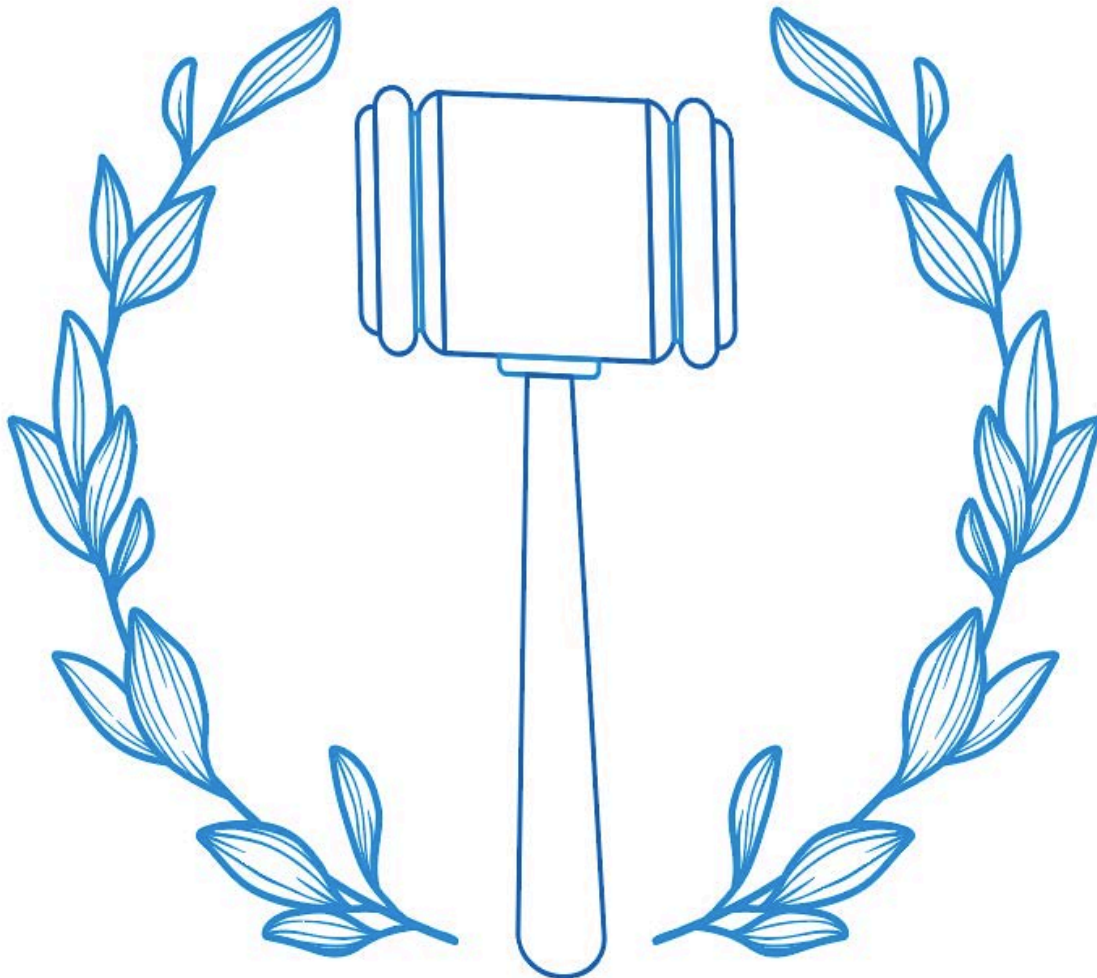




FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

2023 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE



YMCA OF THE CAPITAL AREA



62nd LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE CONFERENCE December 7-9, 2023

"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



62nd YOUTH LEGISLATURE STATE OFFICERS

Governor	Alissa Julien	Haynes Academy
Secretary of State	Kate Shaw	C.E. Byrd
Supreme Court Chief Justice	Paul Pittman	Woodlawn
President of the Senate	Kearra Grisby	St. Joseph's Academy
President pro tempore	Emma Bonney	St. Joseph's Academy
Senate Floor Leader	Sela Alwood	Parkview
Senate Floor Leader	Brennan Coco	Catholic
Speaker of the House	Hannah Champagne	St. Joseph's Academy
Speaker pro tempore	Riley Posey	Episcopal BR
Speaker pro tempore	Riley Gulino	Haynes Academy
House Floor Leader	Miniya Malone	Episcopal BR
House Floor Leader	John Luke Boagni	Episcopal BR
House Floor Leader	Shelby Irwin	Haynes Academy

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, vaping devices, 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. Students are responsible for demonstrating respect for themselves and others through their use of appropriate language, avoiding profanity; racial and ethnic slurs; or any otherwise denigration of others through other verbal and nonverbal language or communication. Harassing, intimidating or bullying others will not be tolerated.
18. 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 (3 or 4) 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.

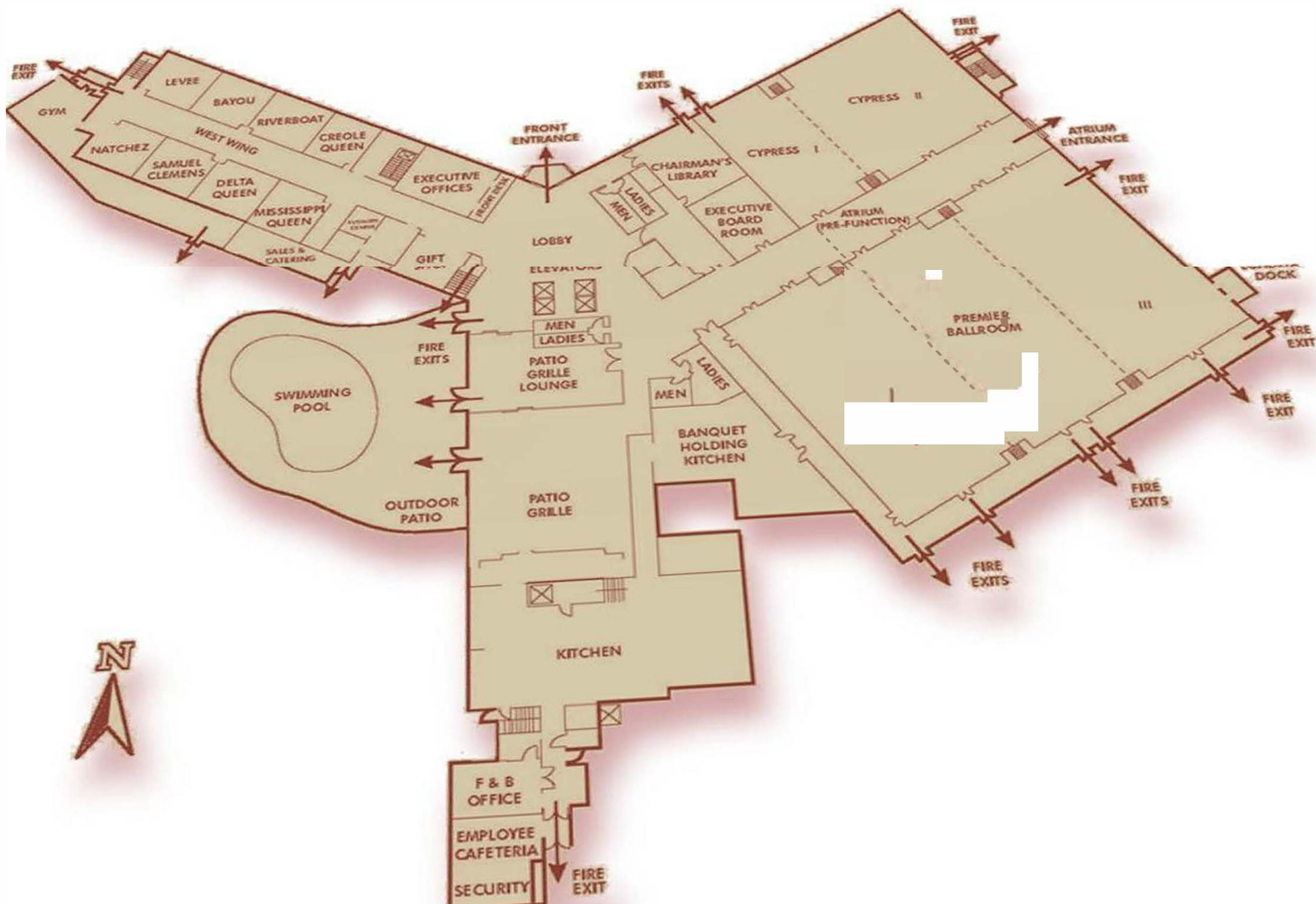
I have read, reviewed with my advisor and understand the Code of Conduct required to attend Youth & Government activities.

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/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Student Signature _____ Date: _____



YOUTH LEG RESOURCES



Thursday, December 7th					
		Candidates	House	Senate	Supreme Court
3:00 - 4:30	Registration	Lobby outside Executive Boardroom			
5:15 - 6:00	Opening Session	Premier 1			
6:00-10:00	Committees	Meet on Landing After Opening	Assigned Committee Rooms*	Assigned Committee Rooms*	Riverboat
10:00 - 10:30	Gubernatorial Debate	Premier 1			
10:30 -10:45	Pizza Pick-Up	Lobby outside Executive Boardroom			
10:45	Curfew				
	*House Committee Rooms		*Senate Committee Rooms		
	House Committee L	Natchez			
	House Committee A	Cypress 1	Senate Committee Y	Premier 1	
	House Committee Y	Bayou	Senate Committee M	Creole	
	House Committee O	Levee	Senate Committee C	RM 254	
	House Committee U	Mississippi Queen	Senate Committee A	RM 253	
	House Committee T	Delta Queen			
	House Committee H	Samuel Clemens			

FRIDAY, December 8th

		<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	Riverboat					
8:00 - 8:30	General Session	Premier 1					
8:30 - 11:30, 12:00 and 12:30	Sessions in Progress	Meet outside Premier 1 for Intent Speeches	Premier 1	Bayou-Levee	Mississippi-Delta	Sam Clemens-Natchez	Riverboat
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch Group 1		Premier 2		Premier 2		Premier 2
12:30 - 1:00	Lunch Group 2	Premier 2		Premier 2		Premier 2	
12:30, 1:00 - 4:00*	Sessions in Progress		Premier 1	Bayou-Levee	Mississippi-Delta	Sam Clemens-Natchez	Riverboat
*4:00 - 4:30	House and Senate Joint Sessions		Premier 1		Mississippi-Delta		
4:30 - 5:30	Delegation Council	Riverboat					
4:30 - 7:00		<i>Break</i>					
7:00 - 8:30	Governor's Banquet	Premier 2					
8:30 - 9:00	Change for the Dance						
9:00 - 10:30	LEG Fun	Dance - Premier 3			Trivia - Premier 1		
After Devotional	Pizza Pick-Up						
15 minutes after Devotional	Curfew						

SATURDAY, December 9th

		<i>House</i>	<i>Senate</i>	<i>Supreme Court</i>
7:04 - 8:00	State Board Meeting			
7:30 - 8:00	Delegation Council	Riverboat		
8:00 - 9:30	Plenary Session	Premier 1		Riverboat
9:30 - 10:45	Veto Override Session	Premier 1		
10:45 - 11:30	Hotel Check-Out and Change for Closing Session			
11:30 - 12:00	Closing Session, Bill Signing and Announcement of 2023 State Officers	Premier 1		

Important Information

Committee Purpose

The purpose of committees are to determine what bills would be best to debate during chamber debate the following day. Ranking in committees should not be determined by whether a delegate agrees with a bill, but instead on five criteria: State Importance, Feasibility, Speaker Knowledge/Presentation, Originality, Degree to which it is debatable. 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.

Committee Ranking Form Here:

Remember!

1 = Best

5 = Worst



Technology Policy

While technology may be used during committee ranking, delegates must act with respect towards speakers. Other than being briefly used for research purposes or for reading your prepared statements, phones must remain away from debate.

Maintaining Respect

The YMCA core values are caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. All delegates must remain respectful of other delegates and strive to exemplify these values.

Asking Author Questions

To ask an author a question outside of the time allotted for technical questions, any delegate may ask, “Does the author yield to a series of technical and/or non-technical questions, where I reserve my right to speak thereafter?” after being recognized during debate.

Motions & Points

Motions and points will be reintroduced this year. Though some notable ones are listed below, please visit “Explanations of Parliamentary Motions and Points” for more details.

Points of Information

Allows a delegate to clarify misinformation on the floor or add relevant information. Any delegate may rise and say, "Point of Information!" The presiding officer will acknowledge the point by saying, "Rise and state your point." Points of information may interrupt speakers.

Points of Personal Privilege

Allows a delegate to be temporarily excused from the room. A delegate will say, "Point of Personal Privilege."

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

Allows a delegate to ask the chair 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."

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

- A delegate may seek recognition from the presiding officer by rising and saying, "Mr./Mme. Speaker/President."
- 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.

Motion to Suspend the Rules

Allows procedures in the handbook to become altered by the chair or speaker. Can be used to extend debate or alter dress code, permitting delegates to remove suit jackets. A delegate will stand and say, "Motion to extend debate by __ rounds" or "Motion to suspend the rules in manner of dress." As with all motions, motions to suspend the rules are up to the discretion of the chair.

Amendments

Amendments can be used to change the content of a bill and are primarily used to change the implementation, funding, or penalties of a bill. They are only in order in a bill's chamber of origin after the first round of debate on Friday.

To make an amendment, a delegate must write a proposed change in an amendment form, found in the back of their conference binder. The delegate will bring the amendment to the presiding officer. The delegate will then raise their red placard.

If recognized, the delegate will move to amend the bill, “I move to amend House/ Senate Bill X.” The chair will determine if the amendment is germane. If the chair believes the amendment is germane, the bill author will determine if the proposed amendment is hostile or friendly to the intent of the bill. If deemed friendly, the amendment is adopted to the bill. If deemed hostile, the chamber moves into amendment debate, an abridged debate where the amendment author will give opening and closing statements.

Bill Tracking

After a bill has passed or failed a chamber, the bill author will bring their bill to the bill tracking table outside of their chamber.

This year, after a bill passes in its chamber of origin, it must also pass the opposite chamber to reach the governor’s desk.

Find Bill Tracking and dockets here:



Outstanding Bills and Delegates

At the end of the conference, each delegate will be asked to vote for what they consider to be the “Outstanding Bill” from their chamber. These bills will be recognized in the closing ceremony.

Outstanding delegates will also be recognized at the end of conference for their engagement and decorum throughout the conference.

Outstanding Delegates and Bill Voting Form Here:

Access to voting for Outstanding Delegates and Bills will open on Friday, December 8th after House and Senate Joint Sessions at 5pm.



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:

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

Only Technical Amendments are permitted in committees. Technical Amendments are those that correct clerical, grammatical, spelling or other errors made by the author and are not allowed to reverse or otherwise change the intent of the bill. The Bill Author(s) may present Technical Amendments to the Committee Chair, who will ensure the amendments are germane prior to reading them to the committee during the Opening Statement and immediately adopting them without debate.

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



Access Ranking Form Here!

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.

A maximum of two (2) bills from the Senate and two (2) bills from the House will advance straight to the Plenary Session on Saturday, where they will be debated by all delegates. These bills are selected among the highest ranked bills from the committee process.

Access Bill Dockets and Tracking Here



COMMITTEE RANKING SHEET (FOR YOUR PURPOSES ONLY)

1 
 2 
 3 
 4 
 5 
 Committee: _____

Bill Order	BILL #	BILL TITLE OR AUTHOR	IMPORTANCE (1-5)	DEBATABILITY (1-5)	FEASIBILITY (1-5)	PRESENTATION (1-5)	ORIGINALITY (1-5)	NOTES
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								

YOUR BILL IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

BILL IN COMMITTEE

RANKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
PLACED ON FRIDAY OR SATURDAY DOCKET BY STATE BOARD

BILL IN HOUSE/SENATE

PASS

FAIL

BILL IN OTHER HOUSE/SENATE

PASS

FAIL

GOVERNOR

SIGN
(BECOMES LAW)

VETO

IF VETOED, YOUR BILL MAY APPEAR FOR DEBATE IN THE VETO OVERRIDE SESSION.

IF CHALLENGED, YOUR BILL CAN GO TO THE SUPREME COURT

BILL IN SUPREME COURT

CONSTITUTIONAL

UNCONSTITUTIONAL

HOUSE & SENATE FLOORS

If the committee to which the bill was referred reports it favorably and if the presiding officer places 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.

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 presiding officer has the authority to deem questions germane or not germane.
- In the event the delegate wishes to ask more than one question, he/she will say the following: "Will the author(s) yield to a series of questions?" The sponsor(s) may refuse.

INTENT SPEECHES

4 MINUTES

- The Press Secretary and candidates for State Board positions are the only delegates allowed to give intent speeches.
- A speaker may sign up 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 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, the presiding officer will ask the yeas and nays to stand, respectively.
- When a bill as 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.

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.

Floor Debate Sample Script

CHAIR:	<p><i>"Will the clerk please read Bill #__ by title only."</i></p> <p>(The bill sponsors go to the front of the chamber)</p>
CLERK:	<p>Reads bill by title only (noting any changes made during the committee hearing, i.e. additions, deletions). This is referred to as the second reading of the Bill. (The first reading was in committee.)</p>
CHAIR:	<p><i>"The Bill Sponsors have 3 minutes to present the bill in opening statements"</i></p>
BILL SPONSORS	<p>The Bill Sponsors begin by stating their name and school, then delivering an opening speech about their bill. When the Bill Sponsor finishes opening statements, the Sponsor may yield any remaining time to their Bill Co-Sponsor, the chair or to their closing statement and will say:</p> <p><i>"I would like to yield any remaining time to _____ (my Co-Sponsor, the chair, or my closing statements)."</i></p>
CHAIR	<p><i>"We will now move into a three minute round of Questions. The Chair recognizes _____ (state legislator's name)."</i></p>
LEGISLATOR	<p>Once recognized, stand, state name and club and immediately address the technical question to the Sponsor.</p> <p>After the Sponsor's/ Co-Sponsor's reply, the Chair continues to recognize other Legislators until time is called (after 3 minutes).</p>
CHAIR	<p><i>"Are there any intent speakers?"</i></p>
CLERK	<p><i>"Yes/No" If yes, "The intent speaker is _____." If no, "There is no intent speaker."</i></p>
CHAIR	<p>(If there is an intent speaker) <i>"The Chair recognizes _____. You have 2 minutes to speak on this bill."</i></p>
INTENT SPEAKER	<p>Intent speaker goes to front of chamber. States name, club and position and addresses the chamber.</p>
CHAIR	<p><i>"We will now move into Debate. This is a twelve minute round. (The presiding officer recognizes a Legislator with their placard raised.)"</i></p>

LEGISLATOR	<p>Stand, state name and club. Within the two minutes to address the chamber, the Legislator can:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use all of the time. 2. Use part of the time and yield the remaining time to another legislator by stating "<i>I yield my time to ___ (name).</i>" That legislator will have the remainder of the 2 minutes to speak. 3. Use part of the time and yield the remaining time to the Chair by stating, "<i>I yield the remainder of my time to the Chair.</i>" 4. Use part of the time and yield the remaining time to the Bill Sponsor's closing statement by stating, "<i>I yield the remainder of my time to the Sponsor's closing summation.</i>" This can only be done during propositional debate. 5. Use part of the time to ask the Bill Sponsor if he will answer a series of questions by stating, "<i>Will the Bill Sponsor yield to a series of questions.</i>" Questions may only be asked if the Bill Sponsor says yes. If the sponsor says no, the recognized legislator may still address the chamber. If time allows, the Legislator can address the floor after the Bill Sponsor answers the questions. Remaining time must be yielded.
	<p>The debate process continues for the remainder of the twelve minutes. The Chair will alternate between proponents and opponents of the bill as long as there are speakers on each side until time expires. After a proponent speaker addresses the chamber, the Chair will say, "I will now recognize an opponent speaker, are there any such speakers?" The opposite will occur upon the conclusion of an opponent speaker's address.</p>
CHAIR	<p><i>"The Bill Sponsors now have two minutes (plus any additional time yielded to closing statements during debate) for closing statements."</i></p>
BILL SPONSORS	<p>State name and club, and give closing statements. Time may be yielded only to Co-Sponsor and the Chair.</p>
CHAIR	<p><i>"Bill # ___ will now be read by title only and placed on final passage."</i></p>
CLERK	<p>Reads the Bill by title, noting any amendments that passed.</p>
CHAIR	<p><i>"We will now move to a vote on Bill #___. All those in favor of this bill please signify by saying 'Aye' in your normal speaking voice. All those opposed signify by saying 'Nay' in your normal speaking voice. (If voting machines are available in chambers, vote Aye or Nay through machines) This bill does pass/fail."</i></p>
	<p>If the Presiding Officer is in doubt, they can call for a standing vote. If Legislators feel the voice vote is too close to call, they should call out "division" and the presiding officer will may call for a standing vote.</p>

Guide to Floor Debate on an Amendment

CHAIR	<i>"There is an amendment of the floor. Will the Clerk please read the amendment in its entirety."</i>
CLERK	Reads amendment in entirety. If amendment is deemed hostile by the Bill Sponsors, debate on the amendment only ensues. The Amendment Sponsor goes to the front of the Chamber.
CHAIR	<i>"The Amendment Sponsor has two minutes to present the amendment."</i>
AMENDMENT SPONSOR	State name and club, gives presentation on amendment.
CHAIR	<i>"We will now move into a one minute round of technical questions on the amendment. Are there any such questions on the floor? The Chair recognizes ____."</i>
LEGISLATOR	Once recognized, stand, state name and club and immediately address the technical question to the Amendment Sponsor. After the Amendment Sponsor's reply, the Chair continues to recognize other Legislators until time is called.
CHAIR	<i>"Is there anyone who wishes to speak on this amendment?"</i> (Refer to floor debate procedure. The same order of events takes place for an amendment except the word "amendment" is submitted for the word "bill" and the time limit is different- Debate – 4 minutes; Bill Sponsor- 1 minute; Amendment Sponsor- 1 minute.) Following the last speaker's remarks, the Chair continues...
CHAIR	<i>"We will now close debate on the amendment. Bill Sponsor(s) have one minute for comments on the amendment."</i>
BILL SPONSORS	States name and club and presents position on the amendment.
CHAIR	<i>"The Amendment Sponsor has 1 minute for closing statements."</i>
AMENDMENT SPONSOR	States name and club and makes closing remarks.
CHAIR	<i>"Will the Clerk please read the amendment?"</i>
CLERK	Reads the amendment.
CHAIR	<i>"We will now move to a vote on the amendment by ____ (Amendment Sponsor). All those in favor of this amendment signify by saying 'Aye'. All those opposed signify by saying 'Nay'." Raps gavel and announce outcome of vote on amendment.</i>

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 by raising their red 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. Technical Amendments are only allowed during Opening Statements in the Committee process
- These motions have the effect of changing the verbiage of bills.
- The presiding officer is empowered to deem amendments germane or not germane to the legislation in question.
- Before moving to amend the bill, the amendment author will hand the completed amendment form found at the back of the conference binder to the clerk or presiding officer.
- After the presiding officer recognizes a delegate to speak during Debate, the delegate will move to amend the bill. "I move to amend House/Senate Bill X."
- 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 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

3 MINUTES (EACH)

1. The complainant will present a three (3) minute opening statement that introduces the basis for the complaint.
2. The Attorney General will present a three (3) minute opening statement.

QUESTIONS FROM THE BENCH

10 MINUTES

The Justices will have the opportunity to ask either party questions concerning their arguments for a period of ten (10) minutes.

PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

5 MINUTES EACH

Each party has the opportunity to present any documentary evidence to the court for a period of five (5) minutes.

DELIBERATION AND JUDGMENT

15 MINUTES MAX

After all proceedings have occurred, the court will enter deliberation, in which the complainant and Attorney General must vacate the room. As soon as a decision has been reached, both parties will be recalled into the room and the Chief Justice will present the decision.

CHALLENGING A BILL IN SUPREME COURT

If a delegate wishes to challenge the constitutionality of a bill heard during debate, they may complete a challenge form located at the back of this binder and submit it to the Bill Tracking Station outside Premier 1.

Bills may be challenged if they have passed their originating House of Senate chamber during Friday debate.

Challengers or complainants will have an Attorney assisting them and their arguments through the Supreme Court procedures.

The original bill author will also have an Attorney General assisting them to defend the constitutionality of their bill.

SENATE BILLS



2 SENATE BILL 81

3 Kendall Scott Dutchtown High School
4 Kyla Alcorn

6 TITLE: Legalize recreational Marijuana

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 The penalty for possession and distribution of more than 14 grams of marijuana is a fine of up to
10 \$100 without imprisonment. However, it used to be a fine of up to \$500 and imprisonment for up to
11 6 months, and the time was extended if the offense was repeated. Issues with the justice and legal
12 system are very prominent in the black and brown communities and it is often instigated through
13 apprehension and/or arrest due to drug use/distribution. The decrease in punishment for the
14 legalization and distribution of this substance is progress, but we are calling for an entire
15 eradication of punishment.

17 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

18 Starting on June 1st, 2024, the \$100 fine for marijuana will be eliminated and it will be legal to sell
19 in CBD stores without any type of prescription and other places that sell cigarettes and other
20 nicotine products.

22 SECTION III: FUNDING

23 Funding for this bill will be non-applicable

25 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

26 If a civilian is wrongfully arrested or fined for the possession or distribution of marijuana the police
27 officer who was responsible for the arrest will be placed on unpaid leave. If the illegal arrest is
28 continuously happening by said officer, the station they work at will be notified, and/or the officer
29 will possibly be terminated.

2 SENATE BILL 82

3 Marcus Soileau Dutchtown High School
4 Benjamin Tilley

6 TITLE: Protecting students right to defend themselves in schools

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Last year there were around 3,257 fights in East Baton Rouge Parish alone. The year before there
10 were 3,340 fights. While a lot of these fights were provoked or planned, a lot of them were also self
11 defense. However, there have been very few reports of self defense in schools because there is such
12 a fine line between self defense and voluntary fights, where both parties willingly engage in a fight.
13 Dutchtown High School Principal Dr. Mathew Monceaux stated that a voluntary fight is a fight in
14 which you do not try to remove yourself from or try to de-escalate the situation. He also defines
15 self-defense as a situation that you actively try to remove yourself from.

16 While school fights are a constant thing, schools do not have a policy set on self-defense, meaning
17 that schools are not required to give disciplinary action for self-defense, even though they
18 commonly do. This bill serves to ensure that the right to defend yourself extends into schools.

20 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

21 The goal of this bill is to establish a policy to protect self defense users. School boards will be
22 required to set rules and policies that will establish qualifications for what constitutes self defense.
23 The rules and policies will be there to help protect students that utilize self defense from unjust
24 punishments like suspension. The Deputy Director of Baton Rouge capital conflict office, Criminal
25 Defense Attorney Bruce Unangst defines self defense as, “ If you didn’t start anything and do not do
26 anything excessive in return that isn’t necessary and are truly just defending yourself, then it is
27 justifiable as self defense.”. This definition would be used as the backbone for these policies set by
28 schools. Schools will be required to make a policy stating that students that use reasonable force to
29 defend themselves against a clear and obvious aggressor will not be punished for their actions.
30 If passed this bill will go into effect August 1st of 2024. Parishes will be given 1 calendar year from
31 the date this bill goes into effect to establish said policy before they will be fined.

33 SECTION III: FUNDING

34 This bill does not require any funding.

36 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

37 The penalties for a parish not implementing these policies will be a fine of \$15,000 per school year
38 that the policies are not in place. Which will be given to the St. Jude cancer research center.



2 SENATE BILL 83

3 Hayden Welk Jesuit Highschool
4 Ethan Schaeffer

5
6 TITLE: Saving Cash and Souls

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 In the year 2022 the State of Louisiana spent 7.7 million dollars on the legal defense for death row
10 inmates; however, no one has been executed since 2010. Before this 17 yearlong stalemate of legal
11 battles, when the state of Louisiana did execute someone through the regular means of lethal
12 injection, it proved just as costly. The combined cost of paying the executioners, maintenance,
13 buying chemicals, and paying all sorts of bills puts a strangle on the state's budget. All these costs
14 would be justified if the death penalty deterred crime; however, the state has seen nothing but an
15 increase, especially in urban parishes where the death penalty has been most historically used. The
16 death penalty raises serious budgeting, moral, and statistical doubts and it is time for a long
17 overdue change in the state of Louisiana.

18
19 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

20 Within the moment this bill is implemented, all funding to any projects assisting in legal state
21 execution shall be frozen. The act of state execution and the ability to make it a sentence in any
22 and all court cases shall be made illegal. All extraordinary spending on the defense and court fees
23 for death row inmates shall be removed, and they will operate within the normal budget of the
24 state's public defense. All those awaiting execution will hereby be removed from death row and
25 return to the normal prison population to carry out life sentences (Unless appealed). All assets and
26 money seized shall be transferred back to the Louisiana Legislature and a special budgeting session
27 will be called to immediately place the newfound millions of dollars where they are desperately
28 needed around the state.

29
30 SECTION III: FUNDING

31 All costs shall be covered by the surplus money returned

32
33 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

34 Any person(s) or body who executes an inmate shall be tried for 1st degree murder. Prisons that do
35 not return the money given to them for executions will be tried for theft of state property.



2 SENATE BILL 84

3 Nathan Henderson Dutchtown High School

4 TITLE: Harder Targets, Safer Kids: Assessments of Infrastructural Weaknesses to Intruders at Public
5 Schools

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Each school year, there has been a 65% chance of a multi-fatality shooting occurring in one of the
8 97,500 public schools in the country, and the rates may even be increasing. With about 1300 public
9 schools in Louisiana, it may not seem like an urgent endeavor to protect our schools, but that line of
10 thinking only survives as long as there are no attacks. Hardening targets describes placing or
11 reinforcing safeguards to make it more difficult for someone to attack that place or to dissuade
12 them from it. If schools house our children and our future, then they should of course be more
13 protected. Unfortunately, there is no perfect solution, but any effort to direct these attacks away
14 from schools is still a worthy cause. While it might be nice to offer a blanket solution, each school
15 has different infrastructure and is placed in a different situation. The best option seems to be to
16 assess each school individually.

17 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

18 Starting in the 2024-2025 School Year, on a staggered schedule, there will be an assessment of entry
19 points and infrastructural weaknesses for each public school every third year. Also, if the school has
20 any infrastructure changes that would potentially open up new weaknesses, there must be an audit
21 in that school year. For each school district, the superintendent will appoint a School District Safety
22 Auditor who must then be confirmed by the school board. This Auditor will be responsible for these
23 school assessments. Their pay will be determined by the school district, as will any other team
24 members chosen. Schools will be notified of the month of the audit, but not the day. The holistic
25 criteria that must be assessed are, but are not limited to, the following: -Perimeter safety:
26 Vulnerabilities in fences, gates, and non-designated entry points -Entrance security: Points of
27 entry and their strengths and weaknesses

28 Surveillance

29 -Schedule: Weaknesses during class changes, entrance, and dismissal

30 All concerns will be shared with law enforcement and administrators at the end of the audit,
31 including plans to request funding to address the major weaknesses of the school. After the request
32 is submitted, the records of concerns will be destroyed.

33 SECTION III: FUNDING

34 These requests will be sent as applications to the Stronger Connections Grant, a program
35 implemented in multiple states. In Louisiana, this grant gives \$21 million in funding for school safety
36 efforts, provided on a competitive basis. If after 7 years, the provisions of this bill are deemed to
37 put too much strain on the grants program or do not yield significant improvements to school safety,
38 the funding for this bill will cease to be drawn.

39 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

40 These results and requests would be treated as Secret information and violations would garner
41 similar fines and penalties. Any active negligence or intentional misreporting on the part of the
42 auditors may result in them being removed from their role. The results of the assessment or refusal
43 to consent to the assessment will be factored into the school's existing safety performance rating.



2 SENATE BILL 85

3 Edward Hasson Woodlawn High School

4 TITLE: Big Trouble for Big Wheels

5 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

6 In Louisiana, trucks and SUVs make up a majority of vehicles on the road. Data from the Federal Highway Administration shows that in 2020, there were 83% more trucks and SUVs on the road than standard cars in Louisiana. However, these vehicles are also some of the most dangerous on the road.

7 Due to the nature of their design, larger vehicles have worse blind spots with many drivers having a far more difficult time discerning the distance between the hood of their car and anything that may be in front. This especially affects smaller vehicles and pedestrians such as children. In a study conducted by the University of Illinois in 2022, children were eight times more likely to be killed by a truck or SUV compared to a regular car. The unsafety of SUVs and trucks is not only a design issue, but a psychological one as well. In 2017, the University of Vienna conducted a study finding that drivers of SUVs were more likely to engage in 'risk behaviors' such as using a cell phone, having an unbuckled seat belt, or running a red light. The concern for these behaviors is elevated with the prevalence of these behaviors already on Louisiana's roads. However, despite all of this, Louisiana still needs trucks and SUVs. Larger families need them to seat more than five people. Companies, both big and small, need them to transport goods, materials, and equipment. Municipalities need them to manage their infrastructure. Louisiana needs to enact greater accountability and responsibility for drivers of these larger vehicles.

8 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

9 The State Legislature will see that all penalties given for traffic crimes including but not limited to speeding, texting while driving, lack of seat belt, driving under the influence, open container, reckless driving, distracted driving, and others will have special considerations added for 'trucks' (SUVs are classified as small trucks) that doubles the maximum monetary fine and increases the maximum jail time by 50%. This will go into effect on January 1st, 2025.

10 City police officers, state police officers, sheriff's departments, and other policing officers within the state are expected to decide the fine/jail time for an offender by regular means, then adjust if the crime occurred with a truck or SUV. The Louisiana Highway Safety Commission (LHSC) will also be instructed to devise a new advertising campaign to properly inform the public about the new policy, ensuring widespread awareness. This advertising push will be in effect for two years, starting within a month after the law goes into effect.

11 SECTION III: FUNDING

12 The LHSC will receive funding for the new advertising from the existing Section 402 portion of the commission's budget from the Nation Highway Safety Administration. This section covers any expenses related to 'General Traffic Safety' and has previously been used to purchase advertising. Based on previous advertising campaigns, the estimated costs would likely sit in the \$500,000 to \$700,000 range.

13 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

14 Due to the nature of this bill, there would be no penalties to apply in the case of non-compliance or violation.



2 SENATE BILL 86

3 Micheline Benoit Lafayette High School

4 TITLE: A Life Saving Dose of Hope

5 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

6 Every day, opioids kill more than 136 Americans, only 7% of those deaths being deemed intentional. Drug addiction is a rising issue in the state of Louisiana, being ranked 4th in overdose deaths per capita in the United States. Every Louisianian deserves a fair chance to fight opioid addiction in their local community and feasible access to Narcan. Narcan is an over-the-counter opioid overdose treatment in the form of nasal spray that can be administered to someone experiencing an opioid overdose in order to reverse the effects in 2-3 minutes, giving all parties time to get the person who overdosed to a hospital. This act would require all government-funded public facilities (national parks, libraries, post offices, courthouses, fire departments, etc. see implementation for more specification) to have at least two doses of Narcan on hand at all times and educate all staff deemed state employees on how to identify an opioid overdose. By granting access to a life saving dose of hope, Louisiana can fight the ongoing opioid epidemic and stop the linear growth of death by opioids.

7 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

8 Beginning June 1st, 2024, all public facilities funded/owned by the state and/or local government will be required to have at least two doses of Narcan on hand at all times. Supervisors/managers will be required to show all government employees "WA State Overdose Prevention and Response Training," an 8 minute educational video on how to identify an opioid overdose and how to care for a victim of opioid overdose and administer Narcan from stopoverdose.org. At the same time as typical routine government checks of these facilities by the local Department of Public Works, it will be verified that at least two bottles of Narcan are on site and that government employees know how to identify an opioid overdose.

9 SECTION III: FUNDING

10 Funding will be received from the same institution that funds that facility's general expenditures. Louisiana currently has an immense surplus in terms of budget, having spent \$10.8 billion out of the \$43.7 billion budget in 2022. 0.005% of the surplus budget will be reallocated towards the pre-existing fund for these government run public facilities.

11 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

12 All facilities applicable must have two doses of Narcan on hand, unless a dose was administered in the past two weeks. This implements a grace period for facilities to renew their supply of Narcan. For every missing dose of Narcan that does not apply to the previously stated grace period, the facility will be fined \$250 per bottle. If it's discovered that an included facility had never shown a government employee how to identify and care for an opioid overdose, that facility will be fined 100 dollars per employee proven to have not been shown the educational opioid overdose video. Government employees may not work without having received this proper training.

2 **SENATE BILL 87**

3 Laura Midgett Archbishop Hannan High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Shift school hours

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Our current schedule starts at 8 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. This schedule is outdated and based on a
9 society that has changed immensely since this was enacted. The 8-3 schedule was created from a
10 culture based on agricultural needs and working conditions. This schedule is not designed for the
11 biological clocks and natural sleep patterns of teens. This causes teens to not get the full 8 hours of
12 sleep their bodies are designed for and this in turn is detrimental to their education. Studies have
13 shown that without a proper 8-10 hours of sleep, students suffer from symptoms of depression,
14 perform poorly in school, have outbursts of emotion, and do not engage in daily physical activity. If
15 younger can come in earlier in the morning their day is more successful. Science has indicated for
16 teens that learning is most effective between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

17
18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 This bill requires any school that receives funding from the Louisiana government to change the
20 hours of start times of high schools to at least 9 a.m. If a high school shares a bus system with a
21 lower school system such as an elementary/middle school and they start at different hours then the
22 start times should flip, this means that the younger students would be starting earlier and the older
23 students would take the later start time. This would still give buses adequate time to get to all of
24 their stops.

25
26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 All unseen costs will be dealt with at a later date.

28
29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 If a school fails to follow through with this bill then a certain percentage of government funding will
31 be removed, on a case-by-case basis.

2 **SENATE BILL 88**

3 Savanna Baker Episcopal High School of Baton Rouge

4
5 **TITLE:** Adapting with Aggie Bonds

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Opportunities in agriculture are becoming more difficult to obtain due to the cost efficiency,
9 financing, and many other factors. With the need for innovative methodologies in agriculture, it is
10 necessary that more resources are given to those aspiring to change agriculture.
11 These issues can be solved with the Aggie Bond: a financial proposal to encourage private risk-taking
12 in agricultural development.
13 The Aggie bond should be authorized and explored by the state legislature so that Louisiana
14 agriculture is able to develop and thrive in the future.
15 Among the 16 states that offer Aggie Bonds, Louisiana is not one. Aggie bonds, by definition, are
16 “established through a federal-state partnership that allows private lenders to receive federal
17 and/or state tax-exempt interest on loans made to beginning farmers (Farmland Information
18 Center).

19
20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 If this bill is to be passed, Aggie Bonds will become a loan option. The Department of Agriculture
22 will establish lending criteria for the Aggie Bonds. The loan will receive a sign-off approval/review
23 from the Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority.

24
25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 Aggie Bonds gain funds from private lenders, but are to be paid back and capped at what the
27 Louisiana Department of Agriculture determines.

28
29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 The state has no liabilities for these loans, the liability lies with the private lender. Aggie bonds will
31 not tap into funds or impact debt limits.



2 SENATE BILL 89

3 Jacob Sruk Catholic High School
4 Patrick Kelly

6 TITLE: Coastline Protection Act

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 The Louisiana Coastline Is eroding at a rate of 30 football fields per day. To help fix this problem,
10 we must plant plants that act as natural barriers to block storm surge, and flooding, which would
11 help the eroding coastline. These plants include bald cypress, and grove trees, which help keep the
12 soil together, by spreading their roots, and act as walls, and some other native bushes that help
13 prevent coastal erosion. We will plant these plants along the state’s marshes, and swamps, that are
14 most affected by coastal erosion.

16 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

17 This bill will go into effect starting in August, of 2024, and go through December of 2024, because
18 that is the time it is best to plant these plants for the best development. We will pay Louisiana
19 government workers for the work they do.

21 SECTION III: FUNDING

22 Louisiana will place a 2% tax on Louisiana vaping products, as well as donations which will be
23 welcomed by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation. With this money, necessary seeds will be able to be
24 purchased needed to plant, as well as the necessary money needed to pay for the workers to do
25 their job.

27 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

28 There are no consequences for breaking this law.



2 SENATE BILL 90

3 Cooper G. Finney Mandeville High School

5 TITLE: Reform Liquor based legislation in the State of Louisiana.

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 In Louisiana, due to its culture of debauchery, it is an unwritten law that people under the age of 21
8 can drink with a parent’s or guardian’s permission. The real law that had turned into this was that
9 in a private residence, with parent permission or among one’s spouse, one can drink underage. Due
10 to the way that this state is, that law has been corrupted to make underage drinking essentially
11 legal. If the real law was enforced to a higher degree, DUI based accidents, alcohol poisoning among
12 youth, and other teen-alcohol tragedies would be avoided entirely. However, underage drinking is
13 not the only intoxicating substance based issue that plagues this state. Overindulgence of alcohol is
14 yet another issue that has stricken this state and its citizens to its knees, leaving this state known as
15 a state of drunkards, criminals and French People. Two of these problems could be solved by
16 placing higher taxes on liquor. If the citizens of the State of Louisiana were a little less drunk, and a
17 little less high, many of the issues giving Louisiana a bad name would be rid of. Note that this Bill is
18 not to be taken as an act of Prohibition revival, rather a recognition of the flaws of this state, and
19 an attempt to come up with a solution of one of the main roots of these flaws.

21 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

22 Underage drinking outside of a private residence or with one’s spouse will be enforced via the
23 scenario. At minimum the offender will receive, at minimum, a fine of 250 dollars, unless said
24 offender had committed during Mardi Gras season, in which the maximum fine would be 75 dollars,
25 varying depending on the amount of intoxication the offender had succumbed to. 2.5 times more
26 than the currently imposed maximum fine, as well as more enforcement would lead to a definitive
27 drop in outdoor underage drinking, and all the issues that come with it. Higher taxes placed upon
28 liquor (from 2.5% to 3.5%) would reduce the amount of purchased products significantly, as I’m sure
29 few people are willing to spend more for the same amount.

31 SECTION III: FUNDING

32 The money gained from the increased tax amount (3.5%) will be used primarily for funding the
33 enforcement of these laws, and excess funding will be reallocated into welfare and public
34 infrastructure programs.

36 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

37 Failure to comply with legal age limits will result in a minimum of a 250 dollar fine, and for
38 maximum: 2 days jail time, depending on the level of intoxication publicity. The maximum possible
39 fine for public intoxication under this bill is 850 dollars as a base line. This amount can be changed
40 in small increments under Parish, City or Local governments if said governing bodies find it
41 necessary.



2 SENATE BILL 91

3 Keller Roberson Central High School
4 Blaise Gregoire

6 TITLE: The Louisiana Freedom and Jobs Act

7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Gambling is the greatest path to wealth for individuals, governments, and the economy as a whole.
9 Currently, across the United States, millions of adults nationwide are prohibited by law from
10 participating in a fun, profitable, and harmless activity. In every state that allows gambling, those
11 under 21 years of age are not allowed to gamble. These are adults who are allowed to vote, fight in
12 war, and adopt a child yet are not allowed to simply hedge their bets to build wealth. Whether you
13 approve of the activity or not, it is simply insane that all adults are not allowed to engage in a fun
14 pastime. Restricting the financial freedom of Americans who are just trying to invest their money
15 into future wealth is constitutionally dubious. Louisiana has the opportunity to lead the nation in
16 lowering its gambling age to those 18 years and older, allowing for newfound personal liberties.

17 This bill would not only allow those 18 years old and older the ability to express their lifestyle
18 choices but also provide crucial support to the gaming industry. Currently, there are suffocating
19 regulations on the Louisiana Gaming Control Board, providing a hard limit to the number of casinos
20 and race tracks in the state. By removing this hard limit, job opportunities and revenue will
21 skyrocket for the entire state. Empowering the gaming industry will inevitably help Louisiana's
22 economy thrive. Many states have invested in commercial casino gambling and have immediately
23 experienced economic prosperity from local to national governments. Commercial casino gaming
24 accomplishes this feat in unique ways other governmental incomes can not. These casinos begin by
25 increasing local employment and this change in employment influences a natural business cycle that
26 then leads to a statewide employment wave. Secondly, casino tax revenue is collected on a local
27 and state level, and in states such as Michigan, these taxes are invested into public programs, most
28 popularly, education. Finally, government subsidizing of casinos and a drop in the minimum
29 gambling age will inevitably increase tourism and in turn, local business in all tourist destinations.

30 This bill maximizes freedom for adults to engage in their pastimes without government
31 interference, increases the cultural significance and tourism of Louisiana, and will directly benefit
32 all Louisiana residents through new government incomes that could be invested in public programs.

34 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

35 This bill would lower the age to participate in gaming activities in casinos (such as card games or
36 slot machines), sports betting, and the lottery to 18. The age for working in gaming areas would also
37 be lowered to 18.

38 This bill would also help subsidize the construction and establishment of casinos. \$50 million will
39 be reserved to help construct and maintain new casinos and gaming areas built over the next five
40 years. In addition, new casinos built in the next ten years will have a ten-year property tax rebate

41 The limited number of allowed casino and race track licenses will be abolished as the State of
42 Louisiana is currently limited by statute to a certain number. Casinos and race tracks will still be

1 required to be licensed by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board(LGCB) before construction, but the
2 LGCB will no longer have a maximum allowed amount of licenses.

4 SECTION III: FUNDING

5 This bill will eventually pay for itself over time as tourism and tax revenue will increase due to the
6 expansion of the gaming industry. Short-term expenses will be paid by the Louisiana Lottery and
7 raising the gambling earning tax from six percent to ten percent for the next ten years.

9 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

10 No additional penalties are levied, and the current penalties for underage gambling remain.



2 **SENATE BILL 92**

3 Mikey Wilson Alexandria Senior High School

4
5 **TITLE:** To Legalize Gender Affirming Care for Minors in the Form of Puberty Blockers.
6 Legalizing puberty blockers for minors would decrease intense distress.

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 The legalization of puberty blockers would provide care to the individuals who undergo precocious
10 puberty and those who experience severe, medically recognized gender dysphoria. The effects of
11 puberty blockers typically do not bring about any irreversible effects (although this depends on
12 medical conditions, age of beginning puberty blockers, and whether they take them alongside
13 hormone replacement therapy. The availability of puberty blockers for minors going through these
14 issues would significantly decrease the self-harm and suicide rate in these individuals. In a study
15 conducted by Jack L. Turban, Stephanie S. Loo, Anthony N. Almanzan, and Alex S. Keuroghlian
16 (Factors Leading to “Detransition” Among Transgender and Gender Diverse People in the United
17 States: A Mixed-Methods Analysis), 27,715 transgender and gender-diverse people were interviewed
18 regarding their medical history with their gender identities. Of these 27,715 people, 17,151(61.9%)
19 had pursued medical care to alleviate their dysphoria at some point. Of those who had pursued
20 medical care, 2,242 (13.1%) reported a history of detransitioning.
21 When asked to fill out a form explaining why they chose to detransition, the most popular responses
22 were “pressure from a parent” (798 people), “it was just too hard for me” (753 people), and
23 “pressure from community or societal stigma” (729 people).
24 One in every 5,000 to one in every 10,000 children are subject to Central Precocious Puberty (CPP).
25 Despite the seemingly small number of children that are affected by this condition in the state of
26 Louisiana (as the child population is around 1,100,000), this condition may cause short height in
27 adulthood, social and emotional issues due to the disconnect between peers, breast growth and
28 onset of menstrual cycles in females far before the typical age of menstruation or breast growth,
29 deepening voices and body hair growth in males far before the typical age of testosterone release.
30 Elystan Roberts, Carol Joinson, David Gunnell, Abigail Fraser, and Becky Mars conducted a study
31 Early puberty has been proven to increase the risk/rate of self harm in children. There were 5,369
32 individuals with eligibility for inclusion in the study. Of those, 1,781 provided complete data on all
33 exposures, outcomes, and confounders regarding precocious puberty and its relation to self-harm,
34 suicidal ideation/attempts, and suicide. The conclusion of the study was that one in every ten males
35 and a quarter of quarter of females with an early recorded aPHV reported higher percentages of self
36 harm by the age of 21.

37
38 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

39 As puberty blockers still circulate in the medical industry (used for treatment of endometriosis,
40 breast and prostate cancer, and polycystic ovarian syndrome), implementation is not expected to be
41 an issue.
42

1 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

2 Funding is not necessary as the cost of the treatment through hospital bills covers the base
3 production cost.
4

5 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

6 According to the Louisiana State Legislature (§1285, (13)) a doctor’s medical license may be
7 suspended if they display unprofessional conduct (which includes failing to maintain independent
8 medical judgment). This would cover a situation where a child displays signs of suicidality due to
9 the effects of puberty on their body, and the doctor refuses to provide treatment further than
10 therapy if the reactions are persevering.

2 **SENATE BILL 93**

3 Noah Robert LSU Laboratory School
4 Sophia Ray

5
6 **TITLE:** The Mardi Gras Exception

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Louisiana prides itself on being the party capital of the country, and indeed, of the world as well.
10 Yet many other countries and even fellow states have outpaced Louisiana in their ever improving
11 attitudes towards drinking other related activities. In Germany, the drinking age is set at 16, that’s
12 five years below that of Louisiana. Furthermore, the legalization of cannabis has spread rapidly
13 throughout both the world and United States, with 23 states allowing for its recreational use. Not
14 only does this threaten our identity and culture as Louisianians but it poses a real danger to the
15 estimated one billion dollars made every year from Mardi Gras. Although the people of this state
16 may not yet be ready for their laws to match those of other areas in this topic, another solution
17 exists: The Mardi Gras Exception. This bill would lower the drinking age to 16 as well as legalize the
18 recreational use of marijuana for the week of Mardi Gras. Tourism in that period would go up
19 dramatically as millions flock to all corners of the state.

20
21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 From 12:00 am on the wednesday before Mardi Gras to 5:00 am on the wednesday after Mardi Gras
23 the following shall take effect:

- 24 1. The age required for purchasing, possessing and consuming alcoholic beverages will be 16 years
25 of age.
- 26 2. The age required for entering bars and clubs will be 16 years of age.
- 27 At all other times of year this bill will have no effect.

28
29
30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 No funding is necessary as the drastic increase in tax revenue will more than account for any
32 unforeseen costs incurred.

33
34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 All penalties for crimes relating to alcohol use will go unaffected with this bill.

2 **SENATE BILL 94**

3 Margo Esquivel Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

4
5 **TITLE:** Enacting a Minimum Wage For Prison Laborers and Overturning the Maximum

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Across state penitentiaries, prisoners work for \$1.00 an hour, if they’re lucky. If not, they could be
9 paid as little as \$0.04 an hour. RS 15:873 states “The rates... shall be no more than twenty cents per
10 hour, except that inmates who are assigned to Prison Enterprises’ industrial, agricultural, service, or
11 other programs may be compensated at a rate up to forty cents per hour and inmates who are
12 Certified Academic Tutors and Certified Vocational Tutors may be compensated at a rate of up to
13 one dollar per hour...” This bill would overturn this law, and replace the quoted section with “The
14 rates... shall be no less than three dollars per hour for all inmates working.

15
16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 RS 15:873 Section A will be amended to read as follows: “The secretary of the Department of Public
18 Safety and Corrections may establish various rates of compensation as an incentive to inmates
19 incarcerated in state correctional facilities. The rates shall be according to the skill, industry, and
20 nature of the work performed by the inmate and shall be no less than three dollars per hour, except
21 that inmates who are assigned to Prison Enterprises’ industrial, agricultural, service, or other
22 programs must be compensated at a rate above three dollars and fifty cents per hour and inmates
23 who are Certified Academic Tutors and Certified Vocational Tutors must be compensated at a rate
24 of above four dollars per hour, in accordance with rules established by the secretary of the
25 department and adopted pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.” The
26 raised pay will begin in Fiscal Year 2025, and will not be retroactively implemented. All measures
27 extend to Prison Enterprises.

28
29 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

30 All necessary funding will come from the profit made off of prison labor, especially Prison
31 Enterprises’ profit (which has been 1.9 million in years past). Any additional funding necessary will
32 be diverted from the \$77 million outlined in the FY 24 budget for “other compensation.”

33
34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 If a prison is found to be underpaying inmates, an investigation will be conducted, and the guilty
36 parties will be dismissed from the state’s employ. Additionally, if the guilty party is determined to
37 have used the inmate’s wages for personal use, they will be charged for theft of state property
38 and/or embezzlement.

2 **SENATE BILL 95**

3 Caroline Sample C.E. Byrd High School
4 Riley Quinlan

5
6 **TITLE:** Eliminate curfew regulation

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 The state of Louisiana has established a curfew for minors that lasts from 11:00 PM to 5:00 AM. If a
10 minor is in a public place between these hours it is automatically considered a public offense and
11 they can be taken into custody. Not only does this affect the adolescents committing this act, but
12 the parents can also be taken into offense through association, whether they knew their child was
13 out or not. The Louisiana State curfew regulation should be completely removed. Some children
14 have to work after school to provide for their families, which often means they are working the
15 night shift. Sometimes these shifts do not get off until well after 11:00 PM, so it is unreasonable to
16 punish adolescents trying to provide for their families. Additionally, some school sports teams are
17 required to ride the bus with their team to and from sporting events, which can mean that they will
18 not get back to the school until very late, depending on how far they must travel. This means that
19 they then have to drive themselves home from school, sometimes occurring during curfew hours.
20 People are already breaking this curfew, so by removing this it would alleviate the jobs of police
21 officers so that they could spend these valuable hours attending to more pressing matters of
22 Louisiana Law. This way, minors will be free to continue their activities as long as they are not
23 breaking other laws in the process.

24
25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 This bill will be implemented on January 1, 2024

27
28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 This bill requires no funding seeing as it is only an abolishment of a law.

30
31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 If a city or parish is found attempting to enforce any sort of curfew law, their local police
33 department will lose state funding.

2 **SENATE BILL 96**

3 Michael Burford C.E. Byrd High School
4 Tyler Wooldridge

5
6 **TITLE:** Lower the Louisiana drinking age to 18 years old, while establishing a fit medical test for
7 anyone wishing to buy alcohol.

8
9 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

10 The Federal Uniform Drinking Act of 1984 set the minimum legal drinking age to 21, and every state
11 typically abides by this law, but are free to set their own standards. The minimum drinking age in
12 Louisiana needs to be lowered to 18. As we all know, drinking in Louisiana is a rite of passage and
13 something many people enjoy. This leads to plentiful drinking, even in those that are underage.
14 According to the Indiana University Alcohol Department, among all drinkers, those underage are
15 more likely to be “binge” drinkers, with underage heavy drinkers having a 8% larger population than
16 heavy drinkers in the legal class. Lowering the drinking age would also reduce alcoholism, which is
17 incredibly prevalent in this state. According to the Chicago Tribune, Louisiana is home to the 12th
18 highest excessive drinking rate among adults. A lowered drinking age would also reduce alcohol
19 related fatalities. When someone under 21 drinks too much and needs medical attention, it is often
20 found that they do not seek this attention, as they fear the legal consequences. If the drinking age
21 was 18, more drinkers would feel comfortable seeking medical attention if necessary. At the same
22 time, according to the CDC, excessive alcohol use can lead to chronic diseases such as high blood
23 pressure and heart disease. Excessive drinking can also cause various cancers such as breast cancer
24 and mouth cancer. To combat this, a medical fitness test will be required for anyone wishing to buy
25 alcohol. This test will be given by the customer’s doctors and entails medical history, current health
26 status, and a physical assessment. By ensuring all drinkers stay healthy, the long-term health risks
27 associated with alcohol will be greatly reduced and result in a healthier Louisiana. Lowering the
28 drinking age, while establishing a fit medical test for all those wishing to buy alcohol, would reduce
29 alcoholism, reduce drinking in general, and reduce medical incidents with alcohol. Many people
30 under 21 already drink. Might as well provide a safer space for them and all to do so.

31
32 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

33 Regarding implementation, this bill would be implemented on the New Year: January 1, 2024. The
34 Louisiana Legislature would simply have to pass through and the law would be simply changed. To
35 show that someone has passed the medical fitness test, it will be added to their LA Wallet.

36
37 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

38 No money will initially be needed to fund this bill. If anything, Louisiana will make money off this
39 bill due to more taxed purchases and hospital bills.

40 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

41 If an establishment is found to break this law, their alcohol license will be taken.



2 SENATE BILL 97

3 Tripp Lowry C.E. Byrd High School
4 Kinsley Forsythe

6 TITLE: Establishment of Civil and Essential Knowledge Tests for Louisiana Government Official
7 Candidates

9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 In the Louisiana Legislature, there are 144 elected representatives and senators. These officials, as
11 well as others from the executive and judicial branches, are the means by which the Louisianan's
12 vote is conveyed. They are a medium for the opinion of their constituency and advocate for change
13 at the highest levels of state government. For this reason, they should be properly knowledgeable
14 about the workings of the government and have basic knowledge of subject matters including the
15 humanities, math, and sciences. Many Americans have demonstrated this necessity at the national
16 level as 74% of respondents were in favor of Morning Consult's question on whether presidential
17 candidates should have to pass these exams. As the duties and responsibilities of government
18 officials can be highly related with each other, it seems necessary that a Civil and Essential
19 Knowledge Test would be beneficial for Louisiana state government election candidacy.

21 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

22 These aforementioned requirements can be ensured by the use of a Civil and Essential Knowledge
23 Test for all elected officials in the Louisiana state government including the Executive, Judicial, and
24 Legislative branches. The test would have set dates prior to elections and would include specific
25 tests that would have specific questions for each office/branch of government depending on the
26 complexity, level, or area of expertise required for their prospective government position. Pending
27 approval of this bill, it will take effect starting January 2025 as state elections are at a point of
28 stagnancy during 2025. A range of +/- 5 points would then be released before the election as to not
29 give the specific score, but still educate voters on what the candidates score.

31 SECTION III: FUNDING

32 Each candidate who chooses to run will have the requirement and responsibility to pay for their own
33 test.

36 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

37 There will be a punishment for those who do not abide by this law. These candidates will simply
38 have their candidacy eligibility revoked for the election they are taking the test for. However, there
39 is no penalty for getting a low score as scores do not determine candidacy, but are released to the
40 constituency for them to take into account when casting their vote.



2 SENATE BILL 98

3 Adam Long Lafayette High School
4 Nathan Crouch

6 TITLE: Concealed Carry Affordability Act (CCAA)

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Very simply, this bill aims to reduce the cost of obtaining a Concealed Carry (CC) license in
10 Louisiana. By reducing the cost of obtaining a CC license, we open up room for more good-willed,
11 responsible, and trained citizens to carry a firearm to protect the public from either regular street
12 criminals or potential mass shooters. By having an armed and knowledgeable public, the people of
13 Louisiana will not be as reliant on police officers (who can take as many as 8 to 10 minutes to
14 respond to a crime), and will be more capable of defending themselves, creating a safer
15 environment overall, and discouraging future crime.
16 This bill also does not change the requirements of obtaining a Concealed Carry license, which
17 include being at least 21 years of age, not being convicted of a violent crime, not having a history of
18 substance or alcohol abuse, and passing a firearms training and safety course.

20 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

21 The current cost of a CC license in Louisiana is twenty five dollars (\$25) per year requested, up to 5
22 years, or twenty years of equivalent payment at once (\$500) for a lifetime license contingent with
23 renewal every five years. This bill would reduce that to ten dollars (\$10) per year, with the same
24 proportional cost of a lifetime license, that being twenty years of payment at once (now \$200). To
25 this effect, the following changes will go into effect on January 1st, 2024:
26 The text of R.S. 40:1379.3(H)(2) will be changed to replace "at a cost of twenty-five dollars per
27 year" with "at a cost of ten dollars per year".
28 The text of R.S. 40:1379.3.3(B)(4) will be changed to replace "Pay the twenty-five dollar fee
29 authorized in R.S. 40:1379.3(H)(2)." with "Pay the ten dollar fee authorized in R.S.
30 40:1379.3(H)(2)."
31 The text of R.S. 40:1379.3.3(C)(2) will be changed to replace "the twenty-five dollar fee paid shall
32 be applied to the cost of a concealed handgun permit as provided for in R.S. 40:1379.3(H)(2)" with
33 "the ten dollar fee paid shall be applied to the cost of a concealed handgun permit as provided for
34 in R.S. 40:1379.3(H)(2)".

36 SECTION III: FUNDING

37 This bill would require no funding.

39 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

40 This bill would require no punishments.



2 SENATE BILL 99

3 Krista Miller Mandeville High School
4 Jamari Roethe

6 TITLE: Protecting Our Minors: Restricting Access to Firearms

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 As of 2023, guns are the leading cause of death in minors. These gun-related deaths are primarily a
10 result of mass shootings in schools or in other public spaces. As a matter of fact, in 2022 over 43,000
11 students were exposed to gunfire in a school setting. These shootings are often primarily
12 orchestrated by students themselves, as no one has better access and knowledge about a school
13 system than a student. But where do they get the accessibility to the weapons responsible, if they
14 aren't of age to purchase a firearm? The answer: their home. According to the Sandy Hook Promise
15 Foundation, an estimated 4.6 million children in the United States live in a home where at least one
16 gun is held and unlocked. In Louisiana, an individual cannot purchase a gun until they are 18 years
17 of age, so why should they have access to one before that? This bill aims to lessen the vast majority
18 of the threats facing our school systems and our society that stem from a minor having access to a
19 firearm, by eliminating that access.

21 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

22 This law requires that any person who stores a firearm in a home where a minor (18 and under)
23 resides and/or could gain access to the weapon, must either secure the firearm with a trigger lock
24 or place it in a securely locked storage unit, to ensure that it is not easily accessible to a minor.
25 This legislation will limit minor's access to guns in their own home, while also making the parent or
26 guardian responsible for limiting their access. If a minor obtains access to the firearm and uses it in
27 any threatening way by bringing it into a public place or posting it on a social media platform, the
28 licensed guardian will be held liable. To enforce this legislation, an agreement will be included in
29 the gun-permit application process which states that if a minor resides in the home, or will
30 knowingly by the licensed individual have access to the home, then the individual will agree to keep
31 the firearm secured in the manner listed above.

33 SECTION III: FUNDING

34 This bill does not require any financing.

36 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

37 If a minor gains access to a firearm from the home and reveals it in any manner on social media or
38 in a public place, the parental figure or guardian that is licensed to have the gun in their home will
39 be at risk to face a fine of up to \$500, or face no more than 6 months in jail as compliant with the
40 Louisiana Legislative laws regarding illegal carrying of firearms.



2 SENATE BILL 100

3 Sophia Montalbano St. Joseph's Academy

5 TITLE: Lessen the Tax Burden of Louisiana Parents

7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 The federal government as well as fourteen states have a child tax credit. These credits are directly
9 associated with lower levels of child poverty. The federal credit increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000
10 under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2018 (TCJA). It further increased to \$3,000 in 2021 under the
11 American Rescue Plan, lifting 2.9 million children out of poverty. However, the federal credit has
12 since decreased to \$2,000, and unless Congress acts, by 2025 it will decrease further to \$1,000.
13 Thus, this bill will help to supplement the now lower credit.

14 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

15 This bill seeks to institute a refundable credit of \$200 per qualifying dependent against state
16 taxable income of households with a taxable income of less than \$100,000 and expand the definition
17 of dependent to include unborn children with a detectable heartbeat.
18 Qualifying dependents include those unborn and under the age of 17 by the end of the fiscal year.
19 Detectable heartbeat is defined as embryonic or fetal cardiac activity or the steady and repetitive
20 rhythmic contraction of the heart within the gestational sac. An unborn child is defined as a
21 member of the human species at any stage of development while inside the womb.

24 SECTION III: FUNDING

25 Funding for this bill will come from structurally changing the Taylor Opportunity Program for
26 Students (TOPS) by requiring that TOPS recipients prove Louisiana employment and residence for a
27 minimum of 3 years post-graduation, otherwise recipients must pay back the award received with
28 the same interest as a federal direct subsidized student loan (currently 5.5%).
29 In addition, the minimum GPA requirement will be increased to 3.0. Lastly, household income limits
30 will be established. Students coming from households with a taxable income between \$100,000 and
31 \$125,000 will only be eligible to receive 70% of the award. Students from households with a taxable
32 income between \$125,000 and \$150,000 will only be eligible to receive 50% of the award. Students
33 from households with a taxable income between \$150,000 and \$175,000 will only be eligible to
34 receive 30% of the award. Students from households with a taxable income between \$175,000 and
35 \$200,000 will only be eligible to receive 10% of the award. Students from households with a taxable
36 income of greater than \$200,000 will not be eligible to receive TOPS. For the 2021-2022 school year,
37 Louisiana spent \$310 million on TOPS. For fiscal year 2024, we estimate the cost of the TOPS
38 program will grow to \$325 million. We further estimate these structural changes will reduce this
39 cost by at least 40%, thus fully funding this bill.

40 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

41 There are no penalties associated with this bill.

2 SENATE BILL 101

3 Anna Skerrett Lafayette High School

4
5 TITLE: Let Students Soar

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 In order to expand Louisiana student’s horizons, teach safety skills and help Louisianians stand out
9 against their American peers, “Let Students Soar” will give Louisiana Public High Schools (and their
10 equivalent secondary schools) the unique opportunity to teach safety precautions and give students
11 training for extreme sports in place of the 0.5 credit of Physical Education required by the Taylor
12 Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS).

13
14 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

15 1. Beginning July 2024, High schools in Louisiana may choose to offer semester or full year classes
16 (also referred to as courses) that focus on safety precautions for extreme sports including but not
17 limited to Skydiving, Bicycle Motocross, Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus Diving,
18 Kayaking, and Rafting.

19 Local school systems will outsource or develop the curricula needed for the classes offered in their
20 district. The Louisiana Department of Education will assist school systems in finding or creating
21 sufficient curriculums.

22 Curricula should be relevant to the sport(s) in question.

23 If a state, national, or global certification is pre-existing for the sport(s) taught, then the course
24 shall allow students to start, continue, or complete such certification.

25 School systems/districts must receive a Louisiana Course Code from the Department of Education
26 through the pre-existing form in order for their course to apply to point 2 of Implementation of Let
27 Students Soar.

28 2. The TOPS high school graduation requirements for Opportunity, Performance, Honors, and Tech
29 should be adjusted to include extreme sports training and safety courses as options to fulfill the 0.5
30 credit of Physical Education.

31
32 SECTION III: FUNDING

33 The Louisiana Department of Education and local school districts have pre-existing budgets for
34 course materials and other needed resources. Thus, this bill does not require any new or adjusted
35 funding.

36
37 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

38 If employees of the Department of Education refuse to accept approved Extreme Sports course
39 credits as TOPS Graduation or scholarship requirements, appropriate disciplinary action can be
40 taken against them by the employee’s superior.

2 SENATE BILL 102

3 Chloe Brackett Mandeville High School

4
5 TITLE: Eliminate the Insanity Plea in Serial Crime Trials

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Over the past few decades, serial crime offenders in the United States have become increasingly
9 popular, and have become infamous in pop-culture and the legal world. In many of these cases
10 (often supported by damning evidence proving the offender guilty), the only logical plea that any
11 defense team is able to use is the insanity defense, a criminal defense strategy where the
12 defendant may plead innocent by reason of insanity. Using this strategy to avoid sentencing is often
13 looked down upon in the law field, and is historically abused by defense teams that are unable to
14 prove their defendants innocent by any other reasoning. Mental health issues plague today’s world,
15 so rather than removing the insanity plea entirely, this act will only eliminate the option for the
16 plea in serial crime trials (serial killings, sexual assaults, etc.). The repetition of these brutal crimes
17 deserves sentencing, even if mental stability is brought into question.

18
19 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

20 In the event of a serial crime trial occurring, the use of the insanity plea will be prohibited and no
21 longer a valid option for defense teams. If any other plea bargains are made, no action will be
22 taken. This act would simply eliminate the ability for the insanity defense to be used in serial crime
23 cases following its passage. No prior trials in which the insanity defense was used successfully will
24 be overturned. Those found guilty of serial crimes will still have access to mental health facilities
25 and appointed psychiatrists following their sentencing.

26
27 SECTION III: FUNDING

28 No financing is required for the implementation of this act.

29
30 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

31 No penalties are required.



2 SENATE BILL 103

3 Andrew Sarhan Catholic High School
4 Will Busenlener

5 TITLE: Create another bridge across the Mississippi River

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Another Bridge across the Mississippi River. Known as I-810 (due to the fact it is a bypass, it must
8 use a even number as its starting number). Similar to the Crescent City Connection in New Orleans.
9 Starting in Lobdell in West Baton Rouge Parish, it extends all the way to Terrace Ave. which would
10 be upgraded to an Interstate (with a service road, similar to Beaumont, TX) Level road and
11 eventually will meet back up with an (expanded) Interstate 10. The following some of the Exits that
12 will be on I-810 (this is not a comprehensive list, and as Interstate is developed further, more may
13 be added)

- 14 - I-10
- 15 - Lobdell
- 16 - Brusly/Plaquemines
- 17 - Nicholson Dr.
- 18 - Frontage Rd. (1)
- 19 - Frontage Rd. (2)
- 20 - Thomas H. Delpit Rd.
- 21 - I-10

22 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

23 The purchasing of land on Terrace Ave. and then upgrading the road to an Interstate level road,
24 building the bridge, and continuing the road to the town of Lobdell in West Baton Rouge Parish. This
25 project would start in Fall of 2024 and is projected to end around late 2028.

26 SECTION III: FUNDING

27 The cost of the bridge is split up into different subsections.

- 28 1. The cost of the bridge itself is an estimated \$200 million dollars.
- 29 2. The cost of expanding I-10 at Terrace Ave. is estimated to be \$50 million dollars.
- 30 3. The cost of the interstate on both sides along with buying the necessary property along
31 Terrace Ave. would cost nearly \$1 billion dollars.

32 Therefore, the total cost of the I-810 plan would be \$1.25 billion dollars. This can be achieved in
33 three different ways.

- 34 I. Using a portion of President Biden’s recently passed \$1 trillion dollar infrastructure bill. This
35 would get a significant portion of the total cost at around \$750 million.
- 36 II. Toll that would only be necessary until the bridge paid for himself (Either \$1.00 or \$0.50)
37 which would bring in around \$50 million dollars a year
- 38 III. A 1% tax increase on certain products such as Alcohol, Tobacco, Gambling, Scratch-Off
39 Tickets, and Lottery Tickets. This would only apply to West Baton Rouge Parish, East Baton Rouge
40 Parish, and Iberville Parish.

41 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

42 N/A



2 SENATE BILL 104

3 Kate Lee Baton Rouge Magnet High School
4 Travis Denson

6 TITLE: Connecting Louisiana Act

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 The people of Louisiana have always relied on each other for help, assistance, and guidance. This
10 concept has applied to our cities in terms of economic interdependence. The economic link
11 between Baton Rouge and Lafayette is one example, with rich industry sectors supporting one
12 another. However, while there is a strong nonphysical connection between these two cities, the
13 physical connection falls short. Freeways such as Interstate 10 and U.S. Highway 61 frequently have
14 congestion and are poorly maintained, causing car wrecks and increasing air pollution that harms
15 our environment. Consequently, commuters must endure long travel times that increase
16 maintenance costs for their car and the risk of fatally crashing. This act aims to rectify this issue
17 and open up new opportunities for the people of Baton Rouge and Lafayette. This bill will open up
18 the Baton Rouge job market for the people of Lafayette and the people of Baton Rouge. The
19 construction of a passenger train line from the two cities will reduce the congestion on main
20 highways and thus air pollution and car crashes, improving the environment and commuters’ lives.

22 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

23 The Louisiana Department of Transportation will be tasked with constructing a passenger rail line
24 from downtown Baton Rouge to downtown Lafayette. This new rail line shall have stops in Port
25 Allen, Plaquemine, and St. Martinville. Tickets shall be fixed at \$5.00 per ride, and a \$50 unlimited
26 monthly pass will be sold. 25% of ticket sales shall be given to the parishes the line goes through,
27 and the remaining 75% shall be used for railway maintenance costs. The construction will begin
28 when this bill is enacted and take five years to complete.

30 SECTION III: FUNDING

31 This bill will require funding from the Federal Railroad Association and the Louisiana Transportation
32 Trust Fund. Under the Federal Railroad Association, the Restoration and Enhancement Grant
33 Program will fund staffing costs for train engineers, conductors, and on-board service crew, as well
34 as diesel fuel or electricity costs associated with train propulsion power. The cost of building the
35 railway tracks will be \$40 million every year for the next five years, which will be allocated from
36 the Louisiana state budget, specifically under the Louisiana Transportation Trust Fund over the
37 course of five years from the beginning of the project.

39 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

40 There are no penalties for this bill.



2 **SENATE BILL 105**

3 Ramsey Greene Episcopal
4 Hayden Singh

6 **TITLE:** Obsolete Dam Identification and Decommission Act

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Many obsolete dams and weirs in Louisiana pose environmental and safety threats at no
9 benefit. The Obsolete Dam Identification and Decommission Act will require formal dam inspections
10 to classify dams as either “operating” or “obsolete.” A dam must be decommissioned or repaired
11 within twenty years of being classified as “obsolete.” The purpose of this Act is to improve air and
12 water quality and repair wetlands by allowing rivers to return to their natural sediment distribution
13 patterns; restore biodiversity by rebuilding habitats necessary to survival of local plants, animals,
14 and bacteria; and reduce the likelihood of flash floods. “Dam decommission” refers to the process
15 of demolishing a dam, returning water flow to the river. An “obsolete dam” is a dam that is no
16 longer able to serve its intended purpose.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 The Obsolete Dam Identification and Decommission Act entails that:

- 20 A. Formal dam inspectors must classify dams as either “functioning” or “obsolete”.
- 21 B. A privately-owned dam classified as obsolete must either be demolished or repaired by its
22 builder before it reaches twenty years of obsolescence.
- 23 C. A publicly-owned dam classified as obsolete will be removed by the state or repaired if
24 absolutely necessary.

25 Of Louisiana’s 557 dams, 494 are monitored by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and
26 Development (DOTD). The DOTD will be responsible for the heightened monitoring of dams in
27 Louisiana.

29 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

30 The cost of dam removal ranges from about \$150,000 to about \$6 million. Note that the latter cost
31 pertains to major dams of great size, of which Louisiana has few. As a result of the Inflation
32 Reduction Act (2022) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (2021), Louisiana has received:

- 33 • \$946,000,000 for Resilience
- 34 • \$92,000,000 for Environmental Remediation
- 35 • \$3,820,000,000 for Roads, Bridges, and Safety

36 This bill plans to allocate money from these three funds to counter the expenses of dam
37 decommission and inspection, with the exact allocation of the funds being determined by the DOTD
38 on a case-by-case basis.

39 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

40 There are no penalties.



2 **SENATE BILL 106**

3 Noor Akram Woodlawn High School
4 Nsreen Saleh

6 **TITLE:** Decrease the Obese

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The State of Louisiana has been ranked 5th out of all 50 states in the country with the highest adult
9 obesity rates for many years, steadily increasing to 37.6% in 2022. Obesity by the numbers is defined
10 by a person with a BMI (body mass index) of 30 or higher according to the Centers for Disease
11 Control. 47.9% of Louisianians, almost half of our population, have a BMI of 30 or higher. Food,
12 activity, and sleep are the top 3 causes of obesity by the CDC, not taking genetics and ethnic BMI
13 into account.

14 Considering poverty rates, Louisiana ranks 2nd poorest state in the US, with 18.6% of people
15 in poverty. Poverty can lead to less nutritious food and less time to engage in exercise according to
16 MNT. Stores such as Dollar General have implemented the fresh food and grocery addition and will
17 expand to 10,000 stores across the nation, helping the nutrition with limited resources problem.

18 BMI varies based off of race, due to different levels of fat and body structure. Louisiana has
19 a population distribution of around 58% White, 31.2% Black, 5.5% Hispanic or Latino, 1.7% Asian,
20 0.5% American Indian, and 0.1% Native Hawaiian and other.

21 Within the years 2020-2022, the prevalence of obesity in Louisiana includes 19.9% White,
22 46.5% Black, 35.4% Hispanic, and 43.7% Native Americans.

23 Obesity also in effect leads to higher medical costs with an average of 1.8 thousand dollars
24 higher than those of healthy weight, as well as leading to poorer mental health, and quality of life.
25 Obesity can later be connected to chronic illnesses and leading causes of death like diabetes, heart
26 disease, stroke, and types of cancer. As nearly 50% of Louisianians have a BMI over 30, this means
27 around 2.3 million Louisianians need help with getting to a healthy level.

29 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

30 The bill if passed, will go into effect at the beginning of February 2024, and is an optional program
31 for adults to join for independent help. An activity tracking device will be sent to the person to
32 wear every day, with certain goals put in by an advisor per month - which may become more strict
33 as time progresses, in terms of food and/or physical activity. Different BMI cut-offs will account for
34 different levels of obesity-based severity in Louisianians off of ethnicity and other factors by the
35 participant’s advisor. The device would send monthly summaries to the advisor and be monitored in
36 completion of the goals. A nutrition counselor can be added to the program for most plans or if
37 needed for a mandatory class upon failure to keep up. Devices will be returned at the end of the
38 programs.

39 If a participant fails to be consistent with their personal plan, their advisor may require them
40 to attend a mandatory counseling class on their specific shortcoming(s) (nutrition, physical activity,
41 etc) which will be explained before the program contract begins.

1 Completion of the program would offer a reward system with a partnership with a grocery
2 store -within the choices to help with better food choices. The rewards system will consist of
3 monthly discounts on produce, leading to healthier purchases.

4 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

5 The State of Louisiana’s Department of Health has a budget of 17.6 billion dollars. The fitness
6 device itself costs an average of \$100 or less. It would not need to be replaced unless damaged
7 (which the person would then pay for out of pocket). Licensed dietitian counseling is usually
8 covered for/ reimbursed by Medicaid and many health insurance companies.

9 Louisiana’s Medicaid budget includes around \$15.8 billion dollars. This program would receive
10 0.24% of the state’s Medicaid funding.

11 The program could support up to 150,000 people yearly with a device, and the remaining
12 money would be used for the monthly loyalty/rewards system noted in the implementation section,
13 as well as other finances. These can include equipment, advertisements, and resources to support
14 counseling.

15 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

16 No penalties are needed for this bill.
17
18



2 **SENATE BILL 107**

3 Michael Wilhelm Catholic High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Nutritional Information in Louisiana Schools
6

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Food in Louisiana school cafeterias are often displayed to students in unlabeled packages. Schools
9 are required to know the allergy risks of such foods, but are not required to make the entire
10 nutrition facts known to the students. This is incredibly important. Some students have issues that
11 require them to count the amount of certain nutrients they intake for instance type 1 diabetics
12 need to count carbohydrates to determine the proper amount of insulin to take and those with high
13 blood pressure need to keep sodium ingestion within certain limits. This also affects certain
14 athletes, who need to carefully monitor what they eat for "bulking" or "cutting" (strategic weight
15 gain or loss) as well as assure they are intaking enough vitamins. Many schools in Louisiana either do
16 not have nutritional information available, have it only by special request from nurses/lunch staff,
17 or have it on a website (which is difficult to find or even know about). This means the average
18 student likely has no idea what they are eating.
19

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 This bill requires all public, charter, and private schools in the state of Louisiana to have a physical
22 list of the nutritional facts of all food items being served, either on the items themselves or listed in
23 a place accessible to students within the building or area where the food is being served.
24 Government inspectors will be sent biannually for random inspections to make sure each school is
25 following the law.
26

27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 The FDA already requires biannual inspections of the food safety in Louisiana schools, adding the
29 simple task of checking for a nutritional list will not require any additional workers or salary
30 increases, meaning no funding is required.
31

32 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

33 A violation of this bill discovered in a random inspection will result in a \$2,000 fine for the first
34 offense. The second offense will result in a \$5,000 fine and any offense after the second will result
35 in a \$10,000 fine. Continued sequential offenses may result in a suspension of funding or revocation
36 of charter, to be determined by the Louisiana Department of Education.



2 SENATE BILL 108

3 Tyriq Cooper Woodlawn High School
4 Marya Algamal

6 TITLE: Ready, Aim, Fire

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Currently, there are 76 people on death row in the state of Louisiana. The current and only method
10 of execution in the state of Louisiana is death by lethal injection. The process of lethal injection
11 takes place over a period of five minutes, to up to two hours in extreme cases. The process is that
12 first the inmate is given a drug to cause unconsciousness, then they are given a drug to paralyze the
13 breathing system, effectively suffocating the inmate, and then finally, the third drug is given to
14 stop the heart of the inmate.

15 The statistics regarding the lethal injection in the United States are that in 2022, the year of
16 the 40th anniversary of the lethal injection, 7 out of the 20 executions using lethal injection were
17 botched, meaning 35%. These were the result of executioner incompetence, failures to follow
18 protocols, or defects in the protocols themselves according to "The Death Penalty Information
19 Center." Furthermore, according to Professor Austin Sarat, from 1890 to 2010, 1,054 people have
20 been executed. During this time frame, 3.15% of all executions were botched in some way, and
21 lethal injection executions had a 7.12% botch rate. So, the data concludes that lethal injection has
22 the highest rate of botched executions in all of the United States' history. According to that same
23 study, 0% of firing squad executions were botched in that same 120-year time frame.

24 In 1993, a study was conducted to assess the pain experienced in different execution
25 methods. Its findings concluded that the firing squad was among the least painful approaches. Dr.
26 Jonathan I. Groner, a surgery professor at Ohio State University, asserts that "drawing from his
27 surgical experience and research on lethal injection, he holds the view that the firing squad is not
28 only quicker but also inflicts less suffering than alternative execution methods." According to
29 Deborah Denno, a professor of law at Fordham University, "The firing squad also has the advantage
30 of being carried out by trained professionals."

31 Currently, 5 other states have the firing squad as an execution method: Mississippi,
32 Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Idaho.

34 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

35 This bill would allow victims on death row to be given another option on how they would like to be
36 executed by allowing them to choose between lethal injection or the firing squad. The firing squad
37 process would be as follows (as modeled by the firing squad method of the State of Utah); the
38 condemned would be bound to a chair surrounded by sandbags and be tied down with leather straps
39 across their waist and head in front of wall, then a black hood will be pulled over the prisoner's
40 head, then a doctor will locate the prisoner's heart with a stethoscope and will pin a white cloth
41 over it, and finally at least five trained shooters armed with .30 caliber rifles will fire their weapons
42 at the target placed on the prisoner simultaneously. After the conclusion of the shooting, the doctor
43 will immediately check the prisoner for a pulse to confirm the successful execution.

1 The shooters will be chosen at random from a pool of volunteer officers. This pool will be
2 composed of officers from across the entire state who voluntarily would like to potentially be a
3 gunman for a firing squad execution. Also, to provide each shooter with a measure of plausible
4 deniability that they weren't the ones responsible for the death of the executed, a blank round will
5 be used in one of the guns at random.
6 This bill, if passed, will be implemented on January 1, 2024.

8 SECTION III: FUNDING

9 The average price of a 30-caliber Winchester rifle can be at most a little less than \$1,000, and a 20-
10 pack of the ammunition costs around \$30. So, for a single execution with five shooters, the cost will
11 be around \$5,000. After this initial purchase of the firearms, the cost of execution will be of no cost
12 until more ammunition is needed, a firearm is to be replaced, or an additional firearm is to be
13 bought. This money would come from Louisiana's State Corrections Department which currently has
14 a budget of \$694,583,497.

16 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

17 The penalty for any existing crime that constitutes the death penalty could result in the option of
18 execution by firing squad.

2 SENATE BILL 109

3 Teagan Pethe Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

4
5 TITLE: Require Public Schools to meet the ASCA Recommendation for School Counselors

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 With a growing mental health crisis in America, it is becoming increasingly important for children to
9 have access to mental health professionals. Currently, the American School Counselor Association
10 (ASCA) recommends a 250:1 student to counselor ratio. This means that, for every 250 students at a
11 school, there should be one counselor. However, according to Bulletin 741– the Louisiana Handbook
12 for School Administrators, each public secondary school is only required to have a 450:1 student to
13 counselor ratio, and elementary/middle schools are only required to provide counselors if they're
14 given funding by the state. Not only does this limit the access the youth has to mental health
15 resources, but it also increases stress on counselors that have too many students on their caseload.

16
17 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

18 By the 2028-2029 school year, all Louisiana public schools will be required to meet the ASCA
19 recommended 250:1 student to counselor ratio. This includes all elementary and middle schools, as
20 well as high schools. The schools will have 5 years to accomplish this new student to counselor
21 ratio, so they have time to find counselors to hire. Lowering the student to counselor ratio will also
22 incentivize school counselors to want to work at those schools. If, and only if, a school district
23 cannot hire enough counselors, they are permitted to open their applicant pool to social workers
24 and other mental health professionals as well and include them in their student to counselor ratios.

25
26 SECTION III: FUNDING

27 Funding through the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) will be increased by dedicating a sales tax
28 increase of 0.10 of a penny to MFP funding, which would bring in approximately \$90 million.

29
30 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

31 If a school district is not meeting these new requirements by the 2028-2029 school year, a
32 corrective action plan would be issued to them, and they would be monitored to make sure they
33 meet the requirements in the future.

2 SENATE BILL 110

3 Ava Doucet St. Joseph's Academy

4
5 TITLE: Mandate a Modified Immigration Test for Elected Officials

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Many voters in the modern day do not believe that government leaders know or understand the
9 Constitution to the level they should. A poll run in 2018 found that most Americans could not recall
10 who their representatives were or who their governor was. The people who run the government
11 should be put to a higher standard than the average American due to these people being the ones to
12 have the most control over the United States government. These elected officials should be able to
13 prove they are proficient in the Constitution and the workings of the government. We are to hold
14 people who are becoming citizens of our country to a high standard of knowledge of the workings of
15 our government and history of our country and our elected officials should be held to that level or
16 higher and be able to demonstrate this by passing the same test these new citizens are taking.

17
18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 All elected officials would be required to take a modified form of the naturalization test based on
20 the seat of office they would be taking. When a candidate goes to the Secretary of State's office to
21 apply to enter a race, they would be administered a modified version of the US naturalization test.
22 The modified test will not include English speaking or writing components, but will be replaced with
23 questions specific to the state of Louisiana and to the office one wishes to seek candidacy for.
24 Civics based questions will be taken from the list of 100 questions used for the naturalization test
25 all new citizens take. On civics based questions, the candidate must get 6 of the 10 randomly taken
26 questions on the test from the 100 possible questions correct. Once graded and approved by the
27 Secretary of State's office, the candidate may continue application for candidacy. All tests will have
28 identifying markers to lead graders to the correct answer key for every test.

29
30 SECTION III: FUNDING

31 There is no funding needed for this bill.

32
33 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

34 If candidates are to not participate in required testing, they will be prohibited from applying for
35 current elections until proper paperwork is submitted.



2 SENATE BILL 111

3 Lola Avery St. Joseph's Academy
4 Margaret Johnson

6 TITLE: WOMP (Wholistic, Objective, Meticulous, & Pertinent Consideration of Curriculum Complaints
7 via Select Committee)

9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 In recent months, several states have taken to banning classes and Advanced Placement Curriculums
11 in order to inhibit the teaching of a “curriculum based on unproven, theoretical, or exploratory
12 content.” In practice, this has meant prohibiting learners’ access to unfiltered discussion and
13 debate. This country is suffering from an epidemic of fear of broadening learner’s horizons and of
14 acknowledging the connection between uninhibited education and global citizenry. In response to
15 class-banning legislation introduced in Florida, Jeremy Young, a researcher at a nonprofit
16 organization dedicated to protecting free expression and education through literature and writing,
17 called PEN America, explains that “college is one of the last bastions of free inquiry and open
18 conversation in this country. And if you restrict that in the way that [these] laws do, you’re going to
19 have a citizenry that is unprepared to engage in the democratic process.” Louisiana is a state of
20 remarkable learners but has failed to offer them an education system worthy of their talents and
21 dedication. To prevent future attacks on the ability for Louisianans to access an uninhibited,
22 factual, and honest education, this bill seeks to establish an independent, non-partisan, exploratory
23 committee. Modeled after independent redistricting commissions employed by states, a curriculum’s
24 subject will be impartially considered by a select committee should a class be brought into
25 question.

27 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

28 In the instance in which a curriculum’s subject matter is questioned by a legislation, an
29 Independent Curriculum Assessment Select Committee (ICASC) shall be established in order to
30 wholistically and impartially review the substance of a class. The ICASC will be composed of citizen
31 volunteers of varying party affiliations, all volunteers surpassing the age of 18. The Louisiana
32 Standards Review Committee, which is concerned with reviewing the content of general subject
33 curriculums to ensure they maintain the objectives of college and workplace demands, will review
34 applications from the public. The committee will then nominate 15 candidates from those citizen
35 applications - 6 from the largest party in the state, 6 from the second largest party in the state, and
36 3 individuals not represented with either major party. Following the selection of the 15 nominees,
37 four legislative leaders (the majority and minority leader in each chamber) will each choose one
38 commissioner from the nominees of their same party affiliation. The four chosen committee
39 members then select a fifth member who is not registered with the same political party as the other
40 committee members. The fifth member also serves as chairperson.

41 In regions of the United States where academic curriculum has been modified or called into
42 question, citizen interest has peaked. Lively debate has ensued, proving the public interest in the

1 educational curriculum of public schools. This bill anticipates heavy citizen involvement and
2 volunteerism, given the increase in public discussion of classroom education policies.
3 Should the ICASC suffer from a lack of civilian volunteers (meaning not enough to compose a
4 committee of 2 majority party members, 2 minority members, and 1 independent chairperson-
5 member) the process will be indefinitely paused until enough civilian volunteers are available.
6 Legislators are elected in order to accurately reflect the will of the people, thus, if the ICASC
7 suffers from a lack of volunteerism, this bill will presume that Louisiana citizens are not heavily
8 concerned with the curriculum complaint brought forth. If there continues to be a lack of
9 volunteerism for an extended period of time (6 months), the complaint shall be dismissed at the
10 present time.

11 This committee shall review the causes of complaint being brought forth about curriculum material
12 and shall assess the situation from there. The committee must consider the complaint for a
13 minimum of 90 days, including but not limited to one virtual two-hour meeting per 30 days. Four of
14 the five committee members must concur in order to effectively modify an academic curriculum. If
15 the committee makes a determination that would result in the modification of the course’s
16 curriculum, it will not be implemented until after the next school year is completed, ensuring that
17 students’ tentative schedules are not interrupted by a modified curriculum. For example, should a
18 course be modified during the 2023 academic year, the course shall remain unchanged for the
19 entirety of the 2023 and 2024 academic years, and will be effectively changed prior to the start of
20 the 2025 academic year.

22 SECTION III: FUNDING

23 Committee members are selected on a voluntary basis; thus no financial means are necessary for
24 the implementation of this bill.

26 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

27 There are no penalties associated with this legislation.

2 SENATE BILL 112

3 Nick Pecquet Catholic High School
4 Elliott Eagleton

5
6 TITLE: Run Cars Out Of Gas

7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Louisiana is losing about about a football field(100 yards, not including endzones) of land per hour
9 on it's coast. Its no secret that global warming is causing this loss of land. We are seeing rising sea
10 levels due to global warming. In the United States, one fifth of all emissions are from cars. Per
11 gallon of gas, 24 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO2) is made. What is one way we can limit Louisiana's
12 role in helping to rise sea levels? By banning gasoline powered transportation vehicles. This will help
13 us do our part to try to conserve precious land on our coasts. There are many benefits to buying
14 alternative fuel cars. For example, there are tax credits like those available in Alternative Fuel
15 Excise Tax Credit and Electric Vehicle (EV) and Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV) Tax Credit. Not only
16 can this save Louisiana coasts, but save everyone some money on taxes. Let's save our coastlines,
17 and ban gas vehicles!

18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 By June 1st, 2030, all Louisiana residents will be required to turn in their cars to dealership
20 locations predetermined by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
21 (LaDOTD). From there, designated drivers will transport the cars to neighboring states where the
22 cars will be sold to those states' dealers for an average of \$10,000. The car dealerships will receive
23 that money. For each car, the owner will receive alternative fuel car compensation, a bicycle, and
24 3 years of free bus transportation. The alternative fuel car compensation amount will be
25 determined as a vehicle of a similar car classification (SUV, sedan, van, truck) worth roughly 90% of
26 the trade-in value appraisal of the original gasoline car by the Kelley Blue Book. These cars that will
27 be available for purchase will come from a collaboration with Alternative Fuel Car companies, which
28 will provide alternative fuel cars kept in the car dealerships that were chosen by the LaDOTD. These
29 dealerships will be required to keep their lot stocked with at least 50 alternative fuel vehicles from
30 each standard car classification at all times beginning October 1st, 2029, and ending July 15th,
31 2030. The rest of the money will be used to buy new buses and upgrade existing roads. To start off
32 the project of building new bus stops, shuttle stops, and buying new buses, the Federal Government
33 gives out grants according to 49 U.S. Code 5312 and 5339 and Public Law 117-58. According to
34 Public Law 117-58 and 42 U.S. Code 16091, some or all school buses can be replaced with
35 alternative fuel buses for free, alongside charging stations and fueling infrastructure. After we get
36 started, the selling of old gasoline powered vehicles to other governments will begin. All sales of
37 gasoline powered cars after June 1st, 2024, are limited to non-residents of Louisiana. In 2030, we
38 will ban the sale of gasoline powered vehicles to everyone. The continuation of these sales in
39 Louisiana is to clear out inventory, instead of throwing the cars away. At every car dealership in the
40 state, a person who is buying a vehicle is required to show proof of residence. This residence can be
41 to another state, in which a gasoline powered car may be bought. If they live in the state, however,
42 they must buy an alternative fuel car.

1 SECTION III: FUNDING

2 This bill will cost a total of \$3.532 billion allotted towards bus transit. Funding for this bill will come
3 from federal grants for public transport, specifically funding from the Infrastructure Investment and
4 Jobs Act. The rest of the funding will come from the trade in between alternative fuel cars and
5 gasoline cars. For each car trade, the car dealership will be taxed 7% of the value of each car for
6 transportation to dealerships outside of Louisiana.

7
8 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

9 All citizens refusing to cooperate in turning in their cars will be met by a warning after June 1st,
10 2030, a fine of \$1,000 after June 15th, 2030, and a \$2,000 fine with forceful removal of the car
11 after June 21st, 2030.



2 SENATE BILL 113

3 Brinkley Bennett St. Joseph's Academy

4 TITLE: "POOKIE" (Promoting Openness in Organizational Knowledge of Income and Equity)

5 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

6 Pay transparency is imperative. Pay transparency refers to the practice of employers openly sharing
 7 salary information with employees and potential candidates. It has several benefits, such as
 8 reducing wage gaps and promoting fairness in the workplace. Understanding how much an individual
 9 earns is crucial due to the substantial disparity in earnings between gender and various racial
 10 backgrounds. The need for pay transparency can be supported using statistics from the U.S. Bureau
 11 of Labor Statistics (BLS). According to the BLS, as of 2020, women earned \$0.82 for every \$1.00
 12 earned by men. Pay transparency can help address this gender pay gap by providing employees with
 13 information about salary ranges and benefits for specific positions. This allows individuals to
 14 negotiate fair compensation and ensures that equal work receives equal pay. Additionally, pay
 15 transparency can help combat racial disparities in wages. The BLS reports that in 2020, Black
 16 workers earned 75.6% and Hispanic workers earned 85.1% of the median weekly earnings of White
 17 workers. By disclosing salary ranges in job postings, employers can ensure that candidates from all
 18 backgrounds have access to fair compensation opportunities. While it is acknowledged that pay
 19 transparency alone may not entirely close the pay gap, it is evident that it has effectively
 20 contributed to the process. By shedding light on salary information, it enables employees to make
 21 more informed decisions about their compensation, promotes fairness, and represents a tangible
 22 step towards narrowing the wage disparities that have persisted for decades.

23 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

24 This bill introduces crucial measures to ensure pay transparency in employment, emphasizing
 25 specific guidelines for implementation and providing businesses a grace period for adjustment. The
 26 grace period to allow adjustment shall last from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024
 27 (enforceable on January 1, 2025). The legislation mandates employers to include salary ranges in
 28 job postings for positions in Louisiana, providing clear information for potential candidates. During
 29 this grace period, businesses are expected to adapt their practices to comply with the new
 30 requirements. Recognizing the necessity of a smooth transition, the bill allows employers the
 31 flexibility to make necessary adjustments to their recruitment processes and systems. Additionally,
 32 within the timeframe, job postings must outline the total compensation package, including benefits.
 33 This provision ensures that applicants receive comprehensive information about the overall
 34 compensation offering, contributing to informed decision-making during the grace period. This
 35 legislation extends to remote jobs if they can be performed in Louisiana. Throughout the grace
 36 period, businesses are encouraged to align their remote work policies with the transparency
 37 requirements outlined in the bill. Universally applicable to any person, firm, or corporation
 38 employing an individual. The bill emphasizes consistent implementation across various types of
 39 employers. The grace period offers the flexibility to modify their procedures gradually,
 40 acknowledging the need for a phased approach to compliance. During the timeframe given to
 41 conform, employers must disclose the wage scale or salary range, along with a general description
 42 of benefits and other compensation, in each job posting. The grace period recognizes the need for
 43 businesses to incorporate these new disclosure practices seamlessly into their recruitment efforts.

1 "Posting" is to be considered any solicitation aimed at recruiting job applicants, whether conducted
 2 directly, indirectly, or electronically. This definition remains applicable throughout the grace
 3 period, allowing businesses the necessary time to adjust their recruitment strategies accordingly.
 4 Furthermore, the legislation addresses internal employee transfers. Upon request, an employer
 5 must provide the wage scale or salary range for an employee's new position during the grace period.
 6 This provision allows existing employees seeking internal mobility to benefit from the enhanced
 7 transparency measures. This bill not only establishes clear guidelines for pay transparency but also
 8 incorporates a grace period from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. This intentional approach
 9 ensures a balanced transition, promoting fairness and informed decision-making in employment
 10 processes.

11 SECTION III: FUNDING

12 No funding necessary.

13 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

14 This bill establishes penalties for violations, with a tiered approach based on the severity and
 15 frequency of the offense. Penalties apply per violation instance of failure to comply. The penalties
 16 are as follows:

- 17 a) First Violation: Up to \$1,000 on the first violation.
- 18 b) Second Violation within 5 Years of the Same Complaint: Up to \$2,500 for a violation after the
 19 first violation within 5 years of the same complaint.
- 20 c) Multiple (2 or more) Violations within 7 Years: Up to \$5,000 for 2 or more violations within 7
 21 years.

22 d) The court is instructed to consider several factors in determining the penalties, including the
 23 business's size, the good faith of the employer, the gravity of the violation, the violation history,
 24 and whether the violation was an innocent mistake or willful.

25 a) Additionally, the bill introduces an affirmative defense for employers who conduct a good
 26 faith "self-evaluation" of their pay practices within the previous two years and before the
 27 commencement of an action. This self-evaluation, designed by the employer or following a standard
 28 template, should demonstrate due diligence in identifying, preventing, and mitigating violations.
 29 The details of the self-evaluation should align with the size of the employer.

30 b) The court, in assessing the self-evaluation, considers factors such as inclusivity, consistency
 31 in analysis, unbiased testing of explanatory factors, incorporation of all relevant information, and
 32 sophistication in analyzing comparable work and permissible reasons for wage differentials.

33 c) The employer is required to retain records demonstrating the way the evaluation was
 34 conducted, and failure to do so may imply a lack of due diligence.

35 d) If the employer successfully demonstrates a good faith self-evaluation and eliminates
 36 unlawful wage differentials revealed by it, they have an affirmative defense against liability.
 37 However, this defense is available only from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025 [one full year
 38 after the end of the grace period (January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024)]. After this period, an
 39 employer with a self-evaluation demonstrating corrective action shall not be liable for certain
 40 damages or penalties but may still face legal action for unpaid wages and equitable relief.

41 e) Evidence of a self-evaluation alone is not sufficient to find a violation that occurred
 42 before the self-evaluation's completion. Employers who have not completed a self-evaluation are
 43 not subject to negative inferences.
 44

2 SENATE BILL 114

3 Victoria Dekeyzer St. Joseph's Academy
4 Claire Ann Chustz

5
6 TITLE: Halt the Hogs

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Feral hogs are an invasive species found in all 64 parishes of Louisiana and have an estimated
10 population of 700,000. They are major issues for our environment and cause problems such as:
11 depleting hard mast supplies, increasing coastal erosion, infecting vital water supplies, damaging
12 agriculture, and taking resources from other wildlife. Feral hogs specifically impact agriculture
13 negatively. They consume, uproot, and trample on the crops of Louisiana, causing \$76 million in
14 agricultural damages annually according to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Feral
15 hogs were also found to have a strong connection to pathogens found in Louisiana's waterways in an
16 investigation done by LSU's agricultural center. Pathogens were found in every site tested and were
17 concluded to potentially cause leptospirosis, yersinosis, Klebsiella pneumonia, and salmonellosis in
18 both humans and wildlife. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries states that 70-75% of
19 the feral hog population must be taken out to keep them under control. Therefore, this bill aims to
20 control the feral hog population of Louisiana to prevent the furtherment of the damages feral hogs
21 cause.

22
23 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

24 This bill would implement a program, similar to the Nutria Control Program, where participants
25 would be paid a \$10 bounty for each feral hog tail turned into the program. The program would be
26 administered by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the United States
27 Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Interested Participants
28 would fill out an application annually with no fees or dues charged, and the permit would be good
29 for one year. Participants would turn in a swine tail(s) to collection stations around the state. All
30 tails will be tagged, dated, and identified by permit number in order to receive their compensation.

31
32 SECTION III: FUNDING

33 This bill will gain funding through the U.S. Department of Agriculture- Natural Resources
34 Conservation Service Division along with Animal & Plant Inspection Service, both of which already
35 have programs in place in Louisiana around Feral swine control. An additional \$2 will be added as a
36 fee to all Louisiana Hunting License purchases for additional funding, and continuation of the
37 program.

38
39 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

40 This Bill requires no penalties.

2 SENATE BILL 115

3 Andi Hayes St. Joseph's Academy
4 Aubrey Harvey

5 TITLE: Reform Homeschooling and Protect Children from Abuse

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Raylee's law is a proposed bill in West Virginia preventing people being investigated for or convicted
8 of child abuse from homeschooling their children. It is based on the case of Raylee Browning, an
9 eight year old who was removed from her public school in order to be homeschooled after her
10 teacher reported signs of neglect. Before her caretakers could be properly investigated, Raylee died
11 of illness. Raylee showed many visible signs of abuse and illness before being removed from her
12 school, where mandated reporters took note of this abuse and reported it. By pulling Raylee out of
13 school, her caretakers were able to continue their abuse without anyone there to report it. This is
14 one of thousands of examples of state homeschooling laws failing to protect their children from
15 danger.

16 Currently in Louisiana there are little to no restrictions on who is allowed to pull their child out of
17 school as well as very few regulations on the actions of homeschooling adults while the child is in
18 their care. While the right of parents to homeschool is monumentally important, the right to abuse
19 your child is not.

20 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

21 This bill restricts the following from homeschooling and/or withdrawing their children from school
22 in order to homeschool:

23 Parents, legal guardians, and/or household members that have a:

- 24 -pending CPS case
- 25 -pending case or convicted of domestic violence
- 26 -pending case or convicted of child abuse
- 27 -pending case or convicted of child neglect
- 28 -pending case or convicted of sexual abuse/assault

29 Those wishing to homeschool who do not comply with these requirements and believe they should
30 have their eligibility considered, can post appeals to the Louisiana Department of Education. This is
31 the same process already in place if an individual finds an issue with their child's education.

32 Currently, the Louisiana Department of Education has a digital application process that accepts the
33 individuals after a brief search that the information given is accurate. Under this bill, the
34 application process will stay the same for parents/guardians and the state will review the possible
35 criminal history of the individual before accepting the application.

36 SECTION III: FUNDING

37 This bill requires no funding.

38 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

39 In accordance with Louisiana State Compulsory Attendance Laws, a child must be in school with
40 upstanding attendance from ages 7 to 17 (with exceptions for extenuating circumstances). If a
41 parent/legal guardian withdraws their student without approval, the student will be considered not
42 in compliance with these compulsory attendance laws and will be subject to the relevant
43 consequences.



2 **SENATE BILL 116**

3 Riley Berry Mandeville High School

5 **TITLE:** Enforce Limited Terms for Louisiana U.S. Senators and Representatives

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 No United States senator or representative embodying the citizens of Louisiana shall be eligible to
9 run for or hold the same office for more than two consecutive or nonconsecutive terms. This
10 regulation includes appointment by the governor in the occurrence of the death of an existent
11 senator, or any further comparable circumstances in which the representative may not be elected.
12 These restrictions also apply to partial terms, in which the complete term was not served for any
13 cause. This constraint is intended to reduce the severity and concentration of corruption that can
14 transpire from the continuous reelection of our United States senators and representatives.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 All present senators and representatives will be authorized to remain in office for the rest of their
18 respective terms, nevertheless once up for reelection, if they are out of adherence with the
19 prerequisites above, they will not be able to run for office again. Any existing senators or
20 representatives who have only served one term may run for reelection without contingencies. These
21 rules will remain in effect for all subsequent elections for the respective positions.

23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 No means of financing are required to execute this.

26 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

27 If a senator or representative attempts to run for a 3rd term in the same office, with the
28 understanding that they cannot, the expressed person will not be permitted to present their name
29 for the ballots and will be removed from their current office immediately. Offenders will no longer
30 be allowed to serve in any state-elected or appointed office.

2 **SENATE BILL 117**

3 Ryleigh Shullaw Hope Gutierrez Lafayette High School

4 **TITLE:** Implement the Incident Safety Certification in places selling alcohol

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 Whiskey Row is the name of a bar in Tennessee where Dallas Barrett was found in an altercation at
7 around 11 p.m. with six private security guards. Dallas was just 22 years old when he died of
8 deoxygenation after an improperly trained security guard pinned him to the ground. It is estimated
9 that more than 140,000 people die from alcohol-related causes annually in the United States,
10 making it the fourth leading cause of death. None of the guards that had gotten into the altercation
11 with Dallas Barrett had received proper first aid and de-escalation training prior to receiving their
12 job to prevent altercations and protect civilians. They ended up turning themselves in and being
13 charged with homicide and aggravated assault. Around 25% of all assault cases are from bars and
14 nightclubs, primarily for bar fights resulting in serious injury or death. In America alone, there is an
15 average of 80 people killed in bar fights each year. In 2022, the job market was flooded with
16 security guards who lacked adequate training and were found forging their certifications. The mere
17 presence of a uniformed security guard can deter numerous types of crime, as long as they aren't
18 causing assaults themselves. By implementing this program, more privately owned guards will be
19 better equipped to handle incidents in bars. This not only increases public safety, but it will
20 increase business by letting customers know that the establishment is better prepared for incidents
21 and possible altercations.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 This bill will be implemented on June 1st, 2024. From that date, this program will be presented to
24 each Proprietary Security Organization (PSOs) that is already licensed by the Alcoholic Beverage
25 Commission. This bill will present the Incident Safety Certification to businesses that provide their
26 security guards with proper training. This training would include CPR, first aid, restraint, and de-
27 escalation training, up-to-date certification, and renewal of each certification every two years.
28 These requirements will be maintained by the Louisiana State Board of Private Security Examiners
29 (LSBPSE) and businesses will receive the certification if found to be adequate. The additional
30 training could be completed in person or online, as long as the guard submits proof of the
31 certification. There will be an additional written test after each of the certificates that requires
32 seventy percent (70%) to pass. Current basic training includes legal responsibilities and limitations,
33 emergency response procedures, communication skills, access control and perimeter security,
34 patrolling techniques and surveillance methods, crowd control and event security, ethics and
35 professionalism, cultural diversity and sensitivity training, and security technology. In addition to
36 this training, only CPR/AED, First Aid, and De-escalation and Restraint classes must be included to
37 receive this new certification.

38 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

39 There is no funding required, as the Louisiana State Board of Private Security Examiners already
40 receives funding from the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and fees and fines are paid by
41 PSO's and their workload is not significantly prolonged or added on to. The businesses themselves
42 would be paying for the additional classes if they choose for their employees to receive this extra
43 certification.

44 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

45 There are no penalties required for an opt-in program.

2 **SENATE BILL 118**

3 Ivy Anseman Episcopal School of Acadiana

4
5 **TITLE:** Investing in Direct Air Captures to Lower the Amount of Carbon Emissions6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Louisiana has known for years that as carbon emissions rise so does the amount of floods and
9 droughts. This is causing Louisiana to lose rivers and for the coast to be taken under by water as the
10 water rises. One way Louisiana could combat the cause of sea level rise and eroding coastlines is by
11 lowering the amount of carbon emissions. The lowering of carbon emissions, while often costly and
12 controversial, is crucial to the vitality of the state. However, a tactical approach to counteract the
13 rise in emissions is through the implementation of devices called direct air captures (DAC). These
14 machines can be run fully by electricity and pull CO2 directly from the atmosphere. DAC also
15 roughly costs between 250-600 dollars to install and requires minimal space Due to their relatively
16 small size, these machines can also be placed on the side of highways and in places where other
17 structures can be placed or built.

18
19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 If Louisiana started implementing these DAC machines now it is projected that by 2050 in places like
21 New Orleans, they would reach the goal of net-zero emissions. The physical implementation of
22 these machines would include hiring state-paid builders, engineers, and electricians to install these
23 devices. A single DAC machine only requires a few days to install, thus avoiding minimal funding and
24 time for state employees to invest their workdays in. The workers also would not have to return to
25 these machines unless the machine malfunctions or is broken and needs to be replaced.

26
27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 After its last budget cycle, Louisiana acquired an estimated amount of \$330 million in surplus.
29 Despite funding being needed in several departments and for a plethora of issues, a fraction of this
30 money could be used to invest in DAC machines, pay workers, and fund the electricity cost that
31 these machines will have. Holistically, carbon emissions and climate change are major threats to
32 Louisiana's economy, especially for the seafood industry and residential living. By funding this
33 comparatively low-cost and low-risk solution, Louisiana would only spend an estimated \$10,000 in
34 the first year. However, to ensure and prevent any losses, Louisiana should implement around 20
35 total devices in the first year to assess whether the DACs are effective and cost-efficient.

36
37 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

38 N/A

2 **SENATE BILL 119**

3 Siyeon Joo Episcopal School of Acadiana

4
5 **TITLE:** Least-Developed Countries Completely Deserve Lessons6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Studying a developing country is critical to being a more well-informed and educated global citizen.
9 When individuals consider developing countries, they often conjure misconceptions of that country's
10 history, people, politics, and culture.

11 This bill aims to propose a state-structured social studies project in the Louisiana Department of
12 Education middle school curriculum with a specific assignment to educate students on developing
13 countries.

14 Instead of creating a mandatory and overly demanding project for 8th grade students and the
15 Louisiana curriculum, this bill aims to include an interactive project fulfilling the proponents of the
16 Louisiana social studies curriculum. Beginning with the Second Industrial Revolution, the Grade 8
17 social studies unit covers "pre-history to present days." Unit 8.17 specifically focuses on expanding
18 students' knowledge of the relationships between the U.S. and foreign administrations.

19 The contents and guidelines of this assignment include but are not limited to the following:

- 20 1. Teachers pull from the United Nations list of "Least Developed Countries" and randomly assign
21 groups of 3-4 students to one of the listed countries. Although students are grouped, each individual
22 will create their own slideshow based on independent research. (<https://unctad.org/topic/least-developed-countries/list>)
- 23 2. Students would be given a Louisiana Department of Education outlined rubric to create a detailed
24 "country profile" in the form of a class presentation/slideshow.
- 25 3. While the rubric is not confirmed by the department, this bill suggests the inclusion of the
26 following information:
27
 - 28 Official flag, languages, food (specialties), current and past politics, environmental issues (drinking
29 water, hurricane damage, earthquakes, etc), and culture (celebrations, beliefs, people, etc.)
 - 30 4. To introduce students to historical sourcing, the research aspect of this project is enforced by
31 a. Requiring students to use at least three sources which will need bibliographic documentation
32 (Chicago format).
 - 33 b. Suggesting students to include looking in the school's media center, public libraries, and the
34 Internet.
 - 35 c. Discovering more about the topic, whether it is a person, a structure, or a topographical feature.
- 36 5. Once the information is collected within the first 2-3 days of the assignment, students
37 researching the same country will group together and discuss their information.
- 38 6. Students will combine their information into a single Google Slides presentation.
- 39 7. Groups will collectively nominate individuals to represent their country and talk their class
40 through their combined researched slideshow presentation. Volunteer presenters will have the
41 opportunity to present without deduction or reward of grades.
- 42 8. At this checkpoint stage, teachers will meet with groups to discuss their presentation drafts
43 before presentation day.

- 1 9. Throughout the activity:
2 a. Each slide is limited to 50 words to emphasize critical speaking and presentation skills
3 b. There is a placed emphasis on honing middle schoolers' presentation and teamwork skills in
4 preparation for high school
5 c. Presenters will educate the class in a short presentation (5-7 minutes)
6 d. Presenters will tell the class basic and interesting information about the country and what they
7 have learned about another culture by doing this project
8 10. Final Drafts and Presentations should be due near the end of the spring semester and the total
9 project should take 1-1½ weeks from start to finish.

10 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

11 The Louisiana Department of Education would briefly train teachers on how to best effectively
12 execute this assignment to reflect its intentional values and purposes during professional
13 development.

14 SECTION III: FUNDING

15 There should be no predicted funding for the implementation of an assignment into middle school
16 curricula.

17 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

18 The proposal of this project is entirely opt-in for school districts to send their teachers to
19 professional development for. However, benefits of including this project relieve the burden for
20 teachers to create using time in their personal agenda.



2 SENATE BILL 120

3 Taylor Albert Woodlawn High School
4 Helena Lijeberg

5 TITLE: No Child For The Vile

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Louisiana ranks 19th in the country with the highest number of registered sex offenders. For every
8 100,000 people, 274.23 of those people are registered sex offenders. The state is ranked 26 in
9 reported rapes per 100,000 people as well as being ranked 36 in reported child sex abuse victims
10 per 100,000 children. There are 4,000 children in Foster Care here in Louisiana. About 1 in 4 girls
11 and 1 in 13 boys experience child sexual abuse and nearly 70% of all sexual assaults occur to
12 children under the age of 17. There are three tiers of sex offenders once registered.

13 Tier one consists of people who are considered to have the lowest risk of a repeat offense. These
14 include; sexual battery(R.S. 43.1), voyeurism(R.S. 14:283.1), indecent behavior with juveniles(R.S.
15 14:81), conduct between educators and students(R.S. 14:81.4), obscenity through solicitation of a
16 minor(R.S. 14:106), intentional exposure to HIV or other STIs(R.S. 14:43.5), sexual abuse of
17 animals(R.S. 14:89.3), and crimes against nature(R.S. 14:89).

18 Tier two consists of people viewed as presenting a moderate risk of repeating an offense or
19 committing similar crimes. These crimes consist of; sexual battery of a minor under the age of
20 18(R.S. 14:43.1), oral sexual battery(R.S. 14:43.3), soliciting a minor with the use of a
21 computer(R.S. 14:81.3), Pornography involving juveniles(R.S. 14:78.1), molestation of a juvenile or
22 a person with a physical or mental disability(R.S. 14:81.2), and prostitution charges involving a
23 minor who is not over the age of 18.

24 Tier three offenses are viewed as the most serious of all convictions. These acts carry the
25 highest chance of a repeat offense. These offenses are; sexual battery of a child under the age of
26 13[R.S. 14:43.1(C)(2)], second-degree sexual battery(R.S. 14:43.2), molestation of a juvenile or a
27 person with a physical or mental disability[R.S. 14:81.2(D)(1)], sexual battery of the infirmed(R.S.
28 14:93.5), all counts of rape, and all counts of human trafficking and kidnapping.

29 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

30 This bill will revise the custody rights of all sex offenders. This bill will prevent any and all sex
31 offenders from gaining custody of anyone under the age of 18. This will only change the fact that if
32 a sex offender found a way to adopt or foster a child out of the state of Louisiana, the certificate of
33 adoption will no longer be valid, the offender will be charged with kidnapping, and the child will be
34 brought back to foster care. If a sex offender were to gain custody of a child outside of a state,
35 whoever granted custody(court, foster care program, adoption houses, etc.) will have to alert, via
36 email, the sheriff's department of where that sex offender lives. The way this will be put into effect
37 is the standard of background checks will be the same for foster and adoptive situations, sex
38 offenders will have checkups randomly to ensure that there is no chance of a repeat offense, and in
39 the case that a sex offender has previously adopted children before the implementation of this bill,
40 they are not allowed to have legal custody over that kid, but if there is supervision present (legal
41 guardian, police officer, etc.), then they are allowed to have visitation rights. This bill, if passed,
42 will be implemented December 7, 2027.

43 SECTION III: FUNDING

1 There is no funding needed.

2 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

3 If there are programs(adoption houses, foster care, etc.) or tolls that blatantly ignore this bill they
4 will have to pay a fine of \$300 for their first offense if it continues it will go up by \$100 each time
5 they go against this bill.

6

2 **SENATE BILL 121**

3 Kaci Cook Haynes Academy

4

5 **TITLE:** Institute an Age Maximum for Louisiana Representatives

6

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The older ages of representatives has become a growing problem all over the United States.
9 Louisiana is just one of many states that is significantly affected. The average age of Louisiana
10 residents is 37. This is in stark contrast to the average age of Louisiana representatives. The average
11 age of a Louisiana House member is 57, and the average age of a Louisiana Senate member is 60.
12 The oldest member of the Louisiana House is 80, and the oldest member of the Louisiana Senate is
13 77. In contrast, the Louisiana life expectancy is 73, and the average age of retirement in Louisiana
14 is 62. The reason for these drastic age differences is not the voters, it is that party officials are
15 backing these older candidates that have already run for office. Over 75% percent of Americans
16 support the enactment of legislation to institute an age maximum for representatives. The most
17 common argument is that these older representatives are from a different time, and are therefore
18 out of touch with what today's generation wants and needs. Cognitive decline is also another reason
19 to institute an age maximum for elected officials. Doctors say that heavy cognitive decline usually
20 begins at around 70 years old.

21

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 This bill would implement an age maximum for Louisiana House and Senate members. The age
24 would be capped at 70 on the day of the election. This is the same age cap that is currently present
25 for Louisiana state judges.

26

27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 This bill requires no funding.

29

30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 If a person will be over 70 on the day of the election, then their name will be pulled out of the
32 running, and they will not receive ballot access.



2 SENATE BILL 122

3 Austin Roberson Catholic High School

4
5 TITLE: Make roads car worthy.6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND8 We've all seen potholes, bumps, cracks, etc. in the roads and its even worse when you have to drive
9 over one. Louisiana has the 3rd worst roads in the United States with 46% of our roads having been
10 reported in "poor condition." According to the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Louisiana's
11 roads have received a D+ on a grading scale for pavement roughness. Louisiana's current way of
12 repairing this damage is through patch repairs which while quick and cheap, ends up needing repairs
13 in around 10 years. Meanwhile, another option is reconstruction which while more costly and more
14 timely, lasts double the time of patching to around 25 years. Even though Louisiana does complete
15 some reconstruction repairs, completing more would mean longer lasting roads and therefore less
16 constant patching.17 As of recently, Louisiana needs roughly \$786 billion dollars to pay for all road damages in the state.
18 Most of the funding comes from the federal government while local income comes from the
19 Louisiana motor fuel tax. Unfortunately, the motor fuel tax has been seeing less income do to more
20 fuel efficient cars and electric vehicles, and the problem will most likely just get worse. This means
21 that unless the federal government steps in, Louisiana will have a difficult time repairing and
22 building roads. To fix this problem, the tax on the motor fuel will be raised along with the
23 requirement of more reconstruction.24
25 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION26 This bill would be effective July 2, 2024. This bill will see an increase in the motor fuel tax from 20
27 cents per gallon of gas to 30 cents per gallon. This bill will also require road reconstruction on roads
28 with multiple potholes, cracks, or bumps in near vicinity of each other instead of patching each one
29 individually.30
31 SECTION III: FUNDING32 Majority of funding will come from the motor fuel tax and any another necessary funding will come
33 from the already existing Transportation and Development budget.34
35 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

36 There are no penalties for the implementation of this bill.



2 SENATE BILL 123

3 Camille Starkovich St. Joseph's Academy

4 Mariana Cuadra

5 TITLE: Combat Homelessness with "Housing First."

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 In 2022, according to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, there were about 582,000
8 Americans experiencing homelessness. Night shelters have no standard of living and operation varies
9 based on the owner and supporting corporation. Underfunded shelters tend to be crowded and lack
10 necessary resources or have a set of rules that prevent the personal growth and development
11 necessary to free a person from the need to use a shelter. Depending on the shelter, rules can vary
12 from fees upon entry to curfews that prevent people from working a night shift. Night shifts are a
13 common job for the homeless because they are the least likely to be desired by anyone else. In
14 extreme cases, shelters will confiscate half the resident's food stamp allowance or force them to
15 work forty hours a week for board and lodging. These things severely prevent a person from
16 developing a stable income and the means necessary to move onto a hostel. While occasionally
17 effective transitional housing, that is supposed to supply homeowner knowledge paired with other
18 life skills, typically limits a residents stay for a year. This tiered stairstep system is common in most
19 countries and allows many participants to become easily stuck on a "step."

20 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

21 Louisiana will adopt the Housing Frist program from Finland adapted slightly to fit the state's needs.
22 Once a homeless person applies to the program, they will be admitted to a home. Homes will be
23 constructed into existing shelters using government funds to turn them into small apartments.
24 Apartments will have all basic necessary appliances. Admission will only happen after regulated
25 education about home and self-management is given to the person. Any homeless person can apply
26 for "Housing First," and shelters will encourage this through pamphlets and verbal instruction.
27 Volunteer assistants will help a person move into the housing unit and assist them in creating a
28 stable environment for themselves. Weekly check-ins will occur along with continuation of classes
29 for the first six months of living in their unit. Past six months, tenants will be checked on monthly
30 and tested on their homeowner and self-care knowledge. Once the tenant hits an income threshold,
31 currently \$26,000 based on the average Louisiana average income threshold of \$27,139, rent will
32 gradually begin to be charged to transition the housing unit into a typical apartment unit.

33 SECTION III: FUNDING

34 Louisiana was granted \$66,387,990 by HUD and the Biden-Harris Administration to assist in the fight
35 against homelessness through care project grants. All this money along with requested money for
36 the upcoming year would support the cost of resolving around 7,200 homeless in Louisiana as it took
37 Finland about \$280,000,000 to cure most of the homelessness for a similar number of people. Most
38 of the funding will go into the initial construction of the apartments.

39 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

40 No penalties.

2 **SENATE BILL 124**

3 Isaiah Niles Jesuit High School
4 Hayden Welk

6 **TITLE:** To Tax the Evil Oil Companies that are sucking Louisiana dry

8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Revising taxes around oil companies in order to claim more needed revenue for the State of
10 Louisiana. Taxes are mandatory payments made by people and buisnesses that help fund
11 government services at the federal, state, and local level. Tax revenue pays for things like Social
12 Security, Medicare, education, national defense, infrastructure, and other goods and services
13 intended to benefit the community. The petroleum industry, also known as the oil industry or the
14 oil patch, includes the global processes of exploration, extraction, refining, transportation, and
15 marketing of petroleum products. The largest volume products of the industry are fuel, oil, and
16 gasoline. These funds will be inspected and used diligently to effectively improve the State
17 infrastructure, school systems, and other things under the control and responsibility of the State.

19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 An oil company pumping and selling oil within Louisisana will henceforth be taxed 1% of every
21 100,000 USD made from the drilling, production, and selling of oil. Inspectors appointed by local
22 parish governments shall investigate and audit any local drilling stations and refineries. These
23 auditors will report back to parish officials who will then collect the taxes and deliver them to the
24 State Treasury for use by the State however deemed necessary by the Governor. The use of these
25 funds will be inspected and monitored by Federal officials as to ensure no corruption by the State
26 government.

28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 All funds shall be used by the State for its citizens and their health and growth. The afformentioned
30 inspectors/auditors shall be paid by funds acquired from the taxation of the oil companies.

32 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

33 Repercussions for non-compliance are as follows. Failure to comply with all sections above will
34 result in the seizure of all assets, by the State, from oil companies that do not comply. These assets
35 will then be sold to other oil companies that are in compliance with all above mentioned sections.
36 The price will be set by the local parish governments. Any oil companies that leave Louisiana due to
37 this bill will also have their assets seized and sold under the same circumstances as non-compliance.

2 **SENATE BILL 125**

3 Sarah Thomas Baton Rouge High

5 **TITLE:** Incentivize Kudzu Grazing

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Kudzu is a vine native to Japan and Southeast China that was introduced to the United States in
9 1876 as an ornamental plant and later promoted as a means to combat erosion. Since its
10 introduction, it has spread rapidly throughout the Southeastern US. Today, Kudzu is estimated to
11 cover over 7 million acres of land throughout the Southern States such as Louisiana, killing native
12 vegetation and damaging nearby infrastructure. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
13 originally attempted to combat its spread through the use of herbicides and succeeded in somewhat
14 containing the plant and reducing its range. However, Kudzu remains a pest in Louisiana. Containing
15 it through the use of herbicides alone is now inadvisable due to herbicide costs and possible
16 detrimental impacts on wildlife. Thus, alternative methods such as grazing should be considered.
17 Livestock, particularly cattle, grazing on Kudzu plants younger than ten years old has been shown to
18 successfully exterminate Kudzu, within fenced locations, in 3-4 years. Additionally, replanting
19 vegetation in grazed fields after the 3-4 years pass has been shown to prevent the regrowth of
20 Kudzu in the area.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 Livestock owners will receive an incentive of \$150 per acre when their animals graze on fields
24 where Kudzu is prevalent. Fields must be fenced in so that the Kudzu does not continue to spread as
25 the livestock graze. After 3-4 years of grazing, most fields should be free of kudzu. At this point,
26 the owners will be eligible for an incentive of \$150 per acre for planting non-invasive vegetation in
27 the fields where kudzu was eliminated. This law, if passed, will go into effect on January 1st, 2025.

29 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

30 Funding will come from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, which in the fiscal year
31 2022-2023 had a budget of \$144,756,085. The DEQ has also had a trend of spending under its annual
32 budget in recent fiscal years. Thus, this incentive program should not prove burdensome to the
33 department.

36 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

37 No penalties are required.

2 **SENATE BILL 126**

3 Neal Tandon Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

4
5 **TITLE:** Teacher Empowerment and Academic Collaboration for Higher Retention (TEACHR)

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 In Louisiana's classrooms, the heartfelt commitment of our teachers is undeniable. Yet, the very
9 passion that fuels their dedication often meets the harsh reality of unmet financial needs. In
10 Louisiana, the absence of a mandated minimum salary for teachers has led to significant disparities
11 in educator compensation. Tensas Parish, the least populated in the state, grapples with an average
12 teacher salary of \$35,000, which is approximately \$15,000 below the state average. Meanwhile, Red
13 River Parish, the fourth least populated, has the highest average teacher salary at approximately
14 \$68,000. This contrast shows that the issue clearly isn't tied to the population and size of a parish,
15 but rather to the scarcity of resources and a standardized minimum salary to sustain teacher wages.
16 Louisiana ranks 43rd in average teacher salary, with an average of \$52,660 annually. The State
17 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) reports an 86% teacher retention rate for the
18 2021-2022 academic year, but this figure is overshadowed by the approximately 7,000 educators
19 who have left. Due to the lack of incentives and fair salaries that equate to the demanding and
20 necessary nature of education, educators will become more likely to quit. Teacher's salaries are a
21 critical factor in Louisiana's ranking of 46th in education, emphasizing not only a deficiency in
22 academic resources but also a lack of consistent support for teachers. The role of an educator is one
23 of the most important jobs today, giving our future generation the wealth of knowledge and the
24 empowerment to reach a better future. If we expect educators to empower the future generation
25 of Louisiana, we must empower our teachers and ensure they have the resources to support
26 themselves.

27
28 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

29 This bill will implement increased salaries for teachers in certain districts by establishing a
30 minimum salary of \$52,660 annually for every district, the state average of teacher salaries across
31 all districts. Funding will be provided to each district so they have the resources to provide this
32 salary to teachers, depending on a district-by-district basis based on affordability. Criteria used by
33 districts in determining specific salaries based on effectiveness of the teacher and hard-to-fill
34 positions will remain the same, the only difference being an established minimum salary. A Teacher
35 Mental Health Advisory Council will be formed for each district school system, consisting of 26
36 teachers, 2 per grade level from K-12, from different schools within each school district to advocate
37 for teacher resources and provide insight on essential improvements to support teachers. Members
38 of each council will be chosen at the discretion of the Superintendent of each district. A review
39 panel will be created in the event of an unfair decision being reported. Inter-school mentorship
40 programs will be established, improving low-performing public schools by leveraging the experience
41 of educators from successful public schools within each district. Experienced teachers, by serving as
42 mentors and sharing their range of expertise, would play a critical role in reforming struggling
43 public schools by providing guidance on curriculum development, classroom management, and

1 effective teaching strategies. Early warning systems that monitor and flag student performance
2 and/or attendance will be implemented in each district to assist teachers in identifying students
3 who need tutoring and academic support. This bill's components will be implemented starting by
4 the next academic year, August 2024.

5
6 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

7 The state budget plan for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Funding allocates approximately \$8 billion to
8 the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE). All necessary funding for this bill will come from this
9 annually allocated amount. This funding will be used for the allocation of money to help districts
10 pay a teacher salary minimum of \$52,660 (determined on a district-by-district basis dependent on
11 affordability) and towards any necessary funding for the creation of Teacher Mental Health Advisory
12 Councils, Inner-School Mentorship Programs, flagging systems, and academic support programs.

13
14 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

15 Non-compliant districts will face reduced state funding, with a gradual reduction over a specified
16 period depending on length and severity. Funds withheld will be redirected to districts adhering to
17 the bill, ensuring that resources are allocated to those committed to increasing teacher salaries,
18 mental health support, mentorship programs, and academic interventions. If persistent violation
19 occurs, non-compliant districts will undergo regular performance assessments and eventual state
20 intervention with the appointment of an oversight committee to address systemic issues hindering
21 compliance.



2 SENATE BILL 127

3 Unmesh Chakravarty

Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

4
5 TITLE: Tax Credit for Disadvantaged Youth

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Disadvantaged youth, due to circumstances out of their control, find themselves lacking the
9 financial support and opportunities necessary for their success in the state of Louisiana. Some
10 criteria that disadvantaged youth fall under include: no longer attending school and not having a
11 high school diploma or equivalent; having served time in jail or prison; being pregnant or a parent;
12 being homeless; being currently or previously in foster care; having a parent who has served time in
13 jail or prison; being raised by a single parent; etc.

14
15 Tax credits reduce the amount of income tax owed to the federal government and the state of
16 Louisiana. This bill intends to create a tax credit program for disadvantaged youth in the state of
17 Louisiana. Awarding tax credits to disadvantaged youth who are working full-time or part-time
18 serves as both a funnel for success and an incentive to drive that success in Louisiana. Potential
19 foster parents, educational programs and institutions, hiring businesses, and investors will be
20 incentivized to support disadvantaged youth through tax credits. The tax credit program provisioned
21 by this bill will give rise to increased social mobility and is a step forward in combating inequality in
22 the state of Louisiana.

23
24 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

25 The tax credit program will be administered by the Louisiana Department of Revenue. Any
26 taxpaying entity may seek tax credit provisioned by this bill via application to the Louisiana
27 Department of Revenue. The eligibility of taxpaying entities and the amount of tax credit awarded
28 to such eligible taxpaying entities will be made accordingly through the discretion of the Louisiana
29 Department of Revenue.

30
31 SECTION III: FUNDING

32 No funding is required.

33
34 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

35 No penalties are necessary.



2 SENATE BILL 128

3 Devon Piret

Mandeville High School

4
5 TITLE: Save the Marsh

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 From Missouri down through Louisiana flows the Mississippi River. The river gradually deposits
9 sediment into a receding sea, slowly building thousands of miles of land. Levee's built around the
10 river begin stopping sediment from feeding the deltas causing the land to sink and disappear. Every
11 38 minutes Louisiana loses an entire football field of marshland. This equates to around 4,440 yards
12 or 13,320 feet of marshland every single day.

13 To stop the erosion of land and restore Louisiana's coastline, we must preserve these wetlands. We
14 can prevent further erosion and strengthen diversion efforts by implementing a diversion to move
15 sediment and freshwater into the Brenton Basin located on the east bank of the Mississippi River at
16 Wills Point in Plaquemines Parish. This will build back wetlands by routing water and necessary
17 nutrients and allowing the sediment to build up and restore the land and natural environment.

18
19 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

20 This bill will go into effect January 1, 2024, headed by Louisiana's Coastal Protection and
21 Restoration Authority (CPRA), building a diversion into the Brenton Basin.

22
23 SECTION III: FUNDING

24 Funding for this project will be allocated by the Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group (LA TIG)
25 from agreements resolving criminal cases against BP and Transocean which arose from the 2010
26 Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill, directing a total of 2.54 billion to the National Fish and
27 Wildlife foundation to fund projects benefitting the natural resources of the Gulf Coast.

28
29 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

30 There are no necessary Penalties



2 **SENATE BILL 129**

3 Charlie Pullen Jesuit High School New Orleans
4 Hayden Welk

6 **TITLE:** Giving Light, Life and Parking

8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 On October 23rd and November 7th, two multivehicle crashes occurred on two of Louisiana’s
10 interstates, I-55 and I-10 New Orleans East, respectively. These crashes caused mass traffic jams
11 with over 160 crashed vehicles in total and prevented people from going to school, work, or even
12 home. The main cause of these crashes is Louisiana’s ‘super fog,’ a combination of dense fog and
13 smoke that makes visibility lowered to less than 10 feet while driving. The fog occurs from the
14 climate of Louisiana, and the smoke derives from the marsh fires that have been burning since
15 August and, at the time this bill is being written, has not stopped burning. It is not possible to
16 remove the fog, but it is possible to remove the smoke from the marsh fires.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 When this bill is carried out, the state will form an agreement with Walmart Inc. to immediately
20 give the company part of the Louisiana marshes to build a Walmart Supercenter and a ginormous
21 parking lot, located near I-55 with an exit towards this supercenter. The production of this Walmart
22 Supercenter and parking lot will remove the marshes, therefore removing the possibility of marsh
23 fires occurring.

25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 The sales tax produced from this Walmart Supercenter will fund the building of the Walmart
27 Supercenter and the parking lot adjacent to it.

29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 No penalties required for the bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023**

2 **SENATE BILL 130**

3 Sophie Yeon Haynes Academy

4 **TITLE:** Opt-Out Organ Procurement and Transportation (OOPT) Act

5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 When people go to the doctor they expect to be diagnosed with an illness, be prescribed a medicine
7 or told they need surgery, and have a timeline of when they’ll get better. Those who face organ
8 failure are instead left with an infinite and endless future they have no control over. The only
9 options are to deal with the stress of begging relatives for a donation, or wait and never know
10 exactly when you can be saved. In Louisiana, there are over 2,000 individuals waiting for organ
11 transplants, 58% of whom are minorities. Sadly, 8,000 people die each year (22 people each day –
12 almost one person each hour) because the organs they need weren’t donated in time. Organ
13 transportation is widely used to combat the 104,000 people in the U.S who wait for a transplant,
14 with 17 people dying each day. In turn, organs are treated as any other cargo and delayed, along
15 with a shortage of accountable transportation methods. Amidst this, another person is added to the
16 nation’s organ transplant waiting list every 10 minutes. There remains a shortage of organ
17 transplants with only 60% of people signed up as donors. Yet all major religions approve of organ,
18 tissue, and eye donation, seeing it as an unselfish act of charity. But despite the 170 million people
19 in the U.S registered, only 3 in 1,000 die in a way that allows for deceased organ donation.
20 Therefore, this act proposes to switch Louisiana to have opt-out instead of opt-in organ donation,
21 where all residents are assumed to donate organs, but can request to opt-out. This act will result in
22 further resources being put towards organ transportation in Louisiana as well, to create a more
23 efficient process and delivery. These provisions will allow more residents to help those who wait on
24 an infinite timeline, and support the logistical transportation of organs.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 When residents obtain a driving permit or license, they will be given a brief description of the organ
27 donation process, and told they are automatically signed up. If residents do not wish to, they can
28 fill out paperwork of their information and confirmation. This will be done at their Department of
29 Motor Vehicles to be submitted to Donate Life Louisiana, which creates the databases for organ
30 donation. Currently, residents with the LA Wallet App can register to donate online, which will now
31 be replaced with registering to opt-out. Organs that are transported as cargo will be specifically
32 marked as so, to have priority in distribution and shipping centers. The Organ Tracking Service
33 (OTS), first made available nationally in 2021, is a tracker that will oversee almost every organ,
34 accompanied or not, with an OTS GPS device throughout Louisiana. If the organ doesn’t take off
35 with its scheduled flight, is misplaced in a cargo office, or if a courier is stuck in rush-hour traffic,
36 the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency can see where it is and respond as needed.

37 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

38 The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services was approved to have a \$36 million increase
39 over Fiscal Year 2023 in organ procurement and transplantation for a total of \$67 million in the 2024
40 Fiscal Year. This is a part of their Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Modernization
41 Initiative, which updates the almost 40-year-old National Organ Transplant Act.

42 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

43 There are no penalties required for this bill.



2 SENATE BILL 131

3 Ian Trahan Catholic High School

4
5 TITLE: Pro-Life All the Way

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 On June 24, 2022, the state of Louisiana took a huge step forward by completely banning abortions.
9 This was great news to all pro-life advocates and unborn babies across the state of Louisiana.
10 However, there are many people who claim to be pro-lifers, but then also support the death
11 penalty. The Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976, since then Louisiana has carried
12 out 28 executions with the last one being in 2010. Although an execution has not been carried out in
13 13 years the death penalty is still legal here in Louisiana and as of October 14, 2023, The Guardian
14 reports there are currently 57 people on Louisianas death row, many of them have been denied
15 clemency as of recently. My reasoning for this bill is not to debate abortion but for the state of
16 Louisiana to take another huge step forward in becoming a pro-life state. This bill will put a total
17 ban on all death penalty executions in the state of Louisiana. You cannot claim to be a pro-lifer by
18 supporting the ban of abortion but then supporting the death penalty, you must support then end of
19 killing all the way around. As is always said, two wrongs do not make a right.

20
21 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

22 Total Ban on all death penalty executions.

23
24 SECTION III: FUNDING

25 Not much is needed however, we would raise prison funding by .15% or about 1.05 million dollars of
26 the almost 700-million-dollar budget to accommodate the 57 prisoners currently on death row. The
27 current cost per prisoner in the state of Louisiana is 16,251 dollars a year, times that by 57 you get
28 926,307 dollars. That is why we would need the extra million. No raise on tax is needed.

29
30 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

31 Any person who would carry out an execution would face charges of 1st degree murder.



2 SENATE BILL 132

3 Ramsey Greene Episcopal High School

4
5 TITLE: Obsolete Dam Decommission Act

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 The purpose of this Act is to improve air and water quality by allowing rivers to return to their
9 natural sediment distribution patterns; restore biodiversity by rebuilding habitats necessary to
10 survival of local plants, animals, and bacteria; and reduce the likelihood of flash floods. “Dam
11 decommission” refers to the process of demolishing a dam, returning water flow to the river. An
12 “obsolete dam” is a dam that is no longer able to serve its intended purpose. Note that the
13 government already requires formal inspections of all dams at least once every five years,
14 intermediate inspections annually, and special and intermediate inspections on an as-needed basis.
15 See pages 40-42 of FEMA’s Federal Guidelines for Dam Safety for definitions of formal, informal,
16 intermediate, and special inspections.

17
18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 The Obsolete Dam Identification and Decommission Act entails that:
20 Formal dam inspectors must classify dams as either “functioning” or “obsolete”.
21 A dam classified as obsolete must either be demolished or repaired by its builder before it reaches
22 twenty years of obsolescence to where it is once again classified as operating.
23 Of Louisiana’s 557 dams, 494 are monitored by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and
24 Development (DOTD).
25 This act shall be effective for all dams in Louisiana beginning in the year 2028.

26
27 SECTION III: FUNDING

28 The cost of dam removal ranges from about \$150,000 to about \$6 million. Note that the latter cost
29 pertains to major dams of great size, of which Louisiana has few. As a result of the Inflation
30 Reduction Act (2022) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (2021), Louisiana has received:
31 \$946,000,000 for Resilience
32 \$92,000,000 for Environmental Remediation
33 \$3,820,000,000 for Roads, Bridges, and Safety
34 This bill plans to allocate money from these three funds to counter the expenses of dam
35 decommission, with the exact source of the funds being determined by the DOTD on a case-by-case
36 basis.

37
38 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

39 The penalties for failure to comply with this bill will be a fine of \$10,000 for every year following
40 the deadline for decommission.

2 **SENATE BILL 133**

3 Mark Brown Metairie Park Country Day School

4
5 **TITLE:** Enforcement of Flying Freedom Flags

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The Enforcement of Flying Freedom Flags bill would require all schools public AND private to fly
9 both the national flag and Louisiana state flag, as well as recite the pledge of allegiance each
10 morning.

11
12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 All schools have flagpoles and intercoms and all that would need to happen is the American flag and
14 Louisiana state flag be flown on campus as well as the Pledge of Allegiance be played on the
15 intercom with all formalities of rising and heart over your heart.

16
17 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

18 Money for the flags if the schools do not already have them will be drawn from the state and local
19 tax revenue already put aside for public education use.

20
21 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

22 A minor fine as this law really just serves as a purpose to moderately boost patriotism by exposing
23 children to their respective state and national flags.
24

2 **SENATE BILL 134**

3 Chloe Jones Metairie Park Country Day School

4 Faith Fennidy

5
6 **TITLE:** Prevent Plantation Perversion

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 American plantations have a history of the forced brutality and torture of African Americans. Most
10 Americans are desensitized to this dark time in our nation’s past. Over the years, the number of
11 plantation weddings and celebrations has slowly increased. The practice of celebrating and
12 exploiting these historical plantations perverts these locations and directly ignores their past and
13 present purpose.

14
15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 To prohibit the use of historical plantations as a location for public events besides the purpose of
17 education. This would go into effect within the next two years, and would not conflict with any
18 previously planned celebrations.

19
20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 This bill will require no funding.

22
23 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

24 Failure to comply with this bill will result in a \$1,500 fine
25

2 **SENATE BILL 135**

3 Clovis Layrisson Metairie Park Country Day School

4
5 **TITLE:** The "Louisiana Restaurant Allergen Disclosure Act." (LRAD)

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 This act aims to address the growing concern for public health and safety by requiring restaurants in
9 Louisiana to provide allergen and nutritional information to their customers. The absence of easily
10 accessible allergen and nutritional information can pose significant risks to individuals with food
11 allergies or specific dietary requirements. According to studies, specifically the 'Impact of Menu
12 Labeling on Consumer Behavior: A 2008-2012 Update,' this bill will serve to inform and protect
13 consumers, promoting healthier food choices and reducing the incidence of food-related allergies in
14 the state of Louisiana.

15 **Defined Terms:**

16 "Allergen Information": Information detailing the presence of common allergens in food items,
17 including but not limited to, nuts, dairy, soy, gluten, and shellfish.

18 "Nutritional Information": Information providing details about the nutritional content of food items,
19 such as calories, fats, carbohydrates, and protein.

20
21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 To implement this law in Louisiana, the following actions will be taken:

23 All restaurants in the state of Louisiana shall be required to maintain and regularly update a
24 detailed list of allergen information and nutritional content for each food item on their menu.

25 Restaurants shall prominently display this information on their menus, menu boards, or on separate
26 allergen and nutritional information sheets made available to customers upon request.

27 Restaurants shall be required to update the information to reflect any changes in menu items or
28 ingredients.

29
30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 This law requires no financing because it is something the restaurants do independently. The job of
32 enforcing it will become part of the job of Louisiana food inspectors.

33 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

34 Violation of this law, including failure to provide accurate and up-to-date allergen and nutritional
35 information, shall result in penalties as follows:

36 For the first offense, a warning and a period for correction.

37 For subsequent offenses, fines as determined by the regulatory agency and potential suspension or
38 revocation of the restaurant's operating license.

2 **SENATE BILL 136**

3 Lyric LaFrance Dutchtown High School

4 Madison Bechet

5
6 **TITLE:** Implementing Mandatory Sex Education in Schools

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 In 2020 there were 3,676 teen births in Louisiana. 15% of those teens had already had children
10 before. This could have been prevented if there was one mandatory sexual education lesson in
11 every high school in Louisiana. The lesson would be held in a science class in each grade. Something
12 similar has already been implemented in Vermont, where there were 139 teen births in 2020.
13 Adding a sexual education lesson would inform teens about protected sex and make them aware of
14 the consequences of unprotected actions.

15
16
17
18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 This bill would be implemented at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year. This would apply to
20 all public schools in Louisiana.

21
22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23 If implemented, this bill would be free of charge since the science teacher is already employed.

24
25 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

26 If a school does not comply with this bill, they will be charged a fee of \$100 for each science class.



2 SENATE BILL 137

3 Hayden Singh Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

4 TITLE: PIE (Promote Industrial Electrification)

5 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

6 Despite being dead average in population, Louisiana ranks 7th in the nation for total greenhouse gas
7 (GHG) emissions and 5th in carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. Of those emissions, 66% come from
8 industry, much greater than the national average of 17%. If Louisiana wants to make a dent in GHG
9 emissions and, by extension, climate change, we must start by electrifying the industrial and
10 petrochemical processes that support our state’s economy. Industrial electrification is defined as
11 the process of switching from oil and carbon-based fuels to electricity in order to power industrial
12 machines and processes, most of which are heat generation processes such as boiling, melting, and
13 cracking. PIE proposes a multi-step approach to successfully electrify Louisiana’s industry so as to
14 not simply shift GHG emissions from industrial processes to energy production. The final goal of PIE
15 is to significantly reduce Louisiana’s carbon footprint by creating avenues and incentives for
16 industry to adopt clean technologies.
17

18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 Establish Federal Funding Procurement Taskforce (FFPT) with three main goals:
20 Assist industry in vying for competitive Federal decarbonization grants.
21 Acquiring these funds will accelerate the rate at which Louisiana’s industry can electrify and thus
22 decarbonize.
23 Assist LSU, UL, and SU systems in applying for clean energy and industrial research grants.
24 These will allow Louisiana to become a hub for clean technology R&D and give Louisiana a head
25 start on implementing new technologies simply based on proximity.
26 Assist the state in acquiring Federal clean and renewable energy funding.
27 This will prepare the state’s energy producers to meet the increased energy demand caused by
28 Industrial Electrification.
29 Provide funding for plants and refineries for the purpose of purchasing and implementing
30 electrification technology (such as electric boilers and hydrogen fueling). These funds will be
31 allocated and their use will be audited by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).
32 This will make industrial electrification as easy as possible for Louisiana’s chemical plants
33 Cut top-end corporate income tax rate from 7.5% to 6% for companies that produce/ begin
34 producing renewable energy.
35 This will drive down the price of energy and catalyze growth of renewable energy in Louisiana,
36 increasing the feasibility and benefit of industrial electrification.
37
38

39 SECTION III: FUNDING

40 Funding for the FFPT will come from the \$200,000,000+ of the Louisiana total budget surplus

1 allocated for capital outlay projects (essentially extra money for the state to spend on random
2 projects).

3 Funding given directly to plants for industrial electrification (Section II.2) will come from the
4 \$435,000,000 appropriated for clean energy and power in Louisiana as part of the Bipartisan
5 Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act.

6 Unforeseen DEQ expenditures that exceed their existing budget as a result of the actions in section
7 II.2 will be covered by the capital outlay fund.
8

9 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

10 Funding for the FFPT will come from the \$200,000,000+ of the Louisiana total budget surplus
11 allocated for capital outlay projects (miscellaneous unallocated funds).

12 Funding given directly to plants for industrial electrification (Section II.2) will come from the
13 \$435,000,000 appropriated for clean energy and power in Louisiana as part of the Bipartisan
14 Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act.

15 Unforeseen DEQ expenditures that exceed their existing budget as a result of the actions in section
16 II.2 will be covered by the capital outlay fund.
17

2 SENATE BILL 138

3 Adam Gombos Episcopal School of Acadiana

4
5 TITLE: Promoting Volunteering Among Students in Louisiana High Schools

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 In the United States of America, roughly 26 percent of high school students spend time volunteering
9 in their communities. Louisiana is the state with the lowest rate of high school participation in
10 volunteerism in the country, as only 14 percent of high schoolers in Louisiana spend time
11 volunteering. In many cases, volunteering can provide an opportunity for students to develop career
12 skills, show responsibility, and gain leadership experience while performing meaningful tasks for
13 their community. Louisiana high school students' lack of participation in volunteer activities can be
14 improved upon with this bill by starting a state-wide program to promote high school volunteering.
15 As a result of the implementation of this bill, more students will have an opportunity to volunteer
16 and, thereby, gain valuable experience and knowledge that can be useful to their future careers.
17 Although, currently, students in Louisiana can earn a diploma endorsement through community
18 service, this bill would allow students to earn an academic credit for their involvement in
19 volunteering.

20
21 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

22 Louisiana's Department of Education will establish the High School Credit Volunteer Program, in
23 which high school students will have the opportunity to earn academic credits for their volunteer
24 work. Twenty-five hours of volunteer work will be required to earn an academic credit, and the
25 hours will be logged by the schools that decide to participate in the program. The program will
26 provide information about volunteer opportunities and levels of student participation. This bill will
27 go into effect starting in the next academic year in 2024-2025.

28
29 SECTION III: FUNDING

30 This bill will require no funding since the establishment of the volunteer program does not require
31 hiring staff for the schools, nor does it require the Department of Education to spend money to
32 notify students of volunteer opportunities.

33
34 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

35 There are no penalties for this bill, as the participation of a high school in this program is entirely
36 voluntary.
37

2 SENATE BILL 139

3 Arun Cacodcar Episcopal School of Acadiana

4
5 TITLE: Establishing Governmental Internet for All

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 The internet has become a fundamental part of today's society. Without it, people are at a
9 disadvantage in education and financial stability. It appears that such a vital piece of advancement
10 should be reasonably available for everyone. Yet, so many are left without this basic necessity.
11 Louisiana ranks poorly in internet service and stability. According to a 2022 survey conducted by
12 Louisiana State University, twenty percent of people do not have access to the internet at home,
13 and five percent possess neither home nor cell phone internet availability in Louisiana. Internet is
14 essential to the pursuit of education, and it is very important as Louisiana ranks 46th in education.
15 The primary reason for this lack of internet access is private internet companies. These companies
16 set rates extremely high and dominantly control a region: for example, COX in New Orleans. These
17 broadband companies provide better access to more affluent areas in a region. This
18 disproportionately affects low-income areas and minority regions. It perpetuates a cycle of poverty.
19 The local Louisiana government needs to establish its own internet service to compete with the
20 insane pricing and lack of availability by these companies. It has been shown that government-
21 owned networks provide internet for cheaper and more reliably than these companies.

22
23 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

24 Louisiana will set up municipal broadband networks in low-income and rural areas to provide those
25 with no access or unstable internet connection by utilizing either cable, satellite, fiber optics, or
26 hotspots; as well as, create formal regulations against private internet providers' pricing and
27 control in regions of Louisiana.

28
29 SECTION III: FUNDING

30 The federal government allocated more than 1.3 billion dollars for Louisiana's expansion of the
31 internet via its bipartisan infrastructure law. Funding will be distributed throughout regions as
32 needed from this sum.

33
34 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

35 There are no penalties needed.

2 **SENATE BILL 140**

3 Josephine LaGraize Metairie Park Country Day School

4
5 **TITLE:** Teaming Up With Louisiana Teens

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 To help get mental healthcare for people in need of mental healthcare, but can not afford the care
9 they need, between the ages of 13-18. In Louisiana about 18.6% of people live below the poverty
10 line which can make it harder to obtain the mental health resources they need. A study done by the
11 National Institute of Mental Health shows that 49.5% of adolescents. Untreated adolescent mental
12 health affects all aspects of these adolescents' lives such as school and social lives. Untreated
13 adolescent mental health can also lead to poor decision making, substance abuse, and violence.

14
15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 A government website called "Teaming Up With Louisiana Teens" will provide information about
17 adolescent mental health and mental health care to users as well as allow adolescents and their
18 parents that are below the poverty line to set meetings with psychiatrists at a discounted rate. The
19 discount on the service will be 75% that the family would have to pay out of pocket. To make sure
20 that people who are not below the poverty line abuse this resource the child's parent or parents will
21 have to fill out a form with their income and confirmation from their employer. Another feature of
22 this website will allow licensed psychiatrists to volunteer to provide their services free of charge to
23 adolescents ages 13-18 in need of their services. So people who are not licensed do not abuse this
24 service there will be a way for the psychiatrist to confirm that they are licensed on the website.

25
26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 Where funding is needed, Teaming Up With Louisiana Teens will be funded by the Community
28 Mental Health Services Block Grant.

29
30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 Penalties do not apply.

2 **SENATE BILL 141**

3 Bailey Stine Alexandria Senior High

4
5 **TITLE:** Increase the security and job protection in an increasingly Artificial Intelligence (AI) powered
6 world.

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 This bill seeks to improve job security in Louisiana in an increasingly AI-powered world. We see AI
10 used in our everyday run of life. From self-checkout machines to banking, from our smart home
11 devices to our refrigerators, we see it everywhere. While this can help improve quality of life, it is
12 also taking away many jobs across our state. Healthcare workers, service industries, and e-
13 commerce jobs are quickly being taken over by robots and AI-powered machines written by code.
14 This is problematic because these jobs are necessary to keep Louisiana residents above the poverty
15 line. Currently, as of 2022, 19% of Louisiana residents are under this line, and that means that they
16 are not meeting income requirements to live. By limiting AI use we can open jobs and hopefully
17 bring more Louisianans above that line.

18
19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 Require businesses possessing self-checkout and self-service machines to have limited use during
21 standard business hours, and have checkout options that include physical checkout locations.
22 Additionally, require healthcare workers to be present in all procedures where AI or robots are
23 used.

24
25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 Possible tax breaks for said companies, however, no state funding is necessary.

27
28
29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 The company will be required to pay 5% of the revenue acquired during the period of non-manned
31 self-checkout for a first offense, later offenses will require further taxation.

2 **SENATE BILL 142**

3 Nile Batiste Southern University Laboratory School

4
5 **TITLE:** Create a Bypass in the city of Baton Rouge

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Do you hate being stuck in traffic especially when you are on your way to school or to the biggest
9 football game of the year? Traffic is a big issue in major cities such as New York, Los Angeles,
10 Atlanta and countless others. Baton Rouge is ranked 5th in the nation for having the worst traffic
11 out of 80 major cities in the country. Commuters in our city lose more than 100 hours a year to
12 extra drive times caused by traffic congestion. Traffic is a massacre in our capital city almost every
13 day. The answer to solve this continual problem is to build a bypass in the city. If you don't know
14 what a bypass is, it's an interstate road that has a shorter route that avoids the downtown or central
15 business district of a city. For example, local cities like New Orleans and Shreveport have bypasses
16 called I-610 and I-220. How come all the major cities in the state of Louisiana have a loop, but our
17 own capital city does not have one? Building a bypass in our capital city will not only ease our
18 horrific traffic nightmares but will also give our capital city new infrastructure. Building this bypass
19 away from the bustling areas of Baton Rouge will help transportation flow better and reduce
20 congestion on a daily basis. We must step up to improve our traffic to avoid future traffic incidents
21 and loss of driving hours.

22
23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 This project will be effective immediately if passed. Less congested areas of Baton Rouge will be
25 surveyed and selected to put this project to fruition. The project will take several years to
26 construct and eminent domain will be used in the chosen areas. As time moves on, road closures can
27 be expected in the area where the bypass will be built. Construction will take place every day
28 except on holidays and days of inclement weather.

29
30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 The project will be financed by the Louisiana State Budget and will be supervised by The Louisiana
32 Department of Transportation and Development for a cost of \$ dollars. For every mile of a road that
33 is built, that's worth \$8 millions dollars each.

34
35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 NA

2 **SENATE BILL 143**

3 Khaleb Smith Southern University Laboratory School

4
5 **TITLE:** Legalize pscoplin for medical use

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Magic mushrooms also known as psilocybin have been used all around the United States to help solve
9 mental health issues. But many states such as Oregon and Maryland have already decriminalized
10 psilocybin or "magic mushrooms" for therapeutic usage despite the studies that show otherwise.
11 Studies have shown that psilocybin can work faster than an anxiety medication called escitalopram,
12 that is prescribed to most people. Psilocybin can trigger a nerve in the brain that is responsible for
13 emotions and memory and can restore neurogenesis or the process when new neurons are grown in
14 the brain. As this won't replace other medicines given to them but can be seen as another
15 treatment. This bill could help people with undergoing mental health issues by developing other
16 treatments.

17
18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 Initially, we should set up a health task force composed of doctors and scientists as done in many
20 other states such as Texas, Utah, and Washington to gain better knowledge of what type of mental
21 health issues are available for this treatment as well as what type of mushrooms to use. The law
22 would be passed and patients with underlying mental illness can consult with their doctors to be
23 given a new treatment plan that would include psilocybin. This could also include patients who have
24 been newly diagnosed with mental illness. After this is done the bill should be implemented by the
25 end of 2024 year.

26
27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 No Funding Needed

29
30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 NA

2 SENATE BILL 144

3 Harmoni Proctor Southern University Laboratory School
4 Dynastee Jacobs

6 TITLE: Mandatory Bullying Prevention Programs for High School Students

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Suicide has always been an issue for many years. Many times, suicide is a final consequence, as a
10 result of "bullying." Bullying may take many forms, whether it is race, socioeconomic status, or
11 obesity. This led to severe depression and other mental issues. In Louisiana the most common death
12 from people ages 10-24 is suicide. Approximately 700 people committed in 2021, of that 700, at
13 least 30 of them were teens. When the discussion is brought about during school hours they always
14 suggest seeing the guidance counselor or an outside friend, family, or personal therapist. But are
15 these methods not always efficient? Most students are afraid or just do not like the idea of speaking
16 up knowing themselves or others are depressed and are trying to attempt suicide. If schools had
17 better programs to catch and treat depression and mental illness and help students see that they
18 have support to talk to someone.

20 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

21 Students in public schools should have access to an actual character development course that
22 focuses on the effects of bullying and the intended and unintended consequences. Programs should
23 be given to teachers and any other students who want to help defeat this issue. The programs
24 should consist of seeing the signs of mental issues which can be found and picked up on from
25 background evaluation, or the actions and responses found by students and peers. There should also
26 be a program for preventing bullying and having the information of someone being bullied acted
27 upon immediately instead of two or three actions later.

29 SECTION III: FUNDING

30 Funding will come from the local school district

32 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

33 NA

2 SENATE BILL 145

3 Kalen Williams Southern University Laboratory School

6 TITLE: Establish an appeal board within the Louisiana State Department of Education to allow
7 students the ability to appeal graduation requirements.

9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 The state-wide graduation rate in Louisiana is 85% but for students who learn English it is 41%. This
11 rate is mainly because of leap state testing. Many high school students do not pass LEAP 2025
12 graduation requirements, but are very good students with good grades in the classroom. Many of
13 these students (40-60%) in the US struggle with test taking anxiety. With this bill students in
14 Louisiana who are unable to graduate from high school due to a failing LEAP exam will be entitled to
15 appeal the decision. If their appeal is successful, students will be able to demonstrate mastery of
16 course material, among other things, through a portfolio, but they will still be required to complete
17 other graduation criteria. Other students who are at a disadvantage on standardized tests, such as
18 those who have dyslexia would benefit from the appeals process as well.

20 In order to be granted an appeal, a student must additionally provide "evidence of employability,"
21 such as passing the TOPS Tech professional Diploma or TOPS University course requirements and
22 completing the ACT WorkKeys assessment, which measures professional readiness. In addition, they
23 have to finish a portfolio of work that satisfies the requirements for the LEAP courses. No earlier
24 than their senior year, students may file an appeal of the LEAP requirement.

27 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

28 The bill will be passed on January 1st, 2024. The seniors will be allowed to appeal the leap test
29 only during their senior year

31 SECTION III: FUNDING

32 No funding needed

34 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

35 NA



2 **SENATE BILL 146**

3 Mekelle Parker Southern University Laboratory School
4 Angel Willis

6 **TITLE:** Remove standardized testing after 8th grade

8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 This bill is to provide recognition that Standardized testing does not accurately measure students'
10 learning growth, and it is a complete misuse of the school's educational learning time. Many
11 students get tired and rush through the test, often to take a nap. Research proven by The National
12 Institutes of Health has found that teenagers scientifically need more sleep than the average adult
13 because they are at the peak of their physical, intellectual, and emotional growth stage. By
14 administering standardized tests, we are not accurately understanding the specific skills and needs
15 of their abilities to perform at their best. Therefore, it is important to reevaluate the use of
16 standardized testing and explore more effective ways to assess students' knowledge. According to
17 Elect-a-blog, Over \$1.7 billion is spent on standardized testing in the US per year. Another \$699
18 million is spent on elementary assessments. Between \$34-65 per student a year is spent by the
19 states for the same cause. With this intent, the nation would be able to use these federal funds
20 currently used for testing to pay back debts and for other financial needs.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 If passed, this bill will take place in April 2025. Instead of having students frantic trying to study for
24 multiple tests, teachers should try finding alternative assignments that'll still show the student's
25 understanding of the course. Assignments such as projects, teacher evaluations, Socratic Seminars,
26 etc. With this teachers will have to prepare their students to pass the class so they should be
27 provided with professional development opportunities so they can become familiar with the new
28 assessment systems and have the skills they need to successfully apply alternative methods in the
29 future.

31 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

32 This bill will not require any funding because of its purpose to reduce the amount of unnecessary
33 federal funding currently.

35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 NA

HOUSE BILLS





2 HOUSE BILL 196

3 James Redmann Jesuit High School

4
5 TITLE: Friends of Politicians Reform

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Louisiana politicians are masters of wasting money. We have spent millions upon millions building unnecessary bridges and roads when in fact the money should be spent where it is actually needed. 8 One of the more famous examples of wasting money is the Sunshine Bridge, which is also known as the bridge to nowhere. It was built to line the pockets of the builders and was basically done as a favor to garner support for Jimmie Davis. Louisiana ranks 49th in infrastructure according to the US 10 News and World Report. Louisiana needs to come together to stop the giving of infrastructure 11 projects to friends of projects. Louisiana needs to crack down on these shady dealings and strip the 12 politicians of these dealings of their office and send them to the penitentiary.

13 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

14 Louisiana will create a committee of people to investigate any major bridge or road projects for 15 malpractice. This committee will be known as the FOPRC (Friends of Politicians Reform Committee). 16 This committee will be elected to investigate any business deals and to make that the contractor is 17 the best for the job and not just a friend of a politician.

18 SECTION III: FUNDING

19 FOPRC will be funded by the will be funded by State of Louisiana BIL/IJJA, which has granted for 4.4 20 billion to infrastructure. The funding will be 5 million dollars to help investigate and this committee 21 will save Louisiana money because everything will be done right the first time and not take 15 22 attempts because of the contractor's incompetence.

23 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

24 The penalties for politicians if found guilty will be that they will be stripped of office, sent to 25 penitentiary for at least 5 years, and will be forced to pay a fine of half a million dollars. 26
27



2 HOUSE BILL 197

3 Payton McCready Dutchtown High School

4
5 TITLE: Excused Mental Health Days for Louisiana Students

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 According to the CDC, "In 2021, more than 4 in 10 (42%) students felt persistently sad or hopeless 8 and nearly one-third (29%) experienced poor mental health" These students feel this way due to the 9 stress and complications that school brings. It is no surprise that school is tiring on a young child's 10 mental health. Students need breaks, but when they take off from school for their mental health it 11 is unexcused and they suffer even more. Unexcused breaks ultimately harm the student more than 12 they help, because it means they have to make up more work. A June 2022 poll by Verywell Mind 13 and the magazine Parents found that 75 percent of parents feel that schools should offer mental 14 health days to students. And 56 percent of parents said they have let their kids take a mental health 15 day, regardless of whether their child's school has a formal mental health day policy. Allowing a 16 certain amount of days of rest and break to be excused would allow for students to feel less 17 stressed and perform better.

18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 This Bill allows for parents to write a note to the school when a student takes a mental health day. 20 Notes will be sent to the councilor of the school. All students are allowed 2 excused mental health 21 days per semester. However, if a student is diagnosed with mental health disorders, they can be 22 evaluated by the councilor and allowed more days. These notes will also help schools realize if a 23 student is struggling and they may be able to find resources of help. Parents can also request that 24 their student be evaluated by the councilor if they notice something.

25 SECTION III: FUNDING

26 This program requires no funding.

27 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

28 If a school does not allow for students to take mental health days, they will get a one-time fine of 29 10% of the schools monthly funding. They will also be forced to start the program and will be 30 supervised for a year after the program is started. 31
32



2 HOUSE BILL 198

3 Jake Albares Dutchtown High School

4 Aaren Mohammed

5 TITLE: The Numbers Behind Gambling

7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Nowadays, you can gamble on just about anything; sports, dice rolls, card games, even elections. In
9 2020 as the casinos closed for quarantine people were so addicted that they would wager on the
10 evening's forecast. All this to say, this is ruining peoples lives. In fact, debt.org tells us that 1 in 5
11 compulsive gamblers file for bankruptcy. Casinos in Louisiana alone totaled 200 million dollars of
12 profit as of April 2023. The cause is simple, Louisiana gambling is a cumbersome addiction and a
13 mortifying problem in which we intend to overcome. Our bill tends to this fixation by limiting young
14 adults from engaging in the mass gambling addiction by putting a constraint on the usage of the
15 machines.

16 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

17 Starting in June of 2024 this bill will not ban the usage of gambling instruments, but stand in the
18 form of a card to help amateurs by making a gambling application with restrictions. This
19 application will be directly tied to the person's "casino card". This "casino card" will contain an
20 advanced system tracking a person's ID, their purchases, balances, and cash outs. They can also be
21 reciprocated between daily, weekly, or monthly restrictions. If the person goes over this limit the
22 application will lock out their casino card preventing access to the machines. The machine can only
23 be used when the person slides the card activating the account, and they only have a limited
24 amount of funds for that Day/Week/Month. Alongside limiting the amount of money being wasted
25 away at casinos, this could also make their stay more efficient and faster as in one swipe of a card
26 they could pay & play.

27 SECTION III: FUNDING

28 Of course, the cost of these installations and the maintenance required will need to be covered. To
29 fund this bill we will take 0.9% of the 43 casino's profits in their first year. This will generate
30 \$135,000 of funding per casino which will give our bill a \$5,805,000 budget of funding to use
31 towards making and maintaining the casino application, advanced technology, card readers, and
32 cards, which would cost around \$750,000-\$1,000,000 to make, and \$1000-\$1500 to maintain
33 monthly across all the machines in Louisiana. The casinos will only have to pay this big \$135,000 fee
34 once, possibly all at once or over time, but if funding is needed in the future we will not charge
35 casinos, and instead start charging a \$10 fee every time you need to purchase a new card. This fee
36 would be charged when you first join the casino.

37 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

38 If anybody does get caught trying to hack/cheat the system they will either get their restrictions
39 tightened, or be banned from the casino, depending on the severity of the situation. If a casino
40 refuses to comply we will fine that casino; the fine will increase overtime.



2 HOUSE BILL 199

3 Paris McClain Dutchtown High School

4 TITLE: Turn the Pyramid Upside Down

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 In 1980 the United States government implemented a high carbohydrates and low fat diet that all
8 states and citizens were recommended to follow. Approximately all residents of the United States
9 followed this new diet guideline including; schools, nursing homes, hospitals, and the military. The
10 idea of this diet was to lower cholesterol since it was seen to be a big health issue and a leading
11 cause of death at the time. Over time this diet can be seen as harmful, the effects are being proven
12 in our everyday life. Obesity among children has doubled in the past 2 decades and in one year,
13 adult obesity increased in 23 out of the 50 states. Influential people in the government have drilled
14 into Americans heads that saturated fat is the leading cause of high cholesterol when this has been
15 disproven over and over again. Instead of a high carb low fat diet, this bill proposes to change the
16 Louisiana dietary guidelines to a low carbohydrates high fat diet. Adding mainly fat to the American
17 diet has seen to do so much as lessen the insulin diabetic patients take and in some cases, even get
18 them off of insulin and medications completely. Low carb High Fat participants also reported
19 staying full for a longer amount of time, shedding weight, and having more energy.

21 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

22 This bill will be implemented January 1,2024

24 SECTION III: FUNDING

25 Government funded facilities will be funded from local sales and property taxes whereas other
26 participants will pay out of pocket.

28 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

29 Louisiana government funded facilities will not be funded money for meals as long as they do not
30 follow the low carbohydrates high fat guidelines.



2 HOUSE BILL 200

3 Allie Nichols Dutchtown High School

4
5 TITLE: Cody's Law

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 This bill provides support for children who have been orphaned due to drunk driving. Louisiana has
8 shown, through collective data, that drunk driving is a number one cause of vehicular accidents. In
9 2021 there were 350 fatalities due to drunk driving out of 972, of which have continuously increased
10 from previous years. This is a phenomenon commonly discussed amongst the officials in our state.

11 The prevention of it is impossible, however, justice can be served to children, and their guardian(s).
12 To prevent more children from being placed in the foster system, as well as increase children to
13 have the ability to stay with their families, this bill's purpose is to give child support, which is to be
14 paid by the drunk driver who committed the homicide.

15 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

16 In the event of a vehicular homicide caused by drunk driving, the offender will be sentenced under
17 criminal law according to the present laws. This is an addition to the sentencing where a set amount
18 will be determined based on the families' "needs" and the financial situation of the offender. This
19 is only an addition to a case that involves a child under 18. Modification to the set amount can be
20 filed with the criminal court if the defendant needs it. A child who is adopted, by law, becomes the
21 child to the guardian(s), therefore, restitution will be required for child support payments. A child
22 who is adopted after being orphaned will retain a trust fund of the collective child support
23 payments or total restitution. If the child remains with one biological parent, then the child support
24 will go to the remaining guardian. If the child is taken under the care of a close relative who is
25 unable to afford the child without support, then they will be paid the child support; however, if the
26 family member's financial situation allows, then the restitution will be put into a trust. If the child
27 is placed in foster care, the restitution will be placed in a trust. The child will have access to the
28 trust upon their 18th birthday. The restitution amount will not change due to an adoption.

29 SECTION III: FUNDING

30 The offender's bank account will be retained by the court towards the restitution. The incarcerated
31 are able to earn minimal amounts of money while imprisoned, which will be directed towards
32 restitution payments. The offender will be required to maintain an occupation while imprisoned.
33 After the offender has been released, they will have 6 months of respite before the set amount will
34 be drafted from their account using the state child support app/online access. This allows for the
35 court to keep track of the payments in the case a modification is filed.

36 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

37 If it is filed with the court that the restitution has not been paid under the court-ordered
38 stipulations, then the criminal court has jurisdiction to order further sentencing with a maximum of
39 3 years. If there is a need for a modification of the previous court-ordered judgment, then they can
40 be made during this time as well.



2 HOUSE BILL 201

3 Vivian Hall Dutchtown High School

4
5 TITLE: Restrictions on credit cards

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 CNBC states that in the state of Louisiana, the average amount of credit card debt each person has
8 is about \$5,811. Recovering from credit card debt can take anywhere from 3 months to six years if
9 the credit card holder even does recover. Nearly 48% of people depend on their credit card to pay
10 for necessities and do not have a stable job.

11 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

12 The purpose of this bill is to restrict the use of credit cards for adults 18-30. This will include the
13 restriction of more than two credit cards unless the person has a credit score of 650 or more. This
14 will help lower the amount of credit card debt because the person will only have access to two or
15 less credit cards unless they have a stable job. If they have a stable job, they will not need to rely
16 on credit cards to pay for things.

17 SECTION III: FUNDING

18 No funding will be needed for this bill.

19 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

20 There aren't any penalties due to this being a law that the government can control. Unless the
21 person shows proof of having a stable job, they won't be able to access over two credit cards.
22
23



2 HOUSE BILL 202

3 Jake Albares Dutchtown High School

4 Aaren Mohammed

5 TITLE: The Numbers Behind Gambling

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Nowadays, you can gamble on just about anything; sports, dice rolls, card games, and even
 8 elections. In 2020 as the casinos closed for quarantine people were so addicted that they would
 9 wager on the evening's forecast. All this to say, this is ruining people's lives. In fact, debt.org tells
 10 us that 1 in 5 compulsive gamblers file for bankruptcy. Casinos in Louisiana alone totaled 200
 11 million dollars of profit as of April 2023. The cause is simple, Louisiana gambling is a cumbersome
 12 addiction and a mortifying problem that we intend to overcome. Our bill tends to this fixation by
 13 limiting young adults from engaging in mass gambling by putting a constraint on the usage of the
 14 machines.

15 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

16 Starting in June of 2024 this bill will not ban the usage of gambling instruments, but stand in the
 17 form of a card to help amateurs by making a gambling application with restrictions. This
 18 application will be directly tied to the person's "casino card". This "casino card" will contain an
 19 advanced system tracking a person's ID, their purchases, balances, and cash outs. They can also be
 20 reciprocated between daily, weekly, or monthly restrictions. If the person goes over this limit the
 21 application will lock out their casino card preventing access to the machines. The machine can only
 22 be used when the person slides the card activating the account, and they only have a limited
 23 amount of funds for that Day/Week/Month. Alongside limiting the amount of money being wasted
 24 away at casinos, this could also make their stay more efficient and faster as in one swipe of a card
 25 they could pay & play.

26 SECTION III: FUNDING

27 Of course, the cost of these installations and the maintenance required will need to be covered. To
 28 fund this bill we will take 0.9% of the 43 casino's profits in their first year. This will generate
 29 \$135,000 of funding per casino which will give our bill a \$5,805,000 budget of funding to use
 30 towards making and maintaining the casino application, advanced technology, card readers, and
 31 cards, which would cost around \$750,000-\$1,000,000 to make, and \$1000-\$1500 to maintain
 32 monthly across all the machines in Louisiana. The casinos will only have to pay this big \$135,000 fee
 33 once, possibly all at once or over time, but if funding is needed in the future we will not charge
 34 casinos, and instead start charging a \$10 fee every time you need to purchase a new card. This fee
 35 would be charged when you first join the casino.

36 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

37 If anybody does get caught trying to hack/cheat the system they will either get their restrictions
 38 tightened or be banned from the casino, depending on the severity of the situation. If a casino
 39 refuses to comply we will fine that casino; the fine will increase over time.



2 HOUSE BILL 203

3 Makenzie King Dutchtown High School

4 Andrew Morril

5 TITLE: Improving Highschool Football

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 This bill proposes that walk-through metal detectors be put at the gates of every high school
 8 football game, in order to keep weapons out of football games. Metal detectors in schools are still
 9 rare. But they've become more popular in public schools, especially in middle and high school, as
 10 threats of school shootings and violence have increased. This bill hopes to increase security at high
 11 school football games and make participants and spectators safer.

12 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

13 If passed this bill will go into effect at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year. This bill will only
 14 affect public schools, as the state government does not have jurisdiction over private schools.

15 SECTION III: FUNDING

16 The average cost of a walk-through metal detector is anywhere from \$1,200.00 to \$4,500.00.
 17 Funding for this bill will come from the federal Bipartisan Safer Communities Act of 2022, which
 18 provides \$1 billion in funding for states. Louisiana has implemented the Stronger Connections Grant
 19 program in order to provide funding to school systems on a competitive basis to support school
 20 safety efforts. This grant is for access control, such as a single point of entry or locked entry points.
 21 Overall, an approximated price would be \$869,250.

22 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

23 This bill will give all Louisiana schools a 1-year waiver period from the time this bill is implemented
 24 to prepare to comply with the new additions. If a school is found non-compliant with this new
 25 addition it will be unable to participate in the sport.

2 **HOUSE BILL 204**

3 Sumaiyya Baig Haynes Academy

4 Christine Tseng

5 **TITLE:** Educational Sleep Period (Mission Naptime)6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Most students who go to school are constantly tired as soon as they enter school. Research has
 8 shown that 60-70% of teenage students are sleep-deprived on a daily basis because of hormonal
 9 changes, technology usage, bedtime routines, and, especially, prioritizing school work and other
 10 extracurriculars over their sleep and, thus, well-being. This has a knock-on effect on their mental
 11 and physical health, safety, and academic performance in and out of class. Numerous scientific
 12 studies and statistics find that napping, ideally between 20 and 30 minutes, boosts alertness without
 13 the grogginess of deep sleep. Additionally, the best time to nap is before 3 p.m. to prevent
 14 nighttime sleep problems. This can lead to reduced sleepiness, better regulation of emotions,
 15 increased focus and reaction time, and improved learning and memory formation.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 This bill would require all public high schools in Louisiana to create 30 minutes out of their current
 18 school schedule designated for a naptime. It would be up to the school districts to decide how the
 19 30 minutes would be administered, whether it be allocating time from the time school starts, time
 20 school ends, class time, or lunch. Students would be sleeping on their desks during the period that
 21 they would be in during school. Students would bring their own pillows and blankets, if desired, for
 22 convenience and sanitary reasons. If the student feels as if they cannot sleep at that time, they can
 23 use it for time to do meditation or quietly do other activities without disturbing others. If passed,
 24 this would be implemented in the upcoming 2024-2025 school year for all public high schools in
 25 Louisiana.

26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 This bill needs no funding to be implemented.

28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 If a public school district does not implement the policy, then a warning will be issued, and if they
 30 continue not to comply, then the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) will fine the school
 31 district \$10,000 dollars per each school year that they continue not to comply, which would go to
 32 the overall education budget of Louisiana.
 33
 34

2 **HOUSE BILL 205**

3 Elizabeth Monier Dutchtown High School

4 Isabel Apodaca

5 **TITLE:** A Bill to Expand SB44 to Include Non-School Related Competitive Teams6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 During the 1998 Australian Open, Serena and Venus Williams challenged the 203-ranked male tennis
 8 player in the world, Karsten Braasch, to a match. Serena went down 6-1 in sets and Venus followed
 9 by losing 6-2. Serena claimed that she “hit shots that would have been winners on the Women’s Tour
 10 and he got to them easily.” This is because of the physical differences between men and women.
 11 According to the American Physiological Society, “The men had significantly more Skeletal Mass in
 12 comparison to the women in both absolute terms and relative to body mass. The men had
 13 significantly more skeletal mass in both the upper and lower body.” Because of this difference,
 14 asking a woman to play against a biological man is a cruel thing to do, at any age. This bill moves to
 15 expand SB44 titled the “FAIRNESS IN WOMEN’S SPORTS ACT ” to include non-school related
 16 competitive teams if they wish to compete in state-run or funded leagues. Some of these leagues
 17 include the BREC Parks, YMCA, the S.P.A.R Track Program, and the Louisiana Youth Sports Network.
 18 Other programs such as non-profit organizations that create leagues such as LCSL which is the
 19 Louisiana Classic Soccer League, receive state funding through government grants, corporate grants,
 20 and foundation grants.

21 Athletes will have to compete with their “Biological Sex” which is defined as the sex marked on
 22 their birth certificate at or near the time of their birth. This bill would affect mainly younger
 23 females whose opportunities are being taken away by biological men. This makes this bill necessary
 24 not only for the integrity of the sports but also for the athlete’s future.

25 A large part of an athlete’s recruiting process comes from travel and/or club teams that compete
 26 in state leagues. According to NCSA Sports around 90% of student-athletes competing on a college
 27 level played on a travel or club team in the past. This means that having unfair advantages or
 28 disadvantages could jeopardize up-and-coming athletes at collegiate and professional levels.

29 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

30 This bill will be implemented in March of 2024. All clubs and organizations wanting to compete in
 31 state leagues must transfer players to their designated teams within the grace period to contend in
 32 their respective divisions.

33 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

34 There is no funding required

35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 Each organization will be given a one-month grace period in which they must transfer players to
 37 their respective teams. If, after one month the players are still competing with their non-biological
 38 team, the individual team will be given a three-week suspension. After the initial suspension, if the
 39 club still chooses not to cooperate, the organization as a whole will be given a suspension from
 40 taking part in state leagues until players are correctly placed.



4
5 **TITLE:** To protect children's safety from abuse and neglect

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 All parents are encouraged to go through a process of a prenatal screening at least 3 months before
8 the birth of their child. This bill will help identify parents at risk of perpetrating abuse and reduce
9 the number of children affected by neglect, abuse (sexual and/or physical), or death. In 2020, 76%
10 of children suffered from neglect. 16.5% were physically abused, and 9.4% of children were sexually
11 abused. 77% of the abusers are the parent of the child.

12
13 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

14 Parents who decide to take a prenatal screening will schedule an appointment with an obstetrician
15 or a gynecologist at least three months before the due date of their child. This law will take full
16 effect on January 1st, 2024. I plan to implement this law in Louisiana by promoting child safety.

17
18 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

19 At least 500,000 dollars will be needed to implement this bill. The money to support will come from
20 health and hospital expenditures paid by adults over the age of 21.

21
22 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

23 If this law is passed, parents who complete the screening will receive free diapers for 6 months and
24 one year of personal visits by a licensed social worker expert in early childhood education, starting
25 during the prenatal period and continuing until the baby is at least 6 months old.



4
5 **TITLE:** The Not All Women Act

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The Not All Women Act is proposed legislation designed to address the systemic inequities and
9 injustices faced by young girls in Louisiana's criminal justice system. Despite accounting for only a
10 portion of the juvenile offender population, young girls are disproportionately affected by harsh
11 criminal sentences and incarceration. Studies indicate that young girls account for 40% of juvenile
12 arrests in Louisiana and face numerous systemic barriers, including a lack of access to mental health
13 services, educational support, and culturally responsive programs. These obstacles are rooted in
14 systemic inequalities, including poverty, racism, and sexism, which intersect to further exacerbate
15 the marginalization experienced by young girls.

16 Louisiana's juvenile justice system currently emphasizes punishment and incarceration, an
17 approach that research shows is not only ineffective in preventing recidivism but also poses
18 significant risks to young girls' well-being, making it a costly and counterproductive strategy.

19 The proposed Not All Women Act aims to address these issues through evidence-based and
20 community-led programs geared towards identifying and addressing the underlying causes of young
21 women's behavior. By investing in community alternatives to incarceration, the Not All Women Act
22 aims to reduce recidivism rates, promote gender and racial equity, and equip young women with
23 the resources they need to thrive in society. By addressing the systemic inequalities that intersect
24 to further marginalize young girls, we can create a more just and equitable juvenile justice system
25 that allows for positive outcomes to prevent recidivism while fostering opportunities for growth and
26 development.

27
28 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

29 The Not All Women Act mandates the creation of community-based alternatives to imprisonment
30 that prioritize evidence-based services and culturally responsive support for young girls. These
31 alternatives will consist of community-based service, counseling, and education programs, including
32 mentorship programs, and disciplinary programs aimed at behavioral correction.

33 Accessible mental health and educational services must be made available to all young female
34 offenders, with a focus on ensuring that the services are trauma-informed and trauma-centered,
35 reflecting the importance of prioritizing safety and healing. To ensure the effectiveness of the Not
36 All Women Act, a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan will be put in place.

37 The success of the programs will be measured based on a range of metrics, including recidivism
38 rates, educational attainment, employment, and rates of mental health diagnoses and
39 hospitalizations. The Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services will oversee the
40 implementation of the Not All Women Act and will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the
41 program's effectiveness.

42 The Department will work closely with community-based organizations and other stakeholders
43 to collect data and feedback on the programs, which will inform ongoing improvements and
44 adjustments to the services offered. Independent evaluators will conduct periodic evaluations to
45 assess the impact of the programs and determine whether they are meeting their intended
46 outcomes. These evaluations will be made public, and stakeholders will be engaged in the process
47 to gain feedback and recommendations on how to improve the programs further.

48 Overall, this monitoring and evaluation plan ensures that the programs established under the
49 Not All Women Act are effective, responsive, and accountable to the young women they serve and

1 the community at large. The bill will set up advisory boards with women who have lived experiences
2 that can provide feedback and shape policies and services. It is recommended that the Department
3 of Children and Family Services work with community-based organizations to select board members
4 and clearly outline their roles and responsibilities. Board members should be accountable for their
5 decisions through regular reporting to the Department and the community, as well as evaluations of
6 their performance. This will ensure that the voices and experiences of young women are prioritized
7 in the development and implementation of programs and services.

8 A broad range of activities, including but not limited to the opportunity to learn life skills,
9 awareness of reproductive health, and Entrepreneurial Studies to impart self-reliance, will be
10 incorporated into the programs to make the participants productive members in their respective
11 communities. If the bill is passed, it will be implemented on September 5, 2025.

12 SECTION III: FUNDING

13 The Not All Women Act proposes a comprehensive funding plan that involves reallocating finances
14 from conventional juvenile detention centers towards community-based programs and services for
15 young girls. This funding reallocation is necessary because studies have shown that juvenile
16 detention centers are costly and ineffective and that incarcerated youth are more likely to re-
17 offend.

18 The bill proposes reallocating 60% of the current budget for juvenile detention centers towards
19 evidence-based and community-led programs that prioritize the well-being and success of young
20 girls. This amounts to approximately \$30 million annually that will be invested in new infrastructure
21 and resources, including the hiring of additional counselors and social workers to provide mental
22 health, educational support, and culturally responsive services.

23 The remaining 40% of the budget will be redirected toward restorative justice programs for
24 young boys. The funding proposals are designed to be specific, feasible, and justifiable, to create a
25 sustainable system that prioritizes the well-being and success of young girls in Louisiana.

26 To ensure ongoing support and accountability measures, the bill also recommends partnering
27 with private foundations and community organizations. These partnerships will involve establishing
28 grant programs, mentorship opportunities, and feedback assessments to encourage community
29 engagement and investment in the success of the programs.

30 Overall, the funding proposals outlined in the Not All Women Act are aimed at creating a more
31 just and equitable juvenile justice system in Louisiana by redirecting funds towards evidence-based
32 and community-led programs that prioritize the well-being and success of young girls while also
33 providing vital justice programs for young boys.

34 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

35 Organizations or individuals who fail to adhere to the provisions of the Not All Women Act may face
36 fines, suspension of licenses, and possible imprisonment depending on the gravity of their non-
37 compliance. The fines will be determined by the size and nature of the violation, with the minimum
38 being \$500 and the maximum being \$10,000.

39 Additionally, the bill stipulates that organizations and individuals found guilty of violating the
40 act on multiple occasions may face suspension of their businesses' licenses or contracts with the
41 government. In more severe cases, such as the endangerment of a young girl's safety or welfare,
42 imprisonment may be considered as a penalty.

43 It is crucial to enforce these penalties to ensure the safety and protection of young girls in
44 Louisiana. To ensure accountability and transparency, the Louisiana Department of Children and
45 Family Services will be responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance with the provisions of
46 the Not All Women Act. The department will also have the authority to investigate complaints of
47 non-compliance and take necessary corrective actions.
48

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023



2 HOUSE BILL 208

3 Aidan Wang Jesuit

4
5 **TITLE:** To Restore the Greatness of Division I Power 5 Football in the State of Louisiana While
6 Cutting Costs

7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 The LSU Tigers, the premier college football program in the State and a national powerhouse, have
9 the second greatest offense in program history with a Heisman-caliber QB, a 1k yd WR, and another
10 early draft pick WR all led under the winningmost active Head Coach in college football. It is also an
11 institution that has won national championships with 3 different head coaches, 2 of whom were not
12 considered elite. With all this one would think that the Tigers can win it all.

13 They cannot. The atrocious defense is holding them back, ranked 97th in the nation for total
14 defense. They seem unable to do anything. They even showed up to Bryant Denny without any CBs.
15 Remember LSU is DBU. Heck, their performance makes one wonder if LSU should join the Big 12.
16 Every conference loss is attributed to defense, something LSU is known well for.

17 The only solution to this is to clean the house starting with Matt House for cause. Willful negligence.

18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 The State Legislature will withhold the money amount that pays House's salary (1.6m) through the
20 end of his contract. This will force the University to let him go. Firing him for cause is at no cost to
21 the Univ.

22 SECTION III: FUNDING

23 Nothing. Firing him with cause is free.

24 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

25 If he is not fired, the Head Coach and eventually the AD will have to go.



2 HOUSE BILL 209

3 Aidan Wang Jesuit

4
5 TITLE: TO: Prepare LA Agriculture and Forestry Firefighters for Marsh/Wetland Fires

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 New Orleans has suffered from horrendous smoke and burning smells for the past few weeks. All of
8 this is attributed burning marshes. Pumping up to 100k gallons/hr of water and a couple of
9 bulldozers is all that is done right now. Fires in Lafitte and Bayou Sauvage had better, more
10 immediate responses that did not result in weeks of suffering for their citizens since they had
11 federal resources.

12 Louisiana Agriculture and Forestry’s 150 firefighters are not trained nor equipped to handle marsh
13 or wetland fires. They also are extremely budget-strapped and overworked. If they had the training,
14 money, and expertise, New Orleans would not have to smell “burning plastic” for weeks on end or
15 at least not as much.

16
17 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

18 The State Legislature will give \$15-20m of the state surplus to fund training and equipment. The
19 range is there depending on exact specifications needed to Ag and Forest. 15-20m is surely enough
20 to pay for training and equipment.

21 SECTION III: FUNDING

22 State surplus.

23 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

24 Misuse of public funds, embezzlement if it isn’t used properly.



2 HOUSE BILL 210

3 Greta Bailey University High School

4 Maryam Musa Yola

5 TITLE: Ensure Financial Protections for Inmates

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Working conditions for inmates in the state of Louisiana have recently been described as
8 exploitative and compared to slavery. Inmates often work eight-plus hour days for between or
9 between \$0.02 and \$0.80 depending on their job type. This amount of money is useless both behind
10 bars and in the outside world. Conditions while working can also be harsh and reports of inmates
11 being unable to take breaks are also many. At Louisiana State Penitentiary, or Angola, inmates can
12 be thrown in solitary confinement for refusing to work or being unproductive.

13 These conditions are dangerous for inmates; they can harm both physical and mental health which
14 affects inmate behavior and leads to harmful cycles. Further the extremely low pay can cripple the
15 chances of inmate reform because inmates are unable to take care of themselves once released.
16 Many former inmates also have trouble finding jobs after they have gotten out because of their
17 record. Paying inmates more might reduce recidivism, the reentry of inmates into the prison
18 system, and prevent some former inmates from committing more crimes out of desperation.

19 A new tax

20
21 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

22 More funding should be allocated to prisons for the specific purpose of increasing inmate pay.

23 Inmates should be compensated for their labor and effort, just as non-incarcerated persons are, and
24 given the minimum wage, at the very least. Louisiana’s minimum wage is \$7.25, and even though
25 that is not much, it will at least provide a small amount of aid.

26 If an inmate works a full eight-hour day, they would receive \$58, and in a week between \$290 and
27 \$409, depending on how many days they worked. Inmates will be paid on a semi-weekly schedule
28 (every two weeks). These amounts are not completely accurate because some inmates work less
29 than eight hours while some work more. Inmates deserve the same basic rights and human decency
30 and denying them is inhumane.

31
32 SECTION III: FUNDING

33 Funding to ensure financial protections for inmates will come from a 2% income tax for both the
34 monthly and semi-weekly schedules. Taxpayers will be expected to pay this tax increase by law, if
35 they are residents of the state of Louisiana. This money will then be allocated to the Louisiana
36 Department of Public Safety and Corrections to be used for inmate pay.

37
38 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

39 No penalties should be necessary, however any penitentiary in Louisiana willfully disobeying the
40 change will be subject to an internal investigation and a fine of up to \$100,000.

2 HOUSE BILL 211

3 Amber Jagneaux Dutchtown High School

4
5 TITLE: High beams are only permitted if it is equivalent or under 6,000 lumens.

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Causes drivers the inability to see the road

9 Causes wrecks

10 Distraction to younger drivers

11
12 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

13 The police will pull over a person with lights that are too bright and measure the angle in which the
14 lights are placed. Lumens will also be used to measure the brightness of the lights

15
16 SECTION III: FUNDING

17 The state and local governments will fund the police stations with the tools to measure brightness
18 of the lights from tax money

19
20 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

21 Ticketed and fined up to 500\$

22 License suspension up to 6 months

2 HOUSE BILL 212

3 Charlie Jeansonne Catholic High School

4 Luke Duval

5 TITLE: Coastal Defense Act

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Every year, our beautiful Louisiana coast is eroded like never before. Some experts suggest that the
8 coast may rise a total of 24 inches, placing much of what is modern-day New Orleans underwater.

9 Action must be taken now to protect our marshes, swamps, and coastal communities. According to
10 the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, "75% of commercial fish species depend
11 on the state's wetlands." Therefore, we are calling on all fishermen to help our great state out.

12 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

13 Our government would place a fee on top of the price for a fishing license. We would send the
14 requirements of this bill to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, who would
15 implement the fee.

16 SECTION III: FUNDING

17 In Louisiana, most fishing licenses cost around \$20. We will add a fee of \$10 to the cost of buying a
18 license. Around 445,000 licenses are bought each year, and with our additional fee of \$10, we will
19 have an estimated \$4.5 million going toward planting trees and defending our coasts.

20 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

21 There are no penalties associated with this bill.

2 HOUSE BILL 213

3 Maeve Dolan Episcopal School of Baton Rouge\

4
5 TITLE: To Improve Louisiana Public Schools

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 In Louisiana, much of the annual education budgets for public schools come from property taxes in
8 the area of the school. This means that students in low-income areas go to underfunded schools,
9 giving them fewer opportunities to succeed, continuing cycles of poverty in our state. This bill will
10 distribute the same amount of property taxes, just based on school population instead of area. This
11 bill will not affect the funding of charter schools, since separate programs exist for their financing.
12 In the words of Benjamin Franklin, "On education all our lives depend. And few to that, too few,
13 with care attend." It is time to start to heal our state economically, socially, and culturally through
14 our too-often undervalued resource, education.

15 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

16 Beginning with the next state budget approval, in June of 2024, Louisiana state legislators will take
17 this policy into account, redistributing funds accordingly. This will not interfere with other methods
18 of funding schools, such as grants and donations.

19 SECTION III: FUNDING

20 Louisiana Legislators will tax property as usual and re-distribute those same funds to public schools.
21 The funding will be divided and weighted by student population before distribution.

22 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

23 N/A

2 HOUSE BILL 214

3 Robert Jacobs dutchtown high school

4
5 TITLE: ban state testing in Louisiana.

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 teachers and students don't want state testing mostly because of how stressful it is. an article by
8 education week .org says A majority of educators find that state-mandated standardized tests
9 aren't useful in the classroom despite feeling a large amount of pressure to have their students
10 perform well on those exams, according to new data from the EdWeek Research Center. And an
11 article by Britannica procon,org says "Standardized tests only determine which students are good at
12 taking tests, offer no meaningful measure of progress, and have not improved student
13 performance." In the same article it does state pros to standardized testing and one of them is
14 "Standardized tests offer an objective measurement of education and a good metric to gauge areas
15 for improvement." Well that's what every test does. It states areas of improvement and students do
16 get a paper that says what answers they got right and wrong which can help them improve. On the
17 state test students only get their scores so how can students improve?

18
19 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

20 All tests, including state assessments, provide information about student learning that help us
21 (teachers and parents) instruct students better and help them succeed. says support.cva.org. But
22 here's the thing: state testing is just too stressful for kids. They have to go into a different class
23 room with a different teacher and do a timed test. Instead this bill proposes that the state should
24 get their data on how students are performing over time based on exams and tests. Because the
25 student will not feel rushed and can take their time. The state will start by looking at the first test
26 of the year then the midterms and then final exam of the year or they can look at the students AP
27 exam scores. By doing this the students will also not have to worry about memorizing everything
28 they learned throughout the year. Overall this will also help students' mental health. And the state
29 will also know if the kids are meeting their goals by seeing how kids are improving over time. And
30 this will allow them to make changes as needed. And if a student says that one class midterms or
31 tests are harder than the others then they can request to be sent to tutoring or can change teachers
32 if needed.

33
34 SECTION III: FUNDING

35 there is no funding

36 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

37 public schools are required to follow the laws of a state or country. This is because public schools
38 are funded by taxpayers, and as such, they are subject to the same laws as any other government
39 agency. Says Ariana Jones a commenter on quora.com. Meaning that if the bill becomes a law then
40 schools must obey if not they stop getting funded and will in most cases get shut down.



2 HOUSE BILL 215

3 Jacob Sruk Catholic High School

4 Patrick Kelly

5
6 TITLE: Coastline Protection Act

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 The Louisiana Coastline Is eroding at a rate of 30 football fields per day. To help fix this problem,
10 we must plant plants that act as natural barriers to block storm surge, and flooding, which would
11 help the eroding coastline. These plants Include bald cypress, and grove trees, which help keep the
12 soil together, by spreading their roots, and act as walls, and some other native bushes that help
13 prevent costal erosion. We will plant these plants along the state’s marshes, and swamps, that are
14 most affected by costal erosion.
15

16
17 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

18 This bill will go into effect starting in august, of 2024, and go through December of 2024, because
19 that Is the times It Is best to plant these plants for the best development. we will pay Louisiana
20 government workers for the work they do.

21 SECTION III: FUNDING

22 Louisiana will place a 2% tax on Louisiana vaping products, as well as Donations which will be
23 welcomed by the Louisiana wildlife federation. With this money, necessary seeds will be able to be
24 purchased needed to plant, as well as the necessary money needed to pay for the workers to do
25 their job.

26 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

27 There are no consequences for breaking this law.



2 HOUSE BILL 216

3 Radia Karim Lafayette High School

4 Willie Chang

5 TITLE: Healthier Air, Healthier Lives.

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 In the United States, secondhand smoke is responsible for the death of more than 41,000 citizens
8 every year. Carcinogens and chemical additives plague the air after someone has smoked in that
9 area. That can affect not only the smoker but also others around them, including those who are
10 immunodeficient and children who are more susceptible to the danger of secondhand smoking. In
11 2012, the United States implemented smoke-free laws inside restaurants, bars, and workplaces in
12 approximately 387 counties. 12 months after those laws went into effect, hospitals found that there
13 was over a 20% decrease in admissions for heart attacks- a medical emergency directly connected to
14 blockages often caused by smoking. Correspondingly, New York enacted smoke-free laws in the
15 places mentioned above. In the following year, hospitals found that with around 3,000 reduced
16 admissions, came 56 million dollars in savings.
17

18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 This bill seeks to create designated areas to smoke instead of allowing people to smoke freely in
20 public areas, protecting citizens from inhaling second hand smoke which is beyond their control.
21 This bill also seeks to prohibit smoking in all areas, except for those designated. These designated
22 areas will be determined by having locals submit requests for where they would like the smoking
23 area to be through a website. However, locals cannot request smoke zones in areas that are within
24 30 ft of hospitals, parks, and schools. These requests will be reviewed and adjusted accordingly by
25 the city council, and if justifiable, the council will issue a poll. Creating designated areas can not
26 only reduce the amount of second-hand smoke but also potentially reduce how frequently people
27 smoke.
28

29 SECTION III: FUNDING

30 This bill derives its funds from a 5% tax on tobacco/nicotine products.

31 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

32 Those who violate the anti-smoking laws will face a 200 dollar fine.



2 HOUSE BILL 217

3 Michael Malone Dutchtown High

4 Amelia Caillouet

5 TITLE: Regulations for Public School Sports

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 While sports in the high school setting may just seem like fun and games to most people, it is getting increasingly more clear that sports and getting more and more dangerous. People may think that the LSHAA does a lot to prevent serious injuries, but according to lshaa.org, all they currently make possible athletes do is take a physical examination, which contains things such as making sure their pulse is normal and basic vitals are okay (According to ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/The National Library of Medicine.) While these are important and do stop people who are not capable of becoming an athlete for a school sport, there are far more things that should be checked to ensure the safety of students. The Youth Sports Safety Alliance (youthsportssafetyalliance.org) describes many medical injuries and issues found in youth sports. Such as the number of heat related illness have increase by a substantial amount, with a 133% percent increase from 1997 to 2006. Tragically, 31 high school football players alone died from suffering a heat stroke during a sports performance in a 14 year period. Additionally, sudden cardiac arrest being a major concern in student athletes, with only 1 in every 10 who suffer this sudden condition surviving. Sudden cardiac arrest is caused by undetected heart conditions possessed by the athletes.

21 Before participating in sports the medical records of the students must be further expanded to prevent complications. This medical information would come from more specified tests and documents such as an electrocardiogram (ECG), and collecting deeper access to past medical history and hereditary medical conditions that could affect physical performance. Even after the athletes are approved to participate, they should still be closely monitored for any new signs of complications whether it be overexertion, heat exhaustion, or any other possible sudden conditions since some students could still be at risk.

28 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

29 This bill would be implemented before the summer of the 2024-2025 school year at all public schools when practices for a large portion of sports begin. All new medical records and tests will be in place for the students to take before participating in their sport, as well as instructing when it would be unsafe for a student to continue practice based on the physical conditions they are exhibiting or the temperatures outside.

34 SECTION III: FUNDING

35 The examinations and tests that possible athletes have to take, as well as any resources used would be funded by the Louisiana Department of Education.

37 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

38 If a school refuses to comply with the regulations and does not give their students the necessary tests and examinations to keep them safe, then they would be kept from running sports on campus. This would be enforced by the on-campus police officers. If teachers or coaches were caught knowingly running sports with incomplete medical information, then they would be put under examination by the principal or the school board to ensure the safety of the students.



2 HOUSE BILL 218

3 Alexa Odell Dutchtown High school

5 TITLE: Teachers must respect the pronouns of students of all ages in schools

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 In the United States, over 18% of minors go by different pronouns than what they were born with, meaning almost 20 million people are in this community. Although this may not seem important to some people, it can be huge for a young person to not feel respected as a human, and part of feeling respected comes from knowing their pronouns are respected. As of 2019, at least 55% of these minors tend to self-harm and/or have suicidal thoughts and I want to help lower this number. Under Louisiana’s current “Given Name Act” teachers must “Use the pronoun for a student that aligns with the student’s sex unless the student’s parent provides written permission to do otherwise.” This bill proposes that the pronouns a student goes by are their choice with no input from their parents and teachers must respect these pronouns.

16 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

17 Starting in the 2024-2025 school year, teachers must acknowledge and respect the pronouns of all students. At the beginning of the school year, teachers must ask students what their preferred pronouns are and respect those pronouns year-round.

20 SECTION III: FUNDING

21 No funding will be needed for this bill to be put into place.

22 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

23 If teachers are found discriminating against students or disrespecting their pronouns, they will be required to temporarily complete their work away from students and may be suspended if this action continues.

2 HOUSE BILL 219

3 Samantha Vaughan Central High School

4 Christina Cotton

5 TITLE: The nullification of Daylight Savings Time

7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Daylight Saving Is the act of shifting the clock back one hour to conserve daylight hours. Daylight
9 Savings was originally enacted to conserve electricity and resources during wartime. In
10 contemporary times, we have new methods to produce and conserve energy. Health professionals
11 argue that a consistent time year-round decreases the risk of depression and cardiovascular health
12 risks that are often experienced due to time changes. Therefore, for public health and safety, the
13 same consistent year-round would be beneficial. Arizona, Hawaii, and the territories already stay at
14 the same time year-round. These states and territories just keep the same standard time year-
15 round. Daylight savings is an outdated concept that proves more of a burden than a use.

17 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

18 Louisiana will no longer switch to daylight savings time for all official purposes. They will continue
19 year-round in Central Standard Time. This would go into effect on November 2nd, 2023. This date
20 would be the next time that daylight savings goes into effect, therefore the bill will keep Louisiana
21 in Central Standard Time.

24 SECTION III: FUNDING

25 No additional funding needed

27 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

28 No penalties applicable

2 HOUSE BILL 220

3 Esteban Hernandez Quiroz Central High School

4 Audrey Bickham

5 TITLE: Stay safe and secure around guns

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Due to the state of Louisiana’s weak gun laws and high ownership percentage the state has been
8 ranked 2nd in the nation in firearm death rates having an outstandingly high rate of 28.42, currently
9 the state requires lifetime and 5 year permit holders to provide proof of recertification every 5
10 years. This act will focus on terminating the ability to receive a lifetime permit as well as
11 shortening the 5 year recertification requirement down to 3. This will minimize the chance of an
12 individual’s declining mental and physical stability from going undetected before gun purchases or
13 renewal. The Act would also ensure every manufactured and legally sold firearm will be registered
14 to the local law enforcements database followed by a mandatory minimum of 7 day waiting period
15 which Louisiana does not enforce as of now.

17 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

18 For this bill to take effect gun stores must check all of the consumers I.D’s along with their training
19 certifications and a background check, the mandatory 7 day waiting period will give the stores time
20 to submit the consumers information to the Louisiana state police database giving the proper
21 authorities time to confirm and investigate all information presented as to ensure the validity of the
22 consumer and general safety.

25 SECTION III: FUNDING

26 This bill would be funded by a 1.15% city tax increase in order to reimburse local forces. As well as
27 a 2% tax increase on vapes and cigarettes (in an attempt to help lower underaged usage of these
28 items)

31 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

32 Currently the penalty for a first offense illegal possession is a 6 month imprisonment along with a
33 \$500 dollar fine, this act would double both penalties to 12 months and a \$1,000 dollar fine keeping
34 the rest of the multiple offense penalties the same.



4
5 **TITLE:** Change Louisiana’s Primaries to a Partially Closed System

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 My bill is calling for a Partially Closed Primary in Louisiana because too many people are left
9 unrepresented in our primaries with the current voting system. The system now is a fully closed
10 primary, this means only registered members of a certain party can participate in primary elections,
11 thus excluding the voice of unaffiliated, independent, and non-registered voters. The state of
12 Louisiana’s independent and unaffiliated voters cannot participate in any presidential primary
13 elections because we have a closed primary. A closed primary limits democracy in a state because it
14 prohibits certain people from voting. 2.6% of Louisiana’s population are unaffiliated, independent,
15 or non-registered voters, which means nearly 55,000 people aren’t allowed to vote. That’s why
16 partially closed primaries should be enacted in the state; this means unaffiliated or non-registered
17 voters pick a party to align with for the primary election while excluding the other parties from
18 crossing party lines. Ultimately giving independent voters a say in Louisiana elections.

19
20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 Louisiana will shift from a closed system to a partially closed system, this will go into effect for the
22 2024 election cycle. In April, primary voter rolls will be updated to include independent voters.

23
24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 This bill requires no financing or means of funding.

26
27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 No penalties for this bill.



4 Greta Bailey
5 **TITLE:** Revive the FCC Fairness Doctrine in the State of Louisiana

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In recent years, the media, including television, newspapers, radio, and now social media, has
8 become increasingly partisan. Alongside this, politics are becoming more divisive and more central
9 to people’s individuality. The media has been a large proponent of this and arguably created the
10 deep divide between sides that is evident in today’s political landscape.

11
12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 The FCC’s Fairness Doctrine, which was repealed in 1989, should be used as a template for a similar
14 bill in the State of Louisiana. The Doctrine will require that media outlets, previously described as
15 television channels, newspapers, radio stations, and social media accounts, present a fair and
16 transparent view of the opposing opinion on certain issues. These issues should be described as
17 commentary about political candidates and officials, commentary about any issues that they choose
18 to cover, and commentary about past, current, or future bills that are brought before either the
19 Senate or the House of Representatives in both the State of Louisiana and the United States of
20 America.

21 The Revival of the Fairness doctrine Act will penalize media companies and outlets via fine for
22 partisan presentation of the points described above. The goal is to encourage them to include more
23 bipartisan coverage in their works. The Doctrine will apply to Media companies and contributors,
24 where contributors should be defined as individuals who frequently host, present, post, or write for
25 a media outlet. “Frequent” should be defined as: at least four times per month. Contributors should
26 also have noticeable impact and influence.

27
28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 The funding for this bill should be expected to be marginally inexpensive. The funding for its
30 enforcement should be sourced from the State of Louisiana’s Office of Communications, which
31 traditionally oversees the state’s media. The bill should also be partially funded and supported by
32 the fine. When the fine is paid the amount should be added to a fund that can be used to support
33 the Doctrine in the future or, if the fund is in surplus, meaning \$100,000 or more, the money can
34 and should be given to another department.

35
36 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

37 Media companies or contributors should be penalized if they do not sincerely talk about the other
38 side of an issue for 30 seconds. This does not apply to all issues but the ones that were outlined
39 above. Entities who do not adhere to the outlined requirements for The Revival of the Fairness
40 Doctrine Act will be fined \$500 per offense.

2 HOUSE BILL 223

3 Cole Trouard Catholic High School

4 Alijah O’Bear

5 TITLE: Remove Trigger Laws

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 This bill, as the title states, aims to get rid of trigger laws. Trigger laws are laws that are passed by
8 a legislative body, but only go into effect once said event will “trigger” it, turning the law into an
9 enforceable law. An example of a trigger law in Louisiana would be R.S. 40.1061 - Abortion
10 prohibitions. It is a law that has a dubious clause that was signed before Roe v. Wade was
11 overturned; the law states that the law will only go into effect if or when Roe v. Wade is
12 overturned. Despite the spirit of the law being based on a dubious, contended understanding of
13 what qualifies as personhood, the whole notion that unconstitutional laws can be “asleep” until
14 such a time that a SCOTUS decision overturns the precedent case that keeps the law from being in-
15 effect is simply ridiculous. This can lead to states beginning procedures to turn to SCOTUS as a
16 political executive for signing, condoning, or vetoing a law. (Note that this bill has nothing to do
17 with abortion, it is simply using this case as an example.)

18
19 Since the law was in a literal sense, unconstitutional under Roe v. Wade, which called abortion a
20 fundamental part of a constitutional right to privacy that the 4th amendment, 15th amendment,
21 and a couple of others which were ruled earlier to guarantee. The spirit of the law was contrary to
22 the SCOTUS interpretation of constitutional law, and was only able to remain due to technicality,
23 being that since there was no “actual harm” conducted by the State of Louisiana onto a defendant’s
24 constitutional rights, it could not be challenged for unconstitutionality.

25
26 This could be considered a legal booby trap; one will not notice it until the trigger hits, and one will
27 not have to defend it in court because no one has been charged with it yet.

28
29 To sum it up, trigger laws are laws that only go into effect once a certain event takes place. This
30 can be 2 years from the law being made, to 200 years after the law being made, and no one would
31 know about it. Someone can break said law because they did not know it existed, and now they
32 stepped on a landmine they never knew existed, and this person gets punished for it. Laws should
33 not be made in advance; laws should be made in relevance to the current time and situation.

34 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

35 This bill will prohibit Louisiana Legislature from subverting inquiries of a law’s constitutionality via
36 the imposition of a “trigger” or condition involving the repeal of precedent decisions made by
37 higher courts. Laws must be passed either with present constitutional precedents in mind, or to
38 make a challenge of the constitutionality of a previous higher court precedent.

39
40 The law will take place immediately after passage.

41 SECTION III: FUNDING

42 No funding is needed for this bill.

43 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

44 The Louisiana Supreme Court would declare the trigger law which breaks this law unconstitutional,
45 rendering it void and advising the legislature to remove the trigger. It would primarily be a
46 legislative restraint.

2 HOUSE BILL 224

3 Addison Crain Dutchtown High School

4 Kaia Bourgeois

5 TITLE: Clear the Air: Installation of Vape Detectors in High School Bathrooms

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 As we know, vaping in school is a growing problem among teenagers. According to the Louisiana
8 Department of Health, as of 2019, approximately 32% of high school students in Louisiana currently
9 vape. But kids aren’t only vaping at home, they’re vaping at school, more specifically, in school
10 bathrooms. Not only is it illegal for students under the age of 21 to be in possession of these
11 products, but it is also illegal for them to be brought to school. The National Institute of Drug Abuse
12 explains how vaping and breathing in second-hand vape has been shown to have extremely poor
13 effects on a student’s ability to learn and show creativity, giving us reason to take further measures
14 to maintain a proper learning environment and to dissuade students from breaking the law in these
15 locations.

16
17
18 In 2021, E-cigarette manufacturer Juul Labs Inc. made an agreement to pay \$10 million to settle a
19 lawsuit filed by the Louisiana Attorney General’s Office in an attempt to limit the company’s reach
20 to minors. This money was set aside to be used for programs that are designed to prevent or reduce
21 the use of vapes among Louisiana residents under 21. This bill proposes that using this settlement
22 money, vape detectors would be placed in each student bathroom in all public high schools. These
23 detectors send alerts to the school alerting them that vaping is detected, so they can then assess
24 the situation.

25
26
27 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

28 This bill would require one vape detector to be installed in each student bathroom in all public high
29 schools before the beginning of the 2025 school year. The detectors would be required to be able to
30 detect vape smoke from the entire bathroom.

31
32 SECTION III: FUNDING

33 This bill would be funded by the 10 million dollar settlement Louisiana received from Juul Labs Inc.

34
35 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

36 If a school or school board refuses to comply with the law, they would be fined \$2,000. Each year
37 the school refuses to install the vape detectors after being fined, they would be fined another
38 \$6,000. All money collected from the fines will go towards the budget of the Louisiana Department
39 of Education to continue the improvement of health and safety in Louisiana public schools.



2 HOUSE BILL 225

3 Shep Smith C.E. Byrd High School

4 Parker Townsend

5
6 TITLE: Reinstating Rest Periods

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 In students' younger years, nap time is a daily affair in primary education. This practice ceases to
10 exist in secondary education, and even later primary education. Primarily, this is due to the idea
11 that students become "too old" for resting periods throughout the day. However, the American
12 Academy of pediatrics found that 20-30% of high schools students fall asleep in class on a daily
13 basis. Coupled with a more difficult curriculum, this can be an inhibitor of alertness, cognition, and
14 overall student learning. Therefore, the reinstatement of resting periods in high schools across
15 Louisiana can counter these detriments to ensure maximum productivity throughout a full school
16 day.

17
18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 Every other day of the school week, students will be provided with a 25-minute resting period.
20 Resting periods will take place in the class immediately after the students' lunch break. Students
21 are encouraged to bring blankets and pillows to maximize rest. To allocate time, each of the seven
22 class periods will be reduced by four minutes, giving students three minutes to arrive at their next
23 class and 25 minutes to sleep. Students will be asked to refrain from using cell phones or doing work
24 for other classes.

25
26 SECTION III: FUNDING

27 No funding will be required for this bill.

28
29 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

30 Any teacher who is found violating the implicated rules of naptime will be fined \$75 for each
31 offense. Any student found violating the implicated rules of naptime will serve a punishment at the
32 school's discretion. (ex. detention, suspension)



2 HOUSE BILL 226

3 Jackson Cooper C.E. Byrd High School

4 Peyton Salter

5
6 TITLE: Implement a finance class as part of the curriculum for high school students in Louisiana and
7 make it a necessity to graduate.

8
9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 Many college students and young adults have trouble spending to much money, learning how to file
11 taxes, and other thing related to finance. According to budgeting expert Dasha Kennedy of The
12 Broke Black Girl, it's far too easy to believe you don't need to budget, and that your financial
13 problems can be solved just by earning enough money. However, this often leaves you spending
14 money on "wants" without enough regard for your future goals. This is a big problem because this
15 can cause people to start to feel depressed because they are barely making ends meet.
16 Implementing finance as part of the curriculum would help to solve this problem because it would
17 help teach high school students how to manage their money so they aren't running into as many
18 debt problems strait out of high school. Also in a recent Insuranks survey, 22% of millennials and
19 Gen Zers said they don't know how to file taxes. This is a big problem because this can have serious
20 consequences such as being sent to federal prison. That would not look good on a job resume.
21 Once again this would be yet another skill that could be taught to these high school students to try
22 to keep them out of trouble and have a successful life without too many money problems.

23
24 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

25 This class would be implemented as part of the math curriculum for seniors because they are the
26 ones who are about to go out into the real world, and they are the ones who are going to have to
27 use the knowledge from this class.

28
29 SECTION III: FUNDING

30 There would be money needed for new textbooks with the finance information in it, and since this
31 would be a class implemented in Louisiana it would need to come from the state Department of
32 Education.

33
34 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

35 If this law is broken then the students at that high school would not be able to graduate. Since this
36 class would be a requirement students would have to take this class or they would not graduate.



4
5 **TITLE:** Restraint and Regulation of Artificial Intelligence

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Artificial Intelligence, often abbreviated as AI, has long been the driving force of conspiracy
8 theories, viral videos, and many other things across the internet and media. Recently, AI has been
9 used to show mainly celebrities and important figures doing things they haven't. This includes
10 talking to other people, saying things they usually wouldn't say, and so on. However, it's been
11 getting more and more serious. Forms of propaganda are being created with the help of AI; serious
12 criminal evidence is being altered with AI. As time progresses, this technology can spread to the
13 public and be heavily misused.

14
15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 To execute this bill, I would first call for the holding of all accessible forms of artificial intelligence
17 for inspection. Inspections would create new jobs with the requirements that of FBI employees. The
18 inspection of these websites, apps, and databases will include if the companies are harboring data
19 without the permission of users, if the companies see any forms of misuse of AI in users and not
20 reporting them, and if the companies are altering users provided information with AI. These
21 inspections will apply to upcoming new AI companies as well.

22
23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 Being that this issue is of U.S. concern, the main funding for the bill will come from the Department
25 of Homeland Security. The implementations of this bill will cost approximately \$750,000 to
26 \$1,500,000 to start. The funds for the bill will go towards employees who investiate the AI
27 companies. AI companies will also be expected to pay a proportional tax percentage of their
28 earnings to fund this bill.

29
30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 If AI companies choose to not follow the restraints and regulations provided by the bill, they will be
32 ordered to bring an end to the entirety of their company. Companies who willing refuse minor
33 restraints and regulations in the bill will be ordered to pay fines up to \$500,000. The seriousness of
34 the companies' AI involvement will result in criminal investigation and trial.



4
5 **TITLE:** This bill requires all Louisiana businesses to provide pale orange medieval style clothing to
6 diminish societal norms and discrimination.

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Clothing is a device that uses colors, style, and fit to non-verbally express one's personality. It has
10 been used for centuries and developed drastically. In more recent years, clothing has become a
11 symbol of power and a way to express your wealth. This creates a social divide between the upper
12 and lower classes since lower classes cannot afford the same garments. This allows wealthier people
13 to discriminate against those who are less fortunate since one's clothing is a very obvious tell-tale
14 sign that represents their socioeconomic status. The price of clothing fluctuates depending on the
15 materials used to make it, the colors used, its brand name, etc. Because of this, some clothing is
16 made affordable to only the wealthy. This is what ultimately creates a social divide between the
17 two classes. In addition, brand names have turned clothing into a symbol of power and wealth.
18 Brands such as Gucci, Dior, Louis Vuitton, etc are all examples of brands that are used to represent
19 one's wealth since they are priced extremely high and are considered "luxury." This causes
20 discrimination because someone who is able to afford these brands could look down upon the
21 people who can't.

22
23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 All clothing businesses in the state of Louisiana are now required to provide the same style medieval
25 clothes to the public rather than the clothes they were selling previously. Women are to wear gowns
26 that stop at the ankle, a smock as an undertunic(loose garment worn under clothes), low buckled
27 shoes, and an optional bonnet. Men are to wear tunics (loose garments), a pair of trousers, pointed
28 and long shoes called poulaines, and an optional headcap. All of this clothing will be colored a pale
29 orange. Outerwear such as jackets and coats as well as undergarments are not required to oblige by
30 this rule. All other clothing that is not pale orange and medieval style is to be taxed 53.846% by the
31 state of Louisiana. This law will put an end to clothing being a symbol of power. It will stop
32 discrimination against people due to their clothing since everyone is wearing the exact same outfit.
33 Even though eliminating different clothing will not end discrimination, this bill serves as a way to
34 diminish it. People will no longer be able to tell who is higher class strictly based on their attire.
35 The clothing will all be the same shade of pale orange to prevent one color gaining a higher value
36 than another. This law will go into effect by June 1st, 2025, giving businesses time to acquire
37 vendors to provide the clothing as well as planning advertisements.

38
39 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

40 No funding is needed for this bill.

41
42 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

43 Non-compliance will result in the tax on non-medieval style clothing to increase by 7.92% every
44 week and 3 days. This tax will continue to increase for the length of time that a business does not
45 comply.

4
5 **TITLE:** Cracking Down On News Network Misinformation Act

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 In the past years, misinformation has been spread more and more often and is unaccounted for.
9 This has escalated to the point where news channels have begun spreading misinformation, leading
10 to the case FOX News v. Smartmatic. In this case, Smartmatic sued FOX for spreading false
11 statements about their voting machines, which were wrongfully claimed by FOX to be faulty and
12 rigged. Another case of this happened in the case Dominion v. FOX News, where FOX claimed that
13 Dominion’s voting machines were as faulty and rigged as Smartmatic’s. In a third case, Nina
14 Jankowitz, a former DHS disinformation expert sued FOX for defamation after the news channel lied
15 about her and she was subjected to death threats. Her address was released online, and she, as well
16 as her family, was threatened and told to kill themselves. One of FOX’s (Former, he was fired after
17 the Dominion v. FOX lawsuit) anchors, Tucker Carlson, was sued after he spread misinformation and
18 racist comments against immigrants. Carlson’s lawyers had to say that FOX could not be verified as
19 a news source; it is purely entertainment. However, Carlson stated on FOX, “Remember the facts of
20 the story. These are undisputed.” FOX still claims they are a news channel after multiple
21 defamation and misinformation lawsuits. Similarly, CNN was sued for defamation by a Kentucky high
22 school student, named Nick Sandmann, after CNN claimed he was the “face of an unruly hate mob.”
23 Sandmann was attending a March for Life anti-abortion rally and he and other people marching were
24 videotaped mocking a pro-abortion Native American activist, and Sandmann was falsely claimed to
25 be racist. This could lead to harmful acts by people who listen to these networks, and networks may
26 follow in FOX’s and CNN’s footsteps to gain viewers.

27
28 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

29 This bill would make it illegal to spread misinformation (or defamation unless it is only and no
30 less than the truth.) This bill would take place starting January 1st of 2024. The only way for
31 misinformation to be spread is if it is clearly stated that is false and can not be trusted. It would be
32 illegal news channels can not be called news channels unless they tell the truth and nothing but the
33 truth. It would also be illegal for any person, including government officials, to say that what they
34 said in a court case was true was actually a lie. This does not include misinformation spread due to
35 a source that isn’t verified; however, there must be proof for this exception to occur.
36 Misinformation in this case includes information that is deliberately a lie and cannot be considered
37 true without a source. It must be able to be verified for it not to be considered false.

38
39 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

40 This bill would require no funding.

41
42 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

43 Punishments for those who break this law include:
44 ● Charges of assistance with murder if the victim is killed in rage by a listener or commits suicide
45 ● Fines of at least \$1,000
46 ● Compensation to the victim of starting at \$5,000
47 ● Jail time of up to 6 months for slander; if written/typed on social media, up to 2 years for libel

4
5 **TITLE:** Increase mandatory minimum sentence for crimes committed with stolen firearms.

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Due to the rising violent crime statistics in Louisiana, much of which is committed with stolen
8 firearms, an effort needs to be made to curtail the use of stolen firearms. Various local ordinances
9 have failed to pass that would punish law abiding citizens for improperly storing legally owned
10 firearms. These laws would make criminals out of such law abiding citizens rather than punish
11 actual criminals. Therefore this bill proposes to add a minimum additional 10 year sentence for any
12 criminal convicted of a crime while using a stolen firearm. The result of passage of this bill will
13 reduce violent crime in Louisiana with the use of illegal firearms because a mandatory sentence
14 applied to conviction will discourage firearm theft as well as overall illegal firearm transaction and
15 use. Furthermore, convicts who commit violent acts with stolen guns will be behind bars for longer
16 periods of time and will offer less chance of recidivism.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 This bill will go into effect upon approval of the majority of the Electorate as it will be most
19 effective as an amendment to Louisiana’s constitution. Enactment of this law can be relatively
20 immediate as there is no procedure that needs to take effect. This is a sentencing law for criminals
21 who commit violent acts or felonies with stolen firearms.

22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23 There is no exact monetary value to be equated with the passing of this bill, but this bill will
24 however decrease the cost of legal proceedings going through the state public defender’s office for
25 both defenders and law enforcement, lowering insurance rates, and have an overall decrease in
26 crime which will in turn have a net improvement in the state of Louisiana’s economy from increased
27 investment.

28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 The penalties to breaking this law are clear in the addition of a minimum 10 year sentence to
30 criminals involved in violent acts committed with stolen firearms.



4
5 **TITLE:** 4 Day School/Work Week

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The idea of a 4 day school/work week is ideal for the mind to grow. Hundreds of other schools have
9 adopted and taken into action the 4 day school/work week. This cites lower cost & better teacher
10 recruitment. Teachers and parents struggle to keep their kids entertained while they work five days
11 a week. Teachers have found an increase in student attendance and increased teacher morale due
12 to a 4 day school/work week. This doesn't just apply to school of course it can also apply to parents
13 working jobs. We know you all want one less work day to relieve you all from all that stress.

14
15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 For this bill to work, teachers would need to adjust their schedule to fit the educational needs of
17 the kids. We would have to change the hourly pay to fit the same amount of money as a
18 5 day week. Schools with a 4 day school/work week save more money due to lack of transportation
19 needs, food products, appliances, & etc. This bill would take effect the week
20 after it is passed so everybody can have time to start adjusting to the new schedule.

21
22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23 Instead of spending money on putting in this bill you would save money. The maximum money that
24 can be saved from implementing this bill would be 5.43%. The average saving is 0.4% to 2.5% in
25 savings which is a lot in comparison to a 5 day school/work week where we spend more money
26 rather than saving money. We would have to change the hourly pay to fit the same amount of
27 money as you would get in a 5 day work week.

28
29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 There would be no consequence given by the government if the law is passed. The only consequence
31 would be self imposed by continuing a 5 day school/work week. This could cause
32 the possibility of losing workers or students and going out of business, which would be due to the
33 fact that others would be on the 4 day school/work week schedule. A 4 day school/work
34 week seems much more enticing compared to a 5 day school/work week.



4
5 **TITLE:** Mandatory Blood Sugar Tests in Pediatric Visits

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Diabetes is a growing problem in the state of Louisiana. According to the American Diabetes
9 Association, roughly 32,000 people are diagnosed with diabetes yearly, and over 500,000 people
10 currently have diabetes. An even greater amount of of people have prediabetes with higher blood
11 glucose numbers. Diabetes is also very expensive costing the people in Louisiana over 5 billion
12 dollars.
13 This bill aims to lower these numbers by making blood sugar tests mandatory for yearly pediatric
14 visits. By testing blood sugar numbers in youth, we can help kids understand the risks and problems
15 that come with diabetes. This bill will also help identify kids with elevated blood sugar numbers and
16 help them fight or treat diabetes more effectively.

17
18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 This would go into effect immediately following the passage of this Bill. This will immediately take
20 effect in all pediatric visits as kids will start having blood sugar tests taken on their next visit. Kids
21 and Doctors will need to include these tests and results in any report made by the doctors. These
22 tests will be free for all kids so the health center would need to supply these tests.

23
24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 Pediatric health centers already have the machines that are used to test blood sugars so there
26 would be no need to distribute any of those. The only thing that would need funding would be the
27 test strips and needles. The money for this would be given to the health centers via a 2000-dollar
28 yearly government grant. The government would get the grant money from its State Medicare funds.

29
30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

31 If a pediatric health center is not performing tests, they will be fined 500 dollars a week until tests
resume.



4
5 **TITLE:** Prohibit the Use of the Gay and Trans Panic Defense

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 In recent years there have been advancements made to address the rising levels of hate crimes
9 against LGBT individuals at the federal, state, and local levels. But despite these progressions an
10 affirmative legal defense (a defense in which the defendant introduces evidence, which, if found to
11 be credible, will negate criminal liability or civil liability, even if it is proven that the defendant
12 committed the alleged acts) known as the "Gay and Trans Panic" defense remain valid defenses in
13 many states, one of these states being Louisiana. The gay panic defense is a legal strategy of a
14 defendant who requests to be at least partially excused from criminal conduct by portraying
15 himself as the victim of a homosexual advance. They do this through the basis of either:
16 Provocation: sudden quarrel or action in the heat of passion,
17 Temporary insanity: a person, as a result of severe mental disease or defect, was unable to
18 appreciate the nature or wrongfulness of the defendant's acts,
19 Or self-defense: The use of force to protect oneself from an attempted injury by another.
20 My bill intends to remedy this by banning the use of this defense and all its subsections of defenses
21 in courts by the start of 2024. This bill would not penalize the lawyers who attempt to use it, but
22 would instead allow a judge to throw out the defense if it was attempted to be used as it will no
23 longer have a legal basis. This bill will also define the three defenses so that a judge may assess
24 whether or not a defendant is using these within the grounds of the Gay Panic Defense. No
25 nonviolent sexual advance or perception or belief, even if inaccurate, of the gender, gender
26 identity or expression, or sexual orientation of an individual may be used to excuse or justify the
27 conduct of an individual or mitigate the severity of an offense. To be considered a nonviolent
28 advance there must be no use of force or injury to another person while initiating any actions,
29 words, or gestures that are intended to initiate or pursue a sexual or romantic encounter with
30 another person.
31 For purposes of this bill, "gender" includes a person's gender-related appearance and behavior
32 regardless of whether that appearance or behavior is associated with the person's gender as
33 determined at birth.

34
35 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

36 In addition to the pre-decided rules of LA R.S 14:20 (Justifiable homicide laws) this affirmative
37 defense will be banned from being used in courts across the state of Louisiana as well as adding a
38 more clear definition to the legal terms used in them. At the start of the 2024 year all legal
39 proceedings will henceforth be subject to these following provisions:
40 I) Restrictions on the Defense of Provocation: For purposes of determining sudden quarrel or heat of
41 passion, the provocation was not reasonable if it resulted from the discovery of, knowledge about,
42 or potential disclosure of the victim's actual or perceived gender, gender identity, gender
43 expression, or sexual orientation, including under circumstances in which the victim made an
44 unwanted but non forcible romantic or sexual advance towards the defendant.
45 II) Restrictions on Diminished Capacity/Temporary Insanity: A defendant that does not suffer from
46 reduced mental capacity or mental disease would not form these based on the discovery of,
47 knowledge about, or potential disclosure of the victim's actual or perceived gender, gender
48 identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation, including under circumstances in which the
49 victim made an unwanted but non forcible romantic or sexual advance towards the defendant.

1 III) Restrictions on Self Defense: Under current Louisiana law, LA R.S. 14:20(a), to justifiably use
2 self-defense in a homicide, four elements must be proven: The attack must be unprovoked against
3 the victim, there must be an imminent injury or death, there must be a reasonable degree of force
4 used against you or a loved one, or there is a person making an unlawful/violent entry into an
5 establishment. In order for a defendant to justifiably argue self defense in a homicide case, one or
6 more of these elements must be evident. A person is not justified in using force against another
7 based on the discovery of, knowledge about, or potential disclosure of the victim's actual or
8 perceived gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation, including under
9 circumstances in which the victim made an unwanted but non forcible romantic or sexual advance
10 towards the defendant. Forcible romantic or sexual advances will be classified as any other case of
11 harassment, sexual assault, or rape, regardless of the perpetrator's gender or sexual orientation.
12

13 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

14 This bill does not require any new funding.

15
16 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

17 If proposed in a court of law the defense strategy will be thrown out under a president of no longer
18 having any legal basis.

2 HOUSE BILL 234

3 Gabrielle Perrault St. Joseph's Academy
4 Lorelei Robinson

5
6 TITLE: Abolish Mandatory Minimum Sentences

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 According to statistics from the summer of 2022, Louisiana’s incarceration rate is higher than any
10 other state in the country and almost double the entire United States. This is partially due to
11 mandatory minimum sentencing laws. Mandatory minimum sentences are the smallest possible
12 prison sentence a court is allowed to impose on a person convicted of a crime. Although originally
13 enacted to reduce crime, mandatory minimums do not allow for all of the facts and circumstances
14 of a case to be taken into account when deciding a sentence. In Louisiana, most of these mandatory
15 minimum sentencing laws have been repealed. However, mandatory minimums for drug crimes are
16 still in place. Certain mandatory minimum laws require at least one year for nonviolent drug crimes.
17 A study that took place in July 2022 found that nonviolent drug crimes make up almost 20% of
18 Louisiana’s prisons—not to mention how over half of our inmates are nonviolent offenders. New
19 legislation requires a minimum sentence of five years for distributing any drug that, whether
20 intentionally or not, causes harm. In other cases, such as being caught growing marijuana, someone
21 in Louisiana would face a mandatory minimum of five years for that charge alone. Should this bill
22 pass, it would remove mandatory minimums in Louisiana and ultimately help reduce the gross
23 overcrowding in Louisianan prisons as well as reduce the cost of maintaining them.

24
25 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

26 This bill will repeal mandatory minimum sentences from all sentencing laws that currently include
27 mandatory minimum sentences.

28
29 SECTION III: FUNDING

30 This bill requires no funding.

31
32 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

33 This bill has no applicable penalties.

2 HOUSE BILL 235

3 Sydney Alltmont Metarie Park Country Day

4
5 TITLE: Hate Crime Education In Public Schools

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 In 2019, around 5% of hate crimes were committed by someone 18 or younger. During that same
9 year, over 8,300 kids were reported to be victims of identity-based bullying. Whether it be a
10 swastika drawn on a locker or derogatory terms said in a locker room, many youth are ignorant
11 about the impact and gravity of their words and actions against those different from themselves.
12 The goal of this bill is to stop the spread of hate in people while they are young and to create a
13 world embracing different cultures instead of discriminating against them. It is important to
14 understand what a hate crime is and how to prevent them from occurring.

15
16 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

17 Starting in elementary, a discussion would be held on how to embrace and accept others'
18 differences. This would be held a minimum twice a year, then it is up to the school to implement
19 more meetings. This would be held during a non-academic time. During the middle school years,
20 schools would begin using The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s Webinar
21 Series about Youth Hate Crimes and Hate Groups. This series not only talks about what a hate crime
22 is, but how to prevent one and how to help victims if needed. At the high school level, schools
23 would hold in-depth discussions about hate crimes with the knowledge built from elementary and
24 middle school. These conversations would talk about real world hate crimes.

25
26 SECTION III: FUNDING

27 Any funding necessary to implement this bill will come from the Louisiana Department of Education.

28
29 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

30 If school districts fail to adhere to the curriculum, 5% of spending will be taken. If a school refuses
31 to implement the curriculum, a mandatory meeting will be held with the Louisiana Education
32 Department where a fit punishment will be determined.

2 HOUSE BILL 236

3 Bailey Finnan Mandeville High School

4 Brayden Pursell

5 TITLE: Motion to Remove Statute of Limitations For Statutory Rape Committed Upon Minors

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 In Louisiana, there is a statute in place that states that certain sex offenses committed upon minors
8 are no longer prosecutable after 30 years once said minor turns 18. This legislation will specifically
9 focus on the carnal knowledge of a minor or otherwise known as statutory rape. Louisiana law
10 defines statutory rape as the sexual intercourse between an individual 17 or older with a minor, and
11 there must be an age difference of two years or greater. According to the Louisiana Foundation
12 Against Sexual Assault one in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually victimized by their 18th
13 birthday. The removal of this statue of limitations will give these individuals the right to justice that
14 they deserve.

15 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

16 As of 2024 the Louisiana government would remove the statue of limitations for the crime of
17 statutory rape upon minors.

18 SECTION III: FUNDING

19 This provision would require no means of financing.

20 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

21 If any courts or other legal prosecutors violate the expulsion of this statute, the Louisiana Supreme
22 court will further decide on the proper fines, suspensions, or other forms of penalties as deemed
23 applicable. This revision will not be applicable to any cases that violated the Statute before 2024.

2 HOUSE BILL 237

3 Noline Perrin Lafayette high school

4 TITLE: Indigenous People's Day

5 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

6 Columbus Day is a recognized state holiday in Louisiana that symbolizes solidarity with Italian
7 immigrants. President Harrison recognized Columbus Day in 1892 in response to the killing of 11
8 Italians in New Orleans motivated by the Anti-Italian movement. Since Columbus was an Italian icon,
9 he became the image of the Italian immigrant movement. Even if Columbus Day supports Italian
10 immigrants' heritage and the crimes committed against them, it completely degrades the unjust
11 crimes committed against the natives that came before under Columbus's rule. Columbus may
12 represent Italian culture but he also stands as a reminder of Native Americans and indigenous
13 communities facing displacement, persecution, and the erasure of their cultures. Columbus and his
14 crew were known to exploit and mistreat the native community. He enslaved them and forced them
15 to abandon their religion.

16 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

17 All federal workers will continue to have the day off. The holiday will be renamed ti Indigenous
18 people's day and during this day schools will be required to educate students about local native
19 american cultures and tribal groups in Louisiana. This bill will be implemented for the first time on
20 Monday, October 14, 2024.

21 SECTION III: FUNDING

22 No funding is required for this bill.

23 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

24 There are no penalties as the state will only be changing the name of this Federal Holiday.



2 HOUSE BILL 238

3 Eva Carpenter Haynes Academy

4 Angel Ma

5 TITLE: Sex Education for Empowerment, Equality, and Development for Schools

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Many factors including genetics and lifestyle factors like nutrition, health, and environment push the earlier signs of puberty. Young women and men in the present day are starting to experience the effects of puberty sooner than in the past; In fact, boys experience puberty at around nine to ten, indicating that it is important for them to be properly educated earlier. Giving primary school students a more formal education about their hormonal changes could benefit them greatly. Not only does more sex education inform pre-teens, but it can prevent teen pregnancies, and release more information about correct contraceptive usage and birth control, pubescent changes, and sexually transmitted diseases.

8 According to the CDC, the number of births per 1,000 females aged 15-19 is 24.5 in Louisiana, which ranks it the seventh highest in the U.S. The rate is around three people per grade. In Louisiana, the current law restricts sex education to grades seven through twelve, which often falls after the age when many children experience puberty and other related changes. In addition, there is no specific legal requirement for when comprehensive sex education should be provided, which leads to a common practice in which the majority of school systems offer a single semester of sex education in late high school. This timing is suboptimal, as it occurs far too late in students' lives to address this critical issue.

9 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

10 This plan shall be enacted on a new starting semester. There will be a mandatory class for grades three through five lasting for one semester that will be part of the physical education course. This course shall only be taken once by each grade and students will not need to take it again during the rest of their primary school years. Teachers will have professional development and training to deliver an open and non-judgmental sex education curriculum. As well, feedback reports will be collected from teachers, students, and parents to make continuous improvements to the bill. While sex education is very necessary, there will be alternative options provided for families with specific cultural or religious concerns who wish for their children to not take the class. Such alternatives will include counseling that will be completely confidential for students whose parents opt their children out of the mandatory sex education course; students can voluntarily go if they have any questions about their sexual health.

11 SECTION III: FUNDING

12 This bill will use funding from state and local government money set aside for public schools. The state shall fund the money training for teachers and local districts shall fund any additional materials needed by the class such as textbooks, anatomy teaching-models, etc.

13 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

14 Penalties shall be imposed if a primary school is caught not following the curriculum, being unprofessional about the curriculum, and/or teaching inaccurate information. Should any of these happen, the school shall be fined \$20 per day until the misconduct is addressed. The state and local district governments are intended to enforce these penalties and inspect each school to make sure they are getting taught the correct curriculum.



2 HOUSE BILL 239

3 Marianna Harris Lafayette High School

4 TITLE: Increase Teacher Retention

5 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

6 The State of Louisiana, as of January 2023, has already begun implementing a “comprehensive recruitment and retention plan” which include things like the Grow Your Own/ pre-educator pathway (offered in over 90 schools), a 1500 dollar pay increase for teachers, and creation of the first Superintendent’s Teacher Advisory Council. According to the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), overall teacher retention has already increased two points to 86% this past year, but there is still room for improvement. My plan is to create a state grant in which teachers would be able to apply for 500 dollars to spend on their classrooms each year. This grant has the ability to reach 500 teachers a year. Providing the opportunity to fund a more positive work environment for teachers across the state is important because, according to a study done by the The Peabody Journal of Education, teachers’ perceptions of their work environments “were the most significant predictors of beginning teacher’s morale, career choice commitment and plans to stay in teaching.”

7 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

8 The LDOE’s Office of School System Financial Services will create an application for the grant in which teachers will write an explanation of how they would use the funds and how it would impact specifically their environment and their students. The application will be available under grant opportunities on the LDOE website. The Office of School System Financial Services will also review applications.

9 SECTION III: FUNDING

10 An additional \$250,000 will be allocated to the LDOE’s Office of School System Financial Services for this grant each fiscal year.

11 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

12 This bill does not require any penalties.

4
5 **TITLE:** Forbade the acts of book bans and pulling books.

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 To stop the act of removing books from shelves and having pages or paragraphs removed due to
9 content. As a form of censorship, the act of pulling or banning books occurs when private
10 individuals, government officials, or organizations remove books from libraries or school reading
11 lists because they object to their content, ideas, or themes. Advocates for book pulling or banning
12 fear that kids will be swayed by its contents and raise questions on complex topics. Many books that
13 are pulled target issues from minority groups; in this targeting, advocates fail to realize that
14 librarians research the books that are on the shelves themselves.

15
16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 Any book that has been pulled or banned from any public or school library can be put back up to the
18 discretion of the librarian. All attempts by advocates to ban or pull books will be shut down.

19
20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 Funding to help public libraries is provided by the Federal Library Services and Technology Act, a
22 section of the Museum and Library Services Act administered by the Institute of Museum and Library
23 Services. To facilitate access to resources in all types of libraries for the purpose of cultivating an
24 educated and informed citizenry. For the school libraries, the funds will be taken by the
25 Department of Education.

26
27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 Citizens or organizations that make threats against librarians are to be taken seriously by the police.
29 Depending on the content of the threat, they will be prosecuted under RS 14:122 and will face fines
30 no more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than five
31 years, or both.

4
5 **TITLE:** Implement a Foreign Language enrichment program in all public elementary and middle
6 schools

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 This bill requires the implementation of a language learning class in all Louisiana public schools for
10 students grades 4-6. This class will be taught as an enrichment course in primary schools throughout
11 the state. Students will be able to learn either Spanish or French in enrichment programs placed
12 throughout the school week. These classes will be an introduction to the language for students, and
13 will be the foundation for the required language courses taken later on.

14
15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 This new program will gradually be implemented throughout the state of Louisiana. By the year
17 2030 all primary schools in Louisiana who teach 4th-6th graders will have this program in their
18 schools. During this year, schools within the state who teach 4th-6th grade will be required to hire
19 at least one Spanish or French teacher. At least one language teacher must be hired to teach the
20 students in the school. Each school has the ability to decide whether they teach Spanish or French
21 within the school. Students will begin taking classes upon entering the 4th grade and will attend
22 these classes once a week.

23
24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 Each primary school implementing this program will be given an initial \$100,000 Dollars to fund this
26 new program. This money will be taken from the state's education budget, and will be granted to
27 school districts directly to be used on the enrichment program. The base funding will be used to
28 cover a teacher's salary, the basic classroom materials (desks, classroom)If a school needs a larger
29 budget for this implementation, they can send an appeal to the Louisiana Board of Elementary and
30 Secondary Education (BESE) for the amount of money they need.

31
32 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

33 This bill requires no penalties.

5
6 **TITLE:** Reform Police Training

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 In Louisiana, police officers are required to spend a minimum of 496 hours at a Peace Officer
10 Standards and Training (POST) Academy. We propose increasing this number to 750 over 37 weeks.
11 This will also add a Mental Health Crisis Class where officers will learn how to safely de-escalate
12 situations and will work closely with Mental health professionals. We also propose to add Continued
13 Learning to police officers. This program requires all active police officers to take 20 hours of
14 training at a POST Academy biennially.

15
16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 The POST Academies will be given the funding necessary to provide the additional classes. The
18 class's curriculum will be created by expert Police Officers and Mental Health Officials to ensure the
19 trainees will be given correct and up to date information.

20
21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 Additional financing will be required, however it will be used to better an important system in our
23 society. Louisiana spends about \$2,445 Million each year already on police funding, increasing this
24 to about \$2,000 Million should be sufficient. This number is based on the Minnesota budget of
25 \$3,571 Million adjusted to Louisiana's population. Minnesota has a population of 5.7 Million and
26 Louisiana's is about 4.6M, so authorizing this spending should be sufficient, and it can be decreased
27 in coming years after these programs are established for longer.

28
29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 If the police officers do not complete the Continued Learning within the required time frame, they
31 risk losing their license.

5
6 **TITLE:** Harsher Punishments on Fentanyl.

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and double that
10 of morphine. In 2022, 64.9% of drug-related fatalities in Louisiana involved fentanyl, according to
11 post-mortem toxicology tests. That number drastically increased by 41.6% of fatalities involving
12 fentanyl in just the three years prior in 2019. In New Orleans alone 94% of drug overdoses involved
13 fentanyl. Just 2 milligrams of fentanyl, equal to just a pinch of sand, is considered a lethal dose.
14 Criminal traffickers can possess up to 40 grams of fentanyl before they face the 7-year mandatory
15 minimum prison sentence but only an eighth of that can end someone's life. This means a trafficker
16 can murder up to 20,000 people before they would face a seven year sentence. As of right now,
17 anyone found illegally manufacturing or selling this drug in Louisiana can be convicted minimum of 7
18 years for the first offense, 10 years the second, life in prison for the third offense.

19
20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 Anyone found making and or selling this drug will be sentenced to 25 years first offense, 40 years
22 second, and life in prison for third offense. As a drug this powerful can lead to death if consumed
23 purposely or accidentally, anyone who possesses fentanyl for the intent to use without a valid
24 prescription will be sentenced by the already existing Louisiana law stated above and by a trial by
25 jury. This bill will be used as the guideline for fentanyl related crimes in Louisiana after it is passed,
26 and will not affect the sentencing of people already convicted.

27
28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 In Louisiana, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections pays for the cost of prisons.

30
31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 No penalties are necessary for this bill.



4
5 TITLE: Let They/Them Live

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 On July 19, 2023, the state of Louisiana passed bill HB648. This bill prohibits doctors from helping
9 transgender minors to receive any sort of care to help them transition. It includes hormones such as
10 estrogen, testosterone, and puberty blockers. In addition, it also bans doctors from performing
11 surgeries such as facial feminization surgery or chest reconstruction.

12 The name of the bill is the "Stop Harming Our Kids Act". The bill was originally vetoed by
13 Governor John Bel Edwards, but overridden by a vote of 28-11 in the Senate. In his reasoning for
14 vetoing, Governor Edwards writes, "This bill denies healthcare to a very small, unique, and
15 vulnerable group of children." The arguments for the bill were that such surgeries and hormones are
16 child "mutilation". Between the years of 2017 and 2021, 0 gender reassignment surgeries were
17 performed in the state of Louisiana. Only 465 out of 794,779 children under Medicaid were
18 diagnosed by a licensed healthcare provider. Out of the 465, only 57 were considered for puberty
19 blockers or hormone replacement.

20 Out of an already small percentage of children diagnosed, only a small amount of these children
21 even received care. Currently, in the state of Louisiana, only 12 healthcare providers are giving care
22 to these children. The process to be eligible for such care includes a diagnosis of gender dysphoria
23 (a condition that is recognized by a wide range of medical organizations), at least 2 years of therapy
24 and counseling for the children, and counseling for the parents of the child. In 2022, it was
25 estimated that only around 3% of previously transgender individuals detransitioning, so the
26 possibilities of the minor later regretting their transition is low. Additionally, transgender children
27 are at higher risk for depression and suicidal thoughts and attempts. This bill would increase these
28 rates due to children not having the chance to receive care, care which already has an extensive
29 process to receive.

30
31 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

32 This bill would repeal bill HB648. No changes will be made to the current healthcare options for
33 transgender minors in the state of Louisiana, nor will it change the process for those to be eligible
34 to receive such care. If passed, the bill will be implemented on January 1, 2024, the same date the
35 "Stop Harming Our Kids Act" is supposed to go into effect.

36
37 SECTION III: FUNDING

38 This bill does not require funding.

39
40 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

41 This bill does not have a penalty.



5
6 TITLE: Closing the Achievement Gap in Education (CAGE).

7 An Act to Reform How Public Schools are Funded and Close Achievement Gaps

8
9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 Throughout the country, and especially in Louisiana, there is a disparity between school funding in
11 poorer, low-income areas and wealthier, high-income areas. While the disparity in educational
12 outcomes hinges upon many factors, inequality in public school funding is a major contributor,
13 which leads to achievement gaps between students at schools with less funding than their wealthier
14 counterparts. A McKinsey study has determined that achievement gaps across the country have cost
15 the country more money than all recessions from the 1970s combined. They estimate that from
16 1998-2008, the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) would have \$670 billion higher if there had been
17 no gap between wealthy and low-income students. According to the study, individuals with college
18 degrees earn 84% more than individuals with only a high-school diploma. Education increases
19 income, which results in greater economic growth. Higher-income families increase consumer
20 spending, which constitutes 70% of the economy; with increased consumer spending comes more
21 demand, the creation of more jobs, an increase in workers' wages, and thus more spending,
22 formulating a cycle that leads to economic expansion. Currently, funding for public schools is
23 largely reliant upon property taxes; however, this results in areas of lower property values to
24 receive less funding for their schools than those who live in wealthier regions. In a study conducted
25 by the American Educational Research Association, in political subdivisions across the nation that
26 cut or froze school funding after the Great Recession, including Louisiana, student achievement
27 among economically disadvantaged students declined dramatically. Although Louisiana's
28 constitution does not allow for cuts from the state for per pupil spending, it allows for a freeze in
29 funds, which can have the same effect as a funding cut when inflation is accounted for; this is
30 exactly what occurred following the recession in 2008, in which Louisiana's annual base per pupil
31 spending increase of 2.75 was eliminated. From 2014-2015, the legislature approved a one-time
32 2.75 percent increase that brought the base per pupil spending to \$3,961, which is the value it is
33 today. However, in order to keep up with inflation that has occurred since 2008, Louisiana's base
34 per pupil spending should be \$4,642. If the 2.75 percent increase had been maintained since 2008,
35 the base per pupil spending would be \$5,194 in the 2018-2019 school year. The average amount
36 spent per public school student is \$12,359 in Louisiana, while the national average for per pupil
37 spending at K-12 public schools is \$16,080, though the overall average amount of money spent per
38 pupil by schools in the United States was \$19,380. A study conducted by Northwestern University
39 economist C. Kirabo Jackson reveals that in schools where spending was increased by 12 percent,
40 graduation rates also increased, while increasing spending on students 10% during their years in
41 public school ultimately boosted their adult wages by 7%. In order to create greater equity
42 regarding school funding, and thus closing the achievement gap, a new system must be constructed.
43 This system must provide an equal amount of state funding to schools, which exceeds a newly
44 established minimum funding per pupil, that is drawn from the state general fund. The increase in
45 money allocated by the general fund for the Department of Education, and thus public schools,
46 would be supplemented by State Education Property Tax, increased taxes on alcohol and tobacco,
47 and an increase in state sales tax while lower local sales tax. In moving away from local taxes, and
48 specifically local property taxes, being the main supporters of school funding, the disparity of
49 school funding as a result of low-income versus high-income areas would be diminished. Overall, this

1 will help close the disparity of educational funding between low-income and high-income regions in
2 Louisiana.

3
4 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

5 With the implementation of this bill, there will be a greater revenue for Louisiana’s State general
6 fund, and thus more money for the state to distribute equally per student. By increasing the state’s
7 base per pupil spending from \$3,961 to \$10,000 allocated per pupil, the minimum amount of funding
8 a child receives will be greatly increased. Furthermore, in maintaining the usage of local property
9 tax in funding education, the \$10,000 becomes a minimum standard of education funding in the
10 state, helping to close the gap between can be added upon to achieve higher funds per pupil, all
11 while increasing the basic standard of education funding overall. The change in tax funding shall
12 begin on October 1, 2024, and schools shall start receiving \$10,000 per pupil beginning August 1,
13 2025.

14
15 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

16 The increased funding toward the state general fund, and thus allocated for increased per pupil
17 funding, will come from an increase in the state sales tax to 5.3%, while having a decrease in the
18 maximum of local sales tax to 6%. Additionally, tax on alcohol and tobacco will increase. Beer and
19 malt beverages will increase to \$15.00 per barrel, liquor to \$0.96 per liter, and sparkling wines to
20 \$0.66 per liter. For still wines, alcoholic content not over 14 percent will be taxed \$0.24 per liter,
21 alcoholic content over 14 percent but less than 24 percent will be taxed \$0.42 per liter, and
22 alcoholic content over 24 percent will be taxed \$0.66 per liter. Cigars will be taxed over \$144 from
23 the manufacturer’s net invoice per thousand, while cigarettes will be taxed \$0.65 per cigarette.
24 Smoking tobacco will be taxed 39.6% of the manufacturer’s net invoice price. Smokeless tobacco
25 will be taxed 24% of the manufacturer’s net invoice price. In regards to vapor products, tax per
26 milliliter of vapor product will increase to \$0.18. Lastly, this bill will establish a State Education
27 Property Tax at 0.6%, and whose funds will go directly toward education.

28
29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 There are no penalties associated with this bill.
31



5
6 **TITLE: Teacher Compensation Enhancement Act**
7

8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Picture a place where teachers are respected for their hard work and dedication towards their
10 students through fair compensational salaries. However, this is not the case in most educational
11 institutions, especially in the Louisiana Department of Education. On average, teachers in Louisiana
12 have an average salary of around \$32,000 with the highest earners making around \$51,000.
13 According to The Bureau of Labor Statistics the number of vacant positions for educators is over
14 40,000 and is expected to grow over the coming years as well. These teacher vacancies and low
15 salaries tie directly into decaying educational systems. In state ranks for education, Louisiana is
16 ranked one of the lowest. This Act will not only promise to increase the salaries of teachers in
17 Louisiana, but will also rightfully reward the excellence displayed by these teachers as well. As a
18 result, teachers of the highest level of excellence will be able to help prevail in the educational
19 system of Louisiana.
20

21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 A meeting will take place between the Louisiana Department of Education and the Louisiana
23 Department of Revenue (LDR) to discuss the new plan. This bill will then be implemented on the
24 first day of the 2024 - 2025 school year.
25

26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 The money will come from local funding and the Louisiana Department of Revenue. The current
28 percentage of state and local funding used is around 3.26%. However, this bill will increase the
29 percentage to around 3.5%.
30

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 The LDR and Louisiana Department of Education will monitor the activities of different parishes. If a
33 parish is non-compliant with this act, a fine of \$15,000 will be implemented.



4
5 **TITLE:** Protecting and Expanding Louisiana’s Coasts (A Natural Alternative)

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Over the 25-year span from 1985 to 2010, Louisiana lost about a football field of land on average
9 per 100 minutes. Land erosion in Louisiana is an extremely important issue and could result in losing
10 the entire state within the next century. Hard shorelines and barriers, such as sea walls and
11 concrete bulkheads that are currently being used, often do more harm to local wildlife and
12 shorelines than good. Living shorelines, on the other hand, utilize natural elements like rocks, reefs
13 and plants to fortify the shore against erosion. Biodegradable yet sturdy, coconut fiber, known as
14 coir, is an extremely durable material and can be used to make coir logs, which are great for
15 building up soil layers and giving natural vegetation a stable place to take root which helps keep the
16 land intact and makes it harder for coastal erosion to occur. This bill will construct a “test”: a mile-
17 long living shoreline along the Gulf of Mexico, beginning at Port Fourchon and continuing alongside
18 the coast in the Northeast direction for a mile to form the mile-long stretch. Someone will be
19 assigned to monitor it regularly and determine if the project is successful. If it’s successful, then
20 the project will expand and more living shorelines will be built along the coast, hopefully
21 preventing coastal erosion and actually succeeding in coastal growth instead, which is a vastly
22 important step toward saving our state.

23
24 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

25 There will be a “test” mile-long living shoreline constructed alongside the coastline. This mile-long
26 segment of coastline is to ensure that the project of the living shoreline will work and succeed in
27 growing the coast. The living shoreline will be constructed by several resources. There will be a
28 base constructed of rocks along the river bank. Moss and grasses will be added to help anchor
29 sediment to the river bank. Coir logs will also be placed along the river bank. Native vegetation will
30 also be planted along to encourage the growth of as many plants as possible with firm roots in the
31 ground, which will hold the soil and ground together. The Coastal Protection and Restoration
32 Authority (CPRA) will decide which native vegetation would be most suitable to plant with the living
33 shoreline and on the coir logs and which is most suitable for that specific area. The amount of
34 testing time for the first mile-long segment of living shoreline will be 3 years. A monitor appointed
35 by the CPRA will do monthly “checks on the area”. They will document any possible growth of the
36 coastline. The CPRA will then, after the three year period, determine if the project is successful,
37 ie. if the shoreline has grown at all. If the shoreline hasn’t grown, the project and monitoring will
38 continue for another 2 years. If the shoreline still has not expanded, the project will end. If the
39 shoreline has grown and the test is successful, then the project will continue to expand. Every 2
40 years, one more mile will be constructed, continuing in the Northeast direction and along the
41 coastline of the Gulf of Mexico, excluding the areas where protection is already in place, unless the
42 specific areas need the extra protection of the living shorelines. After the first addition to the mile-
43 long segment, once there’s 2 miles of the living shoreline in total, the monitoring will decrease to
44 every 6 months. After the first additional 2 installments, once there is a total of 3 miles, the
45 monitoring will decrease to once a year.

46
47 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

48 The Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) of 2006 created revenue sharing provisions for the
49 four Gulf oil and gas producing states (Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas) and their coastal

1 political subdivisions. GOMESA funds are to be used for coastal conservation, restoration and
2 hurricane protection. Louisiana receives, according to the Natural Resources Revenue Data, an
3 estimated \$156,161,553 per year (approximately \$8.5 billion total) in GOMESA funds during Phase II,
4 which will last from 2016 to 2055. Twenty percent of this funding goes directly to parishes, and the
5 rest, approximately \$124,929,242, will go to the state government to be used by the Coastal
6 Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA). According to Natural and Structural Measures for
7 Shoreline Stabilization, the price of a living shoreline is \$1,000 to \$5,000 per foot. Therefore,
8 approximately \$5,280,000 to \$26,400,000 is what is needed for a one mile stretch of living
9 shoreline. The cost will be allocated from the GOMESA funds given to the state annually.
10 Approximately \$528,000 is needed for maintaining the mile-long stretch annually, which will also be
11 allotted from the GOMESA funds. The amount to maintain it annually will be less than 1 percent of
12 the annual funds from GOMESA that are able to be used by the CPRA. If the project succeeds and
13 the living shoreline expands, the amount that was used for the original mile-long segment will be
14 how much each additional segment will cost. The annual cost to maintain the additional segments
15 will also just be the original amount multiplied by the total amount of mile-long segments. For
16 example: If the project is added on to twice for a total of 3 miles, then the annual cost to maintain
17 it will be 3 times the original cost to annually maintain the mile-long segment.

18
19 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

20 There will be no penalties necessary because the state government is taking the action described in
21 this bill.



2 HOUSE BILL 248

3 Gabrielle Damico Lafayette High School
4 Purba Das

5 TITLE: W.L.D.O (We Let The Dogs Out)

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7
8 People love puppies. Time and time again, studies have shown puppies boost positivity and lower
9 anxiety. Mental health is a particularly pervasive issue in Louisiana compared to other states.
10 Compared to the 32.3% of adults reporting either symptoms of anxiety or depressive disorder in the
11 U.S. in February of 2023, 39.1% of Louisiana citizens reported the same symptoms. Studies from the
12 NCBI (National Center for Biotechnology Information) have shown that human-animal interactions
13 lower blood pressure, heart rate, stress, and anxiety while boosting social functioning and
14 motivation.

15 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

16
17 In an effort to lower mental health issues in Louisiana, this bill mandates biannual visits from
18 therapy dogs in state-run corporations. Additionally, it provides tax benefits for private corporations
19 who opt into this program. Effective as of January 1st, 2025, this program will involve a
20 collaborative effort among the Louisiana Departments of Health and Labor, the Louisiana Office of
21 Behavioral Health-Mental Health Services, partnering clinics, and state universities that have a
22 veterinarian school. They will also develop and issue thorough guidelines that state specific details
23 outlining the mandatory biannual limit for canine visits, the required certification and training
24 benchmarks for the participating puppies, the protocols for corporate offices to ensure compliance
25 with the Act, and the process of the scheduling and execution of the visits. The program would
26 acquire dogs from shelters in the state and may utilize already-standing therapy dog programs from
27 participating clinics. The puppies will be trained by Louisiana's public universities with veterinary
28 schools and cooperating clinics and must pass a temperament test that ensures the dogs know basic
29 commands and are well-behaved. They must also be fully vaccinated and have records to show this.
30 Based on their annual income, private companies that opt-in will get a reduction of 1/15 to 1/7 of
31 their annual state income taxes. Only private businesses that have 25 or more employees can opt-in
32 to this program. Businesses where puppies' presence can endanger the health of either the
33 customers or workers will be prohibited from being qualified for the program. If the presence of the
34 puppies threatens the health of any employees, they will be permitted to stay home for those two
35 days of the year. Additionally, offices will be responsible for disinfecting after puppy visits.

36 SECTION III: FUNDING

37
38 This program will cost an estimated \$750,000 per fiscal year to implement. This includes the cost to
39 screen and train the dogs, facilitate the movement of the dogs and personnel, and other necessary
40 costs. Currently, the state budget has a 330 million dollar surplus, meaning that this program would
41 not cut into current appropriations. Funding would come from this surplus.

42 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

43
44 There are no penalties as this is an opt-in bill.
45

2 HOUSE BILL 249

3 David Huang Baton Rouge Magnet High School

4 TITLE: Digital Citizen's Personal Information Protections Act

5 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

6
7 Internet users have little personal protection against data collection and surveillance unless they
8 inform themselves and take the extreme precautions needed to combat it, and even then the
9 measures that can be taken against data collection are limited compared to the extremes private
10 companies and governments are able to take to get their data. One example of sensitive personal
11 data protections being breached or are entirely non-existent is District of Columbia v. Facebook,
12 Inc., where Meta Inc. failed to protect the data of its users in the District of Columbia, causing
13 almost half of all D.C residents to have their data breached during the 2016 American presidential
14 election. Another is the mere existence of the ANT/TAO catalog, an extensive catalog of tools
15 capable of penetrating and accessing network equipment (cellphones, computers, etc) with or
16 without an Internet connection, provided by the United States own National Security Agency (NSA).
17 New protections must be put in place to prevent the immoral surveillance and data collection of our
18 Internet users.

19 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

20
21 All parties already know to be capable of the monitoring and collection of data will be monitored by
22 a new "Cybersecurity" branch of the State of Louisiana's Governor's Office of Homeland Security
23 and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) to ensure no activities:
24 - Collecting, using, or selling the personal information and data of Internet users is happening
25 without their knowledge or consent
26 - Using espionage/spying software on any Internet-connected devices of those who haven't been
27 convicted or suspected of a crime
28 - Involving the distribution of any powerful Internet-connected device based espionage/spying
29 software to anyone for any purpose
30 happen within state borders or occur to anyone within state borders. Any party found to be in
31 violation of these previous clauses will be subject to the penalties listed below and the monitoring
32 stated above.
33

34 SECTION III: FUNDING

35
36 In order to finance the employee/monitors, 4% from both the GOHSEP and the Louisiana NSA will be
37 initially budgeted during the next five years. After the five year period, changes will be made
38 according to current needs.

39 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

40
41 All parties who would previously be in violation of this law will only be subject to the continued
42 monitoring done by the GOHSEP as long as they willingly surrender all illegal surveillance
43 technology.44
45 All new parties who have been found in violation of this law will be subject to a confiscation team
46 seizing all property with the capability and intention to illegally survey, along with a \$1,000 fine for
47 each item found in violation of this law. They will then continue to be monitored by the GOHSEP
48 until there is reasonable evidence to prove no suspicious activity is continuing.

2 HOUSE BILL 250

3 Sophia Kryszewski Lafayette High School
4 Ava Voss

6 TITLE: Clothes Call: The Louisiana Uniform Liberation Act

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Currently, Louisiana laws allow local governments and school boards to adopt dress codes and
10 uniforms as they see fit. Uniforms are believed to create a sense of equity among public school
11 students as every person no matter social class or economic status is dressed uniformly. In creating
12 equity among students, bullying should theoretically decrease, but this is not the case. In a study
13 from Ohio State University that looked at over 6,000 students, students who had to wear uniforms
14 did not show any difference in behavior versus those who did not. Having to buy school uniforms
15 might also prove to be difficult for the very families and students they are supposed to protect.
16 Uniforms do not allow for self-expression, which decreases students' sense of individuality, which
17 decreases their feeling of "school belonging".

19 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

20 To better student individuality and belonging, this bill will prohibit public schools from requiring
21 their students to wear uniforms. This will go into effect for the 2025-2026 school year, and will
22 apply to all public elementary, middle, and high schools.

24 SECTION III: FUNDING

25 No funding is required for this bill.

27 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

28 School boards are not to allow for the adoption of uniforms for public schools. If there are any
29 public schools that require a uniform, then it is up to the local school board's discretion on how to
30 penalize them. However, any school board that enforces a uniform on its public school students will
31 be put on pay probation and receive cuts in funding from the state government.

2 HOUSE BILL 251

3 Blaise Polk Mandeville High School

5 TITLE: Legalize Rolling Stops Under 35mph

7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Rolling stops (decreasing speed to beneath 10mph but not reaching 0mph at an intersection) should
9 be legal when drivers are both entering and exiting a road with a speed limit under 35mph. 1. They
10 add no unique danger. 2. Places where similar measures have been implemented (such as the
11 introduction of unsigned intersections in Seattle) have reported a reduction in accidents. 3. Rolling
12 stops are better for the climate by reducing a vehicle's carbon emissions by improving the efficiency
13 of driving.

15 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

16 The general public will be informed of the change through the media. Both police officer's and
17 driver's education curricula will be updated to fit the bill's provisions.

19 SECTION III: FUNDING

20 The bill requires no funding.

22 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

23 Police officers who wrongfully stop persons performing rolling stops will be held accountable with
24 accordance to their record. Individuals performing a rolling stop at an intersection will be expected
25 to adhere to the following guidelines of right-of-way: (1) any vehicle already in the intersection will
26 maintain the right of way; (2) vehicles who approach at similar times must fully stop before the
27 rightmost vehicle crosses first.



2 HOUSE BILL 252

3 Charley Bergeron St. Joseph's Academy
4 Sara Pasquier

5
6 TITLE: Buy-back Guns (BBG)

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 This bill offers a fair amount of money for citizens to voluntarily turn in assault rifles and illegally
10 purchased guns. It will give these citizens a chance to receive money and a chance to get rid of
11 illegally purchased guns with no repercussions. This bill aims to lower the homicides and suicides in
12 America caused by firearms. Every day in America, 327 people are shot and 117 people are killed on
13 average. In Australia where guns could be returned for money, firearm suicides went down 57% and
14 homicide by firearm went down 42%. Cities such as New Orleans and New York have given money for
15 citizens to turn in firearms with success.

16
17 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

18 Citizens will be able to return firearms to different churches and other community groups
19 committed to the security of families and individual citizens. Law enforcement officials at these
20 buyback events in order to facilitate the proper handling and processing of the returned firearms.
21 Individual's returning firearms will not have to identify themselves and they will be asked no
22 questions. Firearm buyback events are advertised at the community level in order to maximize
23 participation and reach interested citizens of a community. These events will be held the first
24 Saturday of every month in 2024.

25
26 SECTION III: FUNDING

27 In order to finance this bill, guns and ammunition in the Louisiana will receive a 0.01% tax increase.

28
29 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

30 There are no penalties associated with this bill.
31



2 HOUSE BILL 253

3 Avery Deaville Lafayette High School

4
5 TITLE: Ensure Fresh Produce for Students

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 In the year of 2022, Louisiana ranked as the 4th highest state for childhood obesity, a statistic that
9 is entirely unacceptable. My bill proposes an opt-in program that will fund fresh produce and
10 compost bins and services for all public schools in Louisiana in an effort to reduce this statistic. A
11 diet rich in fresh produce can help to reduce the risk of heart disease (the #1 reason for death in
12 America), prevent some types of cancer, and have a positive effect on blood sugar. For many
13 children, approximately 285,000 who live below the poverty line, most cannot afford produce at
14 home, and school is where they will receive their best meal of the day. It is important that school
15 lunch is as nutritious as possible, and can serve to give back to our environment as sustainably as
16 possible. Composting attracts very beneficial organisms to the soils ecosystem that will help to
17 reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides. When we give back to the Earth by composting, the
18 Earth will give back to us with produce that is even richer in nutrients than before.

19
20 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

21 This bill will be implemented in 2 ways:

- 22 1) All schools will serve at least one fresh produce option that is equal to an average weight of 100g
23 or more (1 apple, 1 banana, 1/2 of a large orange, 8 baby carrots, etc.)
- 24 2) All schools will have at least one compost bin inside of the cafeteria. Schools will be able to decide
25 what they would like to do with this compost at their own discretion.

26
27 SECTION III: FUNDING

28 In order to fund this bill, there will be a millage (temporary property tax) of 0.3% implemented for a
29 5-year period. This will cover both the cost of produce and the cost for produce collection
30 services/composting bins. After the millage has expired, it will be up to the Board of Education for
31 the State of Louisiana if they would like to renew it or abolish it. Any funding from the millage not
32 used within the 5-year period for the program can be allocated for other uses at the Board of
33 Education's discretion.

34
35 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

36 This is an opt-in program, so there are no penalties necessary.



2 HOUSE BILL 254

3 Grace Buras St. Joseph's Academy

4
5 TITLE: Reduce Louisiana Food Waste and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

6
7 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

8 Louisiana is ranked fifth among the other states for food waste. While this is a wonderful rating,
9 Louisianians still produce almost two hundred pounds of food waste per person. The food waste
10 then goes to landfills, where Carbon dioxide and greenhouse gases are produced in major amounts.
11 According to the Advocate, Louisianians in East Baton Rouge Parish pay over \$35 monthly for their
12 trash to be picked up once or twice a week. South Korea faced similar problems as Louisiana, having
13 excessive amount of food waste polluting their environment. So, in the 1900s and early 2000s, South
14 Korea passed laws that prohibited food waste in landfills and required their citizens to dispose of
15 food waste in a separate disposal bin, where the waste could then be processed into fertilizer,
16 animal feed, and biogas. The citizens pay a small tax for the food waste they produce, causing both
17 a realization of the amount of food being discarded and a direct payment to the facility for their
18 utilities and workers. The facility then breaks down the food waste to create fertilizers, animal
19 feed, and biogas used to power surrounding homes and buildings. This method has been used since
20 1996 and has helped South Korea produce almost no food waste since 2013. Louisiana can reach a
21 similar outcome with the same process being used in major cities in apartments, restaurants,
22 hotels, and grocery stores. These businesses and parishes will also find this process to be more cost
23 effective, dropping the monthly trash bills and providing these businesses with more money that can
24 be used elsewhere.

25
26 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

27 This law will take effect as soon as a processing facility is built to collect the waste, as well as
28 trucks to gather the food waste from the participating restaurants, hotels, grocery stores, and
29 apartments. Louisiana government will produce a special machine like those in South Korea that
30 weigh and hold the food waste. These machines will be placed next or near to businesses' disposal
31 that wish to agree, where trucks will collect the waste and transport it to the processing facility.

32
33 SECTION III: FUNDING

34 A first \$300-600 million dollars will be needed to create a food waste processing facility and to pay
35 for the few trucks needed to collect the waste. An estimated \$1 million would be needed to
36 produce the special bins to collect the food waste. In Louisiana, taxes on groceries are 4.45%, so 2%
37 of these taxes will be collected and set aside for this bill's budget. Donations from environmental
38 organizations will also be used to finish off any needed bills.

39
40 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

41 No penalties will be imposed in the first stage of this bill when apartments, restaurants, hotels, and
42 grocery stores are given the choice to follow this bill. Once all Louisiana spaces previously stated
43 follow this bill, a fine of \$50 will be given to individuals who refuse to discard natural food waste
44 into the respective bin.



2 HOUSE BILL 255

3 Kholbie Nethery Woodlawn High School

4 Jalen Olinde

5 TITLE: Suicide Pills for the Terminally Ill

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Over 50% of people with terminal illnesses suffer from moderate or severe pain. Living with this pain
8 takes a huge toll on the mental state of the individuals who are experiencing such an illness,
9 causing them to suffer both physically and mentally.
10 The state of Louisiana ranks 27th in the United States in terms of hospice care quality. Only 46.7%
11 of patients are able to be admitted into hospice care while the remaining percentage of eligible
12 patients aren't able to receive care due to the unavailability of room in hospice.
13 Physician-assisted death refers to when a physician prescribes a patient a lethal dose of medication
14 to allow the individual to end their own life.
15 Ten states have already implemented a system of physician-assisted death into their healthcare
16 system which include California (42.3%), Colorado (50.4%), Hawaii (48%), Maine (52.9%), Oregon
17 (54.5%), and Washington (45.5%). The percentages represent the quality of each hospice.

18
19 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

20 For a patient to participate in physician-assisted death, they must be a resident of the state of
21 Louisiana, at least 18 years old, and have been diagnosed with a terminal illness that will lead to
22 death within six months. A resident of the state of Louisiana is defined as someone who spends
23 more than 6 months of the tax year in the state, maintains a permanent place of abode in the state,
24 and resides in the state. Patients who are terminally ill will have the decision to have a physician
25 prescribe them medication which would end their lives. Propofol will be the drug that is used for
26 this process. 99% of terminally ill patients, who've used this method, have preferred to take
27 Propofol. Before giving the patient the option to participate in physician-assisted death, the
28 physician must confirm the terminal diagnosis and determine that the individual is capable of
29 making rational decisions. Meaning that the patient will have to be clear of any mental diagnosis
30 that can affect the way they think or make choices. Furthermore, the doctor is obligated to talk
31 with the patient about other terminal care methods before resorting to physician-assisted death.
32 Patients would also need to make three oral requests to their physician, each separated by a week,
33 followed by a written waiver. During the three oral requests, at least one registered nurse must be
34 present to make the oral requests valid. Physicians who assist in physician-assisted death must be an
35 M.D. (doctor of medicine) or D.O. (doctor of osteopathy). Waivers will be given to the patients after
36 their third and final oral request. The waivers will explain to the patient about any potential
37 downsides or side effects when given the medication.

38
39 SECTION III: FUNDING

40 There's no government funding needed for this bill because since it's the individual's choice, they
41 will be responsible for their own medical fees.

42
43 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

44 If the physician fails to communicate with the patient about alternative terminal care, their
45 medical license will be revoked. If all other procedures are followed correctly, then the physician
46 will not be penalized for assisting in the death of the patient.



2 HOUSE BILL 256

3 Abby Watts St. Joseph's Academy

4 Madeline Cannon

6 TITLE: Add More Mental Health Facilities in Low-income Communities

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Mental disorders affect 22.8% of people or about 57.8 million, 1 in every 5 adults, in the U.S., but
10 over 39% of Louisianans according to the Louisiana Department of Health. More than 70% of people
11 with a known mental disorder never seek help from a professional. Over 1,000 deaths per year are
12 due to drug overdose, which could be prevented with added support. This bill will add more
13 behavioral health clinics in low-income areas to help those in need. Those areas include people who
14 earn less than an average of \$40,000 for a four-person family a year. A behavioral health clinic is
15 similar to urgent care but for mental health. The clinics will offer services such as screening and
16 assessment, emergency crisis care, evaluation and treatment, medication management, specialized
17 services for children and teenagers, and specialized criminal justice services. 18.6% of Louisiana
18 lives below the national poverty line of \$30,000 per year in a 4-person household which is about 7%
19 higher than the national average of 11.6% of Americans living in poverty. Louisiana also has the 3rd
20 highest violent crime rate in the nation and the highest incarceration rate in the world. The mental
21 health facilities would be easier to access for those who cannot afford to travel far for mental
22 health treatment. If treatment is offered for common mental illnesses, then people will be less
23 likely to commit crimes, thus lowering the crime rate and incarceration rate. Suicide is the third
24 leading cause of death in young people aged 10 to 24, and Common mental disorders are twice as
25 frequent among the poor as among the rich because poverty increases risk of mental illness and
26 mental illness increasing chances of going into poverty. If this bill is implemented, the crime rate
27 will decrease, and receiving mental health help will be normalized.

29 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

30 Our bill plans to build 30 new clinics in low-income areas around Louisiana because low-income
31 areas are statistically more likely to be affected by crime than high income. This bill will build 1
32 Mental health facilities for every 150,000 people. Each facility would be staffed with fulltime
33 employees including: 2 Administrators, 2 Physicians, and 3 support staff.

35 SECTION III: FUNDING

36 This will cost about \$250,000 per facility, for a total startup cost of \$7.5 million. Total operating
37 cost for each facility would be 1 million dollars annually.
38 The money needed for this will come from a 9-cent tax on individual stamps. This will raise about
39 30 million dollars annually. This will provide specific funding for the community to provide mental
40 health facilities for the residents.

42 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

43 There will be no penalties for those not interested in attending our clinics. They are voluntary for
44 anyone.



2 HOUSE BILL 257

3 Hayley Cavalier St. Joseph's Academy

4 Mackenzie Shannon

6 TITLE: Add Curriculum Requirements to Behind the Wheel Driver's Education

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 According to Louisiana Highway Safety Traffic Data Report and Louisiana State University Traffic
10 Report, in 2022, Louisiana had about 150,000 car crashes with 852 deaths. 12.8 percent of these
11 fatalities consist of youthful drivers. Not only this, but Louisiana has the 7th highest teen driver
12 fatality rate in the US, and teen drivers are 3x more likely to be involved in fatal crashes. This bill
13 aims to reduce this number and to promote cautious driving in young individuals. This bill will
14 require the addition of engaging curriculum to the behind-the-wheel driving part of driver's
15 education. Currently, the students are only supervised in their drives, and there is no practical
16 learning involved. In this bill, the driving instructor will feed scenarios to the driving student. After
17 they receive the scenario, the student will provide answers to what they would do in those
18 situations. The instructor will give feedback and critique the student's answers. They will also point
19 out different hazards to be aware of. This will instill defensive driving practices into the student's
20 subconscious mind at an early level. Defensive driving is the process of being able to identify
21 hazardous situations on the road before they occur to be prepared for any situation. This bill will
22 give young drivers that ability, making our roads safer and saving lives along the way.

24 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

25 This bill will help beginner drivers be more engaged during behind-the-wheel driving lessons by
26 having the instructor ask hypothetical questions or give suggestions about what the driver will do in
27 certain situations according to their surroundings. Each driving school around Louisiana will need to
28 add a list of questions or certain things to point out for each instructor to ask during behind-the-
29 wheel lessons that will prompt the driver to act as a defensive driver while on the road. Each
30 driving school is allowed to come up with their own set of questions they believe are applicable and
31 will be effective. The questions and tips should coordinate with certain situations drivers will face
32 in some places. For instance, at a busy intersection, "what will you do if that car runs a red light?"
33 or "pay attention to the drop off at the edge of this road and maybe drive more towards the center."
34 These, along with other questions/tips, will allow the driver to become subconsciously more aware
35 of their surroundings. This law will take effect on June 1, 2024.

37 SECTION III: FUNDING

38 There is no funding for this bill.

40 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

41 Each driving school is subject to the same penalties faced when breaking any other regulations
42 outlined by the Department of Public Safety, including, but not limited to, fines up to \$500 and
43 revocation of license of school or instructor by the DPS.

2 HOUSE BILL 258

3 Anna Camille deBlieux St. Joseph's Academy

4 Louisa deBlieux

5 TITLE: Limiting the use of AI programs to evaluate fact-based college assignments

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 As AI (artificial intelligence) applications skyrocket, many secondary educational institutions, which
8 are defined as any post-high school public education, have begun implementing usage of AI
9 programs to evaluate students' assignments. Specifically, programs designed to detect cheating and
10 plagiarism through AI have become commonplace. Though these programs seem like a positive
11 addition to higher education, many students are experiencing problems with the programs falsely
12 identifying work as plagiarized or copied from other students, particularly when the programs are
13 used for assignments where a large percentage of work is subject to objective evaluation. For
14 example, AI program Turnitin even has a disclaimer that it is not a reliable indicator and should not
15 be used as the sole basis for adverse actions against a student. However, Louisiana State University
16 is currently using Turnitin to evaluate many types of student assignments, even those that are
17 primarily objectively evaluated such as science labs, and is providing no avenue for students to
18 challenge the findings generated by Turnitin. In fact, with the advent of AI detection for plagiarism
19 and cheating, LSU saw a nearly 500% increase in instances of student academic dishonesty, and over
20 300 students were penalized for cheating in a single introductory science lab last year. These types
21 of AI detection programs have also shown heavy bias against non-native English speakers. This bill
22 will restrict the application of AI programs for these purposes and provide for secondary manual
23 review in instances where AI is used to identify plagiarism or cheating.

24 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

25 This bill would take effect for the 2024-25 school year and would require every public secondary
26 institution in Louisiana to revise their policies and procedures to restrict the usage of AI programs to
27 detect plagiarism and cheating in evaluation of student assignment for fact-based assignments.
28 Fact-based assignments would be defined as those in which assignments are primarily (greater than
29 50%) evaluated on an objective, rather than subjective, basis. This bill would also require every
30 public secondary institution in Louisiana to revise their policies and procedures to add a layer of
31 human manual review to any instance wherein AI programs are used to detect plagiarism and
32 cheating for the evaluation of any student assignment.

33 SECTION III: FUNDING

34 No funding is necessary for this bill.

35 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

36 Failure to comply with this statute would create a legal presumption in favor of a student who
37 challenges a finding of plagiarism or cheating that was based upon the utilization of detection
38 programs that use AI. Repeated refusal to comply with this statute, defined as failure to amend
39 policies and procedures within one academic year or as more than five (5) student challenges of
40 such AI-supported findings of cheating or plagiarism within any academic year, shall result in the
41 withholding of up to 1% of state funding from such state public secondary educational institution.

2 HOUSE BILL 259

3 Isabella Hammack St. Joseph's Academy

4 Angelina Nguyen

5 TITLE: Reroute TOPS

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 TOPS, standing for Taylor Opportunity Program for Students, is a scholarship program for college
8 students in Louisiana. To apply for tops, you must have attended at BESE-approved high school, a
9 minimum TOPS GPA of 3.5 (TOPS core curriculum classes), a minimum ACT score of 23, be a US
10 student or permanent resident, and enroll full-time as a freshman within a year of graduating from
11 high school. The amount of money gained from TOPS varies depending on the college you plan on
12 attending. Every year hundreds of Louisiana's smartest students almost immediately leave Louisiana
13 after college, yet they have used their Louisiana TOPS to pay for college. Between 2005 and 2020,
14 Louisiana lost around 305,000 residents, almost all of whom had recently graduated college.

15 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

16 For every year that you have received TOPS for a Louisiana college, you must work in Louisiana for a
17 year after you graduate. The type of job specifications does not matter, nor must they apply to your
18 major and/or minor.

19 SECTION III: FUNDING

20 This bill requires no funding.

21 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

22 If you choose to move before that time is up, the TOPS becomes like a student loan that you would
23 have to pay back. (e.g., you get TOPS for 4 years and you work in Louisiana for 2 but choose to
24 move to North Carolina for the other 2 years, you must pay back 2 years' worth of TOPS.) This is
25 invalidated if you choose to transfer to a school outside of Louisiana. You do not need to get a job
26 immediately after college, but you must still work a full year for every year you have received
27 TOPS.



4
5 **TITLE:** Healing Hearts & Healthy Starts

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Foster children, often coming from backgrounds filled with abuse, neglect, and traumatic
9 experiences, form a deeply vulnerable segment of our society. An overwhelming 80% of children in
10 foster care grapple with significant mental health issues, starkly contrasting the 18-32% seen in the
11 general population (NCSL). Among these issues, a quarter of foster children exhibit strong signs of
12 post-traumatic stress disorder, while displaying behaviors that signal increased aggression, distrust,
13 and disobedience towards adults.

14 According to the Center for Law and Social Policy, 80% of incarcerated adults have a history in
15 foster care during their childhood or teenage years. This correlation between foster care and
16 incarceration underscores the urgent need to address the mental health needs of children in the
17 foster care system. The risks don't cease upon leaving the system or upon aging out. In fact, one in
18 four foster children faces the risk of homelessness within four years, a circumstance correlated with
19 substance use disorders, mental illness, and a higher likelihood of engaging in risky behaviors after
20 aging out of the system.

21 This Act is designed to address these pressing concerns and help those in Foster Care not only heal,
22 but grow as people, allowing them to move on from these issues that affect their mental, social,
23 and physical health on a day-to-day basis. It makes the participation of foster children in
24 government-funded therapy and counseling sessions tailored to each child's specific needs required.
25 It places these services in the capable hands of licensed and proficient mental health professionals.
26 In doing so, it strives to create an environment where those in foster care can heal, thrive, and look
27 forward to brighter futures.

28
29 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

30 Starting on January 1st, 2027, this bill will be in place, allowing for a period of transition to these
31 new requirements. (The transitioning period will be from January 1st 2025 to January 1st, 2027).
32 During this transitional period, the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) will actively
33 engage in communication with the legal guardians of individuals currently in foster care to ensure a
34 smooth implementation of these changes. DCFS will utilize various communication methods to
35 inform legal guardians of the upcoming alterations, including written notices, telephone calls, etc.,
36 ensuring that they are well-informed about the modifications to new therapy and transportation
37 requirements. This transitional period will also allow for changing of foster parent status to those
38 signed up before this bill has been passed.

39 Starting on January 1st, 2027, All persons in foster care under the care of the Department of Child
40 and Family services (DCFS) shall be required to participate in government funded therapy or
41 counseling sessions. The therapy requirement applies to persons under foster care of all ages, and
42 the type and frequency of therapy shall be determined based on the individual needs of each
43 person. All therapy services required shall be provided by licensed and qualified mental health
44 professionals, including licensed clinical social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, and counselors,
45 who all have previous training and/or experience in working with children and trauma survivors.
46 Legal guardians of these persons under foster care are mandated to ensure that their foster child
47 attends therapy sessions. Department of Child and Family services (DCFS) caseworkers and
48 designated staff shall monitor the compliance of foster children and legal guardians with therapy
49 requirements. This monitoring shall include regular check-ins, coordination with therapy providers,

1 and reviews of therapy progress. Check-ins will happen every 4-6 months if therapy attendance is
2 regular, Just as regular DCFS check-ins would be. However, if there is a history of non-compliance
3 with these appointments, check-ins will become more frequent (Timing is situational).
4 The persons under foster care will have the option to go through the process already put in place to
5 change therapists to match their comfortability. (This process may differ place by place, as most
6 places just require you to fill out a form but some may require you to seek therapy somewhere else
7 by asking your doctor and/or current therapist to refer you to a different place/mental health
8 professional). Transportation will not be provided or funded as foster parents are already required
9 to have a valid driver's license and access to a vehicle or other form of transportation in order to be
10 a foster parent. Being able to provide transportation to therapy sessions will be a requirement of
11 legal guardians of foster care children upon the enactment of this bill (Just as being able to provide
12 transportation to other appointments, school, etc. would be required).
13

14 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

15 To finance these payouts, Louisiana will allocate an additional 26 million (\$26,624,000) to its
16 Medicaid budget. This represents only a small fraction of the state's recent expenditures (of
17 approximately 14 Billion), accounting for approximately 0.19% of the total budget. This money
18 allocated will come from Louisiana's expected \$330 million general surplus funds the next fiscal
19 year after this bill has been passed. This funding is specifically designated to cover the expenses
20 associated with providing at most weekly therapy sessions for every foster child in Louisiana. All
21 expenses (even the co-pay) will be funded this way. This allocation ensures that there will be no
22 need to increase tax rates on Medicaid.
23

24
25 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

26 Non-compliance with regular therapy requirements set for the foster child(ren) will be addressed
27 through a multi-tiered approach:

- 28 I. First Offense: in cases of non-compliance, the legal guardian will receive a warning and be
29 provided with additional support and resources to ensure therapy compliance (ex; Assigning a case
30 manager or social worker to work closely with the foster family to address challenges related to
31 therapy attendance)
- 32 II. Subsequent Offense(s): If non-compliance persists, the Department of Child and Family services
33 (DCFS) may initiate a review of the foster child's placement to determine the best course of action,
34 including possible reevaluation of the child's living situation or legal guardianship.
35 If therapy requirements are unable to be met due to personal or extenuating circumstances (or any
36 other situations that may prevent regularly scheduled attendance at these meetings), then the legal
37 guardian shall be required to promptly notify the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS)
38 and provide documented evidence of such circumstances.
39 If therapy requirements are unable to be met due to personal or extenuating circumstances that are
40 difficult to provide documented evidence for (e.g., oversleeping, missing an alarm, getting stuck in
41 traffic, etc.), then the legal guardian shall be required to promptly (ASAP) notify the Department of
42 Child and Family Services (DCFS) and provide a documented explanation of such circumstances.
43 DCFS will work with the legal guardian to assess the situation and determine appropriate
44 alternatives or adjustments to therapy schedules, ensuring the best interests and well-being of the
45 foster child. In such cases, penalties will not be imposed.



2 HOUSE BILL 261

3 Olivia LaMotte St. Joseph's Academy

4 Addison Richard

6 TITLE: Recertify school staff members for CPR, AED, and first aid training every five years

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 One of the leading causes of death in college athletes is SCA or Sudden Cardiac Arrest. While CPR is not a guarantee, college coaches and all staff members from preschool to high school should know how to perform this which can save many lives. The American Heart Association estimates that "100,000 to 200,000 lives of adults and children could be saved each year if CPR were performed early enough". While this does not apply as much to younger children, choking does. Choking is one of the leading causes of injuries among young children. The New York State Department of health states that "one child in the US dies from choking every five days and more than 12,000 children are taken to the ER each year for food-choking injuries." While teachers must have Pediatric CPR, AED, and First Aid certification, The Louisiana Department of Education does not require teachers to maintain this. They also do not require Custodians to have basic certification. This bill would require all staff members in schools, pre-k through high school, as well as college coaches, across the state of Louisiana to be taught by Red Cross instructors on how to administer first aid and CPR to adults, children, and infants, as well as how to use an AED.

23 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

24 During July and August, the classes will be held at different schools across Louisiana. They will be supplied by the Red Cross and will occur every 5 years. If any of the staff members are absent from their scheduled class, they must attend the next possible one but there will be a fine of 55 dollars.

28 SECTION III: FUNDING

29 This bill will use the program FMS which is under the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation. The money will go to the Red Cross to be divided up amongst the different parishes in Louisiana depending on how many teachers/instructors will need to be trained. The FMS gets their own money from many donations, and we will be taking 0.42% of their overall budget. The money will be under their Health department, and there will be 30 instructors at each event.

35 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

36 If the school does not sign-up teachers for the class the schools will have to pay 55 dollars to the program, FMS, for each staff member that has not gotten recertified every 5 years. If teachers are not able to attend then they must pay the fine instead.



2 HOUSE BILL 262

3 Joey Robert Baton Rouge Magnet High School

4 Bethiel Weldeghiorghis

6 TITLE: An Act to Require Full Ingredient Labels on Feminine Hygiene Products

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 This bill will require companies that produce period products to disclose any and all ingredients included in them on the packaging. Currently there are no requirements or regulations on the ingredients of feminine hygiene products, and companies are not required to disclose the ingredients in their products. On multiple occasions, it has been found that bleach or other chemicals including mystery fragrance ingredients were in period products. These chemicals often pose harm to the human body.

16 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

17 For the law to take effect, the new requirements for the period products would need to be explained and announced for companies. The law would take place on January 1st, 2024 and would require all companies selling feminine hygiene products in Louisiana to adhere to the law even if they are not based in Louisiana. Companies would be required to list any detectable amount of any ingredient on the packaging of their products.

23 SECTION III: FUNDING

24 No funding necessary

26 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

27 If a company is found in violation of this law by not including the ingredients on the packaging, then the company will be fined twenty percent for each six months that the law is not followed. 28 If it is found that the companies have violated this law by falsely including their ingredients on the packaging, sales of the product in Louisiana will cease until the company can provide accurate information on their product regarding ingredients.

2 HOUSE BILL 263

3 Riya Reddy Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

4 Ryan Pham

5 TITLE: Prisoners Over Profit (POP)

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 The idea that the state of prisons and the criminal justice system are appalling does not even begin
8 to describe the harsh conditions prisoners have to face. For some, they are forced to sit in a small
9 cell for 22-23 hours a day with limited contact with the outside world, or even their loved ones.
10 This punishment typically outweighs the crime. According to the organization Pew Trusts, 1 in 3
11 people currently in prison have been convicted of petty crimes, such as theft and drug possession.
12 Research has shown that this long-term solitary confinement causes a plethora of issues, including
13 anxiety, depression, paranoia, personality changes, and even memory problems. What is even worse
14 is that studies done by the Bureau of Justice in 2018 have shown that out of the 401,288 prisoners
15 across 30 states, 68% of prisoners were arrested 3 years after release, with 83% arrested within 9
16 years after release. Based on this, even a minor theft conviction could have a lifelong influence on a
17 person, forcing them to bounce around from job to job or home to home. This bill plans to
18 incorporate a rehabilitation program for all prisoners and advocate for the removal of these
19 extended periods of seclusion and the improvement of living conditions.

20 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

21 The bill will be enforced immediately once enacted and will start with the construction of an in-
22 prison rehabilitation facility complete with doctors, psychologists, and other professionals. This
23 program will begin with the Orleans Parish Prison, and if it succeeds, it will expand to more prisons
24 throughout the state. The Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections as well as a board of
25 qualified psychiatrists, medical professionals, and social workers will oversee the program.
26 Background checks, mental health evaluations, and frequent drug tests will be routinely done for
27 these professionals. In addition, work will be started by volunteer-run programs to end long-term
28 solitary confinement with peaceful protests and help from state executives. Living conditions will
29 be altered to provide some comfort for prisoners, such as better food, increased cleanliness,
30 reduced overcrowding, and less violence from prisoners. The matter of food will be regulated by an
31 offshoot program by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Cleaning and monitoring
32 of sanitation facilities will be done by prison staff as well as the Louisiana Department of Health
33 under the Building and Premises Program. Overcrowding and violence will be managed by routine
34 background checks of prisoners done within the in-prison rehabilitation facility to find those who
35 have ended up in prison for reasons related to mental health and substance abuse disorders and
36 provide them help elsewhere, via twelve-step programs and counseling. These resources in the
37 prison rehabilitation programs will also be given to prisoners after their sentences.

38 SECTION III: FUNDING

39 Funding will be taken from numerous different sources such as the Louisiana Board of Pardons and
40 Paroles, which will offer around 0.5% (\$4,000 - 5,000) per year. In addition, the American Civil
41 Liberties Union (ACLU) will donate excess money from profits spent to the prison reform plans
42 (around \$10,000). The Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections (DPS&C) will give around
43 0.25% of their budget, allocating around \$1,500,000.

44 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

45 If prisons do not comply within the first month of passing, they will be given a warning. Then, after
46 a couple more weeks, a small fine (around \$5,000) will be charged. Lastly, if in another month
47 there is no compliance, the prisons will be charged with a large fine (around \$25,000) and issued
48 state government help to establish their programs.

2 HOUSE BILL 264

3 Anurup Bhakta

4 Haynes Academy

5 TITLE: Stop Saltwater Intrusion!

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7
8
9 Hundreds of thousands of Louisiana residents rely on the Mississippi River and other aquifers as a
10 source of clean water, but a saltwater wedge has threatened one of the most necessary resources
11 for human survival. The situation is looking bleak: a steep layer of saltwater (a saltwater wedge)
12 has begun creeping up the Mississippi – nearly 70 miles – and into coastal water-wells,
13 contaminating large amounts of freshwater wells and pipelines. Locals in Plaquemines Parish and
14 other coastal parishes have been negatively impacted. Beyond the effects on Louisianians, saltwater
15 encroachment jeopardizes the safety of wetlands, worsening coastal erosion. Although a pipeline is
16 being constructed to stop saltwater intrusion, it is simply temporary and short-sighted planning. A
17 permanent solution is needed for the future of Louisiana coastlines and residents.

18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19
20 To solve this, a restriction area will be established from the coast to further inland to decide where
21 water wells, private or public, cannot be drilled. Previously established water wells that are too far
22 within the area will be sealed or plugged. The area will be decided on the severity of the saltwater
23 intrusion in a region (ppm of salt in tap water), distance from the layer of saltwater in the
24 Mississippi, and the size & location of aquifers. As a further safeguard, an interconnected system of
25 the public water systems will be made. Private water systems who join this larger network will
26 receive slight tax reductions on their own system. A larger connection is to ensure if one area is
27 lacking, other areas can make up for it, such as an upriver parish supporting downriver parishes. To
28 reduce saltwater intrusion in already contaminated aquifers, artificial recharge – the injection of
29 freshwater into water sources – will be done, a process already followed by other coastal counties.
30 Sewage from wastewater plants will be treated to achieve large amounts of freshwater. The treated
31 wastewater will be injected into contaminated aquifers to increase pressure and keep intrusive
32 seawater out.

33 SECTION III: FUNDING

34
35 The Department of Natural Resources has 24.3% unspent authority. Up to 20% of the unspent budget
36 will be used for the three plans: to maintain and calculate restriction areas, to create new pipelines
37 for the water system network, and to treat and inject freshwater into existing aquifers.

38 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

39
40 Water-well owners who do not follow the established restriction area will be revoked of their
41 ownership license and will have their water-well decommissioned. Previously established water-
42 wells will not receive penalties, but will have to be plugged if they are too far within the restriction
43 area.



2 HOUSE BILL 265

3
4 Steven Stogner Catholic High School

5
6 TITLE: Grant Tax Deductions to Corporations Investing in Hydrogen Power

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 The purpose of this bill is to give a corporate income tax deduction to any business that produces
10 hydrogen power in Louisiana. Hydrogen is an energy carrier produced by electrolysis, a process that
11 uses electricity to break apart water. What sets hydrogen apart from other energy sources is that it
12 is clean, efficient, and abundant. When hydrogen is combusted in a fuel cell, the only products
13 besides electricity are warm air and water vapor. 2.2 pounds of hydrogen produces about the same
14 amount of energy as 6.2 pounds of gasoline.

15
16 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

17 If this bill is passed, companies that are building or operating hydrogen plants will receive a 25%
18 break on their corporate income tax if at least 85% of their employees live in Louisiana. The tax
19 break will give companies an incentive to run plants in Louisiana. Subsequently, these companies
20 will hire more workers. The economy will greatly benefit, and the state of Louisiana will become a
21 leader in promoting clean energy.

22
23 SECTION III: FUNDING

24 No funding is necessary for this bill.

25
26 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

27 No penalties are necessary for this bill.



2 HOUSE BILL 266

3
4 Clay Dejean Alexandria Senior High

5
6 TITLE: Improved Roadways

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 The roadways in Louisiana are in very poor condition. As the most used form of transportation,
10 roadways need to be maintained and repaired often. Poor roadways can cause car accidents and can
11 cause damage to the cars that drive on them. According to the Louisiana Coalition to Fix Our Roads,
12 Louisiana motorists spend a combined \$2 billion due to the poor condition of out roadways.

13
14 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

15 This bill will be enacted January 1st, 2024. This bill will call for repairs of roadways, and future
16 maintenance of the roadways. This bill will also call for any damages to vehicles caused by
17 unmaintained roadways This will create more jobs, as we will need workers for the maintenance
18 and workers surveying the roads frequently to ensure their maintenance.

19
20 SECTION III: FUNDING

21 This bill would be funded by the existing tax on gas.

22
23 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

24 No penalties necessary.

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 267



3
4 Clay Dejean Alexandria Senior High

5
6 TITLE: Improved Roadways

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

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10 roadways need to be maintained and repaired often. Poor roadways can cause car accidents and can
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18 and workers surveying the roads frequently to ensure their maintenance.

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20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 This bill would be funded by the existing tax on gas.

22
23 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

24 No penalties necessary.

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 268



3
4 Clay Dejean Alexandria Senior High

5
6 TITLE: Repeal Gender-Affirming Care Ban

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 Over the past few years, there have been many anti-trans and anti-LGBTQ legislature proposed and
10 passed. This sets a concerning precedent for the rights and lives of those who are a part of the
11 LGBTQ+ community, especially when it comes to their access to healthcare. Earlier this year, House
12 Bill 648 was passed, which banned all gender-affirming care for those under the age of 18, with or
13 without parental consent. This bill banned the administration of hormones, puberty blockers, all
14 surgeries, etc. Banning gender-affirming care affects not only trans children but also cis-gendered
15 children with different medical conditions, such as gynecomastia surgery for boys with
16 overdeveloped breasts. Legislation restricting access to gender-affirming healthcare is not only
17 detrimental to LGBTQ+ peoples, but those who are cisgendered aswell and cannot be allowed.

18
19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 This bill will be enacted on January 1st, 2024. This bill will repeal House Bill 648, and allow all
21 peoples with given consent and/or parental consent will be allowed any optional healthcare that
22 aids in their ability to live peacefully and confortably with/in their bodies.

23
24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 This bill would require no funding.

26
27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 No penalties necessary.

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 269



3
4 Everett Kramer Jesuit High School
5 James Denning

6
7 **TITLE:** Railroad Rejuvenation Bill

8
9 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

10 The Louisiana railroad system is often overlooked even though it is an economically and ecologically
11 efficient and safe mode of transportation. Trains are 3-4 times more fuel efficient than trucks. On a
12 train, passengers are 17 times less likely to die compared to travelling by car. By transporting goods
13 with trains, 10-40% of the cost of transport can be saved. Getting passengers interested in railway
14 travel by advertising the Louisiana railroad system will aid in the current global effort to reduce
15 humanity's carbon footprint. This bill will procure federal funding for the development,
16 maintenance, and advocacy for the use of Louisiana railroads.

17
18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 Funding will be obtained and put towards subsidizing railroad companies over a period of six years
20 with gradual implementation to help them expand and advertise this positive mode of
21 transportation of freight and passengers.

22
23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 Over the course of 6 years, primary funding will come from a totaled 20% of the annual budget of
25 the DOTD (Department of Transportation and Development), with secondary funding coming from
26 grants gifted by the LDEQ (Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality).

27
28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 N/A

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 270



3
4 Izabella Duncan Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

5
6 **TITLE:** No to Unsafe Additives

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Introduction: The foods that are sold in the U.S. are dangerous to our health. Obesity rates have
9 tripled over the last 60 years according to USA Facts. Also, the mental health of people under the
10 age of 30 have gone down significantly, and one of the reasons is the artificial, processed foods we
11 eat. Some of the many artificial ingredients used in American foods include sodium nitrite, High
12 fructose corn syrup, sodium benzoate, mercury, artificial sweeteners, bleaching agents and sulfur
13 dioxide. Several studies, according to the National Institute of Health, these ingredients are linked
14 to asthma, heart disease, cancer, obesity, adhd, and growth problems. To add on, according to
15 Toxicological and Teratogenic Effect of Various Food Additives: An Updated Review, benzoates
16 cause teratogenic(substance that interferes with normal baby development) effects on pregnant
17 mothers.

18 Furthermore, processed ingredients can damage your intelligence. For example, sugar and high
19 fructose corn syrup can decrease your learning ability, while artificial sweeteners reduce cognitive
20 abilities. Also, the fried oils and saturated fats(mainly vegetable oil) used in fast food is at such a
21 high level where eating it often negatively affects your dopamine levels and is linked to adhd. To
22 add on, trans fats and convenience foods increase risk of Alzheimer's. In case that wasn't enough
23 information, these foods cause inflammation in your brain, which could lead to mood disorders. We
24 should get rid of these specific artificial ingredients.

25
26 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

27 Starting in 2027, The L.A. The Department of Health can create a list of ingredients that are
28 deemed unsafe, ranging from mild to severe, including those that have previously been deemed
29 safe. The ingredients above will be on the list. When making new additives, companies must submit
30 them to the department of Health to be tested for negative effects. They will be determined unsafe
31 if it causes any physical/neurological damage. Corporations will be rewarded for using safe
32 ingredients.

33 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

34 The Louisiana Health Department can give a 11% bonus to each food corporation that creates a new,
35 safe, artificial/natural additive for food.

36
37 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

38 Food scientists who make or sell the additives listed above or any new ones deemed unsafe will
39 have their licenses provoked for a month. Making/selling distributing dangerous additives during this
40 period will cost a \$200 fine for each incident.



3
4 Allison Riley St. Joseph's Academy

5
6 **TITLE:** P.R.O.T.E.C.T. (Prevent Repercussions for Online and Technological Exposure of Children
7 and Teens)

8
9 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

10 In a world where monetized online media has taken the world by storm, leaving “influencer” as a
11 top career choice for many children, more young people are being taken advantage of in the online
12 sphere. It’s scary easy to stumble upon a young child posting dances or get-ready-with-me videos
13 on platforms like YouTube, Instagram, or TikTok to thousands of viewers, with the comments
14 flooded with ill intentions. While some of these platforms have age restrictions, it’s easy for any
15 user to notice that’s not always followed and can be sidestepped by so-called “family vlogs” or
16 “mom-run” accounts. In these “family vlogs” there’s a distinct pattern of mild to severe emotional
17 abuse for the child, who oftentimes has no say in how much or if any of their actions are shared to
18 these million-person audiences. And while many parents innocently share a spelling bee final on
19 their Facebook live, there will still be many more who belittle and force their children into being a
20 part of their media. Seeing how child actors and performers are treated in the state of Louisiana,
21 with the mandated blocked trust account and working condition requirements under the Louisiana
22 Child Performer Trust Act of 2005, child influencers should be treated similarly, with at least a
23 portion of their income being set aside for their own use, and to protect against their unfair
24 treatment. Under the act, 15% of earnings are required to be deposited into a blocked trust account
25 by the minor’s guardian(s), and applies to work contracts of \$500 dollars or more, which excludes
26 most background acting work.

27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 The implementations of the existing Louisiana Child Performer Trust Act of 2005 (RS 51:2133) will
29 be expanded to include children (minors from in-womb to age 18) featured in vlogging, movies,
30 television, and image posts. The act will be further expanded to require that 30% of the performing
31 minor’s earnings are to be deposited in a blocked trust, to be set up by the minor’s guardians within
32 30 days of employment, to be accessed by only the minor in question upon the age of 18, or by a
33 guardian in the name of the minor when a court of competent jurisdiction has deemed necessary.
34 The 2005 act will be further expanded by applying to work contracts of \$50 dollars or more (as well
35 as vlog-style viewer compensation that pays \$0.05 or more per view), in the name of the guardian or
36 minor, when the employment includes the featuring of the minor in any visual or auditory manner
37 (i.e., voice, facial exposure, bodily exposure, photograph, likeness, name, narrative, indecent or
38 otherwise, where the child is featured in any way for more than 25% of the run-time of any video,
39 or is the subject of conversation, named or otherwise, for 25% of the video, or is the main point of
40 conversation in a text, blog, or photo post). Employment contracts, as defined here, include online
41 platform posts, monetary advertisement agreements, work contracts, and gainful employment of
42 any kind where compensation was received in exchange for the minor or guardian’s services. This
43 does not apply to non-monetized or formerly monetized media.
44 Louisiana Revised Statute 23:251, which prohibits the employment of minors as acrobats, stunt
45 riders, gymnasts, and the like, will be expanded to include self-made virtual content put out,
46 posted, or otherwise released online, in a private or public account, by minors under the age of 13
47 as “illegal, indecent, or immoral exhibition.” This would also include that parents, guardians,
48 relatives, tutors, teachers, talent agents, siblings, as well as any other adult in control or care of
49 the minor for any period of time who encourage or allow a minor to post images, videos, or

1 identifying information in the online sphere, is guilty of contributing to the delinquency of minors,
2 and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined or imprisoned. This applies to both monetized and non-
3 monetized media.

4
5 **SECTION III: FUNDING**
6 No funding is required.

7
8 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

9 If a guardian fails to set up a blocked trust account and deposit no less than 30% of earnings, as
10 implemented in the Louisiana Child Performer Trust act of 2005, the earnings are to be saved by the
11 Louisiana Treasury until the minor reaches the age of 18. As per Revised Statute 23, Chapter 3, Part
12 II, adults who contribute to the delinquency of minors are subject to fines of 25-1,000 dollars
13 and/or imprisonment of thirty days to six months. Any court finding that a minor has suffered
14 damages for any penalties of this act incurred by a guardian or other adult, may award to the minor
15 monetary damages, including cost of legal representation.



2 HOUSE BILL 272

3
4 Alaysia Raymond St. Joseph's Academy

5
6 TITLE: Expunge non-violent crimes from criminal records

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Unreasonable unemployment. More than 50% individuals that are or have been incarcerated are in
10 prison for non-violent crimes, also 60% of formerly incarcerated people find themselves jobless. 45%
11 out of 50% aren't hired for jobs because of their "criminal record". Meanwhile, over 30% of these
12 individuals aren't felons, nor are they murderers. They could possibly have a family. So why
13 shouldn't they be able to make a living like everyone else? Why should they be regarded from the
14 workplace because of one small mistake they've made in the past?

15
16 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

17 How could I possibly fix this situation? Before former inmates choose to apply for a job, they should
18 apply to the government to ask for removal of crime from their record, only if the crime that was
19 committed didn't include murder or assault. This bill could possibly help former prisoners (and their
20 families) get back on their feet after being in prison for an extended amount of time and help them
21 perhaps find a permanent and stable job.

22
23 SECTION III: FUNDING

24 This bill requires no funding.

25
26 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

27 This bill has no penalties.



2 HOUSE BILL 273

3
4 Raygan Irvin St. Joseph's Academy
5 Mary Savoy

6
7 TITLE: Limit the consumption and production of sodas

8
9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 13.5% of high school students reported drinking a can, bottle, or glass of soda, two or more times
11 per day in the past week. It is an exceptionally large product in the US, many different companies
12 produce it, and it is one of the main industrial profits of the US. The consumption rates of soda in
13 Louisiana are increasing tremendously in young adolescents. According to the 2022 state of obesity
14 Report, Louisiana has one of the highest rates of childhood obesity in the nation for kids between
15 the ages 10-17, ranking third in the nation at 22%. In January 2022 the Healthy Kids Meal Beverage
16 ordinance passed a law limiting children's meals to contain only water, milk, or 100% fruit juice.
17 The ingredients that some carbonated products contain are harmful to those who consume large
18 quantities daily, leading to long term medical problems increasing the healthcare costs for society.
19 Soft Drinks contain Bisphenol known as BPA, a hormone disruptor, used to line soda cans linking to
20 several public health and medical problems. They also contain Phosphoric acid which interferes with
21 the body's ability to use calcium leading to osteoporosis (the weakening of teeth enamel). The most
22 known ingredient is Caffeine. Caffeinated soft drinks disturb one's sleep patterns causing insomnia,
23 making premenstrual syndrome worse, linked to birth defects, forms of cancer, high blood pressure,
24 etc. These factors center around the growth of young adolescents, which are the target groups for
25 soda companies. Banning soda is not the goal, the goal is to lower the consumption of soda.

26
27 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

28 First, we would start by limiting the access of soda distribution in schools and workplaces. We would
29 provide drink alternatives for students containing less chemicals. Secondly, offering free
30 educational programs and classes about nutrition would be a great start to inform people about
31 what chemicals they are consuming daily. Some of these programs can be implemented within
32 schools, especially in public education systems, and these programs would occur during after-school
33 hours. Lastly, we will work together with Louisiana Commodity Supplemental Food Program, a USDA
34 nutrition program, designed to supplement the diets of children up to the age of 6 and seniors over
35 the age of 60.

36
37 SECTION III: FUNDING

38 The funding will come from the Bureau of National Services and the Department of Health, it will be
39 used to offer free education programs and classes about nutrition to adolescents and young adults.

40
41 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

42 There are no penalties associated with this bill.



2 HOUSE BILL 274

3
4 Caroline Thomas St. Joseph's Academy
5 Eliza Hanner

6
7 TITLE: Raise Incentives to Foster Older Children

8
9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 In the United States alone, there are roughly 391,098 children in foster care systems, about 6,272 of
11 these children reside in Louisiana. As well as 6,272 children in foster care, there is a
12 disproportionate amount of 2,822 registered foster families. According to the Louisiana Department
13 of Child and Family Service, the current rate per day that foster parents are paid is \$19 per child.
14 The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) asserts that in 2021, 45.6% of
15 children in foster care in Louisiana were over the age of six, but even still, 69.1% of children who
16 were adopted were age 6 or below. This leaves almost half of the foster care population to remain
17 mostly untouched when it comes to adoption. Because of this, children often age out of the foster
18 system, and they are left on their own to try and survive. Over 1/5 of children who age out of the
19 system become homeless, and these children are also more likely to abuse substances and have
20 encounters with the justice system. By placing more older children in homes, they have a better
21 chance to be adopted or to integrate into society so that they can provide for themselves.

22
23 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

24 This bill will raise the rate of what foster families are paid to take care of children older than 6.
25 This will start with a flat rate of \$21 and raise by 10% for each group of three ages. 7-9-year-olds
26 will start at 110% of the flat rate, 10-12-year-olds at 120%, and so on and so forth until age 18. As
27 well as increasing the rate, it will include an upfront payment of \$1000 for 7-9 year olds, raising
28 \$500 per age group identified in the rates.

29
30 SECTION III: FUNDING

31 The funding for this bill will come from the residual funds of the Department of Child and Family
32 Services. It will take 7.7% of the 84.7 million dollars in residual funds, providing 6.5 million dollars
33 in funds to execute this bill.

34
35 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

36 There are no penalties for this bill.



2 HOUSE BILL 275

3
4 Averi Truitt St. Joseph's Academy

5
6 TITLE: Add More Cameras for School Buses

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Through 2010-2020, over 67 students were killed, and 46,000 students were injured, caused by car
10 drivers. not abiding by the stop law of school buses. Currently, there are 125 school buses
11 throughout Bossier City with equipped cameras in only Louisiana. Along with Bossier City, Baton
12 Rouge tried to pass a bill for new cameras, but that has yet to happen. All these accidents would
13 not have happened if school buses had superior quality cameras to track down these offenders by
14 catching their vehicle model and license plate. Rs 32:80 bill is for overtaking and passing buses, and
15 is the law taught in driver's ed. This is the law that states a vehicle must stop both ways from a
16 school bus when the stop signs are out and when lights are flashing.

17
18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 This bill will implant a defined law for outside cameras on buses that are excellent quality and are
20 able to capture offenders of the stop law. In 2021, there was an estimate of 31,681 school buses in
21 Louisiana. This bill will require all school buses to be equipped with SD4FHW-1 cameras. This
22 camera has a GPS and is the standard surveillance camera that would be placed on the front of the
23 bus. Any car that goes around or in front of the bus will be tracked by the camera and will take a
24 photo. The camera will be connected to the rest of the school bus surveillance.

25
26 SECTION III: FUNDING

27 A SD4FHW-1 model camera is \$800 each, and if 31,681 school buses were to have one each, the
28 total would be over 25 million. This funding will be from Louisiana Education Grants, which on
29 average, spend up to 7 billion each year.

30
31 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

32 Any penalties fall under RS 32:123 for stop signs and yield signs. If an accident would occur with the
33 death or injury of others, with the car driver at fault, that driver could be subjected to six-twelve
34 months of imprisonment, a fine of \$1k-\$5k, and a driver's license suspension for a year. These
35 penalties would be determined and not fully used during a case.



2 HOUSE BILL 276

3
4 Abby Eldredge St. Joseph's Academy
5 Kristen Wilhelm

6
7 TITLE: Create Self Defense classes for Women

8
9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 According to Jenifer Kuadli, every 1 out of 6 women has been a victim of attempted or completed
11 rape. More than half of Louisiana residents experience physical violence in their lives. According to
12 the Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network, the average ages that women are raped is 12-34.
13 Women who complete self-defense classes are 50-60% less likely to be raped. Self-defense classes
14 increase women's confidence and will have reduced risk personal injury during an attack. Self
15 Defense classes decrease fear and anxiety of being attacked. The average number of assaults
16 reported in Louisiana is almost 3000 more than murders in the entire country. Taking a self-defense
17 class can make women feel safer in the result of an attack and feel more confident in themselves
18 and their abilities.

19
20 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

21 This bill will mandate that all women older than 12 and younger than 35 will be required to take a
22 free self-defense class two or more times a year. This class will be offered all year and will be open
23 to women from 6am-10pm Monday-Saturday. At every class, there will be a digital sign-in to assure
24 that women are going at least two times a year. The government of Louisiana will be able to check
25 this to assure that women are attending their classes. These classes will be held in a rented
26 apartment available in the city/area of a city where the classes are held. This class must be taught
27 by a woman with a training background. A woman must have had military or police training to teach
28 this class. This class will teach women how to defend themselves against the everyday challenges
29 that they face while in public. With this bill, women will be able to defend themselves from the
30 possibility of rape and/or assault.

31
32 SECTION III: FUNDING

33 The funding from this bill will come from a 0.05% tax on all gym membership payments and
34 purchases. This is an average of \$0.0 275. Some of this funding will be used to compensate the
35 instructors for their teaching of the self-defense classes. The rest of the funding will go to renting
36 apartments for the classes to be held in.

37
38 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

39 If a woman does not attend at least two of the classes a year, she will be fined a \$100-\$500 fine.



2 HOUSE BILL 277

3
4 Cameron Wilkinson St. Joseph's Academy

5
6 TITLE: Add bicycle lanes and walking paths

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources says that Louisiana accounts for 3.8% of national
10 carbon emissions and in 2022, the Trust for America's Health said that Louisiana had an obesity rate
11 of 40.1% and ranks 2nd in the nation. According to the United States Environmental Protection
12 Agency, transportation generates the largest share of greenhouse gas emissions at 28% in 2021. In
13 2020, Louisiana produced 39.1 million metric tons of transportation-related carbon dioxide. Per
14 capita, Louisiana produced 40.8 metric tons while New York produced 7.9 metric tons. New York
15 permits less carbon dioxide and has a lower obesity rate of 29.1% because it is the most walkable
16 state in the United States. This is because there are sidewalks and bike lanes almost everywhere.

17
18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 This bill will add more sidewalks and/or bicycle lanes to the secondary roads. This will be done by
20 adding on to existing sidewalks or roadways. Adding sidewalks onto roadways will be done by
21 converting an existing four-lane undivided roadway to a three-lane roadway consisting of two
22 through lanes and a center two-way left-turn lane. Bicycle lanes could be added onto roadways by
23 being added to the servitude on secondary roads.

24
25 SECTION III: FUNDING

26 There are federal grants given to Louisiana for infrastructure. Grants also come from Louisiana to
27 help build bike paths, an example is a grant called Rails to Trails given to Lafayette that turns old
28 railroad tracks into bike lanes. Adding sidewalks will be funded by taking about 0.01% of the money
29 given to the state by the Department of Transportation and using it to add on to or build sidewalks
30 over the course of however many years it takes to finish the project.

31
32 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

33 This bill has no penalties.

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 278



3
4 Lulu Sheets St. Joseph's Academy

5
6 **TITLE:** End recreational fishing and boating on the Mississippi River

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 The Mississippi River is big source for our economy and if the river is shut down it costs roughly 300
10 million dollars per day. This makes it imperative that the river stays moving cargo in and out safely.
11 Another thing that is important to note is that the ships in the Mississippi on average move at the
12 fastest at 6 knots which is equivalent to roughly 6 mph. which means that they are unable to move
13 out of the way in time to save someone if they are in the water and if someone falls out of their
14 boat trying to get out of the way the river will be shut down to retrieve them. If someone is in the
15 water or on a boat relative to a ship that is carrying flammable gasses (which is common) and the
16 pressure valve pops and the gas spills out if someone is smoking near it, them and the ship would
17 blow up as well as the person smoking and if it's ammonia that is spilled and someone is on the river
18 no matter the type of boat they will suffocate and die because of the fumes, so it is of the utmost
19 importance that people know these risks and do not boat or fish on the river. This bill will save
20 innocent lives from an early death. This bill will make it illegal to recreationally boat and fish on
21 the Mississippi river.

22
23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 If you can imagine how difficult it is to see a person from those large ships, as if you're looking at
25 the sky at birds very high up and trying to tell whether it was a plane or a bird well on a ship it's the
26 same you can't tell the difference between a log and a person from a mile away and most of the
27 time you can't even see them. If you can understand that then you'll understand how dangerous it
28 can be if you're on a boat much smaller than the cargo ships. 17% of boating accidents are fatal,
29 and nationally 4,291 accidents have been reported and of that 658 people died. As of august 2020
30 there had been 9 fatalities from boating accidents and 50 non-fatal accidents reported.

31
32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 No funding will be necessary.

34
35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 If you are caught fishing on the Mississippi, you'll be given a warning, after the second time being
37 found your fishing license will be suspended, and if you are caught for a third time your license will
38 be revoked and you will have to pay a fine of up to 3,000 dollars.

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 279



3
4 Walker Prejean Lafayette High School
5 Evan Patton

6
7 **TITLE:** Bringing Justice to Drunk Driving Victims

8
9 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

10 Children who have lost a parent are two times as likely than children with both parents to have
11 impairments in their everyday lives. These impairments include, but are not limited to: depression,
12 PTSD, and vulnerability to negative life events. These children suffer in many different ways every
13 single day. Drunk driving is also one of the biggest problems facing today's America. In 2021, 40% of
14 all motor vehicle crashes in Louisiana were alcohol related, and alcohol impaired driving was
15 involved in 299 fatalities. This is almost one death a day in Louisiana alone. Louisiana has an
16 opportunity to bring justice to drunk driving victim's families as well as deter its occurrence through
17 this bill. If passed, this bill will require drunk drivers who directly cause the death of a parent to
18 pay child support to the victim's children. The funds in question can cover rent, groceries, mental
19 health services, etc. for the children to curb some of the effects of a parent loss. We believe that
20 even though this will not fill the void left in the hearts of the victims' families, it will at least bring
21 justice to their name.

22
23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 This bill targets drivers under the influence who commit vehicular manslaughter on parents who
25 either had custody of a kid or were paying child support at the time. As part of their sentence, they
26 will have to pay child support for the affected children. This provision only applies to individuals
27 who are 18 years of age or older to account for undeveloped minds causing carelessness. However,
28 when the individual turns 18, they will be included in the program.
29 15% of individuals' income will go towards child support for the affected family. For example, an
30 individual working for a wage of 20 cents an hour will pay \$6.3 a month. Individuals who make \$1 an
31 hour will pay around \$31 a month. While these seem like low numbers, funding will be allocated to
32 help prisons ensure income on the higher end of carceral wages. This is added to relief checks
33 already in place by the government. This mandate ends when the victim's child(ren) turn(s) 18. If
34 an individual does not work while serving time, they will be set to pay \$25 a month, or \$300 a year.
35 This is a mandatory program for public prisons, but opt in for private prisons. These checks will be
36 delivered to the victim's families at the end of every fiscal year. This program will be enacted on
37 January 1st of 2025.

38
39 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

40 A yearly \$250,000 will be allocated from the state budget's surplus to ensure that prisons have
41 decently paying wages. Spending of this funding will be at the discretion of the prisons.

42
43 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

44 Punishment for those who commit this specific crime is included in section 2 of this bill.

3
4 Ivan Perez Alexandra Senior High School

5
6 TITLE: The Importance of Teaching Sex Education to Students

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 In the year 2023, only about 11% of schools in Louisiana educate their students about Sex Education. The consequences of not introducing pre-teens on this particular subject may likely lead to unplanned pregnancies, catching a sexually transmitted disease (STD), and feeling ashamed of their body due to the lack of understanding of what is “normal” for their age group. When students are not informed of the risks of STDs, they believe they are clean and do not get tested. Because of that, 6 in 10 young people are unaware they have HIV (a form of STD) and risk transmitting the disease to their partner. It is no surprise that if one is mindful of what they do with their bodies they are less inclined to use protection when engaging in sexual behavior. The program will highlight the importance of consent, the use of condoms/birth control, and on how to remain sexually healthy. On November 20, 2019, LPHI released the results of a survey directed toward parents regarding sex education in schools. The data yielded that 83% believe it is important while another 80% demands that it should be required to offer the program.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 Children from ages 9-10 (typically in fourth grade) will have an introduction to sex education with an age-appropriate discussion with an unbiased registered nurse or physician, and a qualified instructor verified by the state board of Louisiana. The course will last depending on the age group which will begin to get more detailed as they move from grade to grade, ending in 12th, considering the ages of 16-18 is the age of consent. There will be guidelines to ensure that the proper materials are being discussed in a way in which is easily understood. In order to keep the students up to date on accurate information based on their bodies, the instructors will be given a basic rundown of new discoveries. However, if a parent or guardian does not wish for their child to learn sex education, an “opt out” form will be given. The student should be in one class in order to graduate simply for their own benefit and will not be allowed to move onto the next stage of their life without having the basic knowledge of sex education.

35 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

36 Those that are administering the lesson will be paid their usual salary and will be assigned a grade depending on what they are certified to teach in.

39 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

40 Failure to comply with this law will result in an investigation of the school and funding may or may not be cut based on the level of offense.

3
4 Avishka Fernando Haynes Academy

5
6 TITLE: Require Music Education in Public Schools

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 The arts are a large part of many people's lives. Whether it be music, visual art, or writing, everyone encounters some part of the arts in their daily lives. Music is however the biggest of these three. Wherever you go, you will hear music whether it's down the street, in the elevator, playing on the loudspeakers at a retail store, or even your own headphones. Music education should be a required part of public education as it would be beneficial for everyone if they could appreciate the smaller things in life. Music works in a way no other art form does, as it can evoke emotion neither visual or writing can. Music can make a person laugh and cry, music can make someone love their life all over again, music can make even the darkest of times seem just a little bit better.

18 Statistics show that “schools with music programs have an estimated 90.2% graduation rate and 93.9% attendance rate compared to schools without music education, which average 72.9% graduation and 84.9% attendance,” (Children's Music Workshop). GPAs also seem to increase with Music Education “Four-year music students achieved a significantly higher mean GPA score than the non-four-year participants,” (Institute of Education Sciences). Educating our children and our children's children on the beauty and necessity of music, even if it is mandatory, would be in the best interest of not only Louisiana, but the world itself.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 This bill can be put into action almost immediately. In Louisiana, in order to graduate high school students must take and pass an art credit sometime throughout their highschool career. This bill proposes to replace this Art Credit with a Musical Arts Credit. Schools cannot opt out, nor can students. Students can choose to play an instrument, sing, or help coordinate music events, but still must learn music theory in some way shape or form. Instruments can be provided by the school board to each school to distribute to their student bodies.

32 Instructors who would like to learn to teach music, can take extra classes provided by the school board. For schools who don't have teachers available, the school board will take teachers from other schools and distribute them on specified days to teach classes during school hours. When teachers may not be available local musicians can be trained and hired to teach as well. Schools will be required to teach songs like the National Anthem, Ave Maria, Handel's Messiah Chorus, Tfila Yiddis, and Aromemcha Adonai, and other culturally and musically significant pieces to encourage awareness and inclusiveness within schools and our new generations.

39 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

40 Funding will come from the Louisiana Board of Education taking cuts from their routine arts funding. This is to buy instruments and necessary equipment to teach students.

42 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

43 Penalties will be imposed by the School Board by cutting funding for other extracurricular activities and programs until classes begin within the school. On top of this students may not graduate without this credit on their transcript.

2 HOUSE BILL 282

3 Lesley Dodd Mandeville High
4 Ella Kornfuhrer

6 TITLE: Protect Louisiana fishers and shrimpers from foreign imports

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Louisiana has always been a seafood and sea life staple of The United States of America, and it's
10 tenacious sea-faring denizens have forged the food and culture modern citizens know and love.
11 These fishers and the culture they have bestowed upon the Louisiana people is being threatened,
12 not by domestic competition or natural processes, but by foreign bodies. Imports from outside
13 countries have caused the decrease of the price of shrimp due to the sheer amount of farmed
14 shrimp. As of June 2, 2023, the price of shrimp in Louisiana is \$1.10, which is three times less than
15 what it was a year prior. 90% of the American shrimp market is filled with imported products, with
16 regulations and taxes barely inhibiting their domination of the industry. This leads to the Louisiana
17 shrimp and many other seafood markets being heavily strained, causing the price of sea-faring
18 produce to plummet. Louisiana shrimpers are left with increased competition, decreased income,
19 and low hope. This injustice negatively affects the Louisiana people and is an issue that deserves
20 the attention of this prestigious congregation. I suggest the implementation of regulations on
21 foreign shrimp entering Louisiana ports with tariffs on all foreign seafood imports into the state of
22 Louisiana.

24 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

25 Regulations will be imposed on imports if they wish to do business within the state of Louisiana, and
26 standing regulations not mentioned in the bill or that act alone will stand. Requirements will be
27 checked at port and the responsibility will be allocated to the Louisiana Shrimp Task Force, an
28 active organization that reports to the LDWF. The requirements and regulations include: a maximum
29 amount of 5,000 lbs of shrimp that they can hold and 5,000 lbs that can be sold at a time, a red
30 "imported" sticker that must be placed on the packaging on all imported shrimp, and other
31 regulations found necessary to protect the people and marine life of Louisiana. The Shrimp Task
32 Force will hold thorough inspections bi-yearly; violators of the regulations, failure to comply, and
33 refusal of inspections can receive penalties listed in Section IV.

35 SECTION III: FUNDING

36 A foreign shrimp tax increase of 25% will be imposed on all foreign seafood imports selling in the
37 state of Louisiana, including any other taxes deemed necessary. They will target large foreign
38 companies and fund the state, The Louisiana Shrimp Task Force, the LDWF, and new regulations
39 imposed by the bill.

41 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

42 The penalties for violating or failing to comply with the tax Change and Regulations can include
43 harsh fines and loss of license. (Severity of fines and time period for license confiscation is decided
44 by the judicial body reviewing the case.)

2 HOUSE BILL 283

4 Autumn Baldrige Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

6 TITLE: Remove School Uniforms in Public Schools

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 The average school uniform costs about \$500 for a set. In a family of four, this could cost up to
10 \$2,000 per year, not including alterations and mending.

12 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

13 This bill will prohibit public schools from requiring uniforms. By the beginning of the 2024-2025
14 school year, public schools that currently require uniforms will have to take it out of their student
15 handbook guidelines.

17 SECTION III: FUNDING

18 This bill needs no funding.

20 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

21 If a school fails to meet the no-uniform requirements, then a police officer will be stationed there
22 until the guidelines are met.



2 HOUSE BILL 284

3 Mason Bond Haynes Academy
4 Will Triplett

6 TITLE: Mandate Attendance to Debates for Candidates for State Office

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 In elections on both national, state, district, and even city scale, many candidates have used name
10 recognition, connections and their own personal assets to ensure their victory, or to ensure that
11 other candidates can not at any time enter political circles. On a national level, Andrew Yang, a
12 presidential candidate, had to pull out due to his own lack of funding and has yet to run again,
13 without many people hearing his ideas or goals. Additionally, many candidates will leave themselves
14 unrepresented as they believe their opponents have no chance to win against them, invalidating the
15 sanctity of such events. A prime example of this is Jeff Landry, who did not attend many debates,
16 and still won the governor elect position in Louisiana. Many have speculated that this was because
17 he was worried that people would have a lower chance of voting for him if he had to actually get on
18 TV and fight for his beliefs. While debate no-shows have always occurred, it seems to be becoming a
19 more common occurrence in more modern times, as candidates become more reliant on their name
20 or party recognition, and buzzwords or ideologies to get themselves into office. To add on to these
21 details unbalancing debate and elections, many candidates have used their own personal funds to
22 launch smear campaigns against their opponents, hoping to drown their chances in a flood of pure
23 disrespect.

25 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

26 Each government-held election would have a designated amount of debates, organized by the
27 government, that all hopeful candidates are required to attend. There would be no cutoff for
28 candidates' answers to ensure that all candidates are able to say what they want to say. These
29 debates will give candidates the platform to speak that they want, as well as to challenge the ideas
30 of other candidates. However, the candidates would no longer receive private funding, and all
31 received payments would be put into a collective pool. The government would also highly encourage
32 and promote these debates to the voters, creating a higher likelihood of voter knowledge, and
33 making elections more fair for candidates who don't have much of a chance in today's system. The
34 Louisiana government would put this into effect immediately with elections at the state level, and
35 would tell the governments of various cities and parishes to do the same.

37 SECTION III: FUNDING

38 Funding would come from the donations presented by various sponsors and donors for different
39 candidates, to be placed into a collective pool to be split evenly among the candidates and put
40 towards debates.. Should the total amount of capital to be spent per candidate equal to less than
41 an equivalent value to 1.25 million USD, the candidates would have to supply a percentage of their
42 personal wealth to reach the target value

44 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

45 Any candidate who does not attend these debates, without getting clear permission beforehand,
46 will not be allowed to run for the office. If a candidate overspends on their campaign outside of
47 these debates, they will receive a fine of \$200k, and be removed from the race if a second
48 infraction is made.



2 HOUSE BILL 285

4 Sofia Leo Episcopal School of Baton Rouge
5 Meredith Hill

7 TITLE: Secure Your Load Act

9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 Among all fifty states in the U.S., only eleven states, including Louisiana, do not require tarping
11 one's load. In these states, people are responsible for securing their own load, but they do not
12 always do so. For dirt, rocks, sand, or gravel, a driver in Louisiana must cover their load with a tarp.
13 With the Secure Your Load Act, we would require the securement of equipment, furniture, or other
14 large items with straps and/or bungee cords. If a vehicle from a company is caught with their
15 equipment not secured, the Act would fine the company, not the driver of the vehicle. An article
16 produced by Verduyn Tarps, an online website used to buy trucking equipment, states facts about
17 states that are not required to tarp their load. Verduyn Tarps reports that tarping your load is a
18 crucial part of ensuring cargo and personal safety. An article written by Dudley DeBosier, a law firm
19 that specializes in injuries, states that debris on the road can be detrimental and are hard to avoid
20 while driving. Things like furniture or appliances on the road are sure to cause hazardous driving
21 and could lead to damage, injury, or death. Also, deciding who would be liable for damage can get
22 complicated. For example, if a driver swerved to protect themselves and hit another car in the
23 process they could be held accountable for the damage. According to The American Automobile
24 Association (AAA), debris caused more than 200,000 crashes in the U.S. between 2011 and 2014.
25 These incidents caused thirty-nine thousand injuries and over 500 deaths. This bill will help ensure
26 that equipment/supplies are securely fastened and will not harm others if they become loose from
27 the vehicle. We want to create a community where drivers feel safe on the roads.

29 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

30 Implementation: Police officials will be informed of the new law and will be required to enforce it
31 by handing out tickets to offenders when they are caught. The Secure Your Load Law will take
32 effect on January 1, 2024.

34 SECTION III: FUNDING

35 No financing is required for this bill.

37 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

38 If someone is caught with their load not secured in Louisiana, they will be fined \$250 for the first
39 offense and \$300 for subsequent offenses.

2 HOUSE BILL 286

3 Nate McLean Episcopal High School
4 Daniel Lindsey

5 TITLE: Organ Donation Quid Pro Quo

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 This bill will drastically change the current problem faced in organ donation. In 2022, nearly 2000
8 Louisianians were in need of an organ transplant while only 739 organ donations were made. This
9 left over 1200 people in Louisiana without organ donations. This bill will improve Louisiana's organ
10 donation rate of 36.95% in 2022 to incentivize becoming an organ donor.

11 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

12 Only registered organ donors in Louisiana will be allowed to receive organs, meaning that Louisiana
13 citizens must be registered organ donors to apply for an organ transplant. Also, registered organ
14 donors will be unable to opt out of being an organ donor if they receive an organ donation. Our bill
15 will go into effect on January 1st, 2026.

16 SECTION III: FUNDING

17 There are no costs associated with this bill.

18 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

19 There are no penalties associated with this bill

2 HOUSE BILL 288

3 Kate Lyons Episcopal high school

4 TITLE: An act enforcing all employers in Louisiana to pay employees a minimum wage of \$15.00 per
5 hour.

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 Louisiana's poverty rate is 18.6 percent making it third highest in the nation
8 Louisiana is estimated to have a 3.2 percentage point reduction in poverty rate if the minimum
9 wage was \$15 per hour

10 Increased minimum wage has a direct correlation with decreased crime rates

11 Be it enacted by the YMCA Youth Legislature of the State of Louisiana. Section I. DEFINITIONS:

12 A. Employer: a person or business that employs one or more people for wages

13 B. Employee: someone that another person or company hires to perform a service for a wage

14 C. Employer: to give work to someone and pay them for it

15 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

16 A. The minimum wage shall be raised from \$7.25 per hour to \$15.00 per hour for all employees
17 regardless of age.

18 B. The Louisiana Department of Labor shall enforce the minimum wage law by conducting
19 audits, interviews, and inspections quarterly to ensure all employees are paid in accordance with
20 the new minimum wage law

21 C. The minimum wage shall be adjusted annually to keep up with inflation and the cost of living.

22 F. If employees are paid less than the minimum wage they are entitled to file a civil lawsuit against
23 their employers to recover unpaid wages

24 G. Schools and educational institutions shall provide resources and information to students
25 regarding their employment rights, including the minimum wage.

26 I. Any adjustments or amendments to this act shall be proposed based on the findings of these
27 assessments

28 SECTION III: FUNDING

29 The funding for this bill will come from a combination of employee contributions and grants from
30 the louisiana department of labor

31 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

32 1st offence; employers will be fined in accordance with how they paid their employees

33 3rd offence; Employers will face imprisonment, time imprisoned will depend on how they paid their
34 employees



2 HOUSE BILL 289

3
4 Addison Crain Dutchtown High School
5 Kaia Bourgeois

6
7 TITLE: Clear the Air: Installation of Vape Detectors in High School Bathrooms

8
9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 As we know, vaping in school is a growing problem among teenagers. According to the Louisiana
11 Department of Health, as of 2019, approximately 32% of high school students in Louisiana currently
12 vape. But kids aren't only vaping at home, they're vaping at school, more specifically, in school
13 bathrooms. Not only is it illegal for students under the age of 21 to be in possession of these
14 products, but it is also illegal for them to be brought to school. The National Institute of Drug Abuse
15 explains how vaping and breathing in second-hand vape has been shown to have extremely poor
16 effects on a student's ability to learn and show creativity, giving us reason to take further measures
17 to maintain a proper learning environment and to dissuade students from breaking the law in these
18 locations.

19 In 2021, E-cigarette manufacturer Juul Labs Inc. made an agreement to pay \$10 million to settle a
20 lawsuit filed by the Louisiana Attorney General's Office in an attempt to limit the company's reach
21 to minors. This money was set aside to be used for programs that are designed to prevent or reduce
22 the use of vapes among Louisiana residents under 21. This bill proposes that using this settlement
23 money, vape detectors would be placed in each student bathroom in all public high schools. These
24 detectors send alerts to the school alerting them that vaping is detected, so they can then assess
25 the situation.

26
27 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

28 This bill would require that one vape detector be installed in each student bathroom in all public
29 high schools before the beginning of the 2025 school year. The detectors would be required to be
30 able to detect vape smoke from the entire bathroom.

31
32 SECTION III: FUNDING

33 This bill would be funded by the 10 million dollar settlement Louisiana received from Juul Labs Inc.

34
35 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

36 If a school or school board refuses to comply with the law, they would be fined \$2,000. Each year
37 the school refuses to install the vape detectors after being fined, they would be fined another
38 \$6,000. All money collected from the fines will go towards the budget of the Louisiana Department
39 of Education to continue the improvement of health and safety in Louisiana public schools.



2 HOUSE BILL 290

3
4 Gavin Ferrand Metairie Park Country Day School
5 Christian Myers

6
7 TITLE: Death Penalty No More

8
9 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

10 The death penalty is inherently flawed and there is no way to tell how many innocent people have
11 lost their lives due to this system. Since the 1970s, 1579 people have been executed. We will never
12 know how many of those people were truly innocent and died for nothing. There is also evidence
13 that minorities and economically challenged people face the death penalty disproportionately
14 compared to others. 43% of people executed since 1976 have been minorities and 55% of people
15 currently awaiting execution are minorities, which is disproportionately compared to others. There
16 is also no real evidence that the death penalty deters crime. States that have the death penalty do
17 not have a lower crime rate compared to states that do not have the death penalty. For example,
18 Louisiana, a state with the death penalty, has the most murders per capita in the nation compared
19 to New Hampshire, a state without the death penalty, that has the least murders per capita in the
20 nation. It is also cheaper for an inmate to have life imprisonment than for them to be executed by
21 the state. It costs the state up to or more than \$281,000 to execute one person. Finally, the death
22 penalty brings up moral and ethical questions that is if, we the society, can decide whether
23 someone lives or dies. It is time for Louisiana to join the other 23 states and abolish the death
24 penalty.

25
26 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

27 By the year 2025, the death penalty will be completely abolished in the state of Louisiana. Any
28 person on death row shall be given a new sentencing.

29
30 SECTION III: FUNDING

31 Any money previously allocated to the death penalty will be absorbed by the prison budget of the
32 state of Louisiana.

33
34 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

35 The state government shall not perform the death penalty. No judge can mandate any death
36 sentences.



2 HOUSE BILL 291

3
4 David Russo Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

5
6 TITLE: Abolish Daylight Savings Time

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Daylight Savings Time is a form of time implemented in the Standard Time Act of 1918, during World
10 War I, to add more daylight hours in the working day and conserve energy resources within the
11 country during the war. Daylight Saving Time changes the time nationally on the second Sunday of
12 March, moving forward an hour at 2:00 A.M, and back to normal time falling back an hour on the
13 first Sunday in November. During times of war, this change was helpful, but in the modern day,
14 science has proven otherwise. Daylight savings throws off the internal timer within our bodies, and
15 this causes many health risks to individuals, such as throwing off circadian rhythms, and also and
16 fluctuating hormones, which can cause mood instability, irritability, metabolic issues, and all of
17 these things lead to other events, such as the possibility of car crashes and other accidents on the
18 way to work. On average, it takes two weeks for the brain to adjust to Daylight Savings Time, and in
19 people like children, it could affect cognitive development when their sleep pattern is disrupted for
20 this long period of time. Under the Uniform Time Act, states have the option to stay in standard
21 time the whole year. States such as Arizona and Hawaii have already passed legislation where they
22 stay in standard time year round, and Louisiana should join them.

23
24 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

25 If the bill is passed, then Louisiana would stick to standard time year around, meaning that on the
26 second Sunday of March, the time would not jump forward an hour, but rather stay the same.

27
28 SECTION III: FUNDING

29 No funding is needed as all that would happen is the clocks would be set back if the bill was passed,
30 and that is all.

31
32 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

33 If a company enforces daylight savings time amongst its employees and constituents of Louisiana,
34 they will be fined \$50,000, and that money would be utilized for other Louisiana programs to
35 further the economy and development of other programs.



2 HOUSE BILL 292

3
4 Sarah Heebe Metairie Park Country Day School

5
6 TITLE: The Tax Revolution Act

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Louisianaians around the state overwhelmingly voted to remove the tax-exempt status of nonprofits
10 owning land that is a danger to public health in October. However, that was just a small example of
11 the many ways our tax code is misused in this state. Louisiana’s tax system is an inept spiderweb of
12 exemptions, exceptions, contradictions, and confusion. The people have spoken; Louisiana is long
13 overdue for a better tax system. Crime, poor education, crumbling infrastructure, and more plague
14 the state. All of these issues would be greatly improved with increased government funds. Not to
15 mention, turning away from special interests would draw companies with crucial jobs back to
16 Louisiana by creating a level playing field for all businesses.

17
18 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

19 The state tax system will eliminate the current exemptions or reduced-tax status for every tax save
20 for the following: food for consumption at home, residential utilities, prescription drugs, nonprofit
21 organizations, educational materials, ophthalmologic devices, wheelchairs, hearing aids, and the
22 Louisiana Tax-Free Shopping Program.

23
24 SECTION III: FUNDING

25 No funding is required.

26
27 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

28 Penalties do not apply.

2 HOUSE BILL 293

3 Londyn Norwood Metairie Park Country Day
4 Kate Wood

5 TITLE: Prohibition of Prisoner's Involuntary Servitude

6 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

7 An act regarding the prohibition of involuntary servitude in the criminal justice system.

8 Involuntary servitude: A legal and constitutional term for a person laboring against that person's will (forced) to benefit another, under some form of coercion, to which it may constitute slavery.

9 Criminal justice: the delivery of justice to those who have been accused of committing crimes. The criminal justice system is a series of government agencies and institutions.

10 Louisiana prohibits slavery and involuntary servitude, except in the criminal justice system. Twenty out of the Fifty States within the United States of America allow involuntary servitude as criminal punishment.

11 The enactment of involuntary servitude in the criminal justice system often involves levels of discrimination based on race (assignment to jobs with higher/lower levels of payment and experience gained) that contribute to systemic inequities that disproportionately impact communities of color.

12 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

13 The First Section of the Thirteenth Amendment, which prohibits all involuntary servitude with the exclusion of the criminal justice system, must be Amended within the constitution of the State of Louisiana. This Bill will go into effect on January 1, 2025. Once enacted, involuntary servitude within the criminal justice system, within the borders of Louisiana, shall be strictly prohibited.

14 SECTION III: FUNDING

15 Incarcerated workers are paid an average of \$0.02 per hour (sometimes with a three year period without pay). Minimum wage in Louisiana is \$7.25. To fund the employment of free workers, it is asked that the Louisiana Department of Revenue allocate state and local tax dollars.

16 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

17 Any Louisiana Prisons that do not comply with the eradication of Involuntary Servitude will receive a 5% decrease in funding from the state government.

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023

2 HOUSE BILL 294

3 Aima Shahid Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

4 TITLE: Initiating Universal Income in Louisiana for the Low-Income

5 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

6 It's no secret that Louisiana's economy is not the best; in general, our state has multiple issues from
7 constant hurricane threats to managing COVID-19 procedures. However, this should not deter the
8 attempts of the Louisiana government to seek solutions to poverty and homelessness. Louisiana has
9 a poverty rate of 19.6% being the second highest in the United States; this mostly affects women,
10 children, and people of color. More importantly Louisiana ranks second highest in child poverty with
11 an astounding 26.34% or 284,760 children. Louisiana is also fourth highest in income inequality
12 mainly due to the high accumulation of poverty in the state. Separately, households can get
13 assistance from the national government in the form of welfare (TANF), food stamps (SNAP), EITC
14 (earned income tax credit), rental assistance, LIHEAP (low-income home energy assistance
15 program), and Medicaid. These programs, however, are not a permanent fix for necessities. In
16 Louisiana, 578,000 adults reported that they had difficulty affording enough to eat. Before 2021,
17 12% of Louisiana households were on the brink of falling below the poverty line, it has only
18 worsened following the pandemic. Furthermore, 28% of Louisiana's population is homeless, ranked
19 10th in the nation. Jefferson and Orleans parish alone have about 302 homeless people -- enough to
20 fill up a small public school-- per 100,000 people as of 2018, this amount has substantially increased
21 since the beginning of the pandemic. At the same time, homelessness does result from a number of
22 reasons; these can be unemployment or simple irresponsibility, from gambling or addictions.
23 Louisiana's employment rate is tremendously low to begin with.

24 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

25 The solution is to provide universal income in the form of welfare to Louisianians monthly. This is
26 not only applied to those under the poverty line; the amount of money attained will vary on the
27 number of residents in a household and the annual income. Generally households that make less
28 than \$40,000 annually would receive this stipend. This form of assistance should be given to these
29 low-income citizens to be spent on their necessities, whether its rent, groceries, mortgage, child-
30 support, or the electricity bill. Similarly, UBI or Universal Basic Income is a governmental program
31 where every citizen receives a set amount of money on a consistent time frame. The goal of UBI is
32 to attenuate poverty and eliminate any need for other assistance programs. Countries like Canada,
33 Belgium, and Australia have used UBI to help their citizens. A report of the effect of UBI in Canada
34 shows that UBI can become a tenable investment for Canada improving their economy by 80 billion
35 dollars per year, supporting businesses, assuaging poverty, and creating hundred of thousands of job
36 opportunities for the unemployed. The implementation of this bill will be done over time to ensure
37 it is executed properly. It should require no more than four months to estimate the amount of
38 Louisiana citizens requiring this payment, including those that are homeless. In the first month, it
39 should be determined through IRS tax forms how many citizens below the poverty line require
40 assistance. The following month, the number of homeless citizens per parish should be accounted
41 for, each given a \$2,000 stipend (this is a set stipend for those that are strictly homeless to cover
42 the cost of rent for an apartment, food, and transportation). During the third month, households
43 that are making below \$40,000 annually should be sought out through their tax forms and payment
44 shall be determined. During the last month, the values for each household should be determined
45 from a scale of \$300-\$1500.

46 SECTION III: FUNDING

47 Funding of this will come from The Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program. A portion will also
48 be reserved from the federal government's state funding for welfare assistance.

49 SECTION IV: PENALTIES The IRS will remain cautious to ensure that citizens don't falsify their tax reports.
50 Citizens that do falsify their tax papers to show reduced income to qualify will be fined triple the amount
51 they received, and face tax fraud.

2 HOUSE BILL 295

3 Landri Domingue Dutchtown High School

4 TITLE: Increased Wage Transparency to Ensure Equal Pay in Louisiana

5 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

6 In the last few decades, women’s labor force participation has grown significantly. Women are
 7 working longer hours and pursuing higher level education in greater numbers. However, even
 8 through these changes, the gender pay gap remains the same. The gender pay gap refers to the
 9 change in earnings between full-time working women and full-time working men. Nationwide, full-
 10 time working women only make 81 cents for every dollar full-time working men make. Louisiana,
 11 however, has the highest gender pay gap in the entire nation. In Louisiana, full-time working women
 12 only make 69 cents for every dollar a full-time working man makes. Although women are claimed to
 13 be equal in the workplace, the pay gap has only closed by 4 cents in the last decade. It is estimated
 14 at this rate equal pay regardless of gender will not be obtained until 2059. 39 years may not sound
 15 like long, but women have been promised not to be discriminated against in the workplace based on
 16 gender for 57 years. The Equal Pay Act of 1963 made pay discrimination in the same workplace for
 17 similar jobs illegal based on gender. Although this law was passed 57 years ago there is still a gender
 18 pay gap present. The Equal Rights Act of 1964 banned pay discrimination due to race, color,
 19 religion, gender, or national origin. This bill will not only fight gender-based pay inequality, but also
 20 racial-based pay inequality, ethnicity-based pay inequality, and all forms of pay inequality.
 21 Employees know they are entitled to a fair wage regardless of their gender, race, or ethnicity, the
 22 question, however, remains, how do I know I’m getting paid the same? One of the main reasons
 23 there is still a pay gap is that it is nearly impossible to know you are getting paid less. This bill will
 24 require companies and corporations to disclose to employees pay statistics. Currently, companies can
 25 disclose wages as it is part of their freedom of speech, however, it is currently up to the company
 26 to do this and many do not. By making it required that companies show how much they pay for jobs
 27 and a general range of pay, ensuring no one gets paid more or less based solely on outside factors is
 28 possible. The purpose of this bill is to increase wage transparency to ensure pay equality regardless
 29 of gender, race, ethnicity, and national origin, among other factors.

30 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

31 This bill will be enacted on January 1st, 2021. All employees of a company or corporation along with
 32 anyone offered a job at said company/corporation are entitled to the knowledge of the pay range of
 33 that particular job or title. The pay statistics information will follow this outline: Job Position,
 34 Years of Experience, Years at Company, and Annual Salary. The employers must present employees
 35 with the pay statistics but can not give out any further information, including but not limited to
 36 name, gender, age, and any personal information.

37 SECTION III: FUNDING

38 There is no funding necessary for this bill.

39 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

40 Any company or corporation that does not make pay statistics available to workers will receive a
 41 warning of the first offense with a deadline of 60 days for the company to implement the bill. The
 42 US Census Bureau classified any company with less than 500 workers as a small company and any
 43 company with more than 500 workers as a large company. The second offense will be a fine of
 44 \$50,000 for a small company and \$100,000 for a large company. A third offense will be a fine of
 45 \$100,000 for a small company and \$200,000 for a large company and/or further legal action.
 46 Additional penalties can be given if individual names are disclosed without the consent of the
 47 employee. Penalties include a fine ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 depending on the severity of
 48 disclosures.

2 HOUSE BILL 296

3 Henry Swope

4 Metairie Park Country Day

5 Easton Moore

6
 7 TITLE: Louisiana Rapid Construction Act

8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Section 1: Purpose

10 1.1. The purpose of this Act is to streamline construction procedures, minimize bureaucratic
 11 impediments, and expedite infrastructure development throughout Louisiana.

12 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

13 Section 2: Expedited Permitting Process

14 2.1. Establish an expedited permitting process for construction projects by designating a dedicated
 15 task force composed of representatives from relevant state agencies, industry experts, and local
 16 authorities.

17 2.2. Mandate the task force to review and streamline permit application procedures, ensuring
 18 prompt approval within reasonable time frames without compromising safety standards.

19 2.3. Provide clear guidelines for permit applications, reducing redundancy, and enhancing
 20 transparency in the review process.

21 SECTION III: FUNDING

22 Section 3: Incentives for Efficient Construction Practices

23 3.1. Offer incentives, such as tax credits or subsidies, to construction firms employing innovative
 24 and efficient construction methods that significantly reduce project timelines without compromising
 25 quality or safety.

26 3.2. Encourage the adoption of environmentally friendly construction practices and the use of
 27 sustainable materials by providing incentives for projects meeting specific eco-friendly criteria.

28 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

29 Section 4: Public-Private Partnerships

30 4.1. Promote public-private partnerships to expedite the execution of infrastructure projects,
 31 encouraging collaboration between governmental bodies and private entities.

32 4.2. Develop frameworks for effective cooperation, ensuring shared responsibilities, risk
 33 management, and transparent contractual agreements to expedite project implementation.

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 297



3
4 Lyric LaFrance Dutchtown High School
5 Madison Bechet

6
7 **TITLE:** Mandatory Sex Education in Schools

8
9 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

10 In 2020, there were 3,676 teen births in Louisiana. 15% of those teens had already had children
11 before. This could have been prevented if there was one sexual education lesson in every high
12 school in Louisiana. The lesson would be held in a science class in each grade. Something similar has
13 already been implemented in Vermont, where there were 139 teen births in 2020. Adding a sexual
14 education lesson would inform teens about protected sex and make them aware of the
15 consequences of unprotected actions.

16
17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 This bill would be implemented in August of the 2024-2025 school year.

19
20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 If implemented, this bill would be free of charge since the science teacher is already employed.

22
23 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

24 If a school does not comply with this bill if implemented, they will be charged a fee of \$100 for
25 each science class.

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 298



3
4 Adam Chittom Episcopal Baton Rouge Highschool

5
6 **TITLE:** X to X

7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 This bill would make it so social media websites or applications that have both a posting system and
10 a messaging system would be unusable by minors, or people under 18. This includes but is not
11 limited to, Twitter or X, TikTok, Instagram, and Facebook. This bill will also be applied to upcoming
12 platforms that have the same features. The main reason for creating this bill is to decrease the
13 amount, and hopefully eradicate, depression in children caused by these sites (64% of users are
14 diagnosed after using these sites) as well as child kidnapping or rape. 82% of child-sex crimes are
15 started by social media, and 90% of kids who are victims of these crimes have some kind of social
16 media presence. These sites would require new users to show proof of age upon signing up for the
17 site via an ID, birth certificate, etc.

18
19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 This bill would become a law on January 1, 2025

21
22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23 There will be no funding of the creation of the system.

24
25 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

26 The first punishment for one of these sites being shown to not require age verification would be a
27 fine of \$50,000. A site could also be fined in the instance they have a very lenient verification, like
28 accepting obviously faked IDs. The second and third punishments are a fine of \$100,000. After 4
29 warnings, the site would be taken down until they show proof of them applying the verification
30 system. However, if the site is shown to not have them again, and rack up three more punishments,
31 the fourth punishment would cause the site to be terminated permanently.

3
4 Ben Morvant Metairie Park Country Day School
5 Chloe Jones

6
7 **TITLE:** Tactical Urban Re-Turn Lightspeed Enactment (TURTLE)

8
9 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

10 For emergency services, speed is of the utmost importance. To this end, the Louisiana State
11 government has seen it fit to equip all emergency service members with an automobile to service
12 these needs. These automobiles (more often known as “cars”) have proven to be a vast
13 improvement from horses, camels, mules, chariots, and other older forms of transportation.
14 However, they too, are limited. Largely, in size, operating cost, and ability to navigate tight spaces
15 such as a corn maze, indoor cornhole complex, corn mills, corn harvesting plant, or other related
16 facilities. By equipping all emergency services with shoes that have an engineered wheel in the
17 heel, more commonly known as “Heelys”. They have the potential to greatly improve the ability to
18 navigate around tight corridors at high speed. Several third parties have verified these shoes’s
19 ability to allow the user to travel up to 75 miles per hour. The Turtle Act seeks to implement these
20 shoes as an aspect of their everyday kit.

21
22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 For Turtle to be implemented, police departments and EMT/Paramedic services will begin to
24 replace the standard issue boot with a pair of all-black, light-up wheeled shoes. The lights will serve
25 the same purpose as lights on the standard issue vehicles of these departments. Fire departments
26 will not be issued these shoes as the often high-heat environment could damage the shoe or wheel
27 component.

28
29 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

30 All existing funding towards the footwear of emergency services will be redirected to be spent on
31 wheeled shoes. Any excess money not spent on wheeled shoes from this source of funding will be
32 spent on replacement parts and other accessory shoes such as training or running shoes.

33
34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 Wearing wheeled shoes is not mandated, but highly recommended.

3
4 Mikalen Washington Zachary High School
5 LaJade Smith

6
7 **TITLE:** Energy Conservation Procedures

8
9 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

10 Currently, Louisiana ranks in the top ten for most energy consumed in the United States. It is
11 important to conserve energy to help protect the environment from things like pollution and global
12 warming. Louisiana relies heavily on the oil industry which is why our energy levels are so high.

13
14 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

15 To conserve energy, Louisiana can implement that parishes with high energy levels be required to
16 switch to an alternative energy source. For example, the parish can choose to switch to a solar-
17 based energy source which is less harmful to the environment. Another option would be for the
18 parish to use wind energy from wind turbines. This bill will help decrease Louisiana’s global
19 emission levels.

20
21 This law would be effective as of February 1,2024.

22
23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 \$300,000 is needed to implement this bill. The parishes with higher emission levels will have to pay
25 taxes to fund this bill which will be 2.5% of their yearly income meaning this tax will be paid once a
26 year.

27
28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 If this law is not abided by, then the individual person will be fined \$200 for every month it is not
30 followed.



2 HOUSE BILL 301

3
4 Adam Perry Zachary High School

5
6 TITLE: Restraint and Regulation of Artificial Intelligence

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Artificial intelligence, often abbreviated as AI, has long been the driving force of conspiracy theories, viral videos, and many other things across the internet. Recently, AI has been being used to show mainly celebrities and important figures doing things they haven't. This includes talking to other people, saying things they usually wouldn't say, and so on. However, it's been getting more and more serious. Forms of propaganda are being created with the help of AI, and even important documents are being altered through it. As time progresses, this technology can spread to the public and be heavily misused.

16
17 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

18 To execute my bill, I would first call for the holding of all accessible forms of artificial intelligence for inspection. The inspection of these websites, apps, and databases will include if the companies are harboring data without the permission of users, if the companies see any forms of misuse of AI in users and not reporting them, and if the companies are altering users provides information with AI. These inspections will be applied to upcoming AI companies as well.

23
24 SECTION III: FUNDING

25 Being that this issue if of U.S. concern, the funding for my bill will come from the Department of Homeland Security. The issues I have stated are of Homeland Security concern, which is why it is necessary that it should be the funding for it. The implementations of this bill will cost approximately \$750,000 to \$1,500,000 to start. The funds for the bill will go towards employees who investigate the AI companies.

30
31 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

32 If companies choose to not follow the restraints and regulations provided by the bill, they will be ordered to bring an end to the entirety of their company. Companies who willingly refuse minor restraints and regulations in the bill will be ordered to pay fines up to \$2,000,000. The seriousness of companies' AI involvement will result in criminal investigation and trial.



2 HOUSE BILL 302

3
4 Harmoni Goins Southern University Laboratory School

5
6 TITLE: Provide Restitution for the Wrongfully Convicted/Accused

7
8 SECTION I: BACKGROUND

9 Statistics show that 4-6% of people incarcerated in US prisons are innocent which means 1/20 criminal cases result in a wrongful conviction. Louisiana ranks as one of the top 9 states to wrongfully accuse and convict innocent people. This problem is more prominent in low socioeconomic communities and has gravely affected the lives of many people, not just the accused, but also their families. In addition, more than half the time, accused individuals do not have the resources to afford an attorney or representative. If they can not afford a representative they are then acquainted with a public defender from the state. Should the public defender lose the case, that person becomes a part of the penal system which has lasting negative effects on everyone involved. As a result, the individual wrongfully accused and prosecuted is tragically violated in several areas such as his/her right to liberty, his/her right to a fair trial, and his/her freedom from cruel and unusual punishment, just to name a few. Consequently, the profound results of this could be declining mental health and well-being, stigmatization and public perception, loss of trust in the justice system, problems seeking employment, and loss of opportunities and time. These accusations and convictions will ruin the lives of these people and make their lives unnecessarily harder and close to impossible to rebuild.

23
24 SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

25 As this bill is set into motion the accused shall be compensated every month at \$1,500 for the amount of time served. The wrongfully convicted or accused will also be provided with a therapist/counselor. The state will also provide an official statement for employment to ease the employment struggle and all charges shall be erased.

30
31 SECTION III: FUNDING

32 The funding will be placed in the Louisiana State Penitentiary Budget, which has a total amount of \$698.4 million dollars.

34
35 SECTION IV: PENALTIES

36 NA

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 303



3
4 Talyn Saulsby Southern University Laboratory School
5 Brailyn Dumas

6
7 **TITLE:** Remove the possibility of parole option for convicted rapists

8
9 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

10 In Louisiana, convicted rapists are offered parole after serving 75% of their sentence. In 2019, 2,273
11 rapes were reported in Louisiana, causing Louisiana's crime rate to rise to 3,711 crimes per 100,000
12 residents. If this bill goes into effect, convicted rapists will have to complete their prison sentences.

13
14 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

15 If this bill is passed, It will be implemented on January 1st, 2024. This law will go into effect to
16 cover all parishes and all courts in the state of Louisiana. All convicted rapists will have to
17 complete a full prison sentence. If the full sentence is complete and convicted sex offenders
18 commit sex crimes again such as battery, molestation, sexual assault ect. they will have to serve
19 double their previous prison sentence.

20
21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 No Funding Needed

23
24 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

25 If the law is broken, the judge that offered parole to convicted rapists then that judge will lose the
26 subject matter of jurisdiction, and that judge's orders are void.

1 LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2023
2 HOUSE BILL 304



3 Peyton Mason Southern University Laboratory School
4 MaKayla Price

5 **TITLE:** To require all Louisiana daycares and schools to have access to Control systems installed for
6 the safety of the students, faculty, and staff.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Since the tragic events of the 1999 Columbine High School shooting in Littleton, Colorado left 13
9 dead and 20 injured, protecting schools from the threat of mass shootings and other violence has
10 been prevalent in the minds of many organizations and institutions. Unfortunately, it does not seem
11 like enough has been done. Statistics show that there have been almost 70 more school shootings
12 since Columbine and the number of days between school shootings decreased from an average of
13 124 days between 1999 and 2014 to just 77 between 2014 and 2018. These numbers are concerning
14 and highlight the need for better security solutions for schools in order to not just keep students
15 safe, but also engaged in the classroom. Protecting the lives of students is obviously the most
16 important aspect of school security, however, more benefits lie just below the surface. When a
17 school is safe, the students can thrive in an encouraging environment that is not plagued with fear
18 or disrupted with lockdowns. Safety can encourage them to be in school more often and be more
19 involved in activities that keep them on campus. Students need to be able to see the location they
20 learn in as a safe place that will help them grow, which is difficult with the near-constant news
21 cycle of different schools somewhere in the nation whose security didn't protect them well enough.
22 Feeling secure at school can encourage better lives for its students- academically, socially, and
23 emotionally. Automated security doors can be programmed to suit each daycare, elementary, or
24 high school needs. Interlocking doors with card access systems can be utilized so that only
25 authorized students, teachers, and staff can gain entry to a building. Walkthrough metal detector
26 door systems can immediately prevent entry the second a weapon is detected. All schools must
27 provide a safe and secure environment if students are to thrive academically, socially, and
28 culturally. Most teachers, students, and parents are all worried about safety in schools.

29 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

30 Implementing something as simple as access control with security doors can make a big difference.
31 The access control ensures only authorized individuals like students and faculty have entrance into
32 the building. This is often paired with rapid weapon detection to ensure no dangerous items are
33 allowed inside. Although metal detectors and security doors for schools are extremely important,
34 there is no one-size-fits-all solution to security. When looking into security solutions for schools, it's
35 important to remember that what may be necessary for one grade level may be too much for
36 another. For example, weapons detection with access control might be a little excessive in an
37 elementary school and insufficient for a high school. Thus, understanding the nature of the most
38 concerning threats and how to mitigate risks at different locations is important to school security.
39 Controlling the entrances for schools is critical, but only a part of a comprehensive plan. Protecting
40 students requires a variety of security solutions
41 along with safety training and drills for staff and students alike. The more thorough these processes
42 are, and the more comprehensive the security solutions, the more positive outcomes schools will
43 see when it comes to student safety. Schools and communities will need to ban together for the
44 safety of students. If this Bill is passed, these educational facilities will need to have all equipment
45 installed within 2 years after the bill has passed.

46 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

47 Funding will be the responsibility of the school district.

48 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

49 Failure to implement this law within 8 years will result in loss of state funding.



3
4 Ryleigh Haynes Southern University Laboratory School

5 **TITLE:** Mandate Drug Intervention Program in Public Schools

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 A high school drug intervention program will promote drug awareness and drug prevention for all
8 students in the state of Louisiana. Right now the state of Louisiana is dealing with an opioid drug
9 problem that is significantly impacting our youth. The drug fentanyl is a synthetic opioid drug that is
10 highly addictive. There are many teenage overdose cases that have occurred in the United States.
11 The intake on how many people are dying from this drug increases annually. Fentanyl deaths have
12 tripled from 31 per month in 2019 of July to 87 per month in 2021 of May. It has only decreased by
13 half over a few months in December of 2021. It has been proven the overdose rate of fentanyl
14 occurs in males, at least 70% of the United States has done fentanyl. Compared to 30% of females
15 that have died from fentanyl overdoses. Based on demographics fentanyl overdoses occur by whites
16 (60%), Hispanics (21%), and blacks (13%). This bill proposes to eliminate teenage drug overdoses in
17 the state of Louisiana.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 Right now there isn't a law for the state of Louisiana that addresses this problem. We want every
20 school to receive drug awareness training and for every teacher, parent, and student to know how
21 to administer the drug Narcan. Narcan, also known as naloxone is a medicine that blocks opioids
22 from overdoses, it's also called an opioid antagonist. It relaxes a person's body and restores normal
23 breathing to stop the overdose. Narcan doesn't have an effect on someone who doesn't have opioids
24 in their system. The idea is for the faculty and parents to learn how to administer narcan in the
25 event a student or their child overdoses. The youth is our future and passing this bill saves a life,
26 and also gives us hope for the future. This puts us one step forward in eliminating the opioid crisis.
27 This law should be proposed in next year's legislative session to be implemented immediately
28 following.

29 Once the bill is passed, I want a state law similar to what Virginia has under Executive Order 26
30 creating a full comprehensive strategy to combat fentanyl and opioid abuse. Executive Order 26 has
31 5 key initiatives but I want to focus specifically on numbers three and four. "...educate our
32 communities for action to address fentanyl and opioid abuse and overdoses; ..expand access to
33 evidence-based treatments;" enhance public safety measures to counteract activity by illicit drug
34 manufacturers and distributions; (2) invest in and enhance prevention and recovery efforts (3)
35 educate our community for action to address fentanyl and opioid abuse and overdoses; (4) expand
36 access to evidence-based treatments; and (5) comprehensively organize our government to
37 transform and strengthen Virginia's response to the fentanyl opioid crisis.

38 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

39 In the state of Louisiana, there are over 640,000 high school students spread across 1,303 schools.
40 Based on these numbers and the number of overdoses that have occurred, it would cost \$82,000 for
41 the Narcan drug and the training budget is estimated at \$300,000. This bill could be funded through
42 federal taxes and federal funds. Also, the Department of Health and hospital could also support
43 funding this proposal because public safety and drug prevention fall under their umbrella.

44 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

45 NA



3
4 Madisyn Olinde Southern University Laboratory School
5 Taleah Banks

6 **TITLE:** Allow for Public Schools to provide Personal Hygiene Vending Machines in Schools.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Students from low socioeconomic status backgrounds should have regular access to health and
9 personal care products is a hygiene requirement. Students not having easy access to hygiene
10 facilities can lead to severe health problems, such as bacterial infections, cough and cold, and a
11 multitude of hygiene concerns that can lead to health risks.
12 This is needed in public schools because these products can help to reduce the stigma associated
13 with menstruation. By making hygiene products easily available in public spaces, vending machines
14 normalize the experience of menstruation and help to reduce the shame and embarrassment
15 associated with it.
16 This bill will allow schools to install vending machines that will provide personal hygiene items to
17 students, teachers, and staff as well. This will prevent students from looking and asking for items.
18 They will know where to go at all times. As a result, available personal items will be available to
19 anyone as needed.
20 The school must meet the needs of students academically, mentally, and personally. They must
21 provide for the well-being of the WHOLE CHILD!!

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 This law will be effective next school year 2024-2025. To make this bill a reality, each school must
24 secure its own vending machine(s).

25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 No funding required

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 School districts that fail to implement this law will jeopardize some of their state funding streams.
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

2 **HOUSE BILL 307**

3 Vaishu Kumbala Haynes Academy

4 **TITLE:** Report Cards Are Dead (R.A.D)5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 The current grading system in Louisiana public schools, in which some students start receiving
7 report cards as early as 1st grade, can give rise to academic pressure, stress, and a tendency to
8 prioritize grades over learning. In some countries like Denmark, which is ranked second by UNICEF
9 for child well-being outcomes, formal grades aren't issued until around the 8th Grade, allowing
10 students to focus on learning and easing stress that may emerge around grades. Adopting an
11 alternate, feedback-centered approach in Louisiana that prioritizes growth and learning over grades
12 and formal benchmarks of achievement for students in 3rd Grade and under will foster an
13 environment with less academic pressure and allow students to understand the value of academic
14 growth and learning. As stated by a Harvard University report, "The most common source of stress
15 for high school students, according to the 2017 APA Stress survey, is school itself, with about 83
16 percent of teens identifying school as a major stressor." Implementing this program for younger
17 students would not only promote and reward learning and growth but it could potentially help lower
18 this statistic and benefit student mental health in the long-run.

19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 Ten public schools across Louisiana will be randomly selected to pilot the R.A.D program during the
21 2024-2025 school year. Schools will be barred from issuing formal report cards that use an A-F
22 grading scale for students in 3rd grade and under. While tests and quizzes are encouraged to be
23 administered as usual and the curriculum will no be changed, results will only be tracked for the
24 purposes of a state-developed evaluation template/rubric that teachers fill out at the end of each
25 quarter, focusing on students' Math, English, Social Studies, Science, Problem Solving/Creativity,
26 and Social Skills. With this method, families will be given actionable feedback to help students
27 improve with less academic pressure than the current grading system. A task force (consisting of
28 teachers, parents, education officials, and stakeholders) will be established by the Louisiana
29 Department of Education to oversee this program and prepare a report evaluating the program and
30 its effectiveness in the pilot schools to be publicly released at the end of the school year, and if this
31 program is found to be effective, starting in the 2025-2026 school year, it will go into effect in all
32 Louisiana public schools.

33 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

34 There will be no funding required for this bill.

35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 If a school does not comply, the school's administrators and an administrative official from the
37 school district will be required to meet with officials from the Louisiana Department of Education,
38 along with members of the program's Task Force. After the meeting, if the school continues to not
39 comply, \$10,000 in funding will be cut from the school each academic year.
40

2 **HOUSE BILL 308**

3 Alyarall Bradley Education Trust

4 **TITLE:** A Bill to Create an Office of Diversity and Inclusion for the State of Louisiana5 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

6 The State of Louisiana should create a sophisticated Office of Diversity and Inclusion that meets the
7 needs of all its citizens and therefore promotes prosperity among racial lines. Louisiana is a boiling
8 pot of ethnicities. According to the Census and population estimates of 2022, the state is composed
9 of 62.5% whites alone, 32.8% African-Americans, 5.8% Hispanic or Latino, 1.9% Asian, and 0.1-0.8%
10 other. It is imperative that all of the ethnicities listed recognize one another in a place full of
11 diversity and culture such as Louisiana. To include goes beyond acceptance. The Office of Diversity
12 and Inclusion should actively promote interaction between different groups of people such as
13 hosting events and engaging in conversations about laws and bills that limit diversity in Louisiana.
14 Fortunately, smaller-scale institutions such as the Louisiana State University and the Louisiana
15 Department of Insurance have systems in place to promote diversity and inclusion, but those are not
16 enough. Diversity and Inclusion needs to be promoted on a larger statewide scale to prevent low
17 voter turnouts such as that of the October 14, 2023 Louisiana Governor election.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 In order for an Office of Diversity and Inclusion to be created, the Louisiana state legislature has to
20 agree to in-act this law. Most importantly, support or disapproval of the law should be gathered by
21 polling Louisiana citizens. The law MUST go into effect before the Presidential and Congressional
22 Election of November 2024 occurs.

23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 While creating an Office of Diversity and Inclusion is worthwhile, it surely is not cheap. It is
25 expected to cost in the high hundred thousands. However, most of that includes congressional
26 salaries of the people tasked with running such offices. Thankfully, those salaries are covered by
27 the Louisiana Department of Treasury (the department's budget might need readjusting). It is
28 needless to say that the entire office would be publicly funded by the state of Louisiana. Taxes
29 should not be raised as the Office of Diversity and Inclusion is meant to help and not harm.

30 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**31 There are no consequences for breaking this law, if passed.
32

2 **HOUSE BILL 309**

3 Josalyn Green Education Trust

4
5 **TITLE:** The Reduced Cancer Risk Act (RCR)6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill, titled the Reduced Cancer Risk Act (RCR), aims to address the issue of air pollution and its
8 contribution to a high cancer risk in Louisiana. According to the Environmental Protection Agency
9 (EPA), Louisiana ranked first in air pollution in 2019. This bill proposes the establishment of
10 mandatory buffer zones between chemical plants and communes to reduce the cancer risk faced by
11 Louisiana residents. Currently, there are over 740 petrochemical plants in Louisiana, some located
12 as close as a 3-mile radius from communes. This bill seeks to ensure the safety of residents by
13 requiring a buffer zone of at least 45 miles to separate these communes from chemical plants in
14 order to mitigate the health risks associated with exposure to pollutants.

15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 For this bill to take effect, chemical plants that do not meet the required buffer zone length will
17 need to be relocated to ensure the safety of neighboring communes. If a plant cannot relocate due
18 to a lack of space, it may remain in place. However, this bill requires that all future plants be
19 designed in compliance with the buffer zone requirements.

20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 The implementation of this bill will require funding for the relocation of chemical plants and the
22 establishment of buffer zones. The funding for this can be sourced from banks and other financial
23 institutions that currently finance the development of chemical plants.

24 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

25 There are no specified penalties associated with this bill.

2 **HOUSE BILL 310**

3 Jared Lane Education Trust

4
5 **TITLE:** Eliminate the Louisiana Income Tax6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The Eliminate Louisiana Income Tax Act (ELI) proposes the elimination of the Louisiana income tax
8 for all residents in the State of Louisiana. This bill aims to give residents more control over their
9 spending and attract more companies and job-seekers to the state. Recent Census data has shown a
10 trend of people leaving high-tax states and moving to lower-tax states. By eliminating the income
11 tax, Louisianans will see an increase in take-home pay.

12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 The Louisiana Department of Revenue shall develop a plan to phase out the state's income tax by
14 January 1st, 2025.

15 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

16 The funding required for the implementation of this bill will be allocated to transition workers into
17 a state without income tax. This funding will be sourced from the State of Louisiana's surplus
18 budget.

19 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

20 There shall be no penalties associated with this bill.

2 **HOUSE BILL 311**

3 Sumer McEachin Education Trust

4
5 **TITLE:** Reducing Class Sizes in Louisiana Schools6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana's education system is facing challenges due to large class sizes, which hinder effective
8 learning and teacher-student interactions. Large class sizes can result in decreased individualized
9 attention, lower student performance, and increased teacher stress. This bill aims to address these
10 issues by reducing class sizes in Louisiana schools, ultimately improving the quality of education.
11 The primary goal is to enhance the learning environment for students by ensuring smaller, more
12 manageable class sizes. Reducing class sizes is expected to lead to better student-teacher
13 interactions, increased student engagement, and improved academic performance. Smaller class
14 sizes can also facilitate a more personalized approach to education, allowing teachers to better
15 address individual student needs.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 To implement this bill, several steps need to be taken. First, a maximum class size limit should be
18 established for each grade level. Additionally, funds should be allocated to hire additional teachers,
19 build new classrooms, or expand existing facilities to accommodate smaller class sizes. A timeline
20 should be developed to gradually reduce class sizes, ensuring a smooth transition. Lastly, a
21 monitoring system should be created to track the progress and effectiveness of class size reduction.

22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23 The specific amount of money needed to implement a reduction in class sizes will depend on various
24 factors, including the current average class size, the targeted reduction, and the associated costs.
25 The funding for this law could come from the Class-Size Reduction (CSR) program, which helps
26 school districts hire additional qualified teachers. There may not be a need to create new taxes or
27 readjust budgets, as existing education funding programs can be utilized.

28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 There may not be direct penalties associated with this bill. Instead, it may include mechanisms for
30 accountability and monitoring to ensure schools comply with the mandated class size limits. Non-
31 compliance could result in reduced state funding or other consequences to encourage adherence.

YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE Technical Amendment Form

Bill Number/Title: _____

Committee: _____ Date: _____

Amendment Sponsor/Club: _____

Line Affected: _____

Amendment Text:

Accepted: Yes No

Designation: Friendly Hostile

Considered: Yes No

Vote: Passed Failed Tabled

Clerk: X _____

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