

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 1**

3 Thomas O'Connor Episcopal BR

4
5 **TITLE:** Lowering the Drinking Age To Eighteen

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In Louisiana, the current drinking age is twenty-one for a person to purchase and consume alcohol and
8 eighteen for a person to consume alcohol in the presence of a parent, spouse, or legal guardian over the
9 age of twenty-one. For many years until 1996, the drinking age in Louisiana was eighteen-years-old,
10 which Louisiana was the last state in the country to change. The proposed Bill will lower the drinking age
11 in Louisiana back down to eighteen without the current restrictions that eighteen-year-olds face when
12 trying to consume alcohol. Many high school students and college-age students view drinking as
13 rebellious because it is illegal for them to consume. Changing the drinking age will remove the allure of
14 drinking for many college students and high school seniors, which will help to combat the current binge
15 drinking being seen in these demographics. Many will argue that people who are eighteen years old do
16 not have fully developed brains, so they are not capable of making the best decisions for themselves,
17 especially when it comes to drinking. While this is true, it is legal for eighteen-year-olds to engage in
18 activities that are much more dangerous than drinking, including driving a car and joining the military.

19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 On January 1, 2021, eighteen-year-olds will then be allowed to buy and consume alcohol without the
21 presence of a parent, legal guardian, or spouse over the age of twenty-one. This will give bars and other
22 alcohol distributors time to notify their employees of the new policy and prepare for the increase in
23 customers.

24
25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 No funding is necessary for this bill.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 The current penalties for people under the age of eighteen who consume or attempt to buy alcohol will
29 remain, but the penalties will be lifted for those over the age of eighteen.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 2**

3 Preston Kyle Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

4
5 **TITLE:** District Method Electoral College Voting

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The plurality voting system, also known as first past the post or majority vote, used by Louisiana prevents
8 candidates of a minority party from being represented by our state’s electoral votes. A candidate who
9 wins a majority of the votes, even by the smallest of margins, wins all of the electoral votes. The system
10 of plurality voting is used by forty-eight of the fifty states in the nation. Maine and Nebraska use a
11 system called ‘District Method’. Under district method, each congressional district is assigned one
12 electoral vote. Votes within the district are decided by a majority vote. The winner of the state’s popular
13 vote will win the other two electoral votes. The District method of voting allows for minority parties to be
14 represented while preserving the balance of power between states created by the electoral college.

15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 Each congressional district will be assigned one electoral vote. A majority vote within the districts will
17 decide which elector will represent them. The remaining two electoral votes will be assigned to electors
18 for the candidate who has a majority of the state-wide popular vote.

19 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

20 There is no additional funding required for this bill

21 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

22 There are no penalties for this bill

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 3**

3 Ryan Asefi Episcopal High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Solitary Confinement in prison systems

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Solitary confinement has long been used in the prison system against inmates that are said to be "acting
8 out." Not only do many of these inmates suffer from mental illnesses but solitary confinement even
9 further escalates their illnesses since humans are social animals.

10 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

11 Solitary confinement should be outlawed in all U.S. prison systems wether federal or private.

12 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

13 Putting an end to solitary confinement, which costs the prison three times the amount of money to house
14 someone will allow for that money to be better allocated towards improving the conditions of the inmates.

15 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

16 Prisons that do not adhere to the rules will be fined for their first offense and then a mandated shutdown
17 will be implement.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 4**

3 Carter McLean Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

4 Akshay Basireddy

5 **TITLE:** Manipulating Urban Sprawl to Improve Louisiana Cities

6
7
8 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

9 In Louisiana, urban sprawl – the rapid, unplanned expansion of cities into rural areas – seriously damages
10 the economies of cities across the state. While developing rural land outside of the city seems cheap and
11 beneficial to homeowners and the economy, the long term costs massively outweigh the short term
12 benefits. As housing and unplanned development moves further away from jobs in the inner city, average
13 citizens have to buy cars because public transit cannot effectively manage such a large area. This makes
14 transportation very expensive for average citizens (city people can spend upwards 25% of their income on
15 car notes and gas), creates more taxes for the maintenance of more roads, increases pollution from fossil
16 fuels, and causes Louisiana’s ecosystems to be destroyed for development; all of which also contribute to
17 a lower quality of life. This bill serves to slow urban sprawl and make Louisiana cities better for everyone
18 by 1) implementing a reasonable additional tax on new development in zip codes on the border of their
19 metro areas to discourage urban sprawl, 2) splitting those zip codes from the city budget for
20 infrastructure maintenance, and 3) giving a tax incentive and/or loan subsidies for inner city renewal to
21 attract housing and business owners to revitalize and infill the interior of the city. The tax in 1) will be
22 very bearable so people can still develop outside areas without much issue if they want, but have to pay
23 for their own infrastructure maintenance and an additional property tax. In 3), people who would develop
24 or settle in outer land will now be encouraged by tax cuts and loan assistance to move housing and jobs
25 back inward. By discouraging urban sprawl with mild preemptive taxes and instead encouraging infill with
26 USDA-like loans and tax cuts, everyone in Baton Rouge can still be satisfied and free while improving the
27 health of the city.

28
29 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

30 The tax on development in the specified zip codes will be implemented by adding an additional annual tax
31 equal to one half of the property tax for owners of property developed after the bill is enacted. This will
32 be equivalent in terms of money to increasing Louisiana’s very low property tax of about 0.52% of
33 property value to 0.78% in those areas, which is still much lower than the national average of 1.08%. This
34 tax is done in a unique manner so the money goes to the city rather than the state or parish and does not
35 technically affect the property tax.

36
37 The outside areas will also be split from the city in regards to the funding and maintenance of
38 infrastructure like roads. This means the city legislature will decide every year how to spend allocated
39 money and possibly raise additional taxes for the city and the outside areas separately so city residents
40 no longer have to pay for the mounting costs of urban sprawl.

1
2 With the increased city revenue from the outside development tax, the city will be able to financially
3 support a corporate tax break of 1.5% for businesses (which includes apartment-like housing and mixed
4 use development) who move into or start inside of the city, for a period of 5 years. Existing businesses
5 will receive a 0.25% corporate tax break for 7 years. Small businesses can also apply for a system like a
6 USDA loan to encourage the growth of small businesses. A small business or low income individual can
7 apply for a loan that permits zero down payment and purchase through mortgage insurance over time.
8

9 These regulations will apply to mid-size cities, which means having a population of 30,000 or more. This
10 bill will be enacted in January of 2022.
11

12 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

13 The bill will not need additional funding because all funding is self-created from the taxes proposed. Costs
14 related to development outside of the metro area like the maintenance and construction of roads will now
15 be funded by the 0.26% property tax and additional taxes that the city legislature may decide to raise,
16 rather than with money from the whole city. Because cities will not need to pay for outside development
17 and maintenance, city legislatures will decide every year to lower taxes previously used to pay for it or
18 keep the taxes and use the money to improve public transportation to a decent degree.
19

20 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

21 There are no additional penalties past the normal penalties for tax violations.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 5**

3 Davis Eglin Episcopal High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Encouraging Voting in Louisiana

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 As of 2019, Louisiana's population is 4.649 million people. In 2016, only about 2 million people voted out
8 of 3 million people registered. With less than half of the state actually voting, true representation cannot
9 be achieved. In 2019 in Louisiana's 16th senatorial race, 4 votes separated Steve Carter and Franklin Foil.
10 Who knows who the majority of Louisiana's in the district actually want to represent them. Another key
11 aspect to look at is Louisiana's status as a "deep red" state. Is this because there are more republicans
12 than democrats in Louisiana? No. As of November 1st, 2020, there were 3,091,340 registered voters.
13 1,257,863 were democrats, 1,020,085 republicans, and 813,392 independents or others. Louisiana could
14 be a very competitive and balanced state if more people voted. That is why voting needs to be increased
15 in Louisiana. Democracies work best if more people vote.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 The bill will take effect on January 1st, 2021. The period between passing and being enacted will allow for
18 ample time to register citizens. The tax decreases will not take place until January 1st, 2022. Increased
19 voting his will be done by mailing a registration form to all citizens not registered, creating a day every
20 month where officials go into communities to register voters, making the GeauxVote system online more
21 accessible, and creating advertisements on television and in newspapers encouraging citizens to vote. A
22 national holiday will be created on all election days. Also, an option to send in a mail-in-ballot will be
23 extended to all citizens. Early voting will also be expanded to three weeks before the election, and
24 abundant precinct locations will be available. The goal is to increase voter registration and turnout to
25 75%.

26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 There is already a significant budget for elections, but some private fundraising will be encouraged for the
28 advertisements and community outreach events.

29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 There are no penalties for not voting, but there is a 100\$ tax decrease for each citizen when they vote in
31 an election.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 6**

3 Joey Roth Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

4 Riley Posey

5 **TITLE:** Cancer Alley Act

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill enforces mandatory reporting of any unpermitted spill or release of ethylene oxide to the
8 Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Ethylene oxide is a chemical, widely used in hospitals as a
9 disinfectant but is also a toxic gas. Ethylene oxide is produced in large amounts in power plants
10 throughout Louisiana. One area that uses the highest quantities of this chemical is in an area of New
11 Orleans, known as "Cancer Alley." Here ethylene oxide affects the community quite severely. Acute
12 exposure to ethylene oxide can cause respiratory irritation, lung injury, headaches, nausea, and shortness
13 of breath. Chronic exposure has been associated with significantly more critical conditions such as cancer,
14 birth defects, mutagenic changes, and neurotoxicity. According to ProPublica's analysis of toxic chemical
15 air levels, the air in St. Gabriel, a community in Cancer Alley, has higher estimated levels of toxic air from
16 ethylene oxide than 99% of the country. Between them, the Louisiana plants in 2019 released 27.8 tons
17 of ethylene oxide, about one-fifth of the total released nationwide. This bill is necessary for all chemical
18 plants in Louisiana's Cancer Alley, as they are making a severe impact on surrounding communities and are
19 causing spiking cancer levels in Louisiana's "Cancer Alley."
20

21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 Companies will be required to decrease all usage of ethylene oxide by at least 40% in Louisiana. The
23 maximum limit of ethylene oxide usage in the state will be 16.7 tons, a 40% decrease in ethylene oxide
24 state usage since 2019. Mandatory reports of ethylene oxide usage will be submitted to the Louisiana
25 Department of Environmental Quality biannually. This will enforce more responsible ways for chemical
26 plants to use ethylene oxide. No jobs will be lost during this change and taxes will not need to be raised.
27 This bill will be enforced on January 1, 2022.
28

29 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

30 There is no funding necessary for this bill.

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 Non-compliant chemical plants will be fined up to \$250,000 for their first violation and up to \$500,000
33 for their second. For any following violations, plants will be prosecuted in state courts for penalties up to
34 \$1,000,000 for excessive, unreported ethylene oxide usage.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 7**

3 Shreya Kamath

Episcopal School of BR

4 Sarah Theriot

5 **TITLE: Abolish the Pink Tax**

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The purpose of this bill is to abolish the pink tax. The pink tax is a tax on feminine hygiene products like
8 tampons and pads and other items like diapers. Recently, the Metro Council had a bill about the pink tax,
9 and they voted to abolish it. We want to abolish the pink tax for all of Louisiana. Women can't control the
10 fact that they get periods, so why should we tax them for something they can't control. Ten states have
11 already abolished the pink tax, so it's not like we would be the only state to do so. It's already a step in
12 the right direction with Baton Rouge abolishing the tax, but there are still thousands of women in the
13 state who have to pay extra for something that they can't control. The pink tax also says that women
14 need to pay more for items that men can buy for less money. Why should women have to pay more for the
15 same products that men can buy? The products include razors and shampoos. The reason it's called the
16 "pink" tax is that every item under the tax is used by females.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 If passed, this bill will take place on January 1, 2021. Stores will have to take away the tax on feminine
19 products. Instead of getting the money off of the pink tax, Louisiana can tax items that are not necessary
20 by any gender. In other words, tax items that are wanted, not needed.

21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 This bill requires no funding.

23 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

24 If a business does not comply with taking the tax off of menstrual products, the business will be fined
25 \$1500.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 8**

3 Charlie Roth Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

4
5 **TITLE:** Reforming Judicial Selection

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana is one of nine states that selects all of its judges through partisan elections, which is a pathway
8 to corruption in the judicial system. This bill proposes a state constitutional amendment, changing the
9 form of all judicial selection from partisan elections to merit selection. Merit selection is used in some
10 form by thirty-one other states and the District of Colombia. In this form of selection, applicants to a
11 vacant judicial seat will appear before a nonpartisan commission formed by the Governor, comprising of
12 public officials, the State Supreme Court Chief Justice, attorneys, and private citizens. The Governor will
13 then choose one of the three candidates selected by the commission to fill the vacancy. Terms will be set
14 at six years following the first general election of the judge’s tenure. A judge can be re-elected in an
15 uncontested retention election, in which voters will vote “yes” or “no” to allow the judge to keep their
16 seat. If “yes,” the judge will retain their seat for another six years. If “no,” a new judge will be selected by
17 repeating this process.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 This bill proposes a state constitutional amendment affecting Article V I22. If this is approved by the
20 State Legislature and by popular election, the Governor may begin forming the commission. Each currently
21 seated judge will retain their seat until the end of their current term and will then face an uncontested
22 retention election. All requirements for judicial candidates currently laid out by the Louisiana State
23 Constitution will remain the same.

24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 No funding is required for this bill.

26 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

27 No penalties are required for this bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 9**

3 Landri Domingue

Dutchtown High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Equal Pay Between Men and Women in Louisiana.

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In the last few decades women’s labor force participation has grown significantly. Women are working
8 longer hours and pursuing high level education in greater numbers. However, even through these changes
9 the gender pay gap remains the same. The gender pay gap refers to the change in earnings between full
10 time working women and full time working men. Full time working women only make 81 cents for every
11 dollar full time working men make. Although women are claimed to be equal in the workplace, the pay gap
12 has only closed by 4 cents in the last decade. It is estimated at this rate equal pay regardless of gender
13 will not be obtained until 2059. 39 years may not sound like long, but women have been promised not to
14 be discriminated against in the workplace based on gender for 57 years. The Equal Pay Act of 1963 made
15 pay discriminations in the same workplace for similar jobs illegal based on gender. Although this law was
16 passed 57 years ago there is still a gender pay gap present. Employees know they are entitled to a fair
17 wage regardless of their gender, the question, however, remains, how do I know I’m getting paid the
18 same? One of the main reasons there is still a gender pay gap is that it is near to impossible to know you
19 are getting paid less. This bill will require companies and corporations to disclose to the public wage
20 ranges and wages. Wages are required to be made known, however the individual’s name can not be given
21 out without their consent. Currently companies can disclose wages as it is part of their freedom of
22 speech, however it is currently up to the company to do this and many do not. By making it required that
23 companies show how much they pay for jobs and a general range of pay, ensuring no one gets paid more
24 or less based solely on gender is possible.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 This bill will be enacted on January 1st, 2021. All employees of a company or cooperation along with
27 anyone offered a job at said company/cooperation is entitled to the knowledge of pay range of that
28 particular job or title. The employers must present employees with the pay statics but can not give out
29 any further information, including but not limited to name, gender, age, any personal information, etc.

30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 There is no funding necessary for this bill.

32 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

33 Any company or corporation that does not make wage range or wages available to workers will result in a
34 warning the first offense with a deadline for the company to implement the bill. The second offense will be
35 a fine of \$200,000. A third offense will be a fine of \$500,000 or further legal action. Additional penalties
36 can be given if individual names are disclosed without the consent of the employee. Penalties include a
37 fine ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 10**

3 Sophia Ray LSU Lab School

4 Nicholas Edmonson

5 **TITLE:** Should Rapists Be Able to Meet Their Victim’s Child?

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 In the US, 1 in 5 women will be raped at some point in their life. As of 2019, Louisiana is number 18 in
9 rape cases in the United States with a rate of 48.9 out of 100,000 inhabitants. On top of the everlasting
10 trauma, the woman could also get pregnant. According to the CDC, about 3 million women experienced
11 rape-related pregnancies in the US. Multiple states allow for a convicted rapist to sue for custodial and
12 visitation rights. Even if the rapist spends a lengthy amount of time in prison, nobody should be able to
13 come back from a crime like rape and have parental rights over his victim’s child. This would be severely
14 damaging to the child because he/she would know what their father did and still be forced to spend part
15 of their life with him. The child would live in constant fear that their father would do horrible things to
16 them just like he did to their mother. Not only would this be troubling for the child, but also the mother.
17 She would have to go through so many unnecessary issues, along with the emotional and physical trauma,
18 which can all be solved by the implementation of this bill. With this bill, we can protect the rights of rape
19 survivors and their children.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 The convicted rapist will be unable to sue for visitation or custodial rights of his child. Since the rapist
22 would not be a legal guardian, the mother could also not sue for child support. Once the child turns 18,
23 the rapist could then sue for parental rights with the child’s consent.

24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 There is no funding needed for this bill.

26 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

27 The penalty for failing to comply would be a fine of at least 10,000 dollars along with an extra prison
28 sentence.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 11**

3 Zoha Ibrahim Caddo Magnet High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Banning Solitary Confinement

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana currently has one of the highest incarceration rates in the world. With that comes a high
8 proportion of prisoners who experience solitary confinement during their sentences. Solitary confinement
9 has been proven to be an extremely mentally traumatic punishment, often causing anxiety, panic, rage,
10 paranoia, hallucinations, and, in some cases, suicide. Representatives from the United Nations have
11 condemned the practice, and have expressed concern that the frequency of the practice in the United
12 States is a violation of human rights. Prisoners who have been held in solitary confinement have been
13 proven to suffer severe psychological distress. Moreover, solitary confinement has not been proven to be
14 an effective method of punishment, or have any effect in reducing violence among prisoners. By
15 prohibiting the practice of solitary confinement, this bill would ensure the human rights of prisoners are
16 not being infringed upon and encourage the practice of humane prison policies.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 The implementation of this bill would begin in February 2021. This would give prisons ample time to
19 develop other correctional policies and phase out the practice over time. Prisons within each parish would
20 cease the practice of solitary confinement completely in February. Parishes will either be provided with
21 alternative policies to implement in place of solitary confinement or can submit their own for state
22 approval.

23
24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 This bill does not require financing.

26
27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 Should they fail to adhere to this policy, jails will first receive a warning. If prisons continue to not comply
29 with this policy, they will be fined \$500,000. In egregious cases, prisons would face federal charges.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 12**

3 Harrison LaBorde University High School

4 Brennan Ryder

5 **TITLE:** Stop the Death Penalty

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 All prisons in the state of Louisiana that currently carry out the death penalty will be required to
8 terminate all executions. This will save lives, 4% of which are innocent lives, and give this inmate more
9 time to dwell on what they did and how it ruined their lives. This is the time to implement this bill as no
10 executions have happened in Louisiana for the past 10 years and only 28 executions have happened in
11 total in our state. The current death row inmates will have their sentences changed to life imprisonment.
12 This will also set the example for Texas, our neighbor state, who has carried out more executions than
13 any other other state with 566 total.

14 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

15 This will take effect 6 months after passage. All state and local prisons will be required to terminate any
16 further executions, and move all death-row inmates to life imprisonment.

17 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

18
19 No funding is needed for this bill. Prisons will have to stop executing prisoners, which does not require
20 any funds to do. There is already space for these prisoners as no executions have been held in Louisiana
21 since 2010. If an influx of prisoners in the future occurs, lower jail time crimes could change punishments
22 to community service with a larger fine. This will offset the cost of maintaining these prisoners without
23 costing the state much at all. The absence of the death penalty also saves millions because of the
24 expensive costs of convicting someone to death row. People being tried for the death penalty and given
25 extensive and thorough trials under the Constitution, which contributes to the high costs. These cases are
26 also usually appealed, increasing the costs even more. It is by far cheaper to keep inmates on life
27 imprisonment than on death row. The state spends around \$15 million on the death penalty each year.

28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 If a prison is caught executing a prisoner after this bill goes into effect, the following will be the penalties.
30 On the first offense, then a monetary fine of 5,000 dollars will be issued, the prison shall be put on
31 probation, and the employees responsible for carrying out the execution shall be fired.. On the second
32 offence, a monetary fine of 25,000 dollars will be issued, any prisoners with life sentences or were
33 previously on death row will be moved to another prison, and the employees responsible for the execution
34 will be fired. On the third offense, the prison will be shut down for a short time and the management of
35 the prisoners shall be transferred to another of the state's choosing.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 13**

3 Noah Robert University Lab School

4
5 **TITLE:** Ban the Box

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Ban The Box is a national organization devoted to helping ex-convicts to find jobs as a beneficial part of
8 today's society and since 1998 over 13 states have implemented Ban The Box laws boosting the economy
9 everywhere it takes place. Louisiana itself has already passed a Ban The Box law for state jobs and we can
10 finish what the governor started by passing a state wide law today. NCSL has estimated that on average
11 in states where Ban the Box laws have not been passed, the barriers for people with criminal records to
12 find suitable sources of income causes a loss of 1.7 million jobs and at least 78 billion dollars but this bill
13 can change all that.

14
15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 This bill would ban all businesses located in Louisiana from questioning job applicants about their criminal
17 history during the hiring process so as to give ex-convicts a foot in the door and stop their first
18 impression from being a check mark in the box asking whether that have been convicted of a crime. This
19 does not ban employers from asking about criminal history after they have already been hired but would
20 lead to more tax dollars going to the state government and reduce recidivism by an estimated 67 percent.

21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 This bill requires zero funding and would actually provide more money for the state government .

23 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

24 You can face fines of up to \$15,000 for going against this law should an applicant choose to go to court.

LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020



HOUSE BILL 14

Emily Berg Ruby Friloux Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

TITLE: Require Public Schools to Provide Menstrual Products in Women’s Restrooms

SECTION I: BACKGROUND

Currently, in Louisiana, public schools are not required to provide menstrual products in women’s restrooms. This bill would require public schools to provide women’s high school and middle school restrooms with menstrual products and dispensers for these products. As of 2020, only four states - New York, California, Illinois, and New Hampshire - have passed legislation requiring middle schools and high schools to offer freely accessible menstrual products, such as pads and tampons, in bathrooms. However, all of these outlined laws are unfunded mandates, and none provide compensation to schools to pay for such products. On top of this, tampons and pads are rarely designated as allowable budgetary expenses for publicly funded schools. For the nearly one in five American teenagers who live in poverty, lack of menstrual products and support can lead to lost educational opportunity. One in five female American students have reportedly struggled with attending school entirely as a result of a lack of access to menstrual products. A present tax on such products in every city in Louisiana - with the exception of New Orleans - paired with approximately 28.4% of Louisiana children and 21.7% of Louisiana women living in poverty further aggravates the issue. In 2015, there were approximately twenty-six million girls living in the United States between the ages of five and seventeen, and about 41% of this demographic lived in low-income families, with another 19% living in poverty. This financial disadvantage lent and continues to lend to an inability to purchase disposable menstrual products for many of those living below the poverty line. Aside from issues regarding attendance and education, students are often forced into using disposable menstrual products for long stretches of time, which increases the risk of cervical cancer, toxic shock syndrome, and several other health issues.

SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

This bill will be enacted on August 1, 2022. This provides public schools with ample time to purchase dispensers for menstrual products and to install them for student access across campuses.

SECTION III: FUNDING

The Louisiana government will supply public schools with the necessary funds to purchase the menstrual products and dispensers. The cost per public school per year to provide these resources for students is roughly \$77,000. This is assuming the average woman spends \$120 on menstrual products per year. The government will obtain this funding through a 15% increase to the tax on distilled spirits. As of January 2020, Louisiana residents pay \$3.03 per gallon in taxes on distilled spirits, the forty-second lowest rate out of the 50 states in the U.S. This 15% increase would make the cost per gallon in taxes on distilled spirits \$3.48 per gallon. This is below the national average tax on distilled spirits per gallon, which is about \$5.98.

SECTION IV: PENALTIES

If Louisiana public schools misuse this government-issued funding in the interest of the school as an organization, the school board will be charged with misappropriation of funds and will be subsequently issued a fine of an amount double the sum of money misused.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 15**

3 Jamarion Johnson

Woodlawn High School

4
5 **TITLE:** The Solution to the Common Problem of Afterschool Transportation

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 It's understood that one of the reasons why most kids don't participate in Afterschool Extracurricular/
8 Clubs Programs is because many don't have a ride home from these events. When these kids aren't given
9 the resources to attend these events, this strips them of the chance to obtain skills needed to function as
10 a successful adult. This Bill would aim to equip them with those very resources. The audience that this
11 would cater to is Children whose parents have erratic schedules, kids who are aren't able to drive or do
12 not own their own transportation, and kids who do not live near or around the school. This bill would also
13 aim to increase the letter grade of the school by increasing the number of students so that clubs and
14 sports can qualify for more events, In turn increasing the popularity of the school with the letter grade
15 with it.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 This Bill shall be implemented on the first day of the start of the collective school extracurricular/ club
18 program, whatever day that may be, and shall continue until the last day of the school's extracurricular
19 activities, serving as a continual process every year. The Implementation of this bill will create many new
20 jobs and give current workers a chance to make overtime.

21 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

22 The funding from this bill will be a dual - funded bill with 50% of funding coming from The Louisiana
23 Department of

24 Education Transportation Budget and the remaining 50% would come from grants allocated from the
25 Louisiana state government to enact statewide, fund school buses, and pay transportation driver's
26 salaries.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 There are no Penalties needed for this Bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 16**

3 Isabella Knighten University Laboratory School

4 Ella King

5 **TITLE:** Incentivize Businesses To Give Paid Leave To All New Parents

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 As indicated by the Family Medical Leave Act, mothers can take as long as twelve weeks of unpaid leave
8 following the introduction of a child. Paid leave is up to the discretion of the employer, but this bill would
9 offer a tax credit to businesses who give paid leave to new parents by providing a tax credit equal to the
10 amount paid to the employee at the time of the leave to incentivize businesses providing paid leave to
11 their employees.

12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 This bill would influence parents who file for maternity leave after January 1, 2021. It will help to close
14 the gender wage gap, and would likewise secure single mothers who are financially incapable to take
15 maternity leave. Since independent companies make up fifty-two percent of Louisiana's private workforce,
16 this bill is an optional credit that is available to businesses.

17 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

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

23 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

24 No penalties are necessary.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 17**

3 Glynnes Hill Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

4 Isabella Civello

5 **TITLE: Mandatory Preschool**

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Mandatory preschool will be enforced for all children. Preschool helps to prepare children for future
8 education, such as kindergarten and grade school. This bill affects preschool-age children as well as their
9 parents. There will be more jobs created for preschool teacher positions. This bill will also benefit parents
10 who both work; their child can be at school and getting an education while they are at work.

11
12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 All school districts will be required to have a preschool program available to all residents of that district.
14 For districts that do not currently have a preschool program, funding will be provided to pay teachers.
15 New jobs will be created for teaching positions in the programs if needed.

16 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

17 Many public schools offer free or low-cost preschool programs, but not all school districts offer this. For
18 these districts, a 2% tax increase will be placed on cigarettes to collect the money needed to make public
19 preschool available.

20 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

21 There will be no penalties for this bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 18**

3 Macy Vincent University Labortary School

4 Jaiya Mashariki

5 **TITLE:** Stop Human Sex Traciffking

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Jaiya and I wanted to stop human sex trafficking because there are a lot of people put nto this terrible
8 situation against their will. People are being raped and sexually abused, assaulted, and harassed. The
9 amount of people in sex trafficking is unbelievable. Men, children and women are used as sex workers
10 through people kidnapping them.

11
12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 f the human sex trafficking bill were to be passed and someone is being accused of human sex trafficking
14 then there must be evidence before the suspect is arrested. If evidence is found that the suspect is guilty
15 of being involved with human sex trafficking then he/she must be arrested for the number of years that
16 they were involved with this crime.

17
18
19 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

20 This bill will be funded by the sex offender’s bank account. They will pay for Lawyers, court staff, and
21 prison. The sex offender should owe the person or people they had sexually used seventy-five dollars a
22 year.

23
24 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

25 If a person is involved with human sex trafficking for fifteen years or more, then they should be sentenced
26 to life in jail. If a person is in human sex traifficking for 15 years or less, then they spend the number of
27 years in jail they are in human sex traifficking. For example if a person is in human sex traifficking for
28 thirteen years, then they will be in jail for thirteen yearsor if a person is in human sex traifficking for
29 seven years, then they will be in jail for seven years.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 19**

3 Lauren Lacy Dutchtown High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Better Funding for Louisiana Sidewalks

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In recent years many studies have shown that Louisiana has been ranked 5th highest in pedestrian deaths
8 with an average of 2.26 fatalities per 100,000 people and an average of 2 people killed by cars per day.
9 That may not sound like a lot but the numbers add up very quickly. According to LA Rev. Stat. I 32:216,
10 people must use the sidewalk when they're available. It is illegal to walk along the road if/ when there is
11 sidewalk adjacent. At the moment with the lack of sidewalks throughout Louisiana, following that law is
12 virtually impossible. More recent data shows that there were 164 pedestrian fatalities (which is about
13 21.4% of all fatalities in 2018). Sidewalks would be a good investment for many reasons. This bill is
14 ultimately trying to set aside existing funding for construction of sidewalks in various areas that are
15 moderately populated while also promoting funding for better sidewalks and sidewalk maintenance.
16

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 This bill will be implementing sidewalks in moderately populated areas and in low funded areas while
19 getting the various construction teams to build the sidewalks where it is observed that they are needed
20 most.
21

22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23
24 The Federal Government that has sent Louisiana \$76.2 million in Transportation Funds. The Federal
25 Government redistributes federal funding from budgeted funds that were not used by other states or
26 national programs to those states that successfully obligated their full federal highway funding allotment
27 during the fiscal year. (October 1 through September 30). Funding for sidewalks is currently about 3%
28 which is \$1.5 million Instead of using all of the funds the bill would set aside \$20 million, and if there is
29 an excess it will be returned.
30

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 There will be no penalties for this bill, as it is only meant to increase existing funding for sidewalks.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 20**

3 Emma Sonnier

Mandeville High School

4 Matthew Truehart

5 **TITLE:** Implement a data tax and fund a Social Media Use Curriculum (SMUC).

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Each day, large technology corporations like Google and Facebook extract unthinkable amounts of data
9 from our online activities. They use this data to build a model of everything about you - and they will
10 exploit this model for monetary gain for the rest of your life. They do this by selling large batches of data
11 to advertisers, who seemingly stalk you at every opportunity with intimate, personal sales pitches. Tech
12 companies may also be hacked, exposing all of our personal information to hackers to be used for
13 whatever purpose they deem appropriate. Furthermore, these companies use this data to deliver
14 personalized content, which can make them extremely addictive - especially to teens. Teenagers spend an
15 average of 7 hours each day on their phones, particularly social media - and over half of them say they
16 are "addicted". Teens may also expose extremely personal information or images online - and these will
17 stay online forever. Studies also show that Social media is increasing teen anxiety and lowering self
18 esteem. Teens have no idea of the hidden dangers they face online - it's time to fix this. Our state will
19 institute a data tax - a 2.5% tax on each piece of data a company buys, sells, or transfers online. For
20 example, if Google sells targeted ads to an advertiser, the data used to target these ads would be taxed
21 at 2.5% of its value. This incentivizes companies to collect less information, and to move away from
22 harmful, advertising-based models. Companies will also be required to disclose the information they
23 collect on their website on a "disclosure of data collection" webpage. The revenue from this data tax shall
24 be used to create and implement a Social Media Use Program (SMUC) to be taught in school in the seventh
25 grade, or to be taken for free online at a different point if an individual chooses to.

26
27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 This bill only applies to companies with a yearly gross income of over \$250,000 from internet-based
29 activities within Louisiana. A data committee shall be set up by the state House of Representatives,
30 composed of data professionals, to determine the fair market rate for each type of data. Companies will
31 be taxed at a 2.5% rate if they choose to buy, sell, or transfer the data. Finally, if a website collects
32 personal information (as defined by the data committee), they will be required to display a banner stating
33 "Warning : this website/app collects your information. Learn More". Clicking on "learn more" must bring
34 the user to the Disclosure of Data Collection page. The Louisiana Department of Education will be tasked
35 with creating a Social Media education curriculum to be taught in the 7th grade by English teachers, for a
36 period of 5 consecutive school days. This program should teach students about the dangers of social
37 media, including loss of private information, illegal activities, cyber-bullying, and time management and
38 mental health challenges. The curriculum should be revised every 2 years to keep up with the rapidly-
39 changing online environment.

40 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

1 No funding is necessary for this bill. All revenue from the Data Tax will be used to finance the data
2 committee and the creation and revision of the SMUC. Then, the remaining funds will be given
3 proportionally to school districts, by the Louisiana Department of Education, as a block grant with the
4 condition-of-aid being that they implement the SMUC.

5 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

6 If a company deriving over \$250,000 yearly gross income from online activities within Louisiana does not
7 pay the required data tax, they shall be held accountable by the Louisiana Department of Revenue. If a
8 school district is found to be in violation of the condition-of-aid, they shall have the block grant revoked.

LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020



HOUSE BILL 21

Mark Ellis Dutchtown High School

Mark Ellis

TITLE: Ban on chokehold

SECTION I: BACKGROUND

The chokehold is a tight grip around a person's neck, used to restrain them by restricting their breathing. This action is an unnecessary action taken by officers that at times can be avoided, which can save lives. On May 25, Minneapolis police officers arrested George Floyd, a 46-year-old black man, after a convenience store employee called 911 and told the police that Mr. Floyd had bought cigarettes with a counterfeit \$20 bill. Without resisting arrest, George was later on the ground being put in a chokehold for 8 minutes and 48 seconds causing major controversy over police brutality. In Louisiana Armando Frank passed away after being placed in a chokehold by an officer. After Frank was confused as to why he was getting arrested, he wasn't attempting to flee, he wasn't assaulting anybody, he was sitting on a tractor and asking reasonable questions they are refusing to answer. The officers then climbed atop of the tractor behind Frank and placed him in a chokehold, constricting his airway, while another cop simultaneously tried pulling Frank down. After a brief struggle, Frank went limp and cops drag his lifeless body back to their patrol car. These instances are examples of excessive force that could have been circumvented, social unrest that could have been prevented, and lives that could have been saved. Taking this power away from officers will hold them accountable to righteously serve justice and restore the image of security and protection to all when encountering officers. This is a big step in developing a pure form of policing within Louisiana. This regulation will ban officers from doing chokeholds on individuals unless they are in genuine danger. Even then this will be the last resort.

SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

This law will be implemented as soon as it is passed. This isn't something requiring money or time so its implementation will be done speedily.

SECTION III: FUNDING

This ban is totally free requiring no monetary expense.

SECTION IV: PENALTIES

Non-Complying Officers will face time for assault or, if the victim dies, they will face time for murder.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 22**

3 Taylor Sacco Dutchtown High School

4
5 **TITLE: A Rise in Income Tax Rates for the Wealthy**

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In 2018, a study by The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy found that in Louisiana is ranked in
8 14th place as the most unfair state and local tax systems. Louisiana families with income in the lowest
9 20% (Less than 17,100\$) are taxed 11.9% of their taxable income. The second 20% (17,100\$-32,500\$) is
10 taxed 10.7% of their taxable income, the middle 20% (32,500-50,300\$) is taxed about 10%, the fourth
11 20% (50,300-91,500) is taxed 9.3%, the next 15% (91,500-187,200) is taxed 8.0%, the next 4%
12 (187,200-473,000) is taxed 7.2%, and the top 1% (473,000) is taxed about 6.2%. This tax system
13 benefits the wealthy while it results in greater poverty in impoverished areas. In order to combat this, this
14 bill proposes a rise in income tax that will tax any family or individual that makes more than \$400,000
15 annually from 3.1% to 6.0%. This would not only bring in more government revenue, but would have
16 wealthy citizens paying fair rates compared to how much low income families make. This increase has
17 shown to be effective in Maryland, which raised their income tax to 6.7% on people who make over
18 300,000 a year, and Minnesota who raised their income tax to 7.6%. Colorado also passed an income tax
19 rise for people making over \$400,000 yearly in the 2020 election to better fund education.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 This bill would go into effect in the 2022 fiscal tax year.

22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23 This bill would require no government funds, but instead would result in more funding that will be diverted
24 to improve public education throughout all of Louisiana, especially in areas such as East Baton Rouge
25 Parish and Orleans Parish, where some of the lowest ranked schools in the country are located. This
26 allows for students that live in low income areas to gain better educations, and encourage students to
27 pursue higher educations and take themselves out of their prior income grouping.

28 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

29 This tax bill would follow the same consequences as tax evasion in Louisiana, with a felony charge and a
30 fine up to 1,000,000\$ if found guilty.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 23**

3 Anna-Grace Christmas

Mandeville High School

4 Collin Betzer

5 **TITLE:** Restore oil sites to their natural state.

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana wetlands are shrinking by 75 kilometers each year. Predictions show that by the year 2040 the
8 wetlands will have lost more than one million acres of coastal wetlands, an area larger than the state of
9 Rhode Island. The wetlands are a vital part of Louisiana’s economy and wildlife. According to lacoast.gov,
10 nearly 50,000 Louisiana jobs are tied directly to the wetlands which include residential and commercial
11 Fisheries. The marshes and wetlands have become such an important part of Louisiana and the people
12 that reside here, that there should be programs put in place to help save the wetlands and preserve
13 Louisiana's wildlife. One main reason for the decline of the Louisiana marshes and wetlands is the fossil
14 fuel industries in the surrounding areas. The oil and gas companies have built thousands of miles of canals
15 that have been dredged through bayou waters to support oil and industry barges and pipelines. In order
16 to prevent the destruction of Louisiana’s coastline, there needs to be restrictions and limitations on
17 coastal pipelines.

18
19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 The program we wish to establish will help restore our wetlands from coastal erosion. This bill aims to
21 stop the construction of more pipelines and the fixing of sites that have hurt the wetlands. We want to
22 implement the prevention of laying more pipelines until oil companies have restored previous sites to their
23 natural state. We also are ensuring that they restore old pipelines back to safety standards along with the
24 restoration of these sites. This bill will make oil companies responsible for the restoration of sites.

25
26
27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 Oil companies are responsible for restoring all previous sites prior to any new sites being considered. The
29 money for repairing these sites will fall on the companies. This ensures that the State will not have to pay
30 for the restoration.

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 The penalty for oil companies not following the new law will be to fine the companies one million dollars
33 every day a new unapproved pipeline is found.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 24**

3 Ethan Bunney

Lafayette High School

4 Isaac Kim

5 **TITLE:** TOPS Study Abroad expansion

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana's college students heavily rely on scholarships offered by the TOPS program to gain the funds
8 necessary to be able to pay for college. While this program does benefit students to a massive extent, the
9 potential it brings to Louisiana is quite restricted by Louisiana's lack of educational quality. The diversity
10 of the Louisiana economy, as well as its stability and the quality of individual services, could be greatly
11 expanded if the state were to send students to study abroad, for them to gain quality skills from the
12 institutions of other states or countries, and bring those educated students back to Louisiana. Such is the
13 example of the Republic of Korea, who used a guest worker program sponsored by the Federal Republic of
14 Germany in the 1960s to help bring skills to its own economy. Such can be the case with Louisiana, as the
15 state could rewire certain TOPS fees to send students outside of the state, to bring back valuable
16 knowledge and skills to diversify and improve the Louisiana economy.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 This program will be an extension of the TOPS program. Any student who receives a 27 or higher on their
19 ACT and holds at least 3.5 GPA throughout their entire highschool career shall be eligible to apply for the
20 TOPS study abroad program. This program will cover the same expenses that the current TOPS program
21 does, except that it takes place in another state or country. For a person to study abroad, they must be
22 proficient in the language they wish to study in.

23 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

24 Funding for this program shall be through the pre-existing TOPS program as this is an expansion to the
25 aforementioned program. Taxes on Liquor will be raised to 6 percent to help fund the expansion.

26 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

27 If a person decides to leave the state of Louisiana to seek employment elsewhere before the mandatory
28 four years are up, they shall pay back an amount equal to the cost of their courses that took place in the
29 TOPS study abroad program. Likewise if the student does not maintain a GPA of 3.0 throughout their time
30 spent abroad then their funding shall be revoked.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 25**

3 Ben Mathews Episcopal School of Acadiana

4
5 **TITLE:** The Good Old Days: Adopting the Guillotine as the Primary form of Capital Punishment

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Capital punishment was put into place as an option to deal with the most heinous of criminals. While a
9 debate continues to rage on today about the ethicality and irreversible nature of the death penalty,
10 reforming how capital punishment is performed may be the first step in change the institution as a whole.
11 The most popular forms of execution in the United States and Louisiana are hangings, electrocution, and
12 lethal injections, which are the most commonly-used form of capital punishment. The process of a lethal
13 injection involves a period of mental preparation for the condemned, including spiritual counseling and
14 visitation from friends and family. In the process, the convicted criminal is strapped to a gurney and has
15 various intravenous tubing strapped to his or her body, all administering different drugs. In most cases
16 there is an anesthetic and a subsequent paralyzing agent, which is then followed by a toxic agent.
17 Contemporary sociologists and ethicists herald this form of punishment as supposedly “fairly humane.”
18 However, there is always the possibility that the anesthetic is administered improperly and the condemned
19 prisoner’s lungs are paralyzed while the patient is still awake. On average, 7.1% of lethal injection
20 executions are not administered properly to prisoners, leading to immense pain caused by toxin-induced
21 stimuli that can last up to 30 minutes or even an hour before death. This number, when tabulated to
22 include executions in the past century, results in hundreds of prisoners across the United States and
23 dozens just within Louisiana. For a method deemed so “humane,” lethal injections are remarkably
24 antiquated and lack the proper precision needed to carry out capital punishment. To fix this problem, one
25 must turn to the French Revolution. Ever since its conception during the French Revolution, the guillotine
26 has proved to be a staple in capital punishment, especially in the Francophone world (until many of these
27 countries gained enough popular support against capital punishment). During the French Revolution, many
28 enemies of the state were subject to having someone hoist a heavy blade above their neck using an
29 apparatus to let it drop. This became known as the guillotine. Therefore, guillotines provide a cost-
30 effective solution to the death penalty, a policy that has yet to be abolished within the state of Louisiana
31 and does not currently have the favorable public and legislative support to be enacted. Each year, the
32 state of Louisiana spends an extra \$15 million on maintaining the capital punishment program, most of
33 which covers the cost of lethal injections. Why must the state of Louisiana continue to maintain this
34 infrastructure when it is not being used? Louisiana has not executed an inmate since 2010. By
35 implementing guillotine use, the state of Louisiana can save hundreds of thousands of dollars paid to
36 acquire standby toxin fluids, anesthetics, aestheticians, and proper syringe equipment, opting to instead
37 replace them with a mechanism that works with just a handful of simple Newtonian mechanics, a
38 mechanism that can last decades to come regardless of how frequently it is used.

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SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

Firstly, the Guillotine Supreme will be constructed, possibly improving on the design used during the French Revolution. A legislative committee will consult any modifications necessary to update the guillotine from its original 1793 design. Secondly, executioners will be trained to use the guillotine as opposed to lethal injection. Then, the Guillotine Supreme will be moved into death row facilities. Finally, there will be inspectors to ensure that there are no errors in the designs of the apparatuses. In total, one well-maintained guillotine will suffice for the entire state’s capital punishment needs. All lethal injection logistics will be phased out within three months of this bill’s passing.

SECTION III: FUNDING

There will be designated projects designed toward constructing one Guillotine Supreme (\$1,200 total cost). This negligible additional cost will be covered by the state corrections budget. The cost of inspectors and maintenance is already covered under Louisiana’s General Corrections Budget.

SECTION IV: PENALTIES

The operation of the current capital punishment system is controlled by the state and its mandate on the prison system. Thus, there shall be no internal penalties encumbered on the state itself.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 26**

3 Anna Skerrett

Lafayette High School

4
5 **TITLE:** End Workplace Discrimination Against Those Who Have Had An Abortion

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 No one should be discriminated against for having an abortion. Federal law already protects physicians
8 and health care providers who have performed or support abortions from discrimination. This bill protects
9 the people who have had an abortion, are considering abortion, or support the choice to have an abortion
10 from being discriminated against in both the hiring process and all areas of the workplace.

11 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

12 The bill will be enacted January 1st, 2021. This bill will make any discrimination against a co-worker,
13 employee, or applicant based on them having an abortion, considering abortion, or supporting the choice
14 to have an abortion unlawful.

15 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

16 No funding is required.

17 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

18 Any worker using an abortion, the consideration of abortion, or supporting the choice to have an abortion
19 as a reason to discriminate against a co-worker, employee, or applicant will be fined 6,500 dollars. If they
20 are employed by the state or a parish, their employment will be terminated in addition to the fine.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 27**

3 Paul Yeon Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

4
5 **TITLE:** Predictability, modernity, sensibility

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The Louisiana tax system is a mess, both for private individuals and for corporations. Private individuals
9 and corporations are subject to an unusual amount of punitive taxes that change with their decisions in
10 employment. Given the current fluctuating state of employment in Louisiana, this becomes very
11 problematic. In addition, a complex web of deductions and credits make business growth very difficult as
12 well, because it makes the market unpredictable to navigate and necessitates a lot of red tape in the
13 implementation of corporate changes. And because deductions and credits decrease revenue, the
14 government often has to increase tax rates to amounts that are unreasonably high, ranking third in the
15 nation. Such high taxes are extremely unattractive to both individuals and corporations.

16
17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 Starting from midnight, August 1, 2021, a large, pre-selected list (chosen by trained economists from the
19 Department of Labor) of tax deductions and credits for corporations and individuals are to be rendered
20 defunct. This includes corporations of all types, sizes, and sectors of the economy. Removed deductions
21 and credits should constitute at least 60 percent of the previously exempted revenues. At the same time,
22 income and sales tax rates are to be lowered tremendously in order to counteract the increases caused by
23 removing deductions and credits, optimized and calculated beforehand to result in as little change in
24 yearly revenue as possible. By thus removing deductions but lowering general taxes, this will make the
25 market much more predictable for corporations, and make Louisiana more attractive for people,
26 investment, and market competition. Additionally, punitive employment taxes are to all be temporarily
27 removed until a selected board of economists can state that the economy is no longer in a state of
28 dangerous flux.

29
30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 No additional funding is required for this bill, as it is only a change in policy. The specific calculations and
32 economists will come from the US Department of Labor, which employs economists already, paid in wages
33 by the federal government.

34
35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 No new penalties are required for this bill. Any transgressions and subversions of this system by
37 corporations and individuals should be treated the same as before.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 28**

3 Paresh Kolluru

Lafayette High School

4 Roma Kolluru

5 **TITLE:** Remove all mandates that require a mesh or clear backpack for use in a public educational
6 institution.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Many schools around the state currently require mesh or clear backpacks. The purpose? To reduce the
9 chance of a firearm, or other illegal objects or substances, from being brought on campus. However, these
10 mesh backpacks represent an empty promise to the American people. During these difficult times, parents
11 are having to go out of their way to purchase bags that their children can only use specifically for school,
12 as mesh backpacks are deemed inefficient in almost every other situation. Mesh or clear backpacks
13 perpetuate the fear of violence in school, leading to a more apprehensive generation of educated youth. A
14 firearm is just as easily hidden in a mesh or clear bag, or a solid duffel bag. Also, mesh backpacks cause
15 tremendous difficulties to students, as the rainy climate in Louisiana does not, ironically, mesh well with
16 mesh backpacks. Their inability to cause any real shift in the occurrence of violence within schools and
17 their incompatibility with the southern climate renders them utterly impractical.

18
19 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

20 This bill asks for a removal of any mandate on the use of a clear or mesh backpack for school. This
21 legislation will be enacted at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year. The Louisiana Department of
22 Education will work together with all school districts to implement this order. Furthermore, all laws or
23 parts of laws in conflict are hereby repealed.

24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 No funding is required.

26
27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 Failure to comply with this legislation will result in a severe reduction in funds for elective (or non-core)
29 classes. Repeated failure to comply will be followed with a mandate disallowing any extracurricular
30 activities at that school.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 29**

3 Ali Munshi Episcopal School of Acadiana

4
5 **TITLE:** To Further Incentivize the Use of Clean Energy Transportation

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Over the last few years, there has amassed a substantial amount of scientific evidence regarding the
8 unprecedented harm posed by global climate change. If not curtailed, this rapidly intensifying process will
9 likely lead to a substantial spike in global air temperatures, a consistent rise in global sea levels, and a
10 widespread shift in weather patterns. Droughts, heat waves, and tropical storms will become more
11 frequent and destructive. Global humidity and rainfall levels will increase dramatically, and coastal erosion
12 and wetland subsidence will only accelerate further. Particularly in Louisiana – where the average coastal
13 erosion rate over the past few decades has been nearly one-football-field-sized area of land lost every
14 thirty minutes – the rapidly changing climate will additionally have major implications on the state’s
15 economy and industry, and will likely result in reduced crop yields and fishery production. The
16 ramifications of global climate change aside, a major factor in its acceleration has without a doubt been
17 the emission of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases by gasoline-powered transportation. To
18 prevent this emission from further contributing to the progression of global climate change, this bill
19 proposes a mandate on government-funded electric-charging stations built in areas of high traffic in
20 Louisiana’s major cities, as well as a minor tax on gasoline. On average, a typical gasoline-powered car
21 will emit nearly 5 tons of carbon dioxide annually, compared to the mere 2.4 tons emitted during
22 electricity production for electric vehicles – less than half of that produced by gasoline-powered cars.
23 There are also economic benefits to using electric vehicles over gas-powered ones: the average electric
24 car driver will spend just \$3 on electricity every 100 miles, compared to the whopping \$11 spent on
25 gasoline by the average gas car driver over the same distance. Clearly, the transition to electric cars not
26 only offers great environmental benefits but also has an economic upside.

27
28 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

29 The number of charging stations in each parish will primarily be determined by population. Parishes with a
30 population of at least 100,000 will be guaranteed at least one charging station, while all others will
31 decide for themselves. The location of each station will be determined by a council of selected citizens
32 from each parish and passed by a 3/4 vote before being submitted to the Louisiana Department of
33 Environmental Quality by January 1, 2020 for assessment and planning. This department, along with the
34 Army Corps of Engineers, will oversee construction and management. In the event that a parish council
35 has not submitted a list of locations by the specified deadline, the department will choose a set of
36 locations based on traffic and population data. Additionally, all parish councils will need to provide a
37 monthly data report and would be required to submit to a yearly inspection by a department-instated
38 inspection team to ensure the proper management and care of their stations, provided by the Louisiana
39 Department of Transportation and Development.

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SECTION III: FUNDING

To fund construction, this bill will require an increase in the state gas tax by \$0.0025 from \$0.20, which will equate to roughly six million dollars in increased revenue. That excess money will go to fund the construction and powering of new charging stations. Each station will have 4 Level 2 and 3 EV charging ports that cost anywhere from \$8,000 to \$12,000 to install and maintain, translating to a cost range of about \$32,000 to \$48,000 for each station, adjusted with inflation. This will allow for the construction of about 125 charging stations, which will leave roughly a million dollars in the budget that can go towards maintenance and supply costs. For the first three months, the station prices will be roughly 5% greater than the price of the electricity being used, so as to allow for better initial management and expansion.

SECTION IV: PENALTIES

Participation in this program is not mandatory, and therefore entails no punishments or fines if a parish decides not to participate.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 30**

3 Caroline Campbell St. Joseph's Academy

4 Avery Watson

5 **TITLE:** Instituting a Background Check on All Firearm Sales

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill would extend background checks to private sales between individuals, including sales at gun
8 shows. Under current law, Louisiana does not require background checks on firearm sales beyond what
9 federal laws demand. Under federal law, those who purchase firearms from a licensed gun dealer must
10 have a background check before the sale. Initial background checks are not required by private sellers.
11 Nearly 40 percent of all states and the District of Columbia require background checks for some or all
12 private firearm sales. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Louisiana ranks
13 5th in the nation's gun related deaths. This number is too high, and needs to come down, so insuring a
14 background check on all sales would keep guns out of harmful people.

15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 Before any person who is not a licensed gun dealer transfers their firearm to another person, he or she
17 shall:

- 18 1. Require a background check be conducted on the buyer
- 19 2. Obtain approval of the transfer from the state after the background check.

20
21 The background check will be performed by the NCIS. The background check must be done at the location
22 of a licensed gun dealer. The seller and the buyer must perform the sale at the gun dealer's location. The
23 gun dealer will HAVE to submit the information for the background check. If the state approves the
24 transfer, then the approval is valid for thirty days. The seller and buyer must complete the transfer during
25 this time.

26
27
28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 The licensed gun dealer may charge a fee for the services included during the background check. The
30 background check shall not cost more than \$25. This fee cannot be more than \$15.

31 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

32 Any person who is found in violation of this law therefore commits a misdemeanor and shall be punished
33 with a fine of no more than \$500 or 6 months in jail. The person will also be prohibited from possessing a
34 firearm for two years beginning the day they committed the crime.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 31**

3 Madeline Cannon St. Joseph's Acaademy

4 Erin Sullivan

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

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Mental disorders affect 1 in 4 people or about 82 million in the U.S., and nearly 2/3 of people with a
8 known mental disorder never seek help from a professional. T Louisiana has the 6th highest crime rate in
9 the nation. . The mental health facilities established by this bill would provide easier access for those who
10 cannot afford to travel far for mental health treatment. If treatment is offered for common mental
11 illnesses, then people will be less likely to commit crimes, thus lowering the crime rate. Louisiana's
12 imprisonment rate is the highest in the country at 942 out of every 100,000, and our bill would lower this
13 number. Suicide is the third leading cause of death in young people aged 10 to 24. Common mental
14 disorders are twice as frequent among the poor as among the rich because poverty increases risk of
15 mental illness and mental illness increasing chances of going into poverty. Only 2% of nation health
16 budgets is dedicated to mental health which is not nearly enough. If this bill is implemented, the crime rate
17 will decrease, and receiving mental health help will be normalized.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 This bill will add more behavioral health clinics in low-income areas to help those in need. Our bill plans to
20 build 30 new clinics in low income areas around Louisiana because low income areas are statistically more
21 likely to be affected by crime than high income Those areas include people who earn less than an average
22 of \$46,000 for a four people family a year. A behavioral health clinic is like urgent care but for mental
23 health. The clinics will offer services such as screening and assessment, emergency crisis care, evaluation
24 and treatment, medication management, specialized services for children and teenagers, and specialized
25 criminal justice services. The clinics will offer 18.6% of Louisiana citizens, 8% higher than the national
26 average of 10.5%, live in poverty, and ¼ of children in Louisiana are living in poverty. This bill will build 1
27 Mental health facilities for every 150,000 people.. Each facility would be staffed with 2 Administrators, 2
28 Physicians, and 3 support staff. Total operating cost for each facility would be 1 million dollars annually.

29 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

30 This will cost about \$250,000 per facility, for a total startup cost of \$7.5 million The money needed for
31 this will come from a HHS grant. We will need about 32 million dollars. This will provide the specific
32 funding for the community to provide mental health facilities for the residents.

33 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

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

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 32**

3 Moria Gauthier St. Joseph's Academy

4 Aubrey Deyo

5 **TITLE:** Enforcing mandatory "safe spaces" for students at public universities and colleges in Louisiana

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 "Safe spaces" on college campuses, are classrooms that are designed as academic safe spaces, which
8 means that students are encouraged to engage in discussions about topics that are generally
9 uncomfortable. Another form of a "safe space" is a group on campus that provides respect and emotional
10 security for at-risk students. Some public universities and colleges already have a form of a "safe space"
11 for their students – however these spaces fail to address topics such as mental health and stability, racial
12 tolerance, sexual assault, and abuse. More than 60% of American youth, ages 17 and younger have been
13 exposed to crime, violence, and abuse – either directly or indirectly, which leads to one in five teens ages
14 12 through 18 to have at least one mental disorder. These disorders can cause extreme impact on a
15 person's daily life, physical health and academic performance. The purpose of this bill is to enforce the
16 creation of "safe spaces" for students attending public universities and colleges in the state of Louisiana.
17 Safe spaces often encourage students to band together when it comes to topics that they or someone
18 they know have experienced, such as sexual assault, abuse, mental disorders, and eating disorders. If
19 students talk about topics that are normally seen as taboo, it could lower the rates of suicide and the
20 rates of attempted suicide. The suicide rate in Louisiana is 15.26% per every 100,000 people – which is
21 above the national rate of 13.16% per every 100,000 people. With the creation of safe spaces on college
22 and university campuses, students will be encouraged to talk about their feelings and potentially end any
23 thoughts about committing suicide. If this is implemented, the rate of suicide and suicide attempts will
24 decrease, and the discussion of abuse and mental health will be normalized.

25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 The current number of public colleges and universities that have "safe spaces" on their campuses is
27 extremely low and because of this the number of students addressing their struggles with mental health
28 and thoughts of suicide is low. However, some public universities do have "safe spaces", such as Louisiana
29 State University (LSU) and Southeastern Louisiana University (SLU); and while some is better than none,
30 more public colleges/universities need environments where their students can address serious and "taboo"
31 topics. This bill would enforce the creation of a "safe space" per every 10,000 students enrolled at a
32 public college and/or university. This would cost about \$13,000 per facility, for a total startup cost of
33 \$208,000. Each "safe space" would be staffed with 6 Administrators, 4 Physicians, 5 Psychologists, 6
34 Therapists, and 9 support staff – including receptionists, nurses, janitors, and assistants to the therapists
35 and psychologists. Total operating cost for each "safe space" would be \$430,000 annually. The operating
36 cost would cover maintaining the facilities, paying the staff, and paying for any needed equipment.

37 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

38 The funding for this bill will come from a tax on liquor of \$0.80 a liter. This will raise 30 million dollars a
39 year. This is based on the increase in 2016 that raised 210 dollars a year based on a \$0.06 increase. The
40 increase of liquor tax to \$2.50 a gallon is well below the national average of \$13.50 a gallon. This will

1 provide the proper funding for public universities and colleges to create at least one "safe space" for its
2 students.

3 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

4 The penalty for a public university/college not creating at least one safe space on their campus will be a
5 loss of funding in their athletic courses and programs. The funding towards these athletic courses and
6 programs will return when the creation of at least one "safe space" occurs on the campus of said
7 university and/or college or when there is a plan for there to be a "safe space" on the campus.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 33**

3 Havilland Forbes

St. Joseph's Academy

4
5 **TITLE:** An End to State Sanctioned Child Abuse

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana Revised Statute Title 17 Section 416.1 defines corporal punishment as “using physical force to
8 discipline a student, with or without an object.” Furthermore, corporal punishment includes “hitting,
9 paddling, striking, spanking, slapping, or any other physical force that causes pain or physical discomfort.”
10 Each district has the authority to enforce corporal punishment and must implement rules and regulations
11 where physical force is deemed necessary. In 2017, the Louisiana School Board Association reported that
12 38 out of 69 school districts allowed corporal punishment. Corporal punishment especially puts minority
13 students at risk. Black children are 28% more likely to receive corporal punishment in school than white
14 children. Furthermore, male students are 5 times more likely to be subjected to corporal punishment than
15 female students. 1,633 public school students in Louisiana received corporal punishment since 2011.
16 Physically punishing children in school has never produced beneficial results such as improvement of self-
17 control in the classroom, behavior skills, and respect for teachers. In fact, corporal punishment in schools
18 contribute to disruptive and violent student behavior. Children become victims in the classroom, and it
19 creates an inadequate sense of confidence and security. Frequent use of corporal punishment in school
20 increases the risk of substance abuse, depression, stress, and anxiety. This type of “discipline” creates an
21 unsafe and violent school environment. Children who experience corporal punishment in school are more
22 likely to use violence toward others to get their way, which puts other children at risk for increased
23 bullying and physical abuse. Corporal punishment in schools further continues a cycle of similar
24 punishment that a child may have already experienced in the home, leading to increased aggressiveness in
25 the child. Resorting to corporal punishment in school results is the opposite of the objective.
26

27 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

28 This bill will ban the use of corporal punishment in all public and charter schools. If passed, this bill will
29 immediately go into effect.

30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 There is no funding necessary for this bill.

32 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

33 Teachers who are found punishing their students with corporal punishment will permanently lose their
34 teaching license in the state of Louisiana. The legal guardian(s) of the child who experienced corporal
35 punishment will have the opportunity to press charges against the teacher and the school.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 34**

3 Susanne Robinson St. Joseph's Academy

4 Anna Cooper

5 **TITLE:** Instituting Mandatory Examination Before Enrollment into Kindergarten

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana is currently ranked 49th in the nation for its average IQ score. Being more selective of the
8 knowledge needed to enroll in and attend kindergarten will ensure greater early learning skills of those in
9 kindergarten, greater potential for growth throughout their years of schooling, and a higher IQ as a result
10 of greater knowledge developed before kindergarten. Children who started kindergarten at an older age
11 with more knowledge acquired before entering school were 2.1 percent more likely to attend college and
12 3.3 percent more likely to graduate from college.

13 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

14 For a child at least five years of age to be able to attend kindergarten, he or she shall take a mandatory
15 entrance examination consisting of basic, early-learning knowledge acquired from one to two years of
16 preschool, attendance at an early learning center, or parents or guardians at home. The entrance
17 examinations will be held at the elementary schools and will be proctored by kindergarten teachers at
18 their respective schools. The exam will consist of various questions ranging from the alphabet to colors
19 and numbers to test the basic understanding of rudimentary information and concepts of each child. The
20 exam must be created and approved by the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
21 (BESE).

22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23 Parents of each child planning on attending a state-funded kindergarten shall pay a fee of fifty dollars to
24 go towards the creation of the test and to allow for the additional costs of the test: teachers' salary,
25 exam materials, and location costs.

26 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

27 Once the register date to take the exam is passed, no child will be able to take the exam until the next
28 date is made. Furthermore, if said child's parents fail to pay the necessary fees, the child will not be
29 allowed to take the exam and will have to reschedule. Any child who fails to pass the examination will be
30 required to take it at a later date before he or she may be enrolled into kindergarten.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 35**

3 Kate Stockstill

St. Joseph's Academy

4 Izzy Record

5 **TITLE:** Ban the Ability of Minors to Receive a Sentence of Solitary Confinement

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 On any given day, over 48,000 youth in the United States are confined in facilities away from home as a
8 result of juvenile justice or criminal justice involvement. They spend 22 or more hours a day alone usually
9 in a small cell behind solid steel doors. This time spent alone has a huge effect on the mental health of all
10 prisoners because the conditions of solitary confinement can induce symptoms of mental illness or
11 provoke outbursts. Some symptoms include depression, hallucinations, anxiety attacks, obsessive thinking,
12 paranoia, and anger in youthful offenders. Solitary confinement can be especially harmful for minors
13 because their minds are young and still developing. Studies show that prisoners held for lengthy periods
14 of time in solitary confinement reported nearly twice the number of symptoms of stress and trauma
15 compared with the general prisoner population. In 2016, Louisiana's number of solitary confinement cells
16 were almost four times the national average. If this bill is implemented, juveniles' mental health while in
17 prisoner will remain intact.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 Proposed law provides that no prisoner at any penal or correctional institution or jail who is under the
20 age of 18 excluding those who suffer from a serious mental illness which contributes or cause the
21 prisoner to dangerous to self or others, or interferes seriously with the prisoner's ability to function
22 adequately shall not be placed solitary confinement. Proposed law also provides that solitary confinement
23 cells shall be made into two person cells by the adding bunkbeds to the preexisting cells.

24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 The funding for the bunkbeds will come out of donations. Any extra bunkbeds that were already at the
26 facility should be given to the solitary confinement cells.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 Any jailer who violates a provision of this law commits a misdemeanor and shall be fined \$300 per day
29 that the juvenile was held in solitary confinement. In addition, if this jailer commits this offense 3 or more
30 times they shall lose the ability to house juveniles for a calendar year and shall also pay another facility
31 the cost of housing those juveniles.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 36**

3 Emma Bonney

Saint Joseph Academy

4
5 **TITLE:** Lowering the Legal Drinking Age to 18

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill is lowering the legal drinking age from 21 to 18. Lowering the legal drinking age to 18 will lower
8 the use of fake IDs and lessen the amount of 18-20 year old's who heavily drink resulting in unresolved
9 health issues because they refuse to go to the hospital. If 18 year old's are responsible enough to vote
10 for the leader of the country and go to war for the country, then they are responsible enough to drink
11 alcoholic beverages.

12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 The law that states the legal drinking age is 21 is being changed. The current restrictions for people age
14 21 and up will stay the same for people age 18 and up. It is not necessary for any jobs to be added or
15 taken away because of this bill.

16 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

17 There is no funding for this bill.

18 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

19 The penalties for drinking under the age of 18 will be the same as it was for people under the age of 21
20 previously. The current law states, "It is against the law in Louisiana for any person under the age of 21
21 to publicly possess or purchase any type of alcoholic beverage. Anyone who violates this law will be
22 penalized as follows: You will be fined not more than \$100 and/or. You may be sentenced to not more
23 than 6 months in jail." The only changes to this law is that it now only applies to be people under the age
24 of 18.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 37**

3 Abigail Kukura

St. Joseph's Academy

4
5 **TITLE:** Improving Angola Prison's Medical Care

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Angola prison is Louisiana's state penitentiary. It has earned nicknames such as "Alcatraz of the South"
8 and "The Bloodiest Prison in America". Angola's healthcare is abysmal; the prisoners do not receive the
9 care they need. Many prisoners are living out life sentences in Angola, so they are more susceptible to
10 illness due to their age. The average age of the inmates is just over 40. Angola currently has three
11 practicing physicians and one nurse practitioner per 1,600 inmates. An example of these poor conditions
12 would be when one prisoner needed a lifesaving surgery; the surgery was successful, but it left wounds
13 that took over a year to heal and left ugly scars behind. Many prisoners work in the fields where they
14 grow their own food. In Louisiana's usual heat, prisoners are subject to heatstroke and exhaustion. These
15 ailments often go undertreated and worsen overtime as a direct result. Many of the doctors have been
16 described as underqualified, and prisoners have been punished for asking for medical help. In the Lewis v.
17 Cain lawsuit, many medical horror stories came to light including: a man was not allowed medical help four
18 times during a stroke which left him blind and paralyzed, and a blind man was not allowed a cane for 16
19 years.

20 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

21 This bill will double the number of practitioners and nurses per 1,600 inmates to six practitioners and two
22 nurses per 1,600 inmates. Inmates will be given a quality of healthcare that reflects their actions. In order
23 to de-incentivize committing crimes for free healthcare, the inmates will need to work for their healthcare.
24 If an inmate does his work, does not get in trouble, and follows rules, they will receive first priority. If
25 they get into fights, refuse to do work, and do not follow rules, they will not receive first priority. This will
26 both increase the behavior of the inmates as well as improving their healthcare.

27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 To fund the new healthcare system, a 0.05% tax will be placed on every tobacco product sold which will
29 be about a \$0.25 price raise. This will also discourage people to use tobacco products. The money will go
30 to the new physicians and nurse's salary. The remainder of the money will go to medical products. The
31 physicians will decide how the money will be spent on medical products.

32 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

33 If it is found that medical professionals have gone against this bill, their medical license will be suspended
34 with quarter pay because it would be against the statement of to "do no harm".

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 38**

3 Aubrey Turner St. Joseph's Academy

4 Jemma Wood

5 **TITLE:** Reduce Taxes on Produce

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Currently, Louisiana is ranked 6th in the country for obesity rates and 2nd for poverty rates. Eating
8 unhealthy processed foods rather than produce is the root of the issue for a large percentage of people,
9 especially those in poverty who cannot afford to feed their families healthy meals and must opt for
10 unhealthy alternatives in order to keep afloat financially. There are an estimated 1.7 million obese people
11 in Louisiana, this means that these people have an excessive amount of body fat. There are nearly
12 900,000 people living in poverty in Louisiana, meaning that these people do not have the financial means
13 to afford healthy goods. 27 studies in 10 countries have found it costs about \$1.50 more to eat healthier
14 than unhealthy meals, which can add up especially for larger families. Reducing the prices an individual
15 would have to pay for produce could allow for people to make better and healthier choices. Making
16 produce more accessible allows for those with lower incomes to be able to save the extra money for other
17 livelihood needs, to be able to transition out of poverty. In addition, this new increased demand for
18 produce will directly benefit the produce farmers in Louisiana. The success of these farmers and the sales
19 of produce will positively affect the economy because of the agriculture industry's annual 13-billion-dollar
20 impact on Louisiana. In the US, the amount of least well-off farm households is at 14%, or 300,000 of the
21 2.1 million farm households. Lowering the prices of produce could potentially help fix the large-scale issue
22 of obesity and poverty in Louisiana.

23
24
25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 If passed, all establishments selling produce in Louisiana will be required to reduce state taxes on produce
27 by 50%.

28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 To restore funds from the tax reduction of produce, the tax on vapor products will be raised by 3%. With
30 the projected increase of vapor product users from 41 million to 55 million by 2021, the sales of products
31 will create enough excise taxes.

32
33 After 2 years a decision will be made based on the benefits or lack thereof. The act will either be
34 continued or revoked based on the collected data. If continued the act will be in effect for another 5
35 years. If continued once more the act will be permanent.

36
37
38 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

39 Failure to comply with this act will result in punishment determined by number of offenses. One offense
40 will result in a fine of 2000 dollars, a second offense will result in a fine of 5000 dollars, and a third
41 offense results in the closing of the store for 2 months or until compliance with the act.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 39**

3 Sarah Thomas

Baton Rouge Magnet High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Provide Equal Representation to All Schools

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Currently in Louisiana funding for school renovation and resources is decided solely using the votes of
9 citizens. This results in unfair distribution of funds. The citizens who vote on these bills are not a fair
10 representation of the students and parents in each parish because of variables like the availability of
11 information and whether citizens can vote at the set time. Moreover, the disadvantaged schools are more
12 likely to be affected by these issues, due to parents with long, inflexible work hours and fewer
13 opportunities to be involved in their childrens' education and gather information. This means the schools
14 in the areas with a history of poverty do not get the representation they deserve and continue to suffer.

15
16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 This bill will be enacted after all funds are raised. The Louisiana Department of Education will create a new
18 board to oversee the allocation of funds for the renovation of schools, which would be comprised of: one
19 representative per school in the system along with a panel of experts. These experts will be people such
20 as engineers with the knowledge to accurately assess things such as the state of a school and the
21 possibility for harm towards students and staff. Schools seeking funds for new materials and renovation
22 will be able to make a pitch to the board 2-5 months prior to voting. The representatives from each
23 school will then objectively decide on the necessity of funds to this school and rate it using a numerical
24 value out of 25, with 25 being the most pressing. The experts will give the school a rating out of 50
25 based on their observations. Further, citizens' votes will comprise the final 25 points, with 25 being given
26 to the school with the most votes. These will be compiled to give the school a rating out of 100 that will
27 be weighed against other contenders for money. Funds will be distributed from highest score to lowest.

28
29 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

30 To fund this bill the board of education will set aside any possible funds for one year. While doing this the
31 board of education will apply for a federal grant. If this request is denied or does not cover all necessary
32 funds, a 1-5% increase in taxpayer dollars will be put into place until funds are raised.

33
34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 Misadministration of funds will lead to dismissal, and a 500- \$1000 fine depending on the severity.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 40**

3 Jacob LeBlanc

Lafayette High School

4 Jacob LeBlanc

5 **TITLE:** Establish Ranked Choice Voting in Louisiana elections

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 In the United States, most people are familiar with the first-past-the-post voting system. Each voter
9 chooses one candidate, and runoff elections are done as necessary. This system is used nationwide, with
10 the exception of some states and cities. Despite its popularity, first-past-the-post voting has a major
11 flaw: many citizens are forced to vote against their favorite candidate in favor of one who has a better
12 chance of being elected. As a result, third party candidates have no chance against the two dominant
13 parties. Ranked choice voting, in many ways, is a solution. It is a system that allows voters to honestly
14 pick their favorite candidates without harming someone that they would settle for. This system would
15 eliminate the need for runoff elections and would save money and time for voters and poll workers.

16
17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 In this new system, voters would be asked to rank their votes in order of preference. If a clear winner
19 (>50%) is not chosen, the least popular candidate is eliminated and their votes are redistributed to the
20 second choice candidates. This process continues until a clear winner is chosen.

21
22 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

23 No additional funding would be needed.

24
25 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

26 No penalties are necessary.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 41**

3 Harper Miller St. Joseph's Academy

4
5 **TITLE:** Eliminating Standardized test scores for students with Intellectual Disabilities

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 It will not be mandatory for students with Intellectual Disabilities to take Standardized tests such as
8 exams or ACT Aspire tests. ACT Aspire tests are taken in middle school and are not counted towards any
9 grade. An Intellectual Disability is a diagnosis given when an individual has problems functioning in
10 everyday life. A standardized test is already hard and stressful on a student without intellectual
11 disabilities, so imagine how a child with a disability feels while taking the test. The student will learn, but
12 it will take them longer than it would take the normal child. There will be some things the child will not be
13 able to learn. The Standardized tests will not measure the child's growth in knowledge because it is not
14 appropriate for the child. Children with intellectual disabilities are at a higher risk of dropping out of
15 school and taking the standardized tests and having emotional distress can lead a child to drop out. The
16 average IQ score for a student without Intellectual Disabilities is between 90-110, while a student with
17 Intellectual Disabilities is between 70-75. Children with milder Intellectual Disabilities can gain some
18 independent skills, especially in communities with good teaching and support. An individual with
19 Intellectual Disabilities may have problems with speaking, reading, or taking care of themselves. Down
20 Syndrome and Fragile X Syndrome are two of the most common Intellectual Disabilities.

21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 The students with Intellectual Disabilities will not be forced to take the Standardized Tests such as exams
23 or ACT Aspire tests. If students with Intellectual Disabilities choose to take a standardized test, it will not
24 count towards the total score for their school. If a student is unable to make the decision of whether or
25 not to take the Standardized test, then the parent or legal guardian of the child will make the final
26 decision as per usual.

27 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

28 There is no funding necessary for this bill

29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 Any judge or school who violates a provision of this law commits a misdemeanor and shall be punished in
31 accordance with a probation of no more than two months. The judge shall also lose the ability to oversee
32 a minor's case for at least four months. The school will be forced to pay a fine of \$500 per student if they
33 do not follow this rule.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 42**

3 Brinley Pethe Haynes Academy

4 Kavia Mallik

5 **TITLE:** Reform No-Knock Warrants

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Currently in Louisiana, the use of no-knock warrants by police is legal. These are judge-issued warrants
8 that permit law enforcement to enter a property without first notifying those who live there. The use of
9 these warrants gained traction during the country's war on drugs under the Nixon and Reagan
10 administrations.

11 Proponents of no-knock warrants say that they protect law enforcement by utilizing the element of
12 surprise and preventing potentially dangerous people from having time to react. However, between 2010
13 and 2016, at least 107 people nationwide died as a result of no-knock/quick knock raids, 13 of them
14 being officers. Experts say that surprise entries like these actually increase the risk of danger, considering
15 that (1) a "fight-or-flight" response may be provoked in whoever's property is being raided, and (2) about
16 42% of Americans live in a household with a gun, according to a 2019 Pew Research Center survey.
17 Furthermore, although no-knock raids are supposed to occur only in extremely dangerous circumstances,
18 it is estimated that 20,000 take place every year nationwide. An ACLU report studied 800 no-knock/quick
19 knock raids in 2014, and sixty-two percent were drug raids. Law enforcement found drugs in 35% of
20 these raids, nothing in 36%, and did not specify in 29%. Even if officers were to find drugs in every
21 property they search, considering the deaths that have resulted from no-knock raids in the past and the
22 risk that comes with them, the use of no-knock warrants in their current state seems to be more
23 dangerous than beneficial.

24
25 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

26 If passed, this bill would be implemented immediately. Officers wishing to execute a warrant would be
27 required to properly identify themselves, as well as clearly state the purpose of their search. Officers
28 would have to read and leave a copy of the issued warrant. If the person to be searched is not home, the
29 officer would come back at a later time.

30
31
32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 No funding is required for this bill.

34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 If the officer refuses to identify themselves and state the purpose of the warrant, he or she will receive a
36 75-day suspension. If this is the officer's third offense, his or her job will be terminated. If an officer
37 conducts a raid that results in the death of a resident of the searched property, his or her job will also be
38 terminated.

39

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 43**

3 Maria Hargrave St. Joseph's Academy

4 Grace Dube

5 **TITLE:** Build sidewalks in low income areas

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Louisiana has the second highest pedestrian fatalities rate in the USA. In pedestrian safety, Baton Rouge
8 ranks within the top 20 of worst metropolitan areas in the nation. Some residents in low-income areas
9 cannot afford their own vehicle or the money to repair it. These areas are significantly more at risk for
10 pedestrian fatalities. As stated by the vice president of policy and advocacy for CPEX, a Louisianan
11 planning nonprofit, "These are largely preventable deaths, by and large." Sidewalks can help to prevent up
12 to 88% of pedestrian crashes.

13
14 Currently, Louisiana has the Percent for Art law in place that allocates 1% of funds for state buildings
15 with a budget over \$2 million towards art on or around that building.

16
17 A half of a mile of sidewalk, around a ten-minute walking distance, costs around \$100,000 to build.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 This bill would create sidewalks in low-income areas. To decide which areas will receive sidewalk
20 construction, people in low- income areas can recommend areas to add sidewalks where they think it is
21 needed at a SNAP location. These will be reviewed by the project manager employed by the state. In the
22 case that there are no recommendations made at the time of a project, the sidewalk will be built in the
23 area with the highest poverty rate.

24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 Funding will come from the transportation budget. For every transportation project above \$10,000,000,
26 1% of the budget for the project will be put towards building sidewalks in low-income areas.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 No penalties apply.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 44**

3 Georgia Pittenger St. Joseph's Academy

4 Alexia Petikas

5 **TITLE:** Raising Qualifications and Requirements as a High School Counselor

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Right now, the qualifications for a Louisiana high school counselor are a master's degree in School
8 Counseling from a CACREP (Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs)
9 accredited university, making sure they meet certain standards to become a school counselor. Then, they
10 must complete the Praxis Exam in School Guidance and Counseling. It is common for high school
11 counselors, today, to not reach out to students at all, or to have a one 5-minute meeting, for the whole
12 year. However, with these qualifications and requirements, there are still around 20-30% of adolescents
13 showing symptoms of depression, and from statistics in 2019, almost 19% of high school students
14 seriously considered suicide. This proves that the qualifications/requirements are quite minimum and
15 often fruitless. Making more requirements for the qualification of counselors will give the counselors more
16 responsibility, and a way to truly help the students succeed more in school like they should. It will also
17 give the students more support with their school and home life.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 To implement this, counselors would require certification by the American Board of Neurology and
20 Psychiatry in Child/Adolescent Psychiatry. Once the counselor is working, they must do occasional 30-
21 minute checkups on each student, at least 3 times every nine weeks, making sure they are well and stable.
22 The students may schedule as many appointments with the counselor as needed. The counselor would also
23 need to check in with teachers, making sure no odd behavior is going on with their students, and to see if
24 the teachers have any feedback or suggestions they would like the counselor to know. With more frequent
25 and longer appointments, the students can build more trust and comfort with their counselor.

26
27
28 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

29 For the current counselors, there would be a .3% tax on cigarettes, to raise their pay and make sure they
30 have have all the resources they need to give students the best advice involving mental health or
31 academics, including extra online learning, programs, or clubs. Some of this would also go towards making
32 sure the previous counselors are stable, and not just let go.

33 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

34 If the counselor does not do the expected requirements for each nine weeks, the counselor must be let go.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 45**

3 Ada McClure Lafayette High School

4 Ada McClure

5 **TITLE:** Tax Break for Hybrid/Electric Vehicle Owners

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Today, an average car or light truck emits roughly 11,000 pounds of CO2 per year, or 9/10ths pound per
8 mile. In comparison, hybrid vehicles like Priuses emit less than half of that, at 5,000 pounds of CO2 per
9 year, or 4.2/10ths pounds per mile. Electric vehicles do not release any CO2 when operating, but their
10 production does require equivalent to 3.5/10ths pounds of CO2 per mile, which is still much less than an
11 average car. With our current environmental state and fleeting natural gas resources, it is imperative that
12 we as a state put forth effort to reverse or stall these effects. Giving a tax break to owners of energy-
13 efficient cars will encourage more people to purchase energy efficient cars, greatly reducing our state's
14 carbon footprint and protecting our valuable ecosystem.

15 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

16 Hybrid or electric vehicle owners will file their ownership on their taxes and get a \$500 tax credit per year
17 filed.

18 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

19 This bill will require state funding to administer the tax breaks.

20 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

21 There are no penalties required.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 46**

3 Amanda Hux Lafayette High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Convert the use of civil law in Louisiana to common law

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Common law is practiced by every other state in the United States, and is defined more by judicial
8 precedents and rulings, rather than statutes. In contrast, civil law is derived from the Romans, usually
9 more concerned with private rights and relations of those within a community; based off of more codified
10 statutes. Therefore, oral-argument, lawyering, and actual court action is of less importance in a civil law
11 system, where the statutes rule. Louisiana falls behind in nearly every major category that is of interest
12 and importance to measure, and does not fit criteria that the rest of the states often due (whether in
13 infrastructure, prison reform, etc.) In order to follow the path of the other 49 states, it would be most
14 coherent to convert to common law in Louisiana. This would also allow for less confusion and transfer of a
15 common practice across the board.

16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

- 17 1. All systems in place that advance or uphold civil law in Louisiana are hereby repealed.
18
19 2. Previous litigation and legislation ruled on by civil law is not required to be repealed.
20
21 3. Any lawyers or judges practicing civil law are hereby required to practice common law within the
22 amount of time it will take them to learn said law. Any prolonged actions may result in a fine or revoking
23 of license.

24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 No funding is necessary for the implementation of this act.

26 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

27 Penalties will be applied if practicing lawyers do not convert from civil law to common law in the state of
28 Louisiana in a timely manner.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 47**

3 Angelina Betbeze Saint Joseph's Academy

4 Amelia Alemond

5 **TITLE:** Carpool Lanes for Schools

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Under current law, Louisiana does not require public schools to have a driveway for carpool lanes. Galvez
8 Primary School in Prairieville is just one of the any examples. Parents state that they must wait to pick
9 their kids up on a side road with no shoulder, leaving just one for busses and cars to pass by.

10 Homeowners complain about being trapped in their driveways, and passersby complain about only having
11 one lane to travel through, claiming, it's just an accident waiting to happen. In 2017, there was there
12 were 4 fatal car accidents and 12 minor injuries accidents. By requiring carpool lanes for public schools,
13 there will be far less accidents and fatalities.

14 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

15 All public schools shall require at least a six hundred and seventy-five feet in length driveway for their
16 carpool line. This must be done by 2025 .

17 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

18 Funding will come from a .80% increase in property tax. The average tax is currently 7,500 dollars and
19 will increase to 7,734.

20 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

21 No public school shall be allowed to hold carpool until the 675-foot carpool lane is built or shows proof
22 of plans to build.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 48**

3 Paola Alarcon

Haynes Acadamy

4
5 **TITLE:** Our Electoral Votes

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The United States Electoral system is one of our country’s oldest institutions and also a cause of
9 controversy due to the situations that have occurred in the past where the candidate who wins the
10 electoral college vote did not also win the popular vote. Many voters also see it as an issue that certain
11 “swing states” gain more political attention during campaigning season and that “lost” votes occur when
12 a person resides in a state where the majority of people vote for another political party. A majority of
13 Americans (58%) say that they would rather replace the electoral college with a simple popular vote, but
14 this would require a Constitutional amendment that is not probable. However, each state has control over
15 how its electoral votes are allocated. The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPVIC) is an
16 agreement among a group of U.S. states and the District of Columbia to award all their electoral votes to
17 whichever presidential candidate wins the overall popular vote. The compact will only come into effect
18 when enough states sign it to where there are the needed electoral votes to win a majority vote. Another
19 form of allocation of electoral votes is the congressional district method, in which the candidate with the
20 majority vote receives two electoral votes and the rest of the state’s electoral votes are allocated on a
21 congressional district basis. The candidate with the majority in each congressional district receives that
22 electoral vote. Like a great number of states, Louisiana also has concentrations of voters whose votes do
23 not align with that of the party that typically wins. In order to fully allow these voters to feel like they
24 have a say in how our political system functions, a reform in our electoral system is needed. Furthermore,
25 by reforming the way we allocate electoral votes, Louisiana votes will become more competitive and
26 therefore bring more attention come election season.

27
28 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

29 The state of Louisiana will agree to sign the NPVIC, and until the compact is put into effect, will (starting
30 with the 2024 Presidential election) allocate its electoral votes based on a congressional district method.

31
32 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

33 There is no funding required for this bill. Each political party chooses slates for potential electors before
34 the election, there would not be extra costs.

35
36
37 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

38 There is no penalty required for this bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 49**

3 Robayet Hossain

Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies

4 Jakob Wismar

5 **TITLE:** Secure New Privacy Rights for Louisiana Consumers (Louisiana Consumer Privacy Act)

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Louisiana’s existing cyberprivacy laws are designed to protect consumers against data breaches. However,
9 this is only a small fragment of the national security threat at hand. Billion-dollar companies such as
10 Google profit from selling profiles of individuals built with personal data to advertisers, with consumers
11 having no voice in how their personal data is used. Privacy legislation is largely ignored at the federal
12 level, but many states have been moving ahead to fill in the gaps, such as California passing legislation
13 last January to grant its citizens an affirmative right to control how their personal data is used. While less
14 than 10% of all US companies are able to buy and sell personal information in states such as Nevada,
15 Maine, and California, the private data of Louisiana citizens remains freely accessible to all companies.
16 This bill aims to take necessary action to secure privacy rights for Louisiana’s 4.6 million consumers.

18 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

19 The Louisiana Consumer Privacy Act grants new rights to Louisiana consumers that give them control over
20 how their personal data is used and provides stricter guidelines to how certain businesses should
21 professionally operate when dealing with private data. This bill applies to businesses that have at least
22 \$25 million in revenue, possess the personal information of more than 50,000 consumers, or earn more
23 than half of their annual revenue by selling consumers’ personal data.

24
25 1.) Consumers have the right to know exactly what personal information is collected, used, shared or sold,
26 both as to the categories and specific pieces of personal information.

27
28 2.) Consumers must provide specific consent to businesses that their personal information may be
29 disclosed or sold. Consumers have the right to request that businesses delete personal information under
30 their possession. This includes extra service providers within those businesses.

31
32 3.) Regarding the sale of personal information, businesses are required to give consumers the option of
33 opting-out. Consumers are able to direct a business that sells personal information to stop their
34 procedure at once. Children under the age of 16 must provide opt-in consent, with a parent or guardian
35 consent for children under 13.

36
37 4.) Businesses, especially broadband internet access providers, are banned from charging consumers more
38 than negotiated when said consumers do not allow the selling of information. These businesses are also
39 restricted from refusing service to any customer that chooses to opt-out.

1 5.) Businesses are required to offer credit monitoring services at no cost to consumers when private
2 information is disclosed due to data breaches. These services will be offered to the harmed residents for
3 at least 18 months after the breach.
4

5 6.) The definition of "personal/private information" must be expanded to include any sort of identification
6 related to said consumers, such as any sort of ID, emails, Social Security, credit/debit card numbers, etc.
7

8 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

9 The LCPA does not require additional funding as it will be enforced by the Louisiana attorney general
10 under the state's existing budget.
11

12 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

13 Once enacted, violations of the LCPA are subject to enforcement by the Louisiana attorney general's
14 office, which can seek civil penalties of \$2,500 for each violation or \$7,500 for each intentional violation
15 after notice and a 30-day opportunity to comply.

LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020



HOUSE BILL 50

Real Nero Haynes Academy of Advanced Studies

TITLE: Abolishment of Standardized Tests

SECTION I: BACKGROUND

Standardized testing is given to students in 3rd to 8th grade annually. This test decides their readiness to advance to the next grade. Leap Assessments, Leap 360, EOC, and ELPT are some examples. Students work hard every day just for them to be judged on one test. Teachers are solely teaching the material included in the test rather than teaching the subject. If standardized tests are abolished, teachers will most likely have more freedom in making their lesson plans.

In Finland, students are required to take the The National Matriculation Examination and a mother language assessment. These are the only standardized tests required in Finland. However, students do take an annual assessment to assess their growth. The scores of these tests do not correlate to the funding or ranking of the school. The test is not comprehensive but rather sample-based. These two facts are the difference between the "standardized testing" in Finland and America. "Ninety-three percent of Finns graduate from academic or vocational high schools, 17.5 percentage points higher than the United States, and 66 percent go on to higher education, the highest rate in the European Union." Finland has continued to rank highly in education.

The United States started to push standardized testing nationwide in 2002. Before this the US was recently ranked 18th in mathematics. After 2002, the US was ranked 31st. Louisiana is ranked 48th in education. Putting more focus on the students absorbing the information rather than students receiving a high test score is a step in the right direction.

SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION

In the 2021-2022 school year, public schools will have the option to eliminate standardized testing. The board will collect data from schools who test and those who do not. This will allow the board to truly see if the law is effective. The law is effective if the student's GPA remains high. If the law is effective, standardized testing is to be abolished in all public school systems in the 2022-2023 school year.

Commissioners from the board of education would visit schools at the end of each quarter to make sure this law is enforced.

SECTION III: FUNDING

This would require no additional funding at all. If each school pays for their tests, the school wouldn't have to pay and save money. If the parish pays, then the school can choose to use their standardized test funding elsewhere.

SECTION IV: PENALTIES

If the bill is implemented, the principal of schools that continue to give out standardized tests should be fired and replaced.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 51**

3 Maddie Scott Mandeville High School

4 Taylor Flagg

5 **TITLE:** Terminate Daylight Savings

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Daylight Saving was originally constructed by George Vernon Hudson, a New Zealand Scientist, in 1895.
8 He believed Daylight Saving would let people enjoy more daylight in the summertime. Because the United
9 States used to have an agricultural-based economy, this idea was also loved by farmers who saw Daylight
10 Saving as an opportunity to avoid the blazing noon sun for farming, but guess what? We aren't an
11 agricultural-based economy anymore, not to mention the numerous unhealthy impacts Daylight Saving can
12 have on people today such as the offset of the circadian rhythm, increase in stress levels, and even an
13 imbalance in heart function. A study done by the University of Alabama in 2012 found that Daylight
14 Saving can increase heart-attacks by 10% on the Monday and Tuesday following the day. Another reason
15 why this day remained for a century (and why it's counter-effective today) was the idea of saving energy.
16 Primarily in Germany during WW1, Daylight Saving was used to minimize the hour of artificial lighting to
17 save fuel for the war. While it may have been helpful back then, recent studies have shown today's people
18 move onto higher-power means of energy during Daylight Saving, such as air-conditioning, moonlight car
19 rides, shopping, and late-night movies. To put it simply, Daylight Saving is outdated and ineffective today.
20 It is time to rid of this outdated system and put our attention towards keeping and implementing energy-
21 saving policies that minimize more than an hour's worth of energy a year.

22
23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 This bill completely bans the practice of Daylight Saving in all parts of Louisiana except Native American
25 reservations. Clocks will remain consistent throughout the year, and this will go into effect in 2021.

26 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

27 No funding is required for this bill.

28
29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 If someone refuses to abide by the new law, they must deal with the consequences of their time
31 miscalculation.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 52**

3 Daniel Brammer

Lakeshore High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Providing Health Screenings for Children of Lower Socioeconomic Status

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 In 2018, around 36,000 children in Louisiana were without any form of health insurance. By 2019, this
8 number rose to 39,000. And in 2020, the number of children without health insurance hit 50,000. This
9 number is rising, and it is clearly exponential. The body experiences the majority of development in the
10 early stages of life, and around 80% of brain development occurs as a child. However, this development is
11 hindered when detrimental diseases go undiagnosed, with a lot of said diseases being dental and mental -
12 issues that will affect children throughout their entire life. While it is true most schools offer visual and
13 hearing screenings, this is simply not enough to catch potentially life-changing diseases. Basic health
14 insurance is offered, such as Medicaid, many parents do not bring their child to undergo health screenings
15 to catch potentially preventable diseases. Many children are already several years into chronic conditions
16 before finally seeking medical care and getting diagnosed. However, if these diseases are able to be
17 caught early, the issue with long term conditions affecting children of lower socioeconomic status would
18 lessen. Health screenings in schools would draw attention to these problems, allowing a larger window of
19 time for treatment to be arranged.

20
21 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

22 In order to expand the amount of issues caught in children, the optimal areas for screenings in schools
23 would be in dental, mental, and general health check-ups, as well as the brief visual and hearing
24 screenings already provided. These screenings would be restricted to children of lower income, specifically
25 those already on free or reduced lunch programs, and would take place once every school year. Each
26 school board will employ doctors eligible to perform health screenings. School districts that have more
27 students qualifying for the program will employ more doctors accordingly. Each district will have 4 years
28 to completely set up the program, and should be completed by 2025.

29
30 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

31 Funding for this bill will come from lifting the tax exemption from horizontal drilling. This would result in
32 more revenue being earned from horizontal drilling, as well as big oil companies drilling vertically to avoid
33 getting taxed for horizontal drilling.

34
35 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

36 Implementation of this program will be up to the school board to complete. Failure to do so will result in
37 disciplinary action up to termination of positions held in the school board.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 53**

3 Alexandra Citan Dutchtown High School

4 Alexandra Citan

5 **TITLE:** Rights to abortion if under 18 with out parents consent

6
7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 : A women’s choice as a minor to abortion should not be the parent’s choice as to the fact that it’s the
9 woman’s choice to do what she wants with her body. The woman’s life could be at stake when she can’t
10 choose rather or not she wants to have an abortion. At that age of being a minor research has shown that
11 abortion is much safer than childbirth; the mortality rate is much higher with childbirth than it is compared
12 with abortion. The teen pregnancy rate in Louisiana is 99 per 1,000 girls and about 29% of those girls
13 who are under the age of 18 have gotten abortions. Although some of the female minors might have some
14 type of adult to go to for this situation some other girls might not have one for example a toxic
15 household in which their parent or other guardians might kick them out of the house for being pregnant.
16 Another example is not being able to provide for the child and or it is a factor of sexual assault and the
17 mother does not want to keep the child for that specific reason. A state that has made this law successful
18 is Maine and they have better sex education compared to Louisiana in which it is not mandatory to teach
19 sex education and as we are the lowest when it comes to safer sex practices. Louisiana is the top state
20 with the most sexually transmitted diseases and safer sex practices it would help the result of unwanted
21 pregnancies.

22 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

23 This bill will go into effect in 2022

24
25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 This bill would need some government funds through the healthcare system to provide the planned
27 parenthood option for the girls under the age of 18 who want to get an abortion.

28
29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 There is no penalty for this bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 54**

3 Brady Keller Catholic High School

4 Buster Couhig

5 **TITLE:** Sober Welfare Benefits

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Those who apply for welfare in Louisiana could be selling food stamps and spending the earned money on
8 drugs. While there is little way to prevent this, we can offer an incentive for those who are proven to be
9 sober. Those who pass a drug screening test can receive an additional \$30 per month flat. If they have
10 children, an additional 10\$ for each child.

11
12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 This is an adjustment to the current welfare program in place. We can have those who apply for this sober
14 welfare program name in place come into their nearest police station and take a drug test. Once the drug
15 test is proven passed, they are eligible to receive the bonus. There is plenty of public transportation
16 available for those on welfare without cars to be able to get to a police station. During covid, people can
17 request to have a police officer come in and drug test them. Keep in mind drug tests are optional and this
18 is an additional thing to apply for more money.

19 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

20 Raise state sales taxes by .02% also lower funding for louisiana state racing commission by 3% as it is
21 currently at twelve million dollars.

22
23 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

24 Drug tests are voluntary, however if someone fails the drug test they can be persecuted with the current
25 punishment in place for doing said drug.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 55**

3 William Schmidt Catholic High School

4
5 **TITLE:** High School Finance Course

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) has designed a curriculum that is intended to be
8 relevant to teenagers between the ages of thirteen and eighteen, covering topics such as budgeting,
9 insurance, credit cards, loans, earning potential, saving and investing. The bill will demand that Louisiana
10 high schools require that students take a personal finance course at least one of their years in high
11 school. The NEFE has designed the High School Financial Planning Program (HSFPP), a high quality, non-
12 commercial, and unbiased program. This bill will prepare students for a successful future.

13
14
15
16 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

17 The program will be offered as an elective that you are required to take at least one of your four years in
18 high school. Most adults and teachers who do not have degrees in economics will be able to teach this
19 course.

20 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

21 The online program is free, thanks to the NEFE. All materials can be downloaded or an order can be placed
22 for printing material at no additional cost.

23
24 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

25 High schools not following this bill's provisions will not receive government funding.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 56**

3 Matthew Griffin Catholic High School

4 Jeffrey Esnard

5 **TITLE:** FBI Voter Fraud Branch Bill

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 The Voter Fraud branch will be targeted towards those who have been given an unfair advantage over any
8 other person(s) running in any political campaigning, speech, and anything that has to do with running for
9 a position in government office. This branch would essentially crack down on any people who cheat and
10 launch investigations into candidates who are suspicious of said crimes.

11
12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 If there is a reasonable doubt or suspicion in the integrity of a political election, then this branch of
14 defense will hold an investigation. If they feel as if there is sufficient evidence against a specific
15 candidate, they are able to pursuit a law suit against them. This branch will be nonpartisan and structured
16 in a similar format to other branches.

17 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

18 Our funding would come from five percent of the national budget for healthcare. Too much money is going
19 towards healthcare funding useless programs such as Obama Care. No taxes would be raised because
20 people today already get taxed too much.

21 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

22 If found guilty for voter fraud, you will serve a sentence proportional to the degree of fraud and level of
23 government office.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 57**

3 Benjamin Papizan Catholic High School

4 Gerard Lorio

5 **TITLE:** Increased Excise Tax On Gasoline

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill would implement a ten cent increase upon the already existing twenty cents per gallon excise tax
8 on gasoline. The reason for this would be to increase revenue generated from production of gasoline,
9 which could be used to fund more charging stations. This would dually serve to decrease reliance on gas
10 powered cars, and eventually promote a more common use of electric cars, decreasing the carbon
11 footprint of our state.

12
13 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

14 This is an excise tax, so it would be implemented directly onto the producer. They would then in turn raise
15 the price per gallon of the gas they are selling, indirectly taxing the common citizen. The initial spike in
16 revenue from the tax raise can be used to direct the common person toward obtaining a more
17 economically safe vehicle through implementation of electric charging stations throughout the state. The
18 change would be very gradual but the outcome down the road would be a decrease in carbon emissions.

19 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

20 The extra revenue gained from the increased tax on gas production would go directly back into paving the
21 way for an electric vehicle friendly environment. The main outlet of this would be creating more charging
22 stations to accommodate for electric vehicles. A secondary use for this extra money would be increasing
23 the quality of public transportation as well as eventually switching over to an all-electric public
24 transportation system. Due to the price increase in gas, a more efficient public transportation system
25 would allow for citizens to still be able to get where they need to go.

26 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

27 The tax increase we are proposing is not a whole new tax within itself, so the guidelines on how to deal
28 with enforcing this tax are already outlined. The Internal Revenue Service is already charged with the task
29 of enforcing tax laws and collecting taxes. Any gas producers that attempt to evade taxes will be dealt
30 with in the same manner as before by the IRS. This would include but is not limited to; fines, imposing of
31 interest rates on unpaid tax, and legal consequences such as jail time for those responsible for evading
32 tax.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 58**

3 Warren Ross Catholic High School

4 Grant Griffin

5 **TITLE:** Back The Blue

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Recently there has been too much call for defunding the police, yet all this leads to is harsh areas
8 becoming even harsher and more dangerous as police no longer have the backup necessary to keep
9 themselves safe in the increasing chance of danger. I have had multiple experiences with officers that are
10 on overtime this would include at my old middle school, an officer that has been a regular at my church
11 downtown, and an officer that patrols my neighborhood. By working in communities these officers made
12 connections with me and many other people in my community, which in turn has made me come to the
13 conclusion that there needs to be more police officers working and meeting the people that they serve.

14 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

15 This bill will be carried out by investing more money into police organizations so that they may undergo
16 more training than they currently do which will allow them to handle situations with much more care for
17 any involved. This will also create new jobs as we are giving the police more funding to allow them to grow
18 their force to better keep our state safe. New requirements for police officers will be to gain more contact
19 with the community they currently serve by making mandatory 40 unarmed hours in the community. This
20 would include everything from working in the food bank to even doing something as fun and simple as
21 basketball in the town's parks. By requiring this I believe that this will build a better connection between
22 the police and the community they serve. This includes every officer in the department not restricted to,
23 but including all posts in the department. This bill will go into effect January 1, 2021

24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 This bill will take a 3% tax from all persons in a government job that currently make more than \$100,000
26 a year.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 If a police officer does not follow the new requirement without a good or practical reasoning that has
29 been set as a standard to his job he will see a \$100 fine that begins to double after the third offense
30 without an excused absence the penalty will begin to double. After 10 unexcused absences the officer's
31 position will come into question.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 59**

3 Simon Bourgeois

Catholic High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Increase Louisiana Interstate Speed Limits by 5MPH.

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 This bill is important because it can decrease traffic and allow people to get where they need to get more
8 efficiently. It is ridiculous that the speed limit is still 60mph on Interstate Ten.

9 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

10 The only implementation needed is putting new speed signs up. The bill will allow people to reach their
11 destinations faster, while being only infinitesimally more dangerous.

12 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

13 This bill requires no funding.

14 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

15 The penalty for speeding will vary depending on each situation, but speeding in the areas with increased
16 speed limits will be more costly.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 60**

3 Brennan Coc Catholic High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Require the Option to allow Student Access to Multiple Public School Buses for Those that Reside
6 in Multiple Households

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Public school buses have been used for many decades. The system has transported students to their
9 guardians in an economical and ecological way. But, this system is only useful for those who do not have
10 living complications. Some public school buses restrict one bus per student. These families with living
11 complications have to discover different ways to get their students home. The adults in the family fund
12 the public school bus system through taxes, so they should not be denied service because of their living
13 situation. This restriction should be modified to suit the needs of the families. With advancements in
14 technology, it makes it possible to track where these students will be traveling each day. By modifying this
15 restriction, more benefits will be provided to each household.

16
17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 The school bus form would need to be modified to list an option for a permissible additional dropoff
19 location. Custodial agreements must be provided as evidence for the need of an additional dropoff
20 location. It will offer additional benefits for guardians who may not be able to pick up the student due to
21 complex household living arrangements. The public school bus system must develop or modify a software
22 tracking system and ridership management to keep track of which days students will be traveling on
23 certain buses.

24 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

25 There would be a fee for each additional dropoff location the student would be assigned to. The fee would
26 be used to cover the administrative costs needed to launch the program such as, the funding of public
27 outreach, the need to modify or develop software tracking systems, and the need to fund administrative
28 training or hiring to manage the tracking system.

29 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

30 There are no penalties required for the implementation of this bill.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 61**

3 Ethan Cave Catholic High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Invest in making sure every school in Louisiana has a water fountain that provides clean water.

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Without access to clean water, many students can be exposed to countless diseases. Also, if the water
8 becomes contaminated with a substance such as lead it can lead to many deaths and deformations. To
9 protect the health of America’s youth, we must make sure that the students can have access to clean
10 drinking water.

11
12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 Any school that does not have clean water fountains currently must report this to the Department for
14 Education and request a small grant to successfully complete this.

15 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

16 Funding will be minimal and included in existing funding for Public Schools.

17 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

18 If a school fails to meet the clean water requirement then the school will see a 2% decrease in funding
19 from the Louisiana State Government



1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**

2 **HOUSE BILL 62**

3 Jack Appleton Catholic High School

4 Louis Holder

5 **TITLE:** Higher Wages, Happier Employees

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Current minimum wage in Louisiana is \$7.25 an hour and this bill will serve to raise the minimum wage by
8 seven percent a year for large businesses and two percent for small businesses for the next ten years.
9 Subject to change after then. A small business is a business that has less than 35.5 million dollars in sales
10 a year or less than 1500 employees.

11 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

12 This bill serves to enable people who work for minimum wage jobs to able to afford basic necessities that
13 are sometimes withheld from them. This will increase employee quality of life.

14 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

15 This bill does not require any money on the part of the government.

16 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

17 Businesses would be subject to semi-annual checks at the end of the second and fourth fiscal quarters to
18 ensure they were paying their employees the proper wages as defined in section 2. If they were found to
19 not be in compliance with these regulations, they would be subject to a \$1000 fine per each violation in
20 concordance with the US Department of Labor's policy regarding violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act.
21 The money from these fines would be put back into the Louisiana State Treasury to be allocated as the
22 state sees fit.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 63**

3 Liam Carruth Catholic High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Information concerning jobs after college majors will be required and given to students to prevent
6 not being able to pay back student loans.

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 Colleges and high schools will start showing seniors, or anyone going to college, information about the
9 student's desired major, including but not limited to: salaries, career paths, and loan amounts. This will
10 prevent a student from coming out of college with a degree in a field that they are not able to make
11 enough money to pay back their loans with.

12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 More information can be presented in a variety of ways. Either a high school counselor, college counselor,
14 college website, or the college professor can reveal how well a student's desired major can get them on
15 their feet and supporting themselves while being able to pay the degree back as well.

16 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

17 This bill doesn't require money to be put into effect. A college should already have information on what
18 their majors can get their students after college, but this bill is a safety net to make sure that college
19 graduates are able to pay back their loans with a sustainable job.

20 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

21 This bill will be a mandate, and will not require penalties. However, any attempt to find a way around this
22 mandate will take away government funding to these colleges and universities.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 64**

3 William Barber Baton Rouge Magnet High School

4 Andrew Heltz

5 **TITLE:** Requiring Safe Firearm Storage

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 It seems like common sense, but not all guns in Louisiana are stored safely. Over half of all gun owners in
8 the USA store one or more of their guns in an unsafe manner, This is extremely dangerous, leaving many
9 children in households with unsafely stored guns. There are some federal laws about storage of guns, but
10 Louisiana has no law about the safe storage of firearms. Since thousands minors who have access to
11 unsafely stored guns have used those guns to commit suicide (or homicide in some cases), we
12 can save many of these lives by requiring that all guns are stored in a gun safe or with a trigger lock,
13 while imposing no real gun control.

14 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

15 This bill will require that all firearm owners have all of their firearms unloaded and with the safety on and
16 stored safely using a trigger lock or a gun safe. This applies to all types of firearms (handguns, long-
17 barreled rifles, shotguns, etc.) and includes assault weapons.

18 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

19 This would require no funding.

20 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

21 If anyone is found to not be storing their firearms according to the bill, they will be subject to a \$200 fine
22 per individual gun per week.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 65**

3 nydia williams

Neville High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Remove sales tax on feminine hygiene products

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Women shouldn't have to pay taxes for something that all women get and can't control. Women should
8 have access to hygiene products for free. Women spend an additional 150 million dollars a year on
9 menstrual products.

10
11 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

12 The bill will be placed on January 1st at 12:00am. All stores will announce that women hygiene products
13 are tax free.

14
15 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

16 none

17 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

18 none

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 66**

3 Per'Kayla Woods

Neville High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Flip the teachers pay scale

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Accoridng to WeAreTeachers.com, " When teacher pay is a problem, fewer people want to become
8 teachers. A majority (76%) of responders to a Time poll said they agreed that many people won't go into
9 teaching because it doesn't pay enough. Increasing teacher pay could strengthen the quality of the future
10 workforce." In 2015-2016, 18% of United States teachers worked second jobs , in everything from online
11 teaching to retail.

12
13 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

14 The bill should be implemented September 11, 2023.

15
16 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

17 The funding will come from the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE)

18
19 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

20 NO Penalties

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 67**

3 Jardyn Honor Neville High School

4
5 **TITLE:** Increase the tax credit for recycling by 20% for businesses and individuals.

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Recyclables are bought and sold just like raw materials would be, and prices go up and down depending on
8 supply and demand in the United States and the world. By recycling and selling and buying unusable goods
9 creates jobs for other people.

10
11
12 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

13 The law will take effect in June 2022, which gives time to focus on how the reward can be bigger. In order
14 for the word to get out about this tax credit we will have to advertise in all markets (commercials, social
15 media and more.)

16 As far as supplying the money for tax credits the federal government has supplied the money and
17 hopefully they will continue. As far a readjusting the budget the budget will remain the same.

18
19 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

20 the federal government will continue to fund it.

21 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

22 none

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 68**

3 John Patrick Bartle

CE Byrd

4
5 **TITLE:** Pay the Players

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 NCAA : The Governing Body of College Athletics

8 In the United States over 26 states have introduced legislation, and 2 passed, to compensate individual
9 student athletes for their names, images, and likenesses. On a year by year basis, Louisiana High Schools
10 produce one of the highest overall recruit levels nationally. According to the most recent 2020 statistics
11 from the NCAA there are 4315 student-athletes currently enrolled in Louisiana colleges and participating
12 in varsity level sports. These are not including schools such as Centenary, LSUS, and LSUA due to a lack of
13 reporting numbers. Upon a closer inspection into athletics at the collegiate level in Louisiana it becomes
14 obvious that other states are succeeding at a higher level than us. Why? Recruiting disadvantages,
15 stemming from these bills being enacted and voted upon across the country while Louisiana legislators sit
16 idly by and watch Louisiana fall behind once again. Recruits are drawn to states that are putting athletes
17 first, and while other states have begun to do this Louisiana remains well behind the pack, putting the
18 NCAA governing body ahead of its own success. Too often top-level recruits in Louisiana are being
19 recruited out of state to Florida, Georgia, and other states to the East. In a state as rich in talent in ours
20 there is no reason for us not to be notching an even higher amount of high-end talent. This makes one
21 thing very clear - that Louisiana sits in a hotbed of athletics waiting to be taken to the next level through
22 purposeful, meaningful legislation.

23 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

24 Upon signage, the State of Louisiana will officially mandate a wage be levied to student-athletes from the
25 revenue stemming from their own names; images, and likenesses. These include, but are not limited to,
26 jersey sales, t-shirt sales, video game sales in which their names, images, and likenesses are directly used,
27 and more. These mandates will be placed upon each school within the state of Louisiana through the
28 governing body of collegiate athletics, the NCAA.

29 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

30 Additional funding for this bill will not be required by the state of Louisiana. Funding will stem
31 independently from revenue directly related to student-athlete names, images, and likenesses; from which
32 a percentage sum will be allocated to the athlete in question. These funds will come from the NCAA and
33 individual colleges.

34 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

35 Penalties for non-compliance with this legislation will be an immediate 5% cut in state funding to the
36 school's athletic programs. A second offense will up the penalty to 15%, and additional penalties
37 afterwards will be determined on a individual punishment basis. All conflicting legislation with this law, if
38 signed, shall be deemed null and void.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 69**

3 Josh Blake Lakeshore High School

4 Will Snizik

5 **TITLE:** Legalizing Prostitution

6 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

7 Prostitution has often been viewed as a dishonorable business that should be illegal
8 anywhere. However, while not the most ethical employment in the world, the legalization
9 of prostitution offers many benefits to the economy, and government . For one thing,
10 prostitution is frequently a last resort. When a woman resorts to prostitution, she usually
11 feels as if there is nothing else for her and she needs a source of income. Making
12 prostitution illegal only adds to this stress and benefits the government in no way. As
13 this business brings about harm only by virtue of it being illegal, if it is legalized, and has
14 willing employees, prostitution could only contribute to the economy. By keeping this
15 business from the market, the government is simply denying a steady source of income
16 from taxes that could be placed on the services.

17 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

18 In order to keep the business of prostitution flowing in a stable and non-depreciative
19 manner, the first thing to do would be to place a series of regulations as of January 1,
20 2021. These regulations would preserve the business and guarantee safety for the
21 workers in question, such as the omission of sex trafficking and underage prostitution,
22 caution used in sexual practices, and the right to refuse service when they desire.

23 Articles such as the Mann Act are to be kept in place in order to make sure that the
24 people engaging in the business are given the privileges of any workplace.

25 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

26 No funding is required for this bill.

27 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

28 Any law enforcement official found in the act of prohibiting the business of prostitution
29 will be prosecuted and/or fined one thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500) at discretion
30 of the Louisiana State Supreme Court.

1 **LOUISIANA YOUTH LEGISLATURE 2020**



2 **HOUSE BILL 70**

3 Holly Hillburn Archbishop Hannan High School

5 **TITLE:** Fund the Bachelor In Exchange for Advertisement and Tourism Value

7 **SECTION I: BACKGROUND**

8 The Bachelor franchise has expanded beyond its original show, creating a reality tv franchise of notable
9 fame and increasing revenue. In 2017, The Bachelor made 86 million dollars in advertisement, and its
10 sister show, The Bachelorette, made almost as much. Bachelor in Paradise, a relatively newer extension of
11 the franchise, has an average of 4.7 million viewers, generating a solid revenue itself.

13 **SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION**

14 Considering the expanding Bachelor franchise, a logical choice for a state which has a heavy emphasis on
15 tourism is to gain a profit by getting in on The Bachelor franchise. Louisiana should contribute an agreed-
16 upon amount of money to the production of the Bachelor in exchange for it being set in Louisiana.

18 **SECTION III: FUNDING**

19 This would be a season-based agreement, meaning that the state could pull out after a season if they find
20 the profit dissatisfactory. This would generate a profit in both advertising and tourism in Louisiana, as the
21 show would show off a number of great spots in New Orleans and advertise the city through the course of
22 the season.

24 **SECTION IV: PENALTIES**

25 No penalties apply