  
 59 percentage of money is docked from Congress's pay.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
2 **HOUSE BILL 181**

3 Shreya Kamath Episcopal School of Baton Rouge  
4 Sarah Theriot

5 **TITLE:** Choice for Abortion

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill's purpose is to allow women the choice to abort even after a fetal  
8 heartbeat is detected. Earlier this year, Governor Edwards signed the  
9 heartbeat bill into law. The law forbids abortion after a fetal heartbeat is  
10 detected. The law makes no exceptions for victims of rape or incest. Many  
11 women do not realize they are pregnant until five or six weeks into the  
12 pregnancy. A fetal heartbeat is detected five or six weeks after the baby is  
13 conceived. This means that many women, who are not planning to become  
14 pregnant, do not have a chance to abort the baby. The Public Religion  
15 Research Institute polled nearly a quarter of Louisiana residents, and they  
16 said that they oppose abortion even in rape and incest situations. About  
17 34% of the residents surveyed said that abortion should be legal in most  
18 or all cases, while more than half of the residents said abortion should be  
19 illegal in most cases. In 2017, there were four clinics providing abortion in  
20 Louisiana. Nine thousand nine hundred twenty abortions were provided in  
21 Louisiana in 2017, which is a 2% decline from abortions provided in  
22 Louisiana in 2014. It should be a woman's choice on whether or not to  
23 abort their baby as it is the woman's life that is going to change forever,  
24 not someone else's life. Even if the woman is not the victim of a rape or  
25 incest pregnancy, she might not have been planning to get pregnant. The  
26 women might not have planned to get pregnant because even with  
27 precautions such as birth control, birth control is not 100% effective in  
28 preventing pregnancy to occur. The point is that all women should get to  
29 have the choice to abort regardless of how severe the case is.

30 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

31 If passed, this bill will take effect on March 1, 2020.

32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 This bill will not require any money to work as the bill is just giving women  
34 the choice to abort their baby. The women would have to pay for the  
35 procedure themselves or talk with their medical insurance company to see  
36 if the insurance company will pay for a percentage of the procedure since  
37 the procedure is technically a procedure requested by the patient.

38 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

39 If this bill is passed and becomes a law, there will be no consequences for  
40 breaking it as this bill gives women the choice to abort their baby. This bill  
41 does not force women to abort their babies, and if they choose to keep the  
42 baby, then that is up to them.

43 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
44 **HOUSE BILL 182**

45 Jordyn Addison Haynes Academy  
46 Olivia Esquivel

47 **TITLE:** Banning Covenant Marriages

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 Covenant marriage has roots in the Christian faith, and is commonly used  
50 by young couples to ensure "lifelong marriage" and ensure proper "family  
51 values". Prior to entering into a covenant marriage, a couple must attend  
52 premarital counseling sessions "emphasizing the nature, purposes, and  
53 responsibilities of marriage" and must sign a statement declaring "that a  
54 covenant marriage is for life." In contrast to no-fault divorce's more lenient  
55 requirements for non-covenant marriages, a spouse in a covenant  
56 marriage desiring a divorce may first be required to attend marital  
57 counseling. A spouse desiring a divorce must also prove that one of the  
58 following is true:

59 The other spouse has committed adultery.

60 The other spouse has committed a felony.

61 The other spouse engages in substance abuse.

62 The other spouse has physically or sexually abused the spouse or a child.

63 The spouses have been living separately for a minimum amount of time of  
64 six months. There are no provisions accounting for emotional abuse,  
65 financial struggle, mental health, etc. Louisiana is one of only three states  
66 with this law in place, and we must join the rest of the country's  
67 progression in repealing it.

68 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

69 Under the implementation of this bill, all covenant marriages unionized  
70 within the state of Louisiana will be nullified. This includes all covenant  
71 marriages signed on or after the date of passage for this bill.

72 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

73 There is no funding required for this bill.

74 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

75 There are no penalties required for this bill.



2 **HOUSE BILL 183**

3 Hayley Gregoire Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

4  
5 **TITLE:** Remove the Drinking Age

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The drinking age is currently 21 and Louisiana is in a state where underage  
8 citizens are constantly becoming intoxicated. Underaged drinkers (ages 12-  
9 20) consume roughly 16% of all alcohol consumed in Louisiana and young  
10 adults are underage drinking because of the thrill that it is associated with  
11 it. Instead of lowering the drinking age to 18, the drinking age should be  
12 dismissed altogether because citizens will learn how to drink responsibly  
13 with their family and friends. When the Prohibition Act was repealed, the  
14 21st Amendment was placed which states that each state can set its own  
15 drinking age. The drinking age in Italy is 16 and its citizens are able to  
16 grow up learning how to drink responsibly. From 2004 to 2014, the alcohol  
17 consumption rate per person decreased by 23 percent in Italy. In 2006,  
18 the average consumption was 5.6 drinks per week and in 2014, the  
19 average consumption per person was 4.4 drinks per week. Should the  
20 drinking age be removed, Louisiana could skyrocket in decreasing its  
21 accounts of teenage drunkenness and young citizens will be able to learn  
22 how to drink responsibly.

23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020.

25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 No funding.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 No penalties.  
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43 **HOUSE BILL 184**

44 Logan Langdon Mandeville High School

45 Austin Lambert

46 **TITLE:** Pay College Athletes

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Paying college athletes should be considered a necessity due to the fact  
49 that these players represent the school with nothing in return. Conversely,  
50 the school makes revenue via ticket purchases, advertisements, sponsors,  
51 donations, and fundraisers, all of which could be channeled to payment for  
52 the players. In order to circumvent this injustice, it is proposed that  
53 schools divert endoresement deals (tickets, advertisements, sponsors,  
54 donations, fundraisers, and player names such as jerseys etc.) to pay the  
55 athletes. These Louisiana schools would undoubtedly attract better,  
56 stronger athletes, in turn promoting the Louisiana economy.

57

58 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

59 This will be implemented on January 1, 2021. Essentially every college  
60 athlete will be paid. Athletes within the same sport will be paid equally.

61

62 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

63 Given that the bill is self-sustainable in that college athletes currently bring  
64 in revenue, there is no extraneous funding necessary.

65

66 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

67 If universities are found to not pay their players the stated amount, the  
68 institution will face a fine of \$100,000 to be diverted toward Louisiana  
69 infrastructure development.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 185**



3 Eddie Maxwell Central High School  
4

5 **TITLE:** Kids to be kids

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill would limit the amount of homework given to students in  
8 Louisiana. There is evidence to suggest that homework does more harm  
9 than good. Statistically Louisiana ranks at the bottom of many educational  
10 categories. This bill would be a great first step in helping our students  
11 succeed in school. Alfie Kohn, a professor at Brown University, stated that  
12 there is no evidence of any academic benefit from assigning homework. At  
13 the high school level, the correlation is weak and tends to disappear when  
14 more sophisticated statistical measures are applied. Meanwhile, no study  
15 has ever substantiated the belief that homework builds character or  
16 teaches good study habits. This bill would make it to where the only time a  
17 student will be doing work outside of school is when the student does not  
18 finish work that was assigned in school or study guides for upcoming test  
19 but anything outside of unfinished work or study guides the teacher must  
20 implement it into class time.

21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 This law would be implemented at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school  
23 year. It would only affect 9-12 grade for the first year then implemented  
24 into the lower grades for the following years. This law would ultimately  
25 decrease the work and stress put on the students making them  
26 academically more active and engaged.

27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 This bill would not cost anything.

29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 The consequence for the first offense would be a \$500 fine toward the  
31 school. The second offense would be a \$1,000 fine. Any offenses after that  
32 will be a \$1,000 multiplied by how many offenses they have so the third  
33 offense would be \$3,000 and the fourth would be \$4,000 and etc.  
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40 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
41 **HOUSE BILL 186**



42 Mackenzie Reynolds Mandeville High School  
43 Olivia Apatini

44 **TITLE:**

45 Ban the waiting period and required therapy for women  
46 seeking abortions

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 In the state of Louisiana, women who want an abortion must undergo  
49 state-mandated counseling to discourage her from getting an abortion and  
50 wait for a 24-hour period before being allowed to have the procedure.  
51 There are currently five clinics that provide abortions in our state. 92% of  
52 Louisiana parishes do not have clinics. Three of the clinics are located in  
53 New Orleans, one is in Shreveport, and one is in Baton Rouge, and around  
54 63% of Louisiana women live in the parishes where these clinics are.  
55 Because of this, many women must travel long distances and potentially  
56 take off multiple days of work. Additionally, the clinics only provide out-  
57 patient procedures, meaning the woman must drive home or stay in a  
58 hotel depending on how far away she lives, adding even more costs to  
59 getting an abortion.

60 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**


61 State-mandated counseling would no longer be mandated, and the 24-  
62 hour waiting period would be repealed. Those providing the surgery or pill  
63 (nurses, doctors) still need to tell the woman about the possible MEDICAL  
64 side effects of the procedure.

65 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

66 No funding required for this bill.

67 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

68 If the clinics still implement either the counseling or waiting period alone, a  
69 \$1000 fine will be charged to the clinic on the first offense. If both  
70 counseling and the waiting period are still enforced, a \$2000 fine would be  
71 charged on the first offense. If either restrictions are placed on a woman  
72 seeking abortion after a fine is charged, those implementing the counseling  
73 or waiting period will have their medical license revoked and will be  
74 terminated from the clinic.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
2 **HOUSE BILL 187**  
3 Liliana Geier Mandeville High School  
4  
5 **TITLE:** Establish a College, Career, and Life Readiness (CCLR)  
6 Elective class In High Schools

7  
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Most people hope to find success pursuing higher education or entering  
10 the workforce. When students graduate from high school, they have to be  
11 prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary opportunities. However,  
12 most of these people did not learn how to do everyday tasks such as filing  
13 taxes, securing insurance, or even creating a resum√©. The solution is an  
14 elective/night class that will teach these things listed above along with  
15 many other necessary skills. Furthermore, this class will give students the  
16 opportunity to explore different career fields.. Curriculum writers, certified  
17 teachers who know how to do these adult skills, and the Board of  
18 Education will work together to plan the curriculum that will be taught.  
19 Students will now have the chance to be more prepared for job interviews  
20 and everyday tasks they will probably have to do in the future, leading to  
21 the closing of this skill gap.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 This bill requires all Louisiana Public Schools to offer this elective starting  
24 the 2021-2022 school year. All material will be covered in a matter of two  
25 semesters. Already existing classes that teach small parts of the curriculum  
26 will be merged into this class.


27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 The funding will go toward supplies such as worksheets, planning the  
29 classes, and paying the teacher of the course. Funds will be allocated from  
30 schools that have similar existing classes will merge into the CCLR Class.  
31 For schools that don't have a similar existing classes, funding will come  
32 from the Department of Education.

33 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

34 Louisiana Public Schools that do not adopt the elective into their list of  
35 available courses will get 0.05% reduced funding and the money reduced  
36 will go towards funding for poorer schools that do implement the program.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
42 **HOUSE BILL 188**  
43 Brendan Parenti Woodlawn High School  
44 **TITLE:** Reduction of Solitary Confinement

45 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

46 In Louisiana, thousands of felons are put into solitary confinement every  
47 year. Solitary confinement is the act of putting prisoners into small rooms,  
48 normally the size of an average household bathroom, with just a bed and a  
49 toilet. Prisoners are kept in these rooms for 23 hours a day, only being  
50 allowed to go out into controlled areas with limited human contact. With  
51 humans being mainly social creatures, the fact that these unfortunate men  
52 and women are not allowed outside contact proves to have major  
53 psychological effects on the human psyche. Many prisoners who were in  
54 solitary for at least a year experience depression, sleep deprivation, high  
55 levels of anxiety and stress, and lose the ability to communicate with other  
56 human beings. Prisoners let out of solitary also have trouble recognizing  
57 faces, have worsened eyesight, and have small control over their senses.  
58 In one case, a 16-year-old boy named Kalief Browder was sentenced to  
59 three years of solitary for being falsely accused of stealing a backpack.  
60 When his three-year sentence was over, he was forced back into society  
61 and had difficulty reentering mainstream society. Two years after Kalief's  
62 release from solitary he committed suicide.

63 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

64 To put this bill into effect, we first need to re-evaluate the sentences of all  
65 prisoners currently in solitary confinement. Only people who have  
66 committed crimes such as mass murder or bank heists should be put into  
67 solitary. There should also be a limit for the amount of time that one of  
68 these convicted persons will be in solitary confinement. The longest  
69 amount of time a person is allowed to be in solitary before violating the  
70 new law is one month.

71 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

72 The cost of keeping people in solitary confinement is over three times the  
73 cost of keeping a normal prisoner. With the reduction of solitary  
74 confinement, hundreds of thousands of dollars will be saved. The money  
75 saved will be used to convert solitary cells into general cells or remove  
76 solitary cells in existing prisons.

77 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

78 If you break this law, the prison in charge of the person in solitary will be  
79 fined by the government. This fine will equal up to 100 dollars a day that a  
80 person is in solitary for over the time limit of a month. After two weeks of  
81 failing to remove the person from solitary, the fine will increase to 500  
82 dollars a day.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **HOUSE BILL 189**

3 Havilland Forbes St. Joesph's Academy

4 Aubrey Turner

5 **TITLE:** Enforce a Ten Point Grading Scale

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Throughout the state of Louisiana many different parishes have different  
8 grading scales. To provide fair opportunities to all students a state-wide  
9 grading scale should be enforced. A ten point grading scale will not only  
10 improve the GPAs of every highschool student in the state but may also  
11 improve some students' mental health as well. According to the Health and  
12 Human Services, 32% of teenagers in Louisiana from grades 9-12 report  
13 that they have experienced some form of symptoms of stress. Through  
14 implementing a ten point grading system students will feel less pressured  
15 in their academic endeavors, however, this leniency will not allow for  
16 students to slack either. Through establishing a ten point grading scale  
17 more students in Louisiana are likely to be awarded with scholarships and  
18 other possible out of state benefits. According to the Louisiana High School  
19 Planning Guidebook, "The state's high school cohort graduation rate  
20 increased from 78.2 percent in 2017 to 81.4 percent in 2018." The reason  
21 for this 3.2 percent increase is because of the ten point grading scale  
22 established in more schools throughout the state. Although student reports  
23 are sent to colleges by schools it can be noted that for the sake of the  
24 school, admission boards are more likely to accept students with higher  
25 GPA's, despite what grading scales are used. Most private schools in the  
26 state have already established a ten point grading scale and this gives  
27 those students and unfair advantages to resources such as financial aid  
28 that these students do not need compared to some public school students.  
29 The ten point grading scale would greatly benefit all high school students  
30 wanting to succeed in any future endeavors. Current (seven point) grading  
31 scale: 100-93 A, 92-85 B, 84-75 C, 74-67 D, 66 and below F.  
32 New/Proposed (ten point) grading scale: 100-90 A, 89- 80 B, 79-70 C, 69-  
33 60 D, 60 and below F.

34 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

35 This new grading scale will affect all public high schools in Louisiana and  
36 will begin to go into effect at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.  
37 This new grading scale will be applied to all high schoolers at the  
38 beginning of the 2020-2021 school year so that students may still be able  
39 to benefit from this grading system despite their grade level.

40 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

41 This bill will not require any funding.

42 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

43 If a school does not comply with enforcing this ten point grading scale by

44 the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, the school will be fined  
45 \$1,500.

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52 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**



53 **HOUSE BILL 190**

54 Brinley Pethe Haynes Academy

55

56 **TITLE:** Lower the age requirement to run for state office

57 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

58 Currently, there is a minimum age requirement of 25 years to run for many  
59 Louisiana state offices. These positions include governor, lieutenant  
60 governor, attorney general, secretary of state, and treasurer. However, 18  
61 year old citizens are adults and are granted certain responsibilities and  
62 rights. They are old enough to enlist in the military, donate organs, and  
63 even be tried as adults in a court of law, but in Louisiana, they are not old  
64 enough to hold a political office. Furthermore, 18 year olds are allowed  
65 and encouraged to vote, and by doing so, they influence outcomes of  
66 political decisions at every election. If 18 year olds are mature and  
67 politically informed enough to vote, it makes sense that they are also  
68 capable of running for office. Lowering the age requirement to run for  
69 state office to 18 would only benefit Louisiana, as it would widen the pool  
70 of candidates for voters to choose from and allow more proactive young  
71 adults the chance to run for office and make a change.

72 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

73 If passed, this bill would be implemented immediately afterwards. This  
74 would be to allow any possible candidates the opportunity to run in the  
75 next election. The minimum age requirement to run for previously  
76 specified Louisiana offices would be lowered from 25 to 18.

77

78 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

79 There is no funding required for this bill.

80 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

81 There are no penalties for this bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 191**



3 Taylor Du Lafayette High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Better Grade the Quality of a School

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana issues public schools a School Performance Score to inform the  
8 public on the quality of that school. These scores are on a letter grade  
9 scale from A to F (150-0) and are evaluated depending on the school level.  
10 High schools are assessed on 4 criteria: state assessments and progress,  
11 ACT or WorkKeys scores, graduation rate, and the strength of diploma  
12 (college credits or certifications earned). However, the quality of a school  
13 is based on more factors than test scores and graduation rates. Other  
14 factors such as overall environment (safety and cleanliness), academic  
15 programs, athletics, clubs, and teacher qualifications play a factor in the  
16 status of a school.

17

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 Newly passed standards will be implemented in the upcoming school year.  
20 The new criteria includes the original four with the addition of academic  
21 programs, extracurriculars, staff qualifications and school environment.  
22 The strength of diploma now includes academic programs offered in its  
23 scoring. Extracurriculars includes athletics and school clubs and  
24 organizations. The amount of clubs and sports, their success, and their  
25 growth are taken into account when scoring. In addition, staff certifications  
26 compare the amount of teachers properly certified according to Louisiana  
27 law to the state average. Scoring for the school environment is based on  
28 the safety and cleanliness of a school. Overall school performance will be  
29 determined by seven total criteria on the letter grade scale.

30

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32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 No additional funding is required.

34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 There are no penalties for this bill.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
42 **HOUSE BILL 192**



43 Danny Nguyen Lafayette High School

44

45 **TITLE:** Protect Cyber Liberties

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 Personal data is what drives the economy of the 21st century. Companies  
48 such as Google, Facebook, and Amazon are constantly collecting and  
49 tracking consumer data as a means of profit. Consumer data is best  
50 defined as all personal, behavioral, and demographic data collected by  
51 businesses. The consumers are vulnerable in this status quo with no choice  
52 whether to opt-in or out. Privacy is slowly becoming lost in the hustle and  
53 bustle environment of the online world. It is our responsibility as legislators  
54 to protect and defend the rights of consumers and give them the  
55 autonomy in this rapidly developing culture that is the Internet.

56 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

57 The primary purpose of this law is to give Louisianians power over their  
58 data

59 1. Consumers must first and foremost be allowed to opt-out of data  
60 collection

61 2. Consumers must be informed on what data is collected, why it is  
62 collected, and how it is collected

63 3. Consumers must be given the choice to delete their data

64 A secondary purpose of this law is to regulate the control businesses have  
65 in Big Data

66 1. Online businesses in Louisiana must create transparent summaries for  
67 terms of service and privacy policies for their users

68 2. Businesses should notify consumers if there is any change to such terms

69 3. Businesses should notify consumers about actions taken with their data  
70 (i.e. publishing statistics or sharing with third parties)

71

72 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

73 There is no cost as this bill is intended to increase standards.

74

75 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

76 Businesses that fail to adhere to these laws are fined for 5% of their  
77 profits for 6 months and consistent failure increases the fines and term.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 193**

3 Angelina Seaward Haynes Academy

4  
5 **TITLE:** Doing Away With Public School Uniforms

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Most public schools in the state of Louisiana require that students wear  
8 uniforms: khaki pants for boys, and skirts and a blouse for girls. However,  
9 several studies have shown that uniforms may not show a correlation or  
10 may even show a negative correlation to improved school performance and  
11 school security. Many schools simply require identification cards to see  
12 whether children are actually students or not, seeing as "dress-down days"  
13 follow these guidelines. Just as well, school uniforms can be costly, and for  
14 students hailing from lower economic backgrounds than others, affording a  
15 school uniform isn't as easy as it may seem. Uniforms limit students'  
16 freedom of expression and may employ sexist conformities, and uniforms  
17 can also lead to the punishing and policing of students. Considering that  
18 Louisiana is near the bottom of the rankings for education, perhaps  
19 shifting the focus from requiring school uniforms to ways to boost the  
20 learning gap for students would be more beneficial. Only 21% of schools in  
21 the United States require students to wear uniforms, and the higher  
22 rankings belong to those states that do not even require students to stick  
23 to strict uniform policies.

24 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

25 Public schools throughout the state will be required to abolish their rules  
26 for wearing school uniforms, such as khaki pants for boys and skirts for  
27 girls, and adhere to a new set of guidelines (created at the discretion of  
28 the school and the school boards) for dress codes having to do with non-  
29 uniform policies. The school's policy for "dress-down days" is  
30 recommended as a replacement for the uniform policies. A period of one  
31 month will be allowed for schools to transition to this new policy.

32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 No funding is required for this bill.

34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 If schools do not follow these guidelines, a fine of up to \$10000,  
36 depending on how long schools choose not to oblige after the one-month  
37 deadline, will be issued.

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43 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
44 **HOUSE BILL 194**

45 Ryan Whaley Episcopal of Baton Rouge

46 Hudson Graham

47 **TITLE:** Prescribe More Opioids: The Darwinian Method

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has claimed that \$78.5  
50 billion a year is spent on fighting the United States opioid epidemic. The  
51 costs of healthcare, addiction treatment, lost productivity and criminal  
52 justice involvement costs this absurd amount, and for nothing. Every day  
53 130 people in the United States die after an opioid overdose, and opioid  
54 overdoses increased by 30 percent in the last year (NIDA). Doctors have  
55 been ordered to stop prescribing drugs such as Oxycontin and synthetic  
56 opioids such as fentanyl, but sadly, people will never quit overdosing on  
57 drugs. Along with the price of insurance, much of this money is going to  
58 help these addicts recover in state-run rehabilitation programs. These  
59 rehabilitation programs, though they look like they benefit, are ultimately  
60 unsuccessful. Because drug addiction is arduous to overcome, relapse  
61 rates have risen between 40 and 60 percent even with these rehabilitation  
62 programs. Because these addicts are a lost cause, using government  
63 money to sustain their addiction, creating drag in the workforce and  
64 society, and eventually transitioning into harder drugs like heroin, we  
65 should instead prescribe more opioids to those who want them instead of  
66 stopping. Prescribing more opioids will ultimately cause the addicts to die  
67 out, creating a much better and healthier society. With the medical  
68 community prescribing more opioids there will be a lot of regulation within.  
69 Opioids would only be prescribed to those under the age of 25) for one  
70 week, and these people will be kept under strict watch looking for signs of  
71 addiction and misuse. Rehab will still be up and running, but it will not be  
72 mandated. Because rehab will not be mandated, tax dollars will not be  
73 spent on those that are likely to relapse. Tax dollars will also not be spent  
74 on keeping convicts that have distributed opioids in jail.

75 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

76 This bill, if passed, would go into effect on January 1, 2020. Doctors will be  
77 obliged to prescribe opioids to patients who have fallen into addiction.

78 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

79 Tax money will not be used. Patients will pay for their prescriptions  
80 themselves (only those that are not deemed needy enough of the drug),  
81 and as the quantity of opioids demanded increases, prices will decrease.  
82 This will lower the drugs from their current price, which is around \$6 a pill,  
83 to even more affordable prices.

84 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

85 No penalties required.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 195**

3 Melanie Dietrich                      St. Joseph's Academy  
4 Brennan Cascio

5 **TITLE:** To Regulate Mental Health Hospitals in Louisiana  
6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 According to the Louisiana Department of Health, 1 in 5 people struggle  
8 with mental health issues in Louisiana. Currently, the conditions inside  
9 many of Louisiana's mental health hospitals are subpar. A study of 2000  
10 mental hospital patients showed that only 1/3 of them felt as though they  
11 had been treated with respect and basic human dignity. There is a  
12 universal inhumane treatment of patients, including both mental and  
13 physical abuse. Another recent study showed that many patients  
14 experienced or witnessed physical violence, sexual abuse, bullying,  
15 harrassment, and cruel punishment which ended up causing their mental  
16 well-being to deteriorate. Dangerous activities within the walls of many  
17 mental hospitals include violation of patient confidentiality, punishments  
18 such as restricted access to open air and lack of family hours, and worker  
19 predation of patients. Currently, the only "regulations" for mental hospitals  
20 in Louisiana in place are requirements that anyone hospitalized from  
21 severe substance abuse/mental health issues be sent to a private mental  
22 health rehabilitation center. The few national bills created that sought to  
23 protect patients from "abuse and neglect" drifted away from their intended  
24 purpose and harmed patients more than helped them, therefore failing and  
25 never becoming law. The only hope was the Mental Health Act in 2015.  
26 However, this bill only gave access to mental health resources, "not  
27 strictly regulated them. Even with these minuscule procedures in place, the  
28 real issue in this case is the regulation of these facilities to make sure that  
29 patients are helped instead of hurt. This bill seeks to regulate mental  
30 health hospitals in Louisiana through establishing state requirements for  
31 the atmospheres and workers of these hospitals.

32 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

33 In order to regulate mental health hospitals in Louisiana, a set of state  
34 requirements for mental health facilities, including definite expulsion of all  
35 patient abuse, must be invoked. To begin, each hospital will have random  
36 checks by the Louisiana Department of Health to see if they are  
37 functioning properly and that there is no physical or emotional abuse  
38 present. Secondly, each worker at a mental facility must complete a  
39 training course provided by the World Health Organization's Mental Health  
40 Gap Action Programme, including classes on patient communication,  
41 possible patient triggers, and how to respond if a patient gets upset, that  
42 licenses him/her to be suited in the field of mental health. Workers also

43 must have background checks indicating no past abuse to make sure they  
44 are qualified.

45 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

46 The regulation of mental health hospitals and licenses provided to mental  
47 health care professionals will be paid for by an already factored-in fee of  
48 2.5% on each patient's stay provided by insurance.

49 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

50 If any worker/hospital refuses to comply, their hospital licenses will be  
51 revoked and defiant workers will be fired.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **HOUSE BILL 196**

3 Adrija Bhattacharjee Haynes Academy

4 **TITLE:** Tourism for Cancer Research

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 Cancer research all over the world has started to take more precedent due  
7 to the rising number of cases seen every year. However, states such as  
8 Louisiana still don't have enough funding for it. The Louisiana Cancer  
9 Research Center receives approximately 10 million dollars every year from  
10 the government to support cancer research and any related projects. The  
11 LCRC also receives additional funding each year from the State tobacco tax  
12 funding, otherwise known as the "Tobacco- Free Living Initiative," but  
13 even with that, Louisiana is still struggling to increase research on  
14 underfunded cancers such as Lymphoma and Pancreatic cancer. With the  
15 underfunded cancers only getting less than \$10,000 every year compared  
16 to breast and lung cancers getting over millions of dollars, the LCRC should  
17 receive more money to help cover all of their bases. The overfunded  
18 cancers still require a lot of the money the LCRC receives annually due to  
19 the increase in patients every year and costs of the equipment used for  
20 treatments, but this doesn't mean that the other cancers should go under-  
21 looked. Louisiana has a problem with funding, but the best solution is not  
22 to look for ways to create more money, but ways to reallocate it. This bill  
23 proposes that funds be reallocated from the travel and tourism industry  
24 into the LCRC's budget since this area receives over billions of dollars with  
25 more than enough money to give.

26 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

27 Any business that is involved within the frame of the travel and tourism  
28 industry will be used in deciding the total amount of tax revenue  
29 generated, state-wise and locally. When the total amount is calculated, 10  
30 million dollars from this portion will be reallocated to the budget of the  
31 LCRC. This process will also take place at the end of each year to be taken  
32 into effect once a new year begins.

33 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

34 The travel and tourism industry in Louisiana generated 1.9 billion in state  
35 and local tax revenue, and according to the statistics seen from the last 3  
36 years, there's been a steady 7 to 9 percent increase every year. Using this,  
37 the estimated total cost of revenue is expected to be around 2.071 billion  
38 dollars. This bill would require that 10 million dollars out of the total  
39 revenue of the tourism industry be allocated to the LCRC, where this  
40 money will be used to help create more opportunities for research and  
41 treatments for both adults and children, as well as help fund for the  
42 cancers that are not getting as much money in the first place.

43 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

44 There are no penalties for this bill.

45 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**



46 **HOUSE BILL 198**

47 Cameron Wilson Captain Shreve High School

48

49 **TITLE:** Require All Schools to Have Grade A Bathrooms and  
50 Maintenance

51 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

52 A large problem many schools in Louisiana face is bad bathrooms and  
53 maintenance. Studies show that schools with bad maintenance problems in  
54 schools perform poorly on standardized tests and have higher disciplinary  
55 problems. Louisiana students deserve high quality bathrooms and better  
56 maintenance for a better learning environment.

57 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

58 This bill will be implemented on February 9, 2020 and will be mandated by  
59 the Louisiana Department of Education. Every school would be required to  
60 leave the bathroom pristine clean each day. Students would also take part  
61 in making the bathrooms cleaner and more presentable.

62 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

63 The schools would be responsible for any funding for better maintenance.

64 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

65 Any school that refuses to sign a document agreeing they will implement  
66 better maintenance of their bathrooms will be fined \$1500.

67

68 Students caught littering and/or vandalizing the bathrooms would receive  
69 two days of afternoon detention.





1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 197**

3 Paola Alarcon Haynes Academy

4 **TITLE:** Improving the Prospects of Our English Learners

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 Louisiana is home to students of many different backgrounds. 3.3% of our  
7 students (around 26,000) are English Language Learners (ELL/EL)-  
8 children who are working to learn a second language (English) while  
9 continuing to develop their first (or home) language. Most of these ELs  
10 speak Spanish, Chinese, Arabic ,Vietnamese, or French. The population of  
11 ELL students has grown in Louisiana and will most likely continue to do so  
12 with every school year as influxes of immigrant children arrive in the state.  
13 And although the achievements of the overall Louisiana student population  
14 is reaching new highs thanks to new standards, the achievement gap of  
15 ELL students remains constant because of those same standards. ELs have  
16 half the access to college or career options than their peers, only around  
17 2% of ELs are recognized as Gifted, and the rate of graduation for ELs in  
18 Louisiana has fallen 5.2 points in the last five years. While our total  
19 graduation rate was 74.6% in 2016 , the graduation rate for ELs was  
20 50.0%- one of the lowest rates in the country. ELs require additional  
21 instruction time and effective methods for instruction of ELs are usually  
22 dependent on individualized or small group focus, which requires  
23 specialized teachers that can provide meaning and comprehensive input  
24 rather than just vocabulary recall. For the EL programs that already exist in  
25 the state to succeed, there must be enough funding for both resources  
26 and certified staff. The state funds ELL programs through its regular  
27 funding formula by providing a 22% weight. However, it is clear that for  
28 many districts and schools in Louisiana, there is a great strain on the  
29 limited ELL teachers to provide the instruction that ELL students require. In  
30 addition, ELL only instructors are not required to have an ELL specialist  
31 endorsement or certification.

32 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

33 This bill proposes that the weight of cost per ELL student in the funding  
34 formula be increased from 22% to 39% starting the school year of 2020-  
35 2021. This increase would allow for the hiring of more staff by school  
36 districts so that the ratio of ELL students to EL certified teacher be at least  
37 30:1. This bill also would require each school with EL students to provide  
38 instruction to EL students by at least one EL certified teacher and that  
39 teachers of EL only classes must have an EL endorsement or certification.  
40 In addition, this bill purposes that a stipend of \$5000 be provided for  
41 districts to use to hire one bilingual teacher per 100 EL students and a  
42 \$1000 stipend for teachers with proficiency in another language to receive

43 EL certification per 100 EL students. These teachers must participate in the  
44 instruction of ELL students in order to receive the stipend.

45 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

46 The increase of ELL weight will cost approximately \$17.5 million and the  
47 stipends will cost approximately \$930,000. This is a total of \$18.43 million.  
48 The funding for this bill will come from raising the tax on tobacco products  
49 by 4%- with the tax on a pack of cigarettes increasing from \$1.08 to  
50 \$1.13.

51 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

52 If a school's EL students do not have access to a teacher with ESL  
53 certification or endorsement or if an EL only class is taught by someone  
54 without ESL certification or endorsement, the district must pay \$1500 to  
55 the state per EL student in that school or class.

2 **HOUSE BILL 199**

3 Walker Wicklund                      Captain Shreve High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** Mandate EKG Testing for All LHSAA Athletes

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill will ensure that all LHSAA Athletes have a mandatory EKG test at  
8 the beginning of the school year. An EKG test is a medical test that  
9 measures the electrical activities of the heart. With each beat, an electrical  
10 impulse or "wave" travels through the heart. This wave causes the heart to  
11 pulse and pump blood from the heart to the entire body. An EKG test can  
12 detect a variety of problems in the heart. Athletes should be tested  
13 because they may have a heart condition they do not know about. The  
14 state of Louisiana would rather address possible heart conditions before  
15 the respective sports season begins. It is better to be safe than sorry.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, all LHSAA athletes will have to get  
18 an EKG test within the first 30 days of school beginning. The test will be  
19 given out by doctors in the area.

20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 Funding will come from the individual school or school district.

22 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

23 Failure to get an EKG test will result in the suspension of the athlete until  
24 the athlete receives the test.

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43 **HOUSE BILL 200**

44 Louise Johnston                      Captain Shreve High School

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46 **TITLE:** Make Driver's Ed a High School Course

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Driver's Ed classes in Louisiana high schools are not commonly provided. If  
49 they are, it is often after school and costs just as much as private  
50 companies. A driver's ed class is defined as "a formal class or program that  
51 prepares a new driver to obtain a learner's permit or driver's license."  
52 Private driver's ed courses can cost \$200 to \$800. With 27.8% of  
53 Louisiana's youth living in poverty, this expense is often too much. As a  
54 result, many people do not get a driver's permit, which is needed to get a  
55 driver's license. The goal of this bill is to have high schools provide drivers  
56 ed as a high school course for half a year and provide half a credit for the  
57 course.

58  
59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 Beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, a fund will be made available to  
61 assist in the creation of Driver's Ed programs in Louisiana high schools. It  
62 will not be required for schools to create a Driver's Ed program.

63 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

64 This bill will cost \$33 million dollars. This includes the cost of teacher pay,  
65 gas, cars, and car insurance for every public school in the state of  
66 Louisiana. In order to fund this, the gas tax will be increased by 0.6 cents.

67 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

68 This bill has no penalties.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 201**

3 Liam Fouts                      Captain Shreve High School

4  
 5 **TITLE:** Increase Funding to Treat Salvinia

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill aims to save Louisiana lakes and rivers from the fast spreading  
 8 fern Salvinia. Salvinia is a plant that grows in water that spreads quickly.  
 9 When it grows, it travels across the water by current and gathers in hoards  
 10 in the coves of lakes. This is not good, as it kills the animals and fish that  
 11 live in the water environment by removing the oxygen from the water.  
 12 There are ways to stop the spread of and to kill Salvinia, but more funding  
 13 is needed to do so effectively. The funding this bill creates will be given to  
 14 the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries so they can rid the  
 15 waters of Salvinia.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will treat Louisiana lakes once a  
 18 month for existing Salvinia. This bill will be implemented beginning in Fall  
 19 2020.

20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 One acre of Salvinia costs \$8 to treat. There are 4,976,928 acres of water  
 22 in Louisiana, meaning \$39,815,424 to treat all of Louisiana's waterways for  
 23 Salvinia.

24  
 25 This funding will be raised through a \$5 fee to launch boats at public boat  
 26 launches. This fee will remain in place until the last instance of Salvinia is  
 27 eradicated.

28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will be fined \$500 for for each  
 30 month they do not treat Louisiana waterways for Salvinia.

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42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 43 **HOUSE BILL 202**

44 Knighton Clarke                      Captain Shreve High School

45  
 46 **TITLE:** Mandate Police Officers Wear Body Cameras

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 This bill will be used to try and prevent police brutality. Police brutality is a  
 49 problem in our state and in our country. Nothing has been done to stop or  
 50 prevent this problem at all. I want to change that. Police brutality is ruining  
 51 our youth. Some kids are scared to go outside when there are cops  
 52 outside, and that's not okay. This is a problem that needs to be stopped.  
 53 To help stop this problem this bill would require all police officers to wear  
 54 body cameras at all times. There are not near enough consequences for  
 55 officers that kill citizens for no apparent reason.

56

57 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

58 This bill will be implemented beginning on January 1, 2021. It will be  
 59 mandatory for all police officers to wear body cameras at all times. The  
 60 consequences for using guns when they aren't needed will be increased as  
 61 well. Officeres that shoot and kill people will be expected to serve serious  
 62 time in jail.

63

64 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

65 About \$18,000,000 is needed for every police officer to have a body  
 66 camera. The money will come from a \$0.1 gas tax on every gallon of gas  
 67 sold in Louisiana, also from a \$1.00 sin tax on alcohol and cigarettes.

68 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

69 If this bill is passed the consequences for a police officer taking off or  
 70 turning of their body camera will result in a \$5,000 fine; if the same officer  
 71 repeats this action he/she will receive another \$5,000 fine, and their badge  
 72 will be suspended for three weeks.

2 **HOUSE BILL 203**

3 Emma Sonnier Mandeville High School

4 Carly Brown

5 **TITLE:** To Raise Minimum Wage for Tipped Employees

6

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 In Louisiana, minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour, but tipped employees can  
9 be paid as low as \$2.13 per hour by their employer, as long as the tips  
10 reach \$7.25 an hour. This bill will increase the minimum wage for tipped  
11 employees to \$5.44, which is 75% of minimum wage. The aim of this bill is  
12 to help servers and other minimum wage employees get compensated for  
13 their work. Employers, not customers, should be required to compensate  
14 their employees, and employees should not be reliant on the erratic  
15 gratuity of their customers.

16

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 This bill will be enacted on January 1, 2020.

19

21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 There is no funding required for this bill.

23

24 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

25 The Fair Labor Standards Act is a federal law that states that employers  
26 who fail to adhere to minimum wage and overtime payment laws will be  
27 fined up to \$1,000 per offense. This bill would fall under the FLSA, so  
28 employers who fail to comply with this bill would be fined up to \$1,000 per  
29 offense.

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41 **HOUSE BILL 204**

42 Angele McCleery St. Joseph's Academy

43 Kaitlyn Savoie

44 **TITLE:** Create Cajun History Month

45 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

46 A month dedicated to the history of Acadian culture shall be implemented  
47 to remind Louisianians of an important aspect of their heritage. In 1604  
48 French colonists settled in a region they named Acadia and were named  
49 Acadians. In 1713 the British took over Canada and expected all settlers to  
50 defend the kingdom. When the Acadians refused to defend and adapt to  
51 British culture, the British government seized their farms and burned their  
52 villages. These harsh punishments eventually culminated with the exile of  
53 the Acadians from their lands. They were forced aboard ships set for the  
54 American colonies. The colonists treated the Acadians with detest,  
55 sometimes refusing to let them leave their ships, leading to thousands of  
56 deaths by starvation. This cruel treatment did not end in the 1700s. In  
57 1921 the state Constitution banned Cajun French from being used in  
58 Louisiana school. This, along with French being frowned upon, led to an  
59 estimated one million native French-speakers in 1968 to drop to around  
60 150,000 to 200,000 by 2011. Despite its immense impact on Louisiana  
61 history, Louisianans continue to neglect their Cajun heritage.

62 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

63 April will be recognized by the Louisiana government as a month dedicated  
64 to the history of the Cajuns' rich culture. Throughout the month of April,  
65 opportunities will be provided for all schools to learn the importance of  
66 Cajun history. The governor of Louisiana will be authorized to issue a  
67 proclamation that calls upon the people of Louisiana to observe April with  
68 celebrations that express Cajun heritage and culture.

69 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

70 The Council for the Development of French in Louisiana will fund grants for  
71 schools who educate their students on Cajun History. The grant amount  
72 will depend on the school and level of education.

73 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

74 No penalties.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 205**

3 Jylliann Huff Episcopal High School  
 4 Julia Frazer

5 **TITLE:** Fix The Roads Act

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Inadequate roads have remained an existing problem in the state of  
 8 Louisiana. Potholes, faded lines, and poor road drainage can be found  
 9 everywhere on our interstates and highways. DOTD is in dire need of  
 10 funding to restore our once functional and beautiful roads.

11 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

12 Under this act, DOTD will received \$250,000,000 in additional funding for  
 13 general purpose road renovation and construction. The usage of these  
 14 funds will be up to the secretary of DOTD.

15 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

16 To fund this act, the state income tax for the top tax bracket will increase  
 17 from 6% to 6.5%.

18 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

19 No penalties required.  
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42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 43 **HOUSE BILL 207**

44 Maddi Boshra Mandeville High School  
 45 Rachel D'Alessandro

46 **TITLE:** Ensure Equal Voter Representation Among Louisiana's  
 47 Citizens

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 The United States Constitution calls for the establishment of an electoral  
 50 college to determine federal elections. States are given electoral votes  
 51 based on their combined number of representatives and senators in  
 52 congress, with Louisiana having eight electors. Despite the mandate of the  
 53 electoral college, the Constitution leaves states the power to determine  
 54 how they want to choose presidential electors. All but 2 states, Nebraska  
 55 and Maine, pick their electors based on a winner take all system, in which  
 56 the candidate that wins the most votes in a state receives all of the state's  
 57 electoral votes. The current winner take all system in Louisiana discards  
 58 the votes of over 700,000 of Louisiana's voters. In order to ensure that all  
 59 Louisiana voters are fairly represented, the state should move to a  
 60 proportional voting model in which electors are chosen based on the  
 61 overall popular vote in the state. For example, if the proportional model  
 62 were in place during the 2016 presidential election, the calculation to  
 63 determine electoral votes would be as follows: Donald Trump (R)-received  
 64 58.1% of the state popular vote (1,178,638 votes); 58.1% of 8 electoral  
 65 votes equals 4.648, resulting in 5 electoral votes going to the Republican  
 66 party. Hillary Clinton (D)-received 38.4% of state popular vote (780,154  
 67 votes); 38.4% of 8 electoral votes equals 3.072, resulting in 3 electoral  
 68 votes going to the Democratic party. Under this model, all voting citizens  
 69 will be proportionally represented without regard to districting or simple  
 70 majority rule, resulting in an overall more fair election process.

71 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

72 Once the state popular vote is determined, calculations will be done to  
 73 determine the percentage of the vote that each candidate won. Once  
 74 percentages are determined, the number of electors for each party will be  
 75 calculated according to the proportional model. The law will go into effect  
 76 beginning at the 2020 presidential election

77 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

78 No Funding

79 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

80 If electors fail to reflect the votes of his or her delegated party, the vote  
 81 from the elector in question will be nullified, and he or she will be replaced  
 82 with an alternate elector.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 206**

3 Maria Hargrave St. Joseph's Academy

4 **TITLE:** Identify Dyslexic Students

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 Dyslexia affects one in five people. It affects all racial, ethnic, and  
7 socioeconomic groups. With appropriate accommodations and instruction,  
8 it can be remediated. However, many of those with dyslexia remain  
9 undiagnosed and untreated even though it is the most common reading  
10 disability. This is even more prevalent in public schools and even more so  
11 in African-American and Latino communities. Children who cannot read  
12 often leave school and have limited future prospects. In federal law,  
13 dyslexia is defined as "an unexpected difficulty in reading for an individual  
14 who has the intelligence to be a much better reader, most commonly  
15 caused by a difficulty in the phonological processing (the appreciation of  
16 the individual sounds of spoken language), which affects the ability of an  
17 individual to speak, read, and spell." (First Step Act of 2018, S.3747, 115th  
18 Cong. (2018) Though dyslexia hinders a person's reading ability, it does  
19 not dampen their creativity and inventiveness. Though 20% of the  
20 population has dyslexia, around 50% of the prison population is dyslexic.  
21 (NCBI, Prevalence of dyslexia among Texas prison inmates, Moody KC et.  
22 al.,2000) However, there are many inmates who were not diagnosed until  
23 a recent bill by Senator Bill Cassidy mandating testing upon arrival in  
24 prison. As stated by Dr. Laura Cassidy, "In dyslexia, there is an abundance  
25 of high-quality scientific knowledge so that we have not a knowledge gap,  
26 but an action gap." While dyslexia is not a curable disability, evidence-  
27 based interventions can drastically remediate a student's reading ability.  
28 Experts here in Louisiana know how to teach students to overcome  
29 dyslexia and how to teach dyslexia students how to cope with their reading  
30 difficulties and how to succeed in the classroom. If a student is identified  
31 with dyslexia, training can allow them to perform well at difficult schools  
32 and colleges. However, students in public schools are not being screened  
33 for dyslexia, rather teachers are asked to identify those who have "learning  
34 disabilities" in general. Currently, students are According to the Dyslexia  
35 Resource Center, "[Dyslexia] does not look the same in every child and is  
36 dependent on, the severity of dyslexia." Furthermore, low-to middle  
37 income students are the ones most likely to go undiagnosed and therefore  
38 miss the evidence-based interventions that would allow them to succeed in  
39 school. Senator Bill Cassidy and Dr. Laura Cassidy stated, "A specific  
40 diagnosis is critical to receiving effective education rooted in evidence-  
41 based curriculum and the latest science. Imagine diagnosing someone with  
42 cancer but not the specific type of cancer." A study published in the

43 Pediatric Journal from Yale Medical School shows that the gap of dyslexia  
44 is prevalent as early as 1st grade.

45 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

46 All students should be given a dyslexia screening at the Kindergarten, 1st  
47 grade, 2nd grade, and 3rd grade levels. The screening should meet the  
48 requirements for a dyslexia screening as defined in the federal First Step  
49 Act legislation defines "a dyslexia screening program means a screening  
50 program for dyslexia that is (A) evidence-based with proven psychometrics  
51 for validity; (B) efficient and low-cost; and (C) readily available." (First  
52 Step Act of 2018, S.3747, 115th Cong. (2018) One such program is the  
53 evidenced based Shaywitz DyslexiaScreen that teachers complete for each  
54 student to identify which students are "at risk for dyslexia." Once students  
55 are identified as "at risk for dyslexia", they will fall under the requirements  
56 of Title 28, Education, Part CI. Bulletin 1508, which will provide testing and  
57 diagnosis.

58 This bill will go into effect August 1, 2020.

59 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

60 This cost is minimal, at approximately \$1.25 per screening, adding to a  
61 total of \$197,500 per year. The Education Excellence Fund (EFF) is used  
62 for expenditures that promote educational excellence. This grant will be  
63 used to provide for the testing and screening of the students. If the grant  
64 is not received, a 0.02% sin tax will be added to alcohol and tobacco  
65 products.

66 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

67 If the school does not comply with giving the first through third grade  
68 students the more specific dyslexia screener, 0.2% will be withheld from  
69 their funds.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 208**

3 Meghan McDonald Neville High School

4  
 5 **TITLE:** An Act To: Adopt the Romeo and Juliet Law in  
 6 Louisiana

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The Romeo and Juliet law is a relatively new statutory law that was passed  
 9 in 2007. This law is created to help accused teenagers fight against  
 10 wrongful accusations of being a sex offender. Under this law, teenagers  
 11 can now be tried and convicted of sex offenses by engaging in sexual  
 12 relations with teenagers younger than themselves. Receiving the label of a  
 13 sex offender can have a significant impact upon a teenager’s life. Sex  
 14 offender status limits housing, job employment opportunity, and personal  
 15 life. As such, the law has become fairly notorious. For anyone who is being  
 16 judged under this law, they must meet the following criteria:

- 17 1. Either party must be between ages 14 through 17
  - 18 2. The victim must have been a willing participant in the act of sexual  
 19 activity
  - 20 3. The offender does not have any previous sex crimes on their record.
- 21 Just because the case meets the criteria listed above, that does not change  
 22 the legality of the sexual contact. However, meeting the criteria will allow  
 23 the offender to petition the courts to have their status as a sexual offender  
 24 revoked.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 The bill should be implemented in the year January 1, 2020.

27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 No funding needed.

29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 No penalties.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 42 **HOUSE BILL 209**

43 Ellie Pryor St. Joseph’s Academy  
 44 Katie Lockett

45 **TITLE:** Exempt purchases of feminine hygiene products from  
 46 state and local sales and use tax

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Consumer purchases of feminine hygiene products such as pads, and  
 49 tampons are subject to sales and use taxes imposed by the state of  
 50 Louisiana. Since a woman cannot avoid her menstrual cycle, feminine  
 51 hygiene products should not be considered luxury items as they are  
 52 necessary products that enable females to properly care for their health.  
 53 By the state government imposing sales taxes on purchases of these  
 54 items, they are effectively imposing a luxury tax on these purchases.  
 55 While the state government will lose tax revenue they currently receive  
 56 from purchases of these items, the revenue loss is relatively small in  
 57 comparison to the benefits females will enjoy from this exemption.

58 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

59 Feminine hygiene products are exempt from state sales tax. This bill will  
 60 go into effect on January 1, 2020.

61 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

62 Our bill doesn’t require any financing.

63 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

64 Business that collect the tax after the bill has gone into effect, will be  
 65 required to fully refund the tax to the consumer, and pay a fine equal to  
 66 the amount of tax collected on the purchase as an incentive to follow the  
 67 law.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 210**

3 Marshona Griffin Neville High School

4  
 5 **TITLE:** An Act To: Remove Physical Education as a  
 6 requirement to graduate high school

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Physical education is a graduation required in most states, and Louisiana  
 9 can be the first not make it a requirement for graduation. I believe that  
 10 this time can be better filled with classes that truly interest the student  
 11 such as JROTC or STEM courses. For example, the state of Alabama does  
 12 that require physical education but offers JROTC to their students. When  
 13 you allow a student to take the course they prefer, you are allowing them  
 14 a certain freedom. They are not just students but individuals with rights, to  
 15 choose what they please. As future adults, they should not be required to  
 16 take anything they don't want to.

17  
 18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 This would take place starting with the graduating class of 2024.

20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 There is no funding needed.

22 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

23 There are no penalties.  
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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 42 **HOUSE BILL 211**

43 Kavia Mallik Haynes Academy

44  
 45 **TITLE:** Eliminate Racial Profiling Through Police Departments  
 46 in Louisiana

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Every year, many people are racially profiled by police departments in  
 49 Louisiana. Racial profiling thwarts effective police work because it impairs  
 50 trust between police officers and the communities that they serve. Racism  
 51 was a problem addressed decades ago, yet it still exists today. In 2016,  
 52 black adults in Louisiana were nearly 3 times as likely as white people to  
 53 get arrested for marijuana possession and 4.3 times as likely to be serving  
 54 a prison felony sentence. People of color even fear that they will be  
 55 stopped by the police just because of their skin tone. Only 112 out of 331  
 56 police agencies have some sort of policy on racial profiling. Most of those  
 57 agencies state that they are required to follow other federal or state laws  
 58 on racial profiling. But here is the real question: Are they actually following  
 59 the laws? We as citizens of Louisiana should strive for this change because  
 60 there is no reason to view people of color as dangerous humans.

61  
 62 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

63 If passed, the implementation of this bill would occur immediately after.  
 64 There will be courses to educate police officers in Louisiana about  
 65 discrimination, and how to prevent it from happening. Also, there will be  
 66 an assurance that every police department in the state of Louisiana will  
 67 have a policy prohibiting police officers from racial profiling.

68  
 69 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

70 Minimal funding is required for educational purposes. This will be paid for  
 71 by state funding for the police departments. The price to hold each course  
 72 will cost \$500.

73  
 74 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

75 Failure to adhere to the regulations will result in penalties to be later  
 76 determined based on situation.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 213**



3 Walker Pearson Alexandria Senior High  
4

5 **TITLE:** Ending sanctuary cities

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisianans' safety is at risk due to sanctuary cities (a city whose municipal  
8 laws protect undocumented immigrants from deportation or prosecution,  
9 despite federal immigration law.) 64 percent of federal arrests in 2018  
10 were those of undocumented immigrants. These crimes ranged from  
11 simple burglary to first degree murder.

12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 The state attorney general's office will track data to ensure that  
14 undocumented peoples are being turned over to the Immigration and  
15 Customs Enforcement agency. Also the attorney general's office will work  
16 with the federal and city government to ensures deportation of illegal  
17 immigrants takes place.

18 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

19 No additional funding is required.

20 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

21 Cities not abiding by the law put in place will not receive funding for road  
22 and bridge construction.  
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42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
43 **HOUSE BILL 214**



44 Melvin Rufus Neville High School  
45

46 **TITLE:** An Act To: Recognize common law marriages

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 exas defines a common law marriage as being "where a man and woman  
49 become husband and wife without getting a marriage license and having a  
50 marriage ceremony. Once established, a common law marriage has the  
51 same legal effect as a ceremonial marriage." Common law marriage , also  
52 known as Sui juris marriage is" A marriage that is without a ceremony and  
53 is based on the parties' agreement to consider themselves married and  
54 usually also on their cohabitation for a period and their public recognition  
55 of the marriage. The two parties shall have been living together for at least  
56 7 years.

57

58 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

59 Louisiana would recognize a couple who presented themselves in a  
60 relationship regularly for at least 7 years to be common law married.

61 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

62 No funding needed.

63 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

64 No penalties.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 215**

3 Johnny Woods                      Neville High School

4  
 5 **TITLE:** An Act To: raise the minimum wage

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The living wage, as defined by the living wage calculator developed at  
 8 MIT, is the "hourly rate that an individual in a household must earn to  
 9 support his or herself and their family." Currently, Louisiana citizens work  
 10 for for a minimum of \$7.25 per hour. Though this follows the federl  
 11 guidelines, Louisiana's residents deserve better. MIT suggests that an  
 12 adult with zero dependents needs to earn at least \$11.28 for it to be a  
 13 livable wage. It is high time that we start paying our citizens a living wage  
 14 which will intern help our economy by having less people dependent on  
 15 government assistance to make ends meet, It will also give our citizens  
 16 more disposable income to spend.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 This bill should take effect immediately upon its passing.

19 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

20 No funding needed.

21 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

22 Employers who willfully or repeatedly violate the minimum wage  
 23 requirements are subject to a civil money penalty of up to \$1,000 for each  
 24 violation.

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37 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 38 **HOUSE BILL 216**

39 Jack West                      Haynes Academy

40 **TITLE:** To Enforce Instant Runoff Elections in Local Elections

41 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

42 This bill aims to help eliminate the excess of runoff elections held in the  
 43 state of Louisiana. Instant Runoff Voting poses a better alternative, where  
 44 voters rank by number the candidates they support, and, in the event of  
 45 multiple candidates running without a majority or first choice votes, the  
 46 candidate with the least first choice votes is eliminated from the election  
 47 and the supporters' following choice votes are distributed accordingly to  
 48 the residual candidates. This process is repeated until a candidate has a  
 49 majority. Instant Runoff Voting has been enacted in countries like  
 50 Australia, where it is used to elect members to the Australian House of  
 51 Representatives and Australian Parliament. The Presidents of India and  
 52 Ireland are also elected via Instant Runoff Voting. Congressmen and  
 53 women from Maine are elected this way and will be elected this way in  
 54 2021 in New York. Because this style of voting is not a proportional voting  
 55 method, seats in office still tend to be exaggerated. However, the  
 56 supporters of the losing 8candidates would be given more of a proportional  
 57 say as compared to the current plurality type voting system. In the United  
 58 Kingdom, a hypothetical Instant Runoff Voting election occurred and the  
 59 results showed an increase in diversity among the seats of the major  
 60 parties but showed no noticeable change in seats of minor parties.  
 61 Moreover, this type of voting is shown to lead to more cooperation  
 62 between candidates and less negative campaigning because if a candidate  
 63 loses and was "attacked" by another candidate, constituents are much less  
 64 likely to vote highly of an attacker. This is exemplified in San Francisco  
 65 elections, where this is exactly what has been occurring since 2013.

66 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

67 To be implemented by October 2020, the day of Louisiana's next local  
 68 primary election. The reprogramming of voting booths will also need to be  
 69 done before that date.

70 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

71 The implementation costs would be around \$3,300,000. This cost should  
 72 be paid back after 2 years due to it only being a one time cost using the  
 73 money currently allotted to runoff elections. Election expenses are paid for  
 74 by the state.

75 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

76 No penalties will be required by this bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **HOUSE BILL 217**

3 Skylar Theriot Mandeville High School

4 Anna-Grace Christmas

5 **TITLE:** Establishing a homebound program to help pregnant  
6 teens earn their high school diploma.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The teenage pregnancy rate in Louisiana is the sixth highest in the nation.  
9 Only 40% of teen mothers finish high school according to ncs.org and  
10 30% of teens drop out of highschool due to pregnancy and parenthood.  
11 Our girls still deserve the right to a free, public education, despite their  
12 situation.In 2016, 37.5 per every 1,000 teens in Louisiana were pregnant,  
13 according to NOLA.com. These girls still deserve a chance to live their lives  
14 to their full potential and earn their high school diploma.

15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 Homebound education is cost effective alternative that enables students to  
17 continue to receive the highest quality education to keep them on track for  
18 an easy transition to their regular classrooms.Through implementing this  
19 program, they have the opportunity to have a stable home life for their  
20 baby and still have an education. We plan to install a homebound program  
21 for pregnant teenagers in Louisiana’s public schools. This program would  
22 provide teachers in each parish (depending on their teen pregnancy rates)  
23 that are each assigned to “x” amount of girls. These teachers would only  
24 physically visit the home three times a week. The girls’ assignments will all  
25 be online, and they will be graded the same way every other student is  
26 graded in their school. To join this program, the girls must sign a contract  
27 stating that they will follow the requirements such as graduating high  
28 school,turning in their assignments, and staying in touch with their  
29 teacher, etc. If a student no longer wants to be a part of this program,  
30 they have the option to drop out. Each student should be granted an equal  
31 opportunity for public education.

32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 Homebound education is cost effective alternative that enables students to  
34 continue to receive the highest quality education to keep them on track for  
35 an easy transition to their regular classrooms. Homebound teachers will be  
36 paid \$25.00 an hour. We would receive this money from a block grant  
37 provided by the federal government specifically for this program. The  
38 schools with the highest pregnancy rates and the least amount of money  
39 will determine the distribution of the grant money. If a student decides to  
40 drop out of this program, the funding for that student will go to a new  
41 applicant.

42 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

43 No penalties will come with this bill.



44 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

45 **HOUSE BILL 218**

46 Sage Mitchell Haynes Academy

47 Madelyn Edmonson

48 **TITLE:** Making serial animal abuse a capitol punishment

49 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

50 The legal definition of animal cruelty is the crime of inflicting physical pain,  
51 suffering or death on a domestic animal beyond necessity for normal  
52 discipline. It can include neglect that hits the standard (withholding food  
53 and water) that the animal has suffered, died or been put in imminent  
54 danger of death. The most common victims of animal cruelty reported are  
55 dogs, cats, horses, and livestock. One can argue that the number of  
56 domestic violence cases correlate with that of animal abuse cases. About  
57 one million animals per year are abused because of domestic violence.  
58 71% of pet-owning women that enter women’s shelters reported that their  
59 batterer had injured, maimed, killed, or threatened family pets for revenge  
60 or other reasons involving the domestic abuse. Not only can this bill save  
61 animals, it can also prevent these killers from experimenting on animals to  
62 humans. In order to save countless animals and protect the safety of  
63 thousands of men, women, and children each year, it is a necessity that  
64 serial animal cruelty is reclassified as a capital offense.

65

66 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

67 With the enactment of this bill, all person(s) found guilty of serial animal  
68 cruelty against domestic animals will undergo the standard courtroom jury  
69 interview method for deciding whether or not the capital punishment will  
70 be utilized. All current Louisiana law standards and statutes followed under  
71 all capital punishment hearings will be in place during these hearings as  
72 well.

73

74 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

75 This bill requires no funding.

76 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

77 This bill requires no penalties.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 219**

3 Isaiah John Woodlawn Highschool

4 Logan Byrd

5 **TITLE: Bringing Art Back to School**

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Everyone should have the option to take an art class of their choice,  
8 whether that be visual, performing, instrumental, etc. These should all be  
9 available to anyone and everyone who wants to explore the arts further,  
10 but not everyone can learn more about the arts or enroll in art programs  
11 outside of school. And not every school offers art programs for students,  
12 even though arts education has many benefits for students both socially  
13 and mentally. According to the Brookings Institution's Brown Center  
14 Chalkboard, "Engaging with art is essential to the human experience." Art  
15 can be seen everywhere throughout life even from the very beginning. As  
16 children when we first develop our motor skills we also begin to  
17 communicate in our artistic ways, like using different hand gestures,  
18 sounds, etc. Art also plays a role in how we develop socially because it can  
19 "compel us to empathize with others and allow us to reflect on the human  
20 condition" according to the Brown Center Chalkboard. The arts plays many  
21 roles in our society and it's very important to our everyday life, but despite  
22 its importance and the benefits that come with arts participation, like  
23 greater social tolerance, the challenge of differing points of views, or civic  
24 engagement, its role in K-12 education has decreased dramatically. Many  
25 schools see a need to cut out a program, whether it be because of funding  
26 purposes or to increase test scores, the first one they pick is the arts  
27 program. The arts program is generally seen as one of the least important  
28 when it comes to education, but despite the benefits, it gives children a  
29 well-rounded education and helps them to grow in different ways. The arts  
30 and arts education are very important and should be seen as such, schools  
31 should not look at arts programs as the first thing to go because they have  
32 many benefits for students both mentally and socially, they give students  
33 access to the arts when they may not have access to it outside of schools,  
34 and they are essential for a well-rounded education.

35 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

36 K-12 schools throughout the state will be required to add arts programs or  
37 expand current art programs to offer students a wider variety of arts to  
38 select from. This will lead to more job opportunities being created and a  
39 need for more space for these classes to be held.

40 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

41 Funding for the development or expansion of arts programs will come from  
42 either Title 1 funding offered to school or from the projected \$500 million

43 budget surplus. This will also go into paying the salary of the new teachers  
44 that will be hired.

45 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

46 Schools that do not agree to either build an arts program or expand on  
47 existing ones, if needed, will have funding withheld until they agree to the  
48 terms of offering an arts program to their students.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 220**



3 Emma Long Lafayette High School

4  
5 **TITLE:** ZZZ's to A's

6  
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Sleep is crucial to adolescents, but this necessity is often viewed as a  
9 luxury for active kids trying to balance school, extracurriculars, and sleep.  
10 According to the National Sleep Foundation, teens and adolescents are  
11 recommended to get 8-10 hours of sleep each night but few get close to  
12 that amount. Getting a good night's sleep has physical benefits that  
13 include: getting sick less often, maintaining a healthy weight, lowering  
14 your risk for serious health problems (ie. diabetes and heart disease), and  
15 reducing stress. Mentally, it can improve your mood, help you think more  
16 clearly, do better in school, get along better with people, and aid in  
17 concentration, memory, creativity, decision making, and focus. The  
18 evidence is clear that the more kids sleep, the more they will be able to  
19 achieve. Despite these concerns, schools start at 7 a.m. with busses  
20 picking up students as early as 5:30 a.m. Only an 8:30 bedtime would  
21 allow a high schooler eight hours of sleep a night--not realistic for a high  
22 schooler with activities and responsibilities including homework. By pushing  
23 school start times back, kids would be well-rested for the next day of  
24 whatever the world throws at them. Someone needs to step in to help aid  
25 in this crisis.

26  
27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 This bill mandates that middle and elementary schools start no earlier than  
29 8:00 am and high schools start no earlier than 8:30 am. Implementation  
30 will be dealt with through the local school districts. The policy will go into  
31 effect by the 2020-2021 school year.

32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 No funding is needed.

34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 If a district fails to adhere to the new policy, then the state will withhold all  
36 education funding granted by the state until the district complies with  
37 policy changes.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
42 **HOUSE BILL 221**



43 Jackson Cantrell Mandeville High School

44 **TITLE:** Levy a "Trash Tax" in order to gain funds for land  
45 reclamation.

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 Let us all remember, first, that taxation is theft. Unfortunately, desperate  
48 times call for desperate measures, and the fate of Louisiana is a pressing  
49 one, indeed. Every 100 minutes, Louisiana loses a football field of  
50 wetlands. These ecosystems, in addition to providing food and  
51 supplementing our economy, reduce the impact of the winds and storm  
52 surge spurred by hurricanes. Our wetlands, as a result, potentially prevent  
53 billions of dollars in damages each hurricane season, and thus save  
54 taxpayers money. (Hurricane Katrina caused an estimated \$150 billion in  
55 damages throughout Louisiana and Mississippi.)

56 This so-called "Trash Tax" will charge homeowners ten cents for every  
57 pound of trash produced. This money will then be diverted to pay for land  
58 reclamation projects through a trust fund created by the state.

59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 Upon collection day, sanitation crews, equipped with scales, will weigh  
61 homeowners' trash cans (subtracting the weight of an empty trash can)  
62 then will enter this value into a computer system. This system, monitored  
63 by the state, will then charge homeowners based on the output. The  
64 amount of money collected each year, when matched by the federal  
65 government, yields over two billion dollars. This tax would need to be in  
66 place for at least 25 years in order to regain all lost land. (The average  
67 weight of trash produced per person each year in the U.S. is 2,072lb; the  
68 average house size in Louisiana rounds in at 3 people; there are 1.656  
69 million households in Louisiana; each pound of trash produced correlates  
70 with 10 cents; when matched by the federal government, this number  
71 combines to \$2.05 billion and over the course of 25 years, the estimated  
72 \$50 billion needed to restore the wetlands will be paid off.)

73 This process, at the very earliest, could be instituted in five years.

74 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

75 The only materials in need of funding would be the computer and weighing  
76 systems; at a VERY rough estimate of \$1 million (taken from the state's  
77 budget). Since this is a tax, the rest of the funding pays for itself.

78 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

79 If homeowners don't pay the tax, they will be sent to prison for tax  
80 evasion.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
2 **HOUSE BILL 222**

3 Sofia Garza-Caraccia Mandeville High School  
4 Maya Gunaldo

5 **TITLE:** To Require Foreign Language Classes in 4th-8th Grade  
6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 There are at least 350 spoken languages throughout the United States of  
8 America, yet according to the U.S. Census, 80% of Americans are  
9 monolingual. Around the world, more than half of the global population-  
10 estimates vary from 60 to 75% - speak at least two languages. So being  
11 monolingual is to be in the minority in the larger scope of the world. Early-  
12 start language learning improves cognitive skills, academic performance,  
13 opens doors to other cultures, and other lifestyle advantages. Moreover,  
14 researchers are finding many health benefits from speaking more than one  
15 language, including faster stroke recovery and delayed onset of dementia.  
16 Louisiana currently requires for all high school education curriculums, both  
17 public and private, to teach a foreign language to students. However,  
18 many studies have proven that it is nearly impossible for a student to  
19 achieve proficiency of any language similar to that of a native speaker  
20 unless they start learning a language by the age of 10. Foreign languages  
21 need to be taught from 4th to 8th grade in order for students to achieve  
22 proficiency in a language.

23  
24 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

25 All public and private schools will be required to add foreign language as a  
26 requirement to their curriculum for 4th-8th grade. This requirement will be  
27 added to the Louisiana State Regulations of Non-Public and Public Schools.  
28 All new teachers hired, starting the year of 2020, will be required to be  
29 certified in at least one foreign language. And all already hired teachers  
30 must be certified in at least one foreign language by 2030.

31 **SECTION III: FUNDING**  
32 This bill requires no funding.

33 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**  
34 Any school who does not follow the new 4th-8th grade required curriculum  
35 will receive the same fine by the state as if any other subject's  
36 requirements were to be disregarded.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
42 **HOUSE BILL 224**

43 J'nayai Winzer Community Coordinating Council  
44

45 **TITLE:** Provide Career Classes in Schools  
46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 In every local school there are juniors and seniors who are interested in  
48 going to college for the careers they choose to pursue for the future. A  
49 career is a permanent working job that requires a committed person. My  
50 bill is to provide students with experience of the career they choose while  
51 they are in high school. Two career programs that I want offered are a  
52 business program and a nursing program. The reason I chose these  
53 programs was because of the percentages derived from a survey I took at  
54 my school requesting their interest in five career choices. The interest  
55 percentage in Business was the highest at 33.1% followed by Nursing at  
56 29%. The latter three careers had the following percentages:  
57 Law/Attorney-12.3%, Engineering 16.9% and the remaining 8.7% went to  
58 Social Work. This bill will allow  
59 students to actually do a little of the work they are wanting to pursue (a  
60 practice field). It will provide more information on what  
61 is expected in their chosen career.

62 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

63 For this bill to take effect, there must be teachers willing to teach  
64 lessons about these careers. A decision must be made on scheduling and  
65 affordability. When the participants have decided that they want to join  
66 this class, they will be given a paper to take home for informing their  
67 parents. The classes will not be required.  
68 This will give the students enough time to decide what they want to do in  
69 life or if they want to change their career before enrolling in college.

70 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

71 A one-fourth percent increase in sales taxes is the amount needed to  
72 implement this bill. This will be funded by the state upon approval by the  
73 state legislature

74 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

75 There are no consequences for breaking this law because it is an  
76 opportunity (a choice) for the students who want the experience.  
77 All the school can do is offer it and if there are not enough participants  
78 then the school can shut the program down. This will result in a lack of  
79 opportunity for the chosen careers.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 225**



3 MacKenzie Harless            Mandeville High School  
4 Catherine Clark

5 **TITLE:** Decriminalize Personal Use Drug Possession & Opt-In  
6 Rehabilitation of Offenders

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Every twenty-five seconds, someone is arrested for drug possession in the  
9 United States, and, until recently, Louisiana had the highest incarceration  
10 rate of the 50 states, according to the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics.  
11 Northwestern University's Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology  
12 displayed that the current punitive prison system is ineffective in reducing  
13 crime and preventing relapse. This bill aims to decrease the number of  
14 people arrested for personal use drug possession and effectively help  
15 those addicted through rehabilitation measures. Statistics have consistently  
16 shown that participants in government rehabilitation programs are 30  
17 percent less likely to reoffend as compared to those who opt-out of the  
18 program.

19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 This bill will be implemented in two stages: the former in 2020 and the  
21 latter in 2021. Beginning in 2020, if someone is found in possession of less  
22 than or equal to a standardized "personal use quantity" of any illegal  
23 substance(s), the illegal substance(s) will be confiscated, but the offender  
24 will face no criminal charges. The personal use drug quantities are as  
25 follows: marijuana- ≤ 10 grams, methamphetamine- ≤ 1 gram, heroin-  
26 ≤ 1 gram, cocaine- ≤ 1 gram, crack cocaine- ≤ 0.5 gram. This bill will not  
27 apply to violent drug-related offenses or any adult who has been convicted  
28 of a violent crime. The police force must be trained to comply with and  
29 enforce the new laws before they take effect in 2020. Beginning in January  
30 of 2021, the fiscal portion of this bill will go into effect to provide  
31 individualized and professional rehabilitation and counseling to personal  
32 use drug offenders. If the offender chooses not to opt into the program,  
33 confiscation of the substance(s) will occur, but no other criminal charges  
34 will be filed. The second stage of the bill will continue its non-applicability  
35 to violent drug-related offenses or any adult who has been convicted of a  
36 violent crime. Individuals previously convicted for personal use drug  
37 possession shall be allowed to appeal their convictions to the two higher  
38 levels of courts to have their conviction overturned or affirmed

39 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

40 According to the Louisiana House of Representatives, Louisiana currently  
41 spends around three percent of its yearly budget on corrections. Upon  
42 implementation of this bill, 20 percent of the corrections budget will be

43 allocated to the opt-in rehabilitation program for personal use drug  
44 offenders. This amount is approximately 70 million dollars which shall be  
45 sufficient in paying for salaries, expenses, and work/treatment space for  
46 program administration. The bill is divided into two stages, allowing for a  
47 decrease in the number of personal use drug offenders in Louisiana prisons  
48 before prison funding is diminished.

49 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

50 If a law enforcement officer does not adhere to this new law, he/she will  
51 first be given a notice that he/she is in non-compliance with the law and  
52 must henceforth ameliorate this action. Following the first non-adherence  
53 offense, the offending officer will be fined up to 1,000 dollars for the  
54 second and third offenses. Any successive offense(s) will result in up to a  
55 five-day suspension without pay. This penalty section shall be administered  
56 by the State court system.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 226**

3 Zoe Robillard Lafayette High School

5 **TITLE:** TO: Help Get Rid of "Cancer Alley": The Dangers of  
 6 Waste Products Dumped in the Mississippi River

8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 The Mississippi River carries many waste products and pollution from  
 10 various states, eventually down to Louisiana, which causes health  
 11 problems for residents that live close or on the river. The term "Cancer  
 12 Alley" refers to a stretch of the Mississippi River that goes from Baton  
 13 Rouge to New Orleans. Residents have reported countless cases of cancer  
 14 throughout a small population of a rural community. According to the  
 15 Centers for Disease Control, Louisiana had the second-highest death rate  
 16 from cancer in the United States in 2002 alone. These cases are a result of  
 17 the dangerous chemical waste being dumped into the river, flowing  
 18 through many states and eventually piling up into Louisiana. This bill will  
 19 enact free cancer screenings for residents living by the Mississippi River, or  
 20 anyone with exposure to these toxic chemical waste from the river, to  
 21 ensure the safety of our Louisiana citizens from the harmful toxins that are  
 22 otherwise out of our direct control.

23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 This bill will be in effect as soon as it's passed. Any and every citizen living  
 25 in these areas along the stretch of "Cancer Alley", and anyone who has  
 26 been previously affected by diseases from the toxins in the river will  
 27 benefit from this act. The Louisiana Department of Health will make sure  
 28 everything will go smoothly and that every citizen in need of these free  
 29 cancer screenings will in fact receive one. The free screenings are effective  
 30 because the population of Cancer Alley is primarily African-American and  
 31 low-income people.

32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 The funding for these screenings will come from The Louisiana  
 34 Department of Health, as they will fit it into their budget they already  
 35 have.

36 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

37 No penalties.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 42 **HOUSE BILL 228**

43 Mary Scott Thom St. Joseph's Academy  
 44 Emma Pittenger

45 **TITLE:** Create Harder Objectives While Taking Driver's Test to  
 46 Receive License

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 In 2017, The CDC reported that 2,364 teens in the US were killed in a car  
 49 accident. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for U.S.  
 50 teens. Teen drivers aged 16-19 are nearly three times more likely than  
 51 drivers aged 20 and older to be in a fatal crash. There are many factors  
 52 that go into why there is a risk, but one leading risk is inexperience. When  
 53 teens are put in a dangerous situation while driving, they are less likely to  
 54 know how to respond compared to a 20-year-old. We created this bill so  
 55 that teens getting their license can gain more experience by having more  
 56 requirements before obtaining a license.

57 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

58 This bill will give more experience to teens before they can get a license.  
 59 The original requirements were 8 hours behind the wheel with an  
 60 instructor. This bill is putting in place 12 hours of behind the wheel driving  
 61 with an instructor. In the Louisiana OMV Handbook, there are no written  
 62 requirements for the road skills test, but the instructor could ask the driver  
 63 anything pertaining to skills. This bill asks that there be at least one  
 64 question on each of the following: yielding right of way, changing lanes,  
 65 merging into oncoming traffic, and being able to park.

66 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

67 The funding for this bill will come from the Driving Schools that give the  
 68 road skills test and driving behind the wheel required hours with an  
 69 instructor.

70 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

71 Driving schools failing to comply with these set requirements will face a  
 72 suspension of the business for a week. Each time a driving school fails to  
 73 comply, a total of one week is the suspension time for each time.





1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 227**

3 Alexandra Hulse St. Joseph's Academy

4 Mary Elizabeth Cavalier

5 **TITLE:** No Life Sentences for Juveniles

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In the United States, over 2,000 minors were convicted of crimes and  
8 sentenced to prison for life by the end of 2016. In fact, many of these  
9 minors who must serve a life sentence without parole (the ability to be  
10 temporarily or permanently set free from imprisonment) have experienced  
11 adversity such as domestic violence, physical abuse, or mental disabilities.  
12 Many states have ruled against juvenile lifetime sentences, yet Louisiana  
13 has not yet done so. As opposed to adults who commit the same crimes  
14 resulting in a lifetime sentence, adolescents have not reached full brain  
15 development, which occurs at age 25. Therefore juveniles are more prone  
16 to making irrational, impulsive decisions that take no regard of further  
17 effects of life. Juveniles have most of their lives ahead of them so if they  
18 are given a life sentence, prison will be all that they will know for the rest  
19 of their lives. They would not be given a chance to rectify these impulsive  
20 mistakes made before their brains have fully developed. A juvenile would  
21 not have a chance of a normal livelihood if he or she is sentenced to a  
22 lifetime in prison. This bill will prevent the district and state courts from  
23 giving juveniles life sentences of juvenile detention and prison.

24 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

25 In this bill, if a juvenile commits a crime before he turns 18 he should not  
26 be sentenced to a life sentence. The juvenile must have a fair trial and if  
27 the state court believes that the same crime committed by an adult would  
28 be given a life sentence, the court must refrain from doing the same for  
29 the minor. In place of lifetime sentences, the court is allowed to give the  
30 juvenile criminal time in juvenile detention until he turns eighteen. Then he  
31 may spend an allotted number of years (depending on the degree of the  
32 offense) incarcerated in prison, but no more than thirty-five. If the former  
33 juvenile spent time in regular prison and has now been set free, he must  
34 complete a series of monitored weekly service to the community and be  
35 held on probation for a determined number of years. This way the people  
36 are safe and the criminals slowly learn their lessons and grow past their  
37 impulsive young decisions. Also, the state would require that the criminals  
38 visit a mental health instructor every step of the conviction, imprisonment,  
39 and probation.

40 Instead of giving these juveniles a lifetime prison sentence, the courts will  
41 require for mental hospitals to check on these criminals on a biweekly  
42 basis (twice a week) after their juvenile detention/prison sentence is over.

43 Also, the former juvenile criminals will be placed on probation by the state  
44 governments after they finish their juvenile detention and prison sentence.  
45 This bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2020.

46 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

47 The means to finance this bill will be gathered through the reallocation of  
48 state money given to mental health clinics and hospitals. Depending upon  
49 how many juveniles or people who were juveniles when they committed a  
50 crime there are under this system each year, mental hospitals and clinics  
51 will set aside a percentage of funding needed for the criminals' therapy.

52 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

53 There will be no penalties for this bill.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 229**

3 Margaux Mayeux St. Joseph's Academy

4 Abigail Dupressis

5 **TITLE:** Man's Best Friend or Test Subject

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 One animal dies in a laboratory in the U.S. every second. Every year  
 8 approximately 500,000 animals are used in cosmetics safety testing  
 9 throughout the world. In the U.S. every year 70,000 dogs are used in  
 10 laboratory experiments and more than 95 percent of those dogs are  
 11 Beagles. Even the United States Food and Drug Administration has said  
 12 that ninety-two percent of all drugs shown to be safe and effective in  
 13 animal tests fail in human trials because the drugs don't work or are  
 14 dangerous. In animal clone attempts, in the name of science, more than  
 15 95 percent of attempts to clone animals resulted in death, deformities or  
 16 severe health problems. In conclusion, animal testing is not effective, can  
 17 cause harm to people that use animal tested products, and more than  
 18 often results in the death of an animal. Together as citizens of Louisiana  
 19 we need to take a stand against this horrible abuse.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 This bill will ban all animal testing, which is any scientific experiment or  
 22 test in which a live animal is forced to undergo something that is likely to  
 23 cause them pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm, on dogs, cats,  
 24 primates, and farm animals in the State of Louisiana. This bill will go into  
 25 effect on January 1, 2020.

26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 This bill requires no financing.

28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 Any corporation in the State Louisiana caught using these animals as test  
 30 subjects will be tried for animal cruelty with a six month in a state prison  
 31 and a 5,000-25,000 dollar fine depending on the severity of their crime.

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39 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 40 **HOUSE BILL 230**

41 Mary Basco Lee Magnet High

42 **TITLE:** Whether or not to have school uniforms

43 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

44 When you have to wear a suit to a job then you have never worn before,  
 45 or new basketball shoes- any type of shoes really- that have yet to be  
 46 broken in, you won't perform your best. This is the same with uniforms.  
 47 When you are forced to go to this building and wear itchy clothes that  
 48 make you feel as if you are the same as everyone else you just want to  
 49 wear your own clothes. By cutting out uniforms students are able to be  
 50 more comfortable in the classroom letting them, be more productive  
 51 because they don't have to worry about what they are wearing. When  
 52 students are given a choice in what they wear, they are more comfortable  
 53 because they chose those clothes instead of being told that they have to  
 54 wear them.

55 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

56 In order for this to work, we will have to cut all uniforms in the state of  
 57 Louisiana. This will make all students more comfortable and able to do  
 58 there best work while at school and at home. The students will be able to  
 59 express themselves through there look. The other option is to make the  
 60 entire state to have uniforms. This will make the students be comfortable  
 61 and able to reuse the same uniform even if they move from one parish to  
 62 another. If the latter option is to be chosen then, the top and bottom of  
 63 the uniform have to be the same across the states. Schools can make tops,  
 64 spirit shirts, or sweatshirts that are specific to school not mandatory.

65 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

66 The only cost would be the families getting new uniforms. After they are to  
 67 buy these new uniforms, they do not have to buy new uniforms unless  
 68 your student grows. Even if we did not do uniforms your student will still  
 69 grow and you will have to buy them some new clothes. If you were to  
 70 outlaw uniforms, it would cost nothing.

71 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

72 The penalty for changing the uniform is that the administration can not  
 73 hold the child or their family responsible for getting a new uniform.

74



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 231**

3 Joel Hobbs                      Neville

4  
5 **TITLE:** An Act To: require eye exams for license renewal after  
6 age 75.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**  
8 This bill is designed to decrease the amount of fatal car accidents involving  
9 people over the age of 75, by ensuring that their vision is unimpaired. At  
10 the age of 75 the fatality rate of car accidents begins rising rapidly, from  
11 1.16% to over 3.85% at ages 80 to 85.

12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**  
13 Advertising of this bill shall begin January 1, 2020, and it shall take effect  
14 January 1, 2021.

15 **SECTION III: FUNDING**  
16 Awareness advertising will cost \$20,000. \$10,000 and will be used for  
17 billboards posted in the 38 parish seats, which are estimated to cost \$250  
18 individually leaving \$500 for unexpected fees. The other \$10,000 will be  
19 used to put small posters in each DMV, to provide nearby reminders while  
20 visiting.

21 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**  
22 Any driver refusing the exam will be denied renewal until proof of  
23 examination is received.

2 **HOUSE BILL 232**

3 Shakilyer Atkins Neville High School

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5 **TITLE:** TO: Mandate that all schools/school campuses have  
6 its own individual Nurse present.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 By having nurses on every campus, this would improve the environment  
9 for the children;present, teenagers mental and physical health issues  
10 sharing one or even two nurses for every four/five schools, can cause  
11 problems within the community. What if a child/teenager were to have a  
12 panic attack miles away from the school the nurse is currently placed?  
13 Forcing the school to spend unnecessary funds. According to the Louisiana  
14 hand book there are 57,344 licensed nurse in the state of Louisiana. Only  
15 62 nurses in parish schools. Texas is also dealing with this problem , only  
16 have a percentage of 37% of school nurses throughout the state.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 We need to think more about our children/teenagers health. Sharing  
19 nurse a with other public schools would cause chaos if the nurse has more  
20 than one emergency to attend to. For example, what if a children in  
21 different schools both have an allergic reaction the nurse can't go to both  
22 schools at the same time. By allowing the department of labor health  
23 education and welfare to check up on schools, every 6 months with  
24 random check ups it will insure that nurses are provided. This will begin in  
25 the beginning of 2020 October 1 the fiscal year.

26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 The amount of money we would need is the cost for nurse expenses. We  
28 would also need money for nursing equipment. That should rage to about  
29 30,000 a year. The nurses would get paid under the staffing budget of the  
30 school.

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 SECTION IV (Penalties)If this law is broken or is not followed through, It  
33 can lead to a fine. Because of the safety of the children and teenagers.  
34 Failing to go through with this law is an act of child endangerment. The  
35 fine will go to the money for the nurses equipment like the medicine and  
36 books. The fine will be 1,000\$.

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42 **HOUSE BILL 233**

43 Per'Kayla Woods Neville High school

44 **TITLE:** An act to: Mandate street lights be in rural areas in  
45 Louisiana

46 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

47 In Louisiana, 77% percent of our land is rural. It is important that we  
48 provide street lamps for the roads that run-off of these landforms, so we  
49 could reduce car accidents on dark roads and lower our death rate.  
50 According to the State of Louisiana's DMV manual, 75% of highway miles  
51 are located in rural areas.

52 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

53 Louisiana will need to install 50% more light post. The lightpost should  
54 be 25 to 50 meters apart .This bill should be fully implemented by January  
55 1, 2021.

56 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

57 The funding for the bill will come from the Department of Transportaion  
58 and Development, including the remaining money that is in the Louisiana  
59 budget.

60 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

61 No Penalty

62



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 2 **HOUSE BILL 234**

3 Lauren Gaines Dutchtown High School  
 4 Morgan Bellanger

5 **TITLE: Year-Round Schooling**

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The traditional school year was first implemented when America was an  
 8 agricultural society. This was due to the fact that children needed to work  
 9 the farms during the summer and contribute to their family. However, in  
 10 contemporary society, this structure is not needed. Currently, Louisiana is  
 11 ranked 50th in the country for education according to the U.S. News &  
 12 World Report. Implementing year-round schooling in Louisiana aids in  
 13 helping disadvantaged kids, providing a more structured environment, and  
 14 raises test scores.

15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

- 16 -Create a new track program for teachers and students involving grades
- 17 -Determine staff scheduling
- 18 -Modify payroll periods for staff
- 19 -Reschedule special events such as holiday programs
- 20 -Reschedule breaks for students
- 21 -Modify student testing programs
- 22 -A system to deliver electives must be developed
- 23 -AP and Dual Enrollment class schedules will be taken into account with
- 24 scheduling

25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 There will be transition costs when switching systems such as  
 27 administrative planning staff development, and communication.

28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 No penalties are required.  
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42 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
 43 **HOUSE BILL 235**

44 Nile Batiste Southern University Laboratory School  
 45 Troy Murphy

46 **TITLE: Fine Automobiles on Carbon Emissions**

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 The US is responsible for 14.3% of carbon emissions of the world. There  
 49 are many negative consequences due to the emissions released in the  
 50 atmosphere, and of them all, global warming is the most devastating. It is  
 51 a comprehensive problem that damages our planet. Some effects of global  
 52 warming include Sea levels rising to a dangerous level, the increase of air  
 53 pollution, higher numbers of wildlife extinction and increase in death rates  
 54 including ocean acidification, just to name a few. Louisiana provides 4.1%  
 55 of carbon emissions in the US, and is ranked 5th in the US . If the state of  
 56 Louisiana makes a law of regulations on carbon emissions, the percentage  
 57 could decrease thus reducing global warming issues.s. If a vehicle  
 58 produces a dangerous amount of carbon emissions, the owner should be  
 59 fined, and the inspection sticker should be revoked until the owner rectifies  
 60 the issue. . We'll detect this by having radars on the side of main roads in  
 61 every city that will ll measure how much carbon emissions are released  
 62 into the atmosphere. If the owner does not agree to maintain his/her car,  
 63 or abide by the emissions law, it can result in the driver being  
 64 incarcerated.

65 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

66 This bill will be enacted on October 21,2019. The Louisiana Department of  
 67 Environmental Equality agrees with the rules and regulations of this bill.  
 68 These regulations will help lower our rank in carbon emissions and reduce  
 69 the amount of harmful chemicals in the environment that contribute to  
 70 global warming. Vehicles with high carbon emissions will not be tolerated  
 71 and must obey the law. Failure to comply will result in fines, and the  
 72 inspection sticker will be revoked until the owner corrects the problem.

73 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

74 Funding, will be budgeted through the Louisiana Department of  
 75 Environmental Quality, with a revenue stream resulting from fines. The  
 76 funding will approximately cost about \$5,000 for this project.

77 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

78 Continuous disregardment will lead to the offender's license being  
 79 suspended and/or revoked.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
2 **HOUSE BILL 236**

3 Koran Duncan Southern University Lab School  
4 Asher Smith

5 **TITLE:** Mandatory Sidewalk Use for Bicyclists to Ensure the  
6 Safety of All

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 This bill strives to improve the safety of all bicyclists by requiring them to  
9 use the sidewalk if they are present and available. On record, according to  
10 "bikebr.org" there have been approximately 93+ average bicyclist deaths  
11 in Louisiana since 2016. This ranking puts Louisiana as the 3rd most  
12 dangerous state in bicyclists deaths nationwide. We are proposing this bill  
13 because it is believed that it will dramatically decrease bicyclist and vehicle  
14 interactions which would prevent accidents and secure safety for all.

15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 In order for the bill to take effect it would be presented to the floor of  
17 congress, then once approved the public must notified in a week's time.  
18 Over the week, the notice will be sent in the mail, in newspapers, and on  
19 important websites. The billboards will announce it, broadcasting it to the  
20 general public.

21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 The advertising budget for this bill will be set at approximately \$16,500  
23 and the money for this will come from federal given grant whilst proposing  
24 a temporary higher tax on tax titles.

25 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

26 Consequences for breaking this law would consist of the "three strike rule".  
27 The first strike is being stopped by an officer and either warned or fined  
28 \$50. The second strike is a \$75 fine and then pay local court costs. The  
29 third strike would be considered a serious offense, and they would be  
30 sentenced to thirty days minimum in jail.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
42 **HOUSE BILL 237**

43 Oakley Lewis Southern University Lab School  
44 Herman Brister III

45 **TITLE:** Requiring public schools to institute a School Resource  
46 Officer in staffing allotment

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 America's new epidemic is school shootings. As of September 1(244th day  
49 of the year), there have been 283 mass shootings in the U.S., according to  
50 data from the nonprofit Gun Violence Archive (GVA), which tracks every  
51 mass shooting in the country. In 2018, 24 school shootings were reported  
52 in Louisiana. 114 people have lost their lives under the age of 18 due to  
53 gun violence within schools. This bill can prevent school shootings and  
54 make school zones safer. School shootings happen every day, and we  
55 have no way of stopping this epidemic. Adding police officers within school  
56 zones could prevent school shootings throughout the state. School  
57 Resource Officers (SRO) could decrease teenage violence within  
58 communities and increase communication between officers and students,  
59 thus promoting positive relationships between police officers and citizens.

60 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

61 School Resource Officers (SRO's) will be implemented within the normal  
62 staffing allotment as deemed necessary by the Louisiana State Department  
63 of Education (LDOE). This will force each Louisiana Education Agency  
64 (LEA) to implement SRO's in their yearly teacher allotment.

65 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

66 Funding comes from Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) facilitated  
67 through Louisiana State Department of Education. According to  
68 Louisianabelieves.com, Louisiana annually adopts a formula to equitably  
69 allocate funding for education to school districts. Funding through this  
70 program is provided to school districts as a block grant. After satisfying all  
71 mandated requirements, school districts have the flexibility to spend the  
72 funding to meet the needs of their schools and students.

73 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

74 The penalty for not enforcing this bill in public schools will result in a  
75 reduction in state funding. Penalties for the student are Automatic  
76 expulsion and they will be charged for an illegal firearm. If they are 17 or  
77 older, they can be tried as an adult and will be in custody immediately.

2 **HOUSE BILL 238**

3 Faith Thompson C.E. Byrd

4 **TITLE:** Revoke bail and guns of domestic violence criminals.

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 Louisiana is second highest in the nation for a female to die at the hands  
7 of an intimate partner. A study of intimate partner homicides found that  
8 20% of victims were not the intimate partners themselves, but family  
9 members, friends, neighbors, persons who intervened, law enforcement  
10 officers, or bystanders. 72% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate  
11 partner; 94% of the victims of the murder suicides are female. 1 in 15  
12 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year and 90% of  
13 them give eyewitness accounts. When a gun is present in a domestic  
14 violence situation, it increases the chance of murder suicide by 500%.  
15 With our current law it is legal for someone with a misdemeanor of stalking  
16 or crimes revolving around domestic violence to continue to own a gun.  
17 Victims of intimate partner violence lose a total of 8,000,000 million days  
18 of paid work each year, the equivalent of 32,000 full time jobs costing the  
19 American economy between 5.8 billion and 12.6 billion dollars annually.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 In Louisiana's 64 Parishes, there are only 13 programs that offer some  
22 form of protection. This bill proposes that if an individual has a restraining  
23 order from a former partner or has threatened the safety of that individual,  
24 their guns can and will be confiscated. They can possibly face jail time with  
25 no bail in order to prevent the rise in numbers of homicides by an intimate  
26 partner each year. The current law has too many limitations pertaining to  
27 the relationship in order for firearms to be taken. Jail time will be enforced  
28 without bail for the better protection of females in Louisiana, as well as the  
29 confiscation of guns if owned.

30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 To finance this law it will take new taxes to be made and possibly budget  
32 cuts from other well funded areas in Louisiana. Also raising the cost of  
33 fines of any kind by at least 5%. To fund this bill it would take well over 12  
34 billion dollars.

35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 The consequences for breaking this law will remain constitutional but will  
37 be swiftly and diligently executed if this law is passed. Jail time will be  
38 enforced without bail for the better protection of females in Louisiana, as  
39 well as the confiscation of guns if owned.

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41

43 **HOUSE BILL 239**

44 Ebony Morgan Neville High School

45

46 **TITLE:** AN ACT TO: provide free hygiene products for women  
47 in jail.

48 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

49 In many Louisiana prisons, women are not allowed free hygiene products.  
50 I am proposing that women that are incarcerated receive the sanitary  
51 items needed during their menstrual cycles free of charge. There are 2,067  
52 women incarcerated in Louisiana, 1,858 of those women experience  
53 menstrual cycles. Incarcerated women in Louisiana receive as few as 10  
54 pads per month. This new bill will provide at least 25 pads a month. Prices  
55 vary from different prisons but in most commissaries, a small pack of pads  
56 costs 8 dollars. The women who can not afford these prices suffer from  
57 health issues and embarrassment.

58

59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 If accepted, this act will take place on March 1st, 2020. On said date,  
61 wardens will begin distributing 25 pads per month to female prisoners.

62

63 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

64 To fund the bill, money will come from the profit that the prison makes  
65 from phone calls, other commissary purchases and etc.

66

67 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

68 If a warden fails to abide by this new law, they will be placed on probation  
69 for 3 to 5 weeks upon the first infraction. A failure to provide these free  
70 hygiene products after the first infraction will result in termination of  
71 employment.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

2 **HOUSE BILL 240**

3 Tangie Gregory Neville High School

4 **TITLE:** An Act To: Have more gender neutral activities in  
5 community recreational centers.

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 What is a Gender Neutral activity( GNA)?According to an article on  
8 living.thebump.com written by Aline Lindemann, a former social worker  
9 and preschool teacher GNA activities include: imaginative play, making  
10 art, and vast number of physical activities. This bill addresses both genders  
11 and their hobbies. Rec. centers were placed around the United States to  
12 get children and teenagers off of the streets and play safely in the  
13 community. However in rec centers, sports that cater to males such as  
14 Boys’ Basketball, is mostly offered compared to any other activity.  
15 Comparing that to the fact that by the age of six 60% of boys are already  
16 on a community center Basketball team versus the 47%of girls (ESPN  
17 Hidden Demographics). Author of the article “ Why aren’t women playing  
18 sport” Marie Murphy, a professor at Sport and Exercise science Research  
19 Institute explains that Only 25 percent of adult women participate in sport  
20 compared to 43 percent of adult men.

21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 What needs to happen to take this bill in effect is first for awareness to be  
23 spread about the gender gap in Rec Centers. How: Social Media,  
24 Awareness walks, posters and or T-Shirts and we can pay for the Shirts  
25 and posters by having fundraisers and community donations. Once the  
26 idea is spread people will band together and improve their community.  
27 Second To ensure the bill is being applied appropriately is to have had the  
28 mayor of each city enforce this law, and have random check-ups to ensure  
29 it is implied for the communities’ benefit. Defining appropriately as  
30 comparing the old standard or the way things are now to the new activities  
31 they will be offered. Third minors and adults of all ages will sign up to  
32 participate. (It is up to the Rec. Center if they will charge and how much.  
33 Why: some centers are lowly funded and can not go without charging  
34 while others can)

35 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

36 Rec centers are already financed by the city government and the  
37 taxpayers. The funding does not have to increase just redirected and  
38 redistributed. The Recreational Center Administration of Monroe Louisiana  
39 gives prices of rental spaces in the centers on their website Monroe, La. US  
40 extra finances come from rentals of their building \$25 on Mondays \$35 on  
41 Saturdays \$75 for clean up.

42 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

43 There will be no penalties for not following through with this Act.



44 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**

45 **HOUSE BILL 241**

46 Ethan Jupiter Southern University Lab School

47 Demitra Hawkins

48 **TITLE:** Requiring public facilities to have a certain amount of  
49 waste disposals per square feet

50 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

51 Pollution occurs when the environment is contaminated by waste,  
52 chemicals, and other harmful substances. According to U.S. News, the  
53 number of Americans who die from air pollution is equal to the number of  
54 people who die in car accidents. This is a growing problem across the  
55 nation. Pollution in Louisiana is a major issue. It is a major issue not only  
56 for humans but animals as well. Some major health effects caused by  
57 pollution include heart disease, lung cancer, and respiratory diseases such  
58 as emphysema, in addition to possibly causing damage to people's nerves,  
59 brain, kidneys, liver, and other organs. Scientists even connect birth  
60 defects to pollution. Recently, a report from the American Lung  
61 Association highlighted that more than 4 in 10 Americans are living with  
62 unhealthy air. We plan to lower the amount of pollution in Louisiana by  
63 requiring Public facilities to have a certain amount of waste disposal per  
64 square feet thus, reducing the amount of pollution produced. As a result,  
65 there will be less waste to control, treat, or dispose of

66 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

67 Public facilities will be required to have a certain amount of waste per  
68 square feet they can dispose of. Waste will be measured daily by the  
69 sanitation engineer. Anything over the maximum number will have to be  
70 fined. Failure to pay the fine could result in jail time

71 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

72 The bill does not require additional funding. The Environmental Protection  
73 Agency (EPA) will assist with all additional funding.

74 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

75 Facilities who refuse to follow this act will be fined and/or public funding  
76 will be deducted.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
2 **HOUSE BILL 242**

3 Ann Walker Southern University Laboratory School  
4 Alajah Robins

5 **TITLE:** Institute fines for blighted properties that effects poor  
6 drainage.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 During the Louisiana flood of 2016, an estimated \$10-\$15 billion dollars in  
9 damages were assessed. The goal of this bill is to improve the drainage  
10 system in Louisiana. Improving the drainage system will decrease the  
11 amount of damages during hard rains and/or hurricane season. The  
12 Department of Public Works will conduct routine checks to inspect the  
13 conditions of drainage systems. Louisiana citizens must maintain their  
14 properties to prevent blight and overgrown vegetation. Vegetation in high  
15 elevation areas will be required to stay in their original area and  
16 maintained for a safe standard. Also in the coming of any natural disaster  
17 dead trees will have to be cut down because of uprooting.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 In order for this bill to take effect, the State of Louisiana will survey  
20 drainage problems and issues. Citizens with blighted properties as well as  
21 contribute to poor drainage will be fined.

22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23 The state will utilize the revenue stream resulting from funds accrued from  
24 fines and citations. This will cover the cost of damages, construction, and  
25 reconstruction of drainage systems

26 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

27 If passed, the consequences for breaking this law will be a fine up to  
28 however much the damages caused for. Other consequences may include  
29 jail time, probation, or eviction from one's home if the problem persists.

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41 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**   
42 **HOUSE BILL 243**

43 Kennedy Benford Southern University Lab School  
44 Alex Bell

45 **TITLE:** Students enrolled in a public school can only take a  
46 maximum of two tests/exams in a school day.

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 "Test Rest" is a law created to make certain that students enrolled in  
49 school have no more than two tests per day. In the state of Louisiana,  
50 each school has at least four class periods in attendance per day on a 90  
51 minute block. The brain can only memorize so many things at once. Each  
52 hour that passes, a total of 300 words are lost. According to the council of  
53 great city schools, A study conducted in 2014-2015 showed that the  
54 average student takes eight standardized tests and three formative test  
55 per year. Extra curricular activities take up approximately 2 hours of after  
56 school time only giving students a total of 4 hours to study. As a result of  
57 studying for more than two tests per day, stress is created. Stress is killing  
58 110 million people a year and 100,000 people per year in Louisiana.

59 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

60 In order for this bill to take place, each Louisiana public school must  
61 establish a committee to monitor the amount of test assigned to students.  
62 The staff must sign an agreement and contract stating that they will not  
63 give a test if students have two already. To ensure that other teachers  
64 lesson plan isn't affected, each teacher must submit lesson plans at the  
65 beginning of the month and have a meeting to layout when to test their  
66 students.

67 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

68 No funding will be needed for this bill. The school will not have to spend  
69 any money in order to reduce the amount of test we take in a day.

70 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

71 If this law is broken, the third test given will be voided and scheduled for  
72 another day.

2 **HOUSE BILL 244**

3 Aaliyah Daniels Livingston/ Lusher High School

4 Alyssa Thomas

5 **TITLE:** Rehabilitation

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The bill that I am writing about is that I want to rehabilitate people that  
8 are doing all the crime. It's a good way to change people's lives and make  
9 them stop the crime. Also, the people who are being rehabilitated would  
10 think about their actions and they would try to change the wrong they did.  
11 Rehabilitating people would make the crime rate go down because people  
12 would change their actions and try to fix what they did.

13 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

14 The act is going to change people's lives because people won't go to jail as  
15 much they would go to rehab places to get their minds right and help them  
16 understand it's not good hurting other people. People who did the crime  
17 would be involved.

18

19 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

20 The act is going to be funded by taxing the state. The state is going to  
21 enforce the act. The government that will oversee the bill and its duties  
22 are law enforcement.

23

24 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

25 If anyone is in non-compliance with the act they should be thrown in jail  
26 for 3 years without getting probation or parole. They should serve 3 years  
27 full out.

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39 **HOUSE BILL 245**

40 Andrew Meche Baton Rouge Magnet High School

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42 **TITLE:** To Implement a Mandatory Semester Class of  
43 Financial Preparedness for Louisiana High School Students

44 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

45 Many young people in Louisiana today face an issue, and that issue is  
46 lacking financial preparedness. From filing taxes to making budgets for the  
47 week, our educational system has failed in preparing students for the  
48 inevitable parts that take up a large amount of their lives. This is why the  
49 state of Louisiana ought to lay out a mandatory course of financial  
50 preparedness for Louisiana students. This will require all students of  
51 Louisiana high schools to take one semester of a financial preparedness  
52 class that will teach students how to file taxes, how to make budgets, and  
53 more. The exact fundamental principles that are taught in this course will  
54 be determined by a group of educators and accountants chosen by the  
55 state legislature no later than 3 weeks after the passage of this bill.

56 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

57 This bill upon passage shall take effect as soon as implemented into  
58 school, with the maximum implementation time being 2 years as set out in  
59 section 4. Schools shall be able to fit the instruction into their class  
60 selection however they see fit and paid for by appropriations set out in  
61 section 3, as long as it fits the parameters set out by this bill.

62 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

63 In order to fund this, a 1.2% raise in taxes on both alcohol and cigarettes  
64 will be added to already existing taxes, as well as appropriations from the  
65 existing education budget.

66 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

67 Any school that receives state funding and does not follow through with  
68 the implementation of this bill within 2 years of this bill's passage will see a  
69 reduction of funding of 5% of their education until they comply.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 246**

3 Victoria Walker Dutchtown High School  
4 Riley Creel

5 **TITLE:** Pay Raise for Louisiana Teachers

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana teachers are the 12th lowest paid in the nation. Louisiana  
8 teachers get paid on average \$55,177. Teachers do so much more for  
9 students than we think. At times, they can act as parents, therapist, or a  
10 friend. They deserve more compensation than they receive

11 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

12 Aug-20

13 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

14 5% allocation from parish property taxes

15 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

16 If the parish/county does not approve the pay raises, the school board  
17 annual budget will be reduced by the following schedule: 1st occasion 5%  
18 2nd occasion 10% 3rd occasion 15%

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36 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
37 **HOUSE BILL 247**

38 Carsyn Fileccia Captain Shreve High School  
39

40 **TITLE:** Raising The Standard Of Louisiana Education

41 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

42 This bill is important to Louisiana because it will raise our ranking in  
43 education, which is currently 50th in the nation. My bill will create happier  
44 teachers and more successful students. This is an important topic because  
45 the future of Louisiana depends upon it. We cannot expect our ranking in  
46 education to rise if we don't propose a bill that addresses the issue. What  
47 is more important than quality education? Without teachers, there would  
48 be no doctors, engineers, etc. I believe raising teachers' salaries in  
49 Louisiana may attract people who are better educated and more  
50 experienced to apply for a teaching job. Also, this could influence current  
51 teachers to be more motivated. Presently, the average salary for Louisiana  
52 teachers is about \$50,000. That amount of money is a reasonable salary,  
53 however, after paying taxes and healthcare insurance a teacher's salary is  
54 almost the equivalent of making \$36,000 a year.

55 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

56 Beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, teachers' salaries will be raised.

57 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

58 In order to fund this bill, I propose we raise sales tax by 2%. By raising  
59 sales tax, it impacts everybody equally. This is a fair and unbiased way to  
60 pay for my bill.

61 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

62 Any school does not comply with this bill will be fined \$100,000.

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1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 249**

3 Jayanna Bridges College Track

4 **TITLE:** Revised Curfew for teenagers in Louisiana

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 The purposed bill can manage the Louisiana teen curfew for most teens. I  
7 think this bill should be passed because many teens don't need it. Most  
8 teens know how to govern themselves accordingly when out in the public.  
9 My bill is to manage curfew for certain teens. Those who can behave  
10 themselves should have NO curfew and those who cant should have a  
11 curfew for teens 13-16 and a half(6 months till 17).

12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 My bill doesn't want the curfew to be lifted, but to be monitored and  
14 earned. I suggest that if kids want a curfew they should have a  
15 background check, including report cards, school records, and a criminal  
16 records if that teen has any. This will need to be done every 3-6 months.  
17 Also, teens should take a survey about their character and the way they  
18 behave in the summer. This can take place at places like the DMV. I would  
19 consider that on Louisiana state id's it shows if u can be out past curfew.  
20 This can also teach minors responsibility about keeping their IDs with them  
21 and if they are not allowed out past curfew, that can start to behave  
22 themselves to earn it for the next survey.

23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 The government can pay for the surveys to be made but can also get the  
25 moneyback. Minors should pay to take the survey and also pay for the new  
26 IDs that they want to receive, that will show rather or not we can stay out  
27 past curfew simply with a red or green stamp made officially by our state  
28 government

29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 If teens don't follow these rules, the penalty shouldn't be harsh on teens,  
31 but the same as it is now. To be taken home by an official officer. After the  
32 third time is taken to a juvenile detention center or the curfew taken away  
33 for a year. All documents should be signed out by a parent or guardian.

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42 **HOUSE BILL 250**

43 Kaylen Davis Archbishop Hannan High School

44 Nicholas Gonzales

45 **TITLE:** Implement Comprehensive Sex Education in All  
46 Louisiana Public Schools

47 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

48 Of the fifty states, only twenty-four states require sex education in schools,  
49 Louisiana not being among those states. Louisiana has the fourth-highest  
50 teen pregnancy, and one of the highest STD rates in the US, with the  
51 nation's second-highest chlamydia rate, third-highest congenital syphilis  
52 rate, fifth highest gonorrhea rate, and the seventh-highest primary and  
53 secondary syphilis rate. Along with the fact that nearly 10,000 abortions  
54 were performed in Louisiana in 2016, it is clear that these numbers need  
55 to be brought down. However, instead of properly educating young  
56 people, schools are sending them into the world uneducated and  
57 unprepared for the challenges that come with sex. With proper sex  
58 education in schools, students become informed of the realities and  
59 difficulties of sex. Properly implemented sex education will lower the rate  
60 of STDs and unwanted pregnancies in Louisiana and raise a more informed  
61 generation.

62 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

63 For this bill to take effect, a sex education curriculum needs to be set and  
64 implemented in all Louisiana public schools. The government would pay a  
65 doctor, professor, or someone who is considered an expert in the field to  
66 create a curriculum for the state to follow. This ensures the curriculum will  
67 be accurate and informative as well as providing a platform for students to  
68 be more open and inquisitive in a situation they otherwise could not be.  
69 Having the same course throughout the state also ensures that every child  
70 in the state is receiving the right information to equip them with the  
71 knowledge they need to make informed decisions about sex.

72 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

73 In order for this program to get started, Louisiana would need to finance  
74 the program. The average cost for a school-based sex education  
75 curriculum is roughly \$200. To implement a sex education curriculum in all  
76 public schools, it would cost roughly \$260,600. This may seem like a lot,  
77 but in reality, it is only a small price to pay to keep the teens of our state  
78 safe. With the Louisiana state Legislature budgeting \$3.7 billion for the  
79 state's main pot for public school money, only 7% of our budget would be  
80 spent on this new sex education curriculum.

81 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

82 Schools that fail to implement the comprehensive sex education course will  
83 be fined \$50 per student at the end of every school year until they  
84 implement the course.



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2019**  
2 **HOUSE BILL 251**

3 Jamie Davis            Lee Magnet High School  
4 Victoria Stewart

5 **TITLE:** Require all teachers in the United States to be certified  
6 in CPR and first aid.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 There are approximately 74.2 million children who are under the age of 18  
9 and of that number there are about 56.6 million who are in elementary,  
10 middle, and high school. The average child who is of age to be enrolled in  
11 school spends about 28% of their day enrolled in school. In the United  
12 States, among children injuries are the leading cause of death. On  
13 estimate, about 10-25% of injuries happen to children while they are at  
14 school. Some of these injuries can include sudden cardiac arrest, a diabetic  
15 crisis, and seizures. Currently there are 18 states where CPR is mandatory  
16 for all teachers. Some of these states include Alabama, California, Iowa,  
17 Maryland, etc. This bill is for all teachers across the United States to be  
18 certified in CPR and First Aid because in school, you never know when an  
19 emergency can happen and that child may not have enough time to wait  
20 on an ambulance.

21  
22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 Adding CPR and First Aid certification to the teaching curriculum will  
24 become a requirement for all who are aiming for their teaching certificate  
25 and become a teacher.

26  
27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 This bill will not require any funding.

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30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 There would not be any penalties such as incarceration or fines, but not  
32 earning a First Aid and CPR certification will hinder those who aim for their  
33 teacher certificate.

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# Supreme Court Challenge Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Chamber: \_\_\_\_\_ Bill/Law to Challenge: \_\_\_\_\_

Bill/Law Preamble:

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Statement of Challenge:

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_









# YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE Technical Amendment Form

Bill Number/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Sponsor/Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Line Affected: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Text:

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Accepted: Yes No

Designation: Friendly Hostile

Considered: Yes No

Vote: Passed Failed Tabled

Clerk: X \_\_\_\_\_



# YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE Technical Amendment Form

Bill Number/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Sponsor/Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Line Affected: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Text:

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Accepted: Yes No

Designation: Friendly Hostile

Considered: Yes No

Vote: Passed Failed Tabled

Clerk: X \_\_\_\_\_



# YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE Amendment Form

Bill Number/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Chamber: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Sponsor/Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Line Affected: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Text:

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Accepted: Yes No

Designation: Friendly Hostile

Considered: Yes No

Vote: Passed Failed Tabled

Clerk: X \_\_\_\_\_



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Bill Number/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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Amendment Sponsor/Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Line Affected: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Text:

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Accepted: Yes No

Designation: Friendly Hostile

Considered: Yes No

Vote: Passed Failed Tabled

Clerk: X \_\_\_\_\_





# YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE Amendment Form

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Accepted: Yes No

Designation: Friendly Hostile

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Accepted: Yes No

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