

2018 JYG STATE CONFERENCE

February 23-24
Austin, Texas

State Affairs
Forum



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



TEXAS YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT



STATE AFFAIRS FORUM ISSUES LIST 2017-18

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STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose**

2. Highest rank of obesity in Texas

4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. People with obesity

7. **Justification:**

8. We think it's important for there to be a lower percent of obesity because
9. there would be a less chance of people getting sick, if people ate
10. healthier.

14. **Proposal for Action:**

15. We think if we had at least five schools that have a eco farm so they can
16. have fresh fruits will make a difference. They will get the money for the
17. farms by having fundraiser. We also think if we set an example for
18. children like putting posters they would consider to eat healthier. The
19. schools can also have fun runs so children can be active outside and have
20. fun.

30. **Results to be Expected:**

31. The result to our problem is that kids will grow a habit of eating healthier,
32. so they can be strong and cheerful.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Policies surrounding ICE and border patrol

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Texas immigrants

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. We make our citizen test so hard. We don't have to take a test to go school, right? It's
8. so hard for some immigrants who don't know a lot of English to pass the citizen test. All
9. most of the immigrants want is a chance at a better life. 9% of immigrants taking the
10. citizen test don't pass. That's only 9% but still all they want is a chance at a better life.
11. If more immigrants come to the U.S., the country will be more diverse Also, more
12. people means more businesses, and more businesses means more jobs available. With
13. more jobs available, that could potentially cut down on the homeless population. 620
14. out of 100,000 immigrants start a business each month, and roughly 1 out of 10
15. immigrant workers owns a business.

16.
17.
18.
19. **Proposal for Action:**

20. If you are an undocumented immigrant in the U.S. and you haven't committed a part 1
21. crime or are seeking asylum, you will not be deported. If you have committed a part 1
22. crime and are seeking asylum, you will come and stay on probation. If you are not
23. seeking asylum and have committed a part 2 crime you have not served time in prison
24. for, you will serve time in prison for it in the US. If you are seeking asylum and have
25. committed a part 1 or 2 crime and have not served time in prison for it, you will serve
26. your time in prison in the US for the crime you have committed, and after your time in
27. prison you may continue your time in the US. If you are coming into the U.S., a
28. background check will be run as usual. Also, if you are taking the citizen test and do not
29. speak or do not know much English, an interpreter will be provided.

30.
31.
32.
33. **Results to be Expected:**

34. More immigrants will be able to come to the U.S. and start a better life. The population
35. will be more diverse, and both children and adults will get to learn about more than one
36. culture. Our world is constantly growing and, with new technologies, communicating
37. more with other countries and nations. With more immigrants coming, there will be
38. more people learning other languages and international communications will be easier
39. with less risk of mistranslation.

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Location tracking rights

4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Law enforcement and government officials

7. **Justification:**

8. Law enforcement are taking advantage of new technology and are using historical and
8. real time tracking to track and take your personal information. As long as it's turned on
9. your mobile device will tell your position every few minutes from a cell tower if you are
10. using it or not. Government officials and law enforcement often without a warrant can
11. take detailed personal information about you by accessing your history. This would be
12. historical tracking.

13. Real time tracking is when law enforcement and Government officials track you again by
14. using cell towers to measure signal strengths from your mobile device of any kind and
15. making a digital map of past and present locations.

17. **Proposal for Action:**

18. As of the December of 2009 about 90% Of the U.S. population subscribed to cell phone
19. service with an estimate of 285.6 million people and only eight states out of fifty need a
20. warrant to track you. This causes a problem between tracked victims and law
21. enforcement because it is an invasion of privacy and allows law enforcement to have the
22. victim's personal information. We believe that you need a search warrant or probable
23. cause which can be more efficient especially to people being tracked who have a
24. criminal record or have evidence to support the case that they were a part of the crime
25. to search their mobile device. This is only directed to law enforcement specifically and
26. not towards civilians Ex: a mother's child is missing and both have a phone then the
27. mother can legally track and find their child. This will also ensure your information safe
28. even after the case has been solved because law enforcement and government officials
29. will lose access to your mobile device and all the information the have gathered that did
30. not concern the case.

32. **Results to be Expected:**

33. We expect for the amount of states who do not need a specific warrant or only part
34. protection to start going down in numbers and there will be more protection around
35. people's personal information that they have a right to have. this can help people who
36. are not concerned in the case but were still suspected and will ensure their personal
37. information is safe. This will help you keep your rights as American citizens.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:** Expanding resources to growing Texas homeless population

2.
3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:** Homeless shelters and food banks in Texas

5.
6.
7. **Justification:** There are 7 out 10,000 people that homeless. We want to expand
8. resources so the homeless people can have a better life. Each year, about 1 percent of
8. the U.S. population, some 2-3 million people experiences a night of homelessness that
9. puts them in contact with a homeless assistance provider, and at least 800,000 people
10. are homeless in the United States on any given night. The people that experience the
11. most situations of homelessness is a mix of people which includes people who are
12. single, families with children and unaccompanied minors and youth.

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19. **Proposal for Action:** We strongly encourage people to use their food scraps to
20. make compost so they will not waste food. The food that they use could possibly help
21. grow fruits and veggies for the homeless population. We also encourage restaurants to
22. store their food scraps in a bin to also make compost. They can choose if they want to
23. save scraps but we suggest that they do. We also suggest that if you have change and
24. you walk by a homeless person, you should at least give them a couple cents so they
25. can buy some food or some water.

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42. **Results to be Expected:** We expect that more food and shelter resources
43. expand to assist the homeless population. Restaurants should also so try and keep a
44. compost bin and people should keep a compost bin in their backyard. We think people
45. should take their compost bin to someone that knows how to make compost or find out
46. how to do it themselves.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Proposal #18

All Houston Petrochemical facilities violating clean air laws.

Major Area to be Affected:

The major area to be affected, is Houston Petrochemical plants in the Gulf.

Justification:

A) Push for Legislation against Petrochemical facilities.

B) Some chemical compounds made from petroleum are also obtained from other fossil fuels, such as coal or natural gas. But all of these things create a carbon effect. The more carbon in the atmosphere the worst off the world is.

C) shutting down all petrochemical plants to prevent carbon pollution and obey the clean air law.

D) There is no point of have a Resource that we rely so much on, but when something happens it completely disappears.(Hurricane Harvey Reference)

Proposal for Act:

This act will cause all Petrochemical plants to be shut down in Houston and in the gulf of Mexico. Whether one likes it or not, pollution is one the most ignored concept in the modern world, Pollution is one of the biggest killers, affecting more than 100 million worldwide. Pollution kills more than 1 million seabirds and 100 million mammals every year. Pollution can cause Harm to the human body, for example heart disease, coronary artery disease or congestive heart failure and lung cancer.

Definitions:

Petrochemical- relating to or denoting substances obtained by the refining and processing of petroleum or natural gas

Facilities-a place, amenity, or piece of equipment provided for a particular purpose.

Results to be Expected: All The Petrochemical facilities will be shut down, lowering all the pollution and abiding the clean air law.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Mental Health Services to Veterans

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Texas Veterans and their families

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Many returning veterans cannot get the scene of war out of their head. This can lead to
9. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. If this is left untreated it can lead to suicide. According
10. to va.gov, in 2014, 20 veterans died from suicide each day. Long term negative effects
11. are trouble sleeping, anger, nightmares, and alcohol and drug abuse. According to a
12. study by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration revealed that
13. only 50% of returning veterans that need this service received the services they need.
14. Of 300,000 veterans sent to Iraq and Afghanistan, 37% of them were diagnosed with a
15. mental disorder. 21% were diagnosed with PTSD and 17% of them were diagnosed with
16. depression. Many veterans don't seek the the mental health services they need because:
17. Personal embarrassment, stigma of mental health issues, fear of being seen as weak,
18. long distance to the doctor, and long waiting times to receive the mental health
19. treatment they need are all reasons why veterans don't get the mental health services
20. they need.

21. **Proposal for Action:**

22. There are two parts to the proposal for action. First, before the veteran goes on a
23. mission outside of the country, the family and veteran will be fully made aware of the
24. mental health disorders and the long term negative effects. Such as, substance abuse
25. disorder and suicide. The family will be encouraged to call the veteran every week to
26. check on how he's doing. According to veterancrisisline.net, just a family member's for
27. friend's presence or call can lower the risk for PTSD or depression. The second part of
28. my plan is to open up more VA health care centers so that they are more convenient to
29. the veterans. The distance shouldn't be a barrier to receive the right health care.
30. Opening more VA offices will also decrease the waiting list.

31.
32.
33. **Results to be Expected:**

34. The results to be expected are that the number of veterans with a mental health disease
35. will drop. The suicide rate will also drop.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Include an after-school program to give detailed information about teen pregnancy. The following will be included in the program: ways to prevent pregnancy and the effects of teen pregnancy

Major Area to be Affected:

All of Texas middle - high school girls (ages- 12-17)

Justification:

If you are a teenage girl in the United States, you are more than likely to experience or know someone who would go through a pregnancy. Because of that, you are likely to drop out of high school due to an unintended pregnancy which could lead into living in poverty or a sense of abandonment. Being able to include a non-mandatory after school program to talk about the effects of teen pregnancy and ways to prevent teen pregnancy could potentially lead these young females into living a better lifestyle in their unforeseen future. In 2015 Texas was ranked 5 out of the 50 states among females ages 15-19. That is 33,144 females who got pregnant during that year. This would also decrease the number of abortion rates and would increase the number of young females completing their education in order to be successful individuals later on in life.

Proposal for Action:

Including a mandatory after school program that could potentially help spread prevention of teen pregnancy. This program will be held twice a week every other week. Throughout the after school program, a professional mentor can guide and aid young females with facts of teen pregnancy and the challenges along the way. Each young female would leave with knowledge about teen pregnancy and what the potential risk could lead to. By being well informed, they would leave with a better understanding and be more comfortable in making wiser decisions.

Results to be Expected:

A decrease rate of teen pregnancy

Resources:

<https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/facts-and-stats/national-and-state-data-sheets/adolescent-reproductive-health/texas/index.html>
<https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/editorials/2017/07/24/texas-teen-pregnancy-crisis-even-trump-started-slashing-funding>

Title or Purpose:

War on drugs

Major Area to be Affected:

All people involving drugs or have drug issues

Justification:

The war on drugs negatively affects many adults and minors and funds should be reallocated to assist with probation and court costs.

A. The war on drugs is not showing any signs of success

<http://www.history.org/topics/the-war-on-drug>

B. There is an approximate of 1 million people in jail because of drug transportation or drug use fivethirtyeight.com

C. In the last 40 years 1trillion dollars have been funneled to the drugs on war

<http://connectusfund.org/9-important-pros-and-cons-of-the-war-on-drugs>

Proposal for Action:

The war on drugs negatively affect many adults and minors and funds should be reallocated to assist with probation and court cost

(A) The United States needs to shift spending from law enforcement and penalization to education, treatment, and prevention.

(B) Immediate legalized regulation of narcotic substances.

(C) Make a department for fresh needles to prevent AIDS

(D) decrease racial tension

Results to be Expected:

- The governments currency will decrease for war on drugs
- There will be a diminish in the rate of civilians in jail.
- The rate of AIDS will lower
- The racial tension in this state will drop
- The percentage of the use of Methamphetamine will reduce in Texas

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Location Tracking Rights

Major Area to be Affected:

All families and newborn children

Justification:

Implementing a location tracking system in children will decrease the amount of abductions ending in death.

A.) According to a study by the Washington State Attorney general's office, seventy four percent of kidnappings end in death.

B.) According to the National center for missing and exploited children, nearly eight hundred thousand kids are reported missing each year

C.) According to a group of cardiologists from Royal Brompton Hospital a human microchip can be used to spot internal issues.

Proposal for Action

Implementing a locational tracking system in children will prevent abductions ending in death.

A.) Push for an act requiring all families and newborn children to get micro chipped by a certified doctor.

B.) Require optional therapy for children five years and above

C.) Get the baby micro chipped at six months

D.) To use microchips to spot internal problems (i.e. lung cancer)

E.) Require to get the first child micro chipped for free

Results to be Expected:

A.) To decrease seventy four percent of abductions ending in death to sixty four percent.

B.) Doctors recommending to get your baby micro chipped at six months

C.) To decrease eight hundred thousand kids being reported missing to seven hundred thousand.

D.) Decrease one hundred fifty-seven thousand, four hundred twenty-three people from dying due to lung cancer to one hundred forty six thousand two hundred twenty three people.

E.) That would encourage more families to get micro chipped

F.) to increase thirty percent of sexual assault cases reported to forty five percent.

Please save your bill as a WORD DOCUMENT using the following file naming scheme:
Last Name _ First Name _ School _ District (e.g. Smith _ John _ AustinHigh _ Austin)

Author: Eli Redding, Jacob Brown YMCA: The Oakridge School
YMCA: Copper family center YMCA City: Fort Worth PROPOSAL #63:_Committee 1 Room Glass Oaks A

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Location tracking

Major Area to be Affected:

Texas citizens

Justification:

With all this new technology many states have many made it legal to track people's location. I feel like this is a bad idea because many people don't feel safe and I feel like it is unnecessary. There have been countless cases of people who have been stalked, assaulted or robbed because criminals were able to follow their every move by location tracking.

Proposal for Action:

We will persuade people to dislike location tracking by telling them all the bad things about location tracking like the cases where people have been robbed and stalked. After this we will have an option if you want location tracking or not. If you want to have it than you will get it and if you don't want it you won't get it. Now it will hopefully be illegal to track people who don't choose it.

Results to be Expected:

Now there will be less cases about hackers stalking, assaulting, and robbing other people. The websites and companies you visit will not be able to track you. And most importantly everyone around Texas will feel safer.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

A proposal to bring more awareness to animal abuse and the number of cases that are addressed.

Major Area to be Affected:

In Texas, the major areas to be affected would be the police force, justice department, civilians, and animal control.

Justification:

Animals, more specifically dogs, help reduce many health risks for their owners. For example, dog owners have a lower risk of cardiovascular disease and heart attacks. Owning a dog has also proven to lower blood pressure and reduce the risk of diffuse large cell lymphoma. Animals help our society, there are reported cases of therapy dogs having positive effects on patients, helping them by lowering their pain level and giving them comfort in their hospital stay. If so many animals are being hurt because of us when they do so much to help us, not only are we not giving them the respect they deserve, but if we continue to let this happen we will be lowering the number of animals that can actually help us. The problem is not that people don't report the animal cases, it's that the animal cases aren't pursued. In fact, many of the cases are not compiled, this makes it very difficult to get accurate statistics about animal cruelty. "Of the people arrested for animals crimes, 65% have also been arrested for battery against another person."

Proposal for Action:

Our proposal for action is to increase the number of animal abuse cases that are reported, prosecuted and investigated in Texas. By making sure who we give these animals to, whether they were adopted from a shelter or sold for a price, by making sure who we give these animals to, these animal abuse cases may be decreased. We will also decrease the number of animal abuse cases in Texas by making current laws stricter (ex. tightening/increasing the fine), and inform the police before hand if someone is trying to abuse an animal. We could also start a neighborhood watch program. Getting to know the animals in the neighborhood and invite other people to do the same, and set a good example about how to care and show them the love they deserve.

Results to be Expected:

The link between the number of animal abuse cases should decrease when the people committing this crime that the rules have been reinforced. Also, the people that pursue the cases should charge this as a bigger crime. Currently, animal cruelty is charged as misdemeanor offence opposed to a child cruelty which is charged as a felony.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

A proposal to support and make initiatives for the mental health of veterans

Major Area to be Affected:

The major areas to be affected are veterans, Department of Veteran Affairs, and veteran families.

Justification:

A recent study of 52,780 active-duty members of the U.S. Air Force found that 3 percent of male participants and 5.2 percent of female participants reported suicidal ideation in the previous year. Of the participants that reported suicidal ideation, 8.7 percent also reported a recent suicide attempt. While these percentages seem low, we must acknowledge that even one veteran life that is taken because of mental health disease is not acceptable. These men and women sacrifice themselves each and every day for our safety and it is only right that we support them when they come home. Mental health is a tough subject for our veterans, especially since so many of them suffer due to the experiences they've had on deployment. One veteran said that **"It terrorises [him] at night. If you have a nightmare where your friends are being blown up, you relive these things over and over and over again."** This experience, unfortunately, is not the exception but the rule. Without help, more and more veterans will suffer from these feelings of terror and the suicidal rate will climb.

Proposal for Action:

As such, we propose more access to mental health care for veterans. We propose group therapies should be supported by the Department of Veteran Affairs (like Alcoholics Anonymous) so that veterans can stop feeling alone. We also support more resources being devoted to the research and psychological treatment of our veterans when they return from a deployment.

Results to be Expected:

We expect the rate suicidal thoughts to decrease through these measures as well as more veterans gaining the ability to speak openly and freely after having counseling.

[Type here]

Author: Jackson Hurd, Keith Mathews, Nicholas Abram, The Oakridge School
City: Fort Worth PROPOSAL #58: __Committee 1 Room Glass Oaks A__

YMCA: Cooper Family

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Legalizing Medical Marijuana in Texas

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Helping patients with cancer, ptsd.

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. It helps stop cancer from spreading

8.
9. It can help control epileptic seizures

10.
11. It eases pain

12.
13. It spurs creativity in the brain

14.
15. It helps veterans suffering from PTSD

16.
17. Can be used to treat glaucoma

18.
19. May decrease anxiety

20.
21. It slows the progression of Alzheimer's disease

22.
23. It also relieves arthritis discomfort

24. **Proposal for Action:**

25.
26. We would present medical reasons why it helps people especially with cancer or PTSD.

27. We will give the people that become addicted a helper that helps them stop so they can
28. use it only for your disease. This is because we are only supporting medical marijuana
29. for medical purposes.

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41. **Results to be Expected:**

42.
43. We expect the proposal to be passed. Also to save lives of a lot of patients so they can go to their family at the end of the day. Also we want medical marijuana in pharmacies so if you have a prescription you can just go to a local pharmacy and pick it up. But we need to also keep it in a more secure place because when people start to get addicted to it they can't get in and steal some marijuana.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. **Stopping Trafficking**

3. **Major Area to be Affected:** Children and schools

5. **Justification:**

6. There are over 300,000 victims of trafficking, and globally the average cost of a slave is
7. \$90. Children are traumatized every day from this action and we believe it needs to
8. stop.

9. **Proposal for Action:** It must be required by law in the state of Texas that at least an
10 hour per month will be used to talk about the dangers of trafficking in public schools.
This will create an awareness of the dangers presented to children and young adults.
11 Guest speakers will present how serious the matter is and how it can affect the life of
someone and to get young adults to come out if they have been victimized under the
12 presentation of human trafficking.

20 **Results to be Expected:**

The child trafficking rate will lower in the state of Texas thanks to our well thought out
21 proposal which not only would help the state of Texas get off the list for America's most
22 affected list, but help poor children traumatized and maybe, just maybe get past the
tragic event and move on to a better life.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. LGBTQ Friendly Homeless Shelters

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Texas homeless population, LGBTQ community

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. LGBTQ youth make up an unproportionately high percentage of the homeless youth
8. population. They represent up to 40% of homeless youth, but only 7% of the general
9. youth population. 43% are forced out of their homes, and 32% percent leave because of
10. physical/verbal abuse. Many homeless shelters, however, don't accept them due to
11. religious affiliations or otherwise.

12.
13.
14. **Proposal for Action:**

15. Use public donations, possibly tax dollars to build several shelters or convert unused
16. buildings into shelters. Fundraising would be used, and the public would be allowed to
17. volunteer in the process of converting buildings.

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27. **Results to be Expected:**

28. Homeless population among LGBTQ youth will decrease, along with the general
29. homeless population. Our goal is that queer youth won't feel like there's nowhere to go
30. because of their sexual orientation and/or gender.

Author: Emmanuel Gonzales and Manuel Cantu. YMCA:

YMCA: City: Dallas PROPOSAL #:21 Committe 2 Room Glass Oaks B

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1.	<u>Title or Purpose:</u>
2.	School to prison pipeline
3.	
4.	<u>Major Area to be Affected:</u>
5.	The major area to be affected will be the lower income communities
6.	and predominately African American Males in High Schools.
7.	
8.	<u>Justification:</u>
8.	The school to prison pipeline affects the disruptive students in the U.S and gives them a
9.	harder life
10.	
11.	(A) Most students effected are students of color and those with a history of abuse,
12.	neglect, poverty or learning disabilities.
13.	
14.	(B) 40% of students that get EXPELED from U.S. schools each year are BLACK.
15.	
16.	(C) 50% of children in the FOSTER CARE SYSTEM are BLACK OR LATINO.
17.	
18.	(D) 70% of inmates in California STATE PRISON are former FOSTER CARE youth.
19.	
20.	<u>Proposal for Action:</u>
21.	
22.	We propose to change the school to prison pipeline to decrease the amount of
23.	students that go to Juvenile Detention, the amount of SRO school attacks, and
24.	decrease the amount of School-To-Prison Pipeline in the United States Of
25.	America.
26.	
27.	
28.	<u>Results to be Expected:</u>
29.	
30.	(A)To lower the amount of kids to go to Juvenile Detention
31.	
32.	(B)Prevent the amount of SRO (School Resource Officer) attacks in
33.	schools
34.	
35.	(C)Decrease the amount of the School-To-Prison Pipeline in the United
36.	States Of America.
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STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Methane Production Reduction Proposal

Major Area to be Affected:

The southern regions like San Antonio, Houston, Galveston, Austin

Justification:

We get most of our oil from the southern regions of Texas, some in particular are Galveston and Houston. **This proposal will make it law for Texas gas stations to use available technology to cut the methane products down 30%. Methane is a primary component of natural gas and is considered a greenhouse gas. While relatively good in some ways, the methane produced by petroleum gas is very dangerous. Methane contains asphyxiant in its composition, if methane is inhaled, the asphyxiant will replace the oxygen in our lungs. Without oxygen in the body, the brain stops functioning, the neurons shut down, and extensive brain damage, and the list goes on. Without oxygen your body shuts down all your other systems and death is imminent. Since most of our gas comes from South Texas, more of our population will be affected by the constant clutter of CO2 if it isn't stopped.** There is technology that can help us reduce these greenhouse gases. **The Greenhouse Scrubber is an electric fan that uses various chemical filters, like Lithium Hydroxide, to suck these gases up with fans from specially selected locations. The way this chemical reacts to greenhouse gases reduces the amount of methane in the atmosphere.** This technology is being built in Tucson, Arizona. **The scrubbers then can convert the greenhouse gases they sucked up to actual greenhouses.**

Proposal for Action:

The University of Texas at Austin regulates most of these gas companies, but they don't do everything in their power to keep citizens safe. **Our proposal will require certain gas stations to joint pay(both companies pay half of the price) for the Greenhouse Scrubber. The Scrubber will be carefully located where it can operate where most of the gases compact. The Shell Corporation in Alberta, Canada is a great place to put these, due to the CO2 that is collected in this area. The G.H.S would break down about 750,000 tons of Co2 and revert one third of that weight back into greenhouses. Another potential location is the Chevron Corporation in Barrow Island, Australia. This company actually integrated into the Shell corporation so if the G.H.S will be put in a key location it would be these two. The Greenhouse Scrubber will start operating at a set time at the end of the day. The Greenhouse Scrubber will stop operating 20 minutes after it has started. Once the CO2 levels reach a healthy, stable level, the frequency of the G.H.S will decrease to keep the carbon levels steady for further years.**

Results to be Expected:

The results of this proposal becoming law come as followed:

Less methane production in the atmosphere, reducing chance at global warming.

Less greenhouse gases in urban and suburban areas, greatly decreasing fatalities.

- 49 By the time all the gas station use the Scrubber, greenhouse power is predicted to increase by 50%.

Methane productions can be cut by 30%

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1023315/Machine-clean-greenhouse-gas-breakthrough-war-global-warming-say-scientists.html>

<https://www.spinalcord.com/blog/what-happens-after-a-lack-of-oxygen-to-the-brain>

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose: Honey bee population has been decreased by 30%.

Major Area to be Affected: The major areas to be affected are agriculture, environment, and the Texas economy.

Justification: Thesis Statement: Honey bee annual loss population in Texas is 34.9% during 2016-2017

A.) Habitat loss brought by development, abandoned farms, growing crops without leaving habitat for wildlife, and growing gardens with flowers that are not friendly to pollinators.

B.) Pesticide use on farms. Some toxic pesticides meant to kill pests can harm the honey bees needed for pollination.

C.) Global warming, which has caused flowers to bloom earlier or later than usual. When pollinators come out of hibernation, the flowers that provide the food they need to start the season have already bloomed.

Proposal for Action:

A.) For every city in Texas that has 3 city parks, are required to have at least 1 honey bee hive

B.) Every garden is required to have at least 40% of their garden to be filled with bee friendly plants

C.) All city parks are required to use non toxic pesticides insecticides fungicides towards bees

D.) Give more funds to beekeepers to help save bees

E.) Reduce pesticides during bee seasons

Results to be Expected: We expect that there will be less pesticide during bee seasons, more gardens will have bee friendly plants, and we will have more volunteers for beekeepers.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Cell and gene therapy for possible disabilities

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Major area to be affected will be Texas citizens such as pregnant women and babies

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Thesis Statement: Cell and gene therapy they can be used to help babies with diseases.

8. A) Each year in Texas almost 1,200 children and adolescents younger than 20
9. years of age diagnosed with cancer. (Texas Department of State and Health and
10. Services)

11. B) About 90% of parents who that their child Down syndrome choose to abort that
12. child

13. C) About 25% of CHDs will be Critical Congenital Heart Disease(CCHD) that causes
14. severe, life threatening symptoms, and requires intervention with the first few
15. hours, days, or months of life

16.
17.
18.
19. **Proposal for Action:**

20. 1.)The leading cause of infant deaths in texas is mainly due to heart diseases which is
21. 22.9 percent of infant deaths in Texas.

22. 2.)The second most common is malignant neoplasms (cancer)which 22 percent

23. 3.)The infant mortality rate increased from 6.1 1,000 deaths per live births.

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35.
36. **Results to be Expected:**

37.
38.
39. The results to be expected will be that children will have longer lives. It will also expand
40. the healthy population in texas, because babies wouldn't have genetic disesaes.

Author: Lauren Scott YMCA:

YMCA: City: Fort Worth District PROPOSAL #57: _COMMITTEE 2 GLASS OAKS B_____

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Major Budget Cuts to the EPA

Major Area to be Affected:

The all of Texas specifically southern, and northern.

Justification:

This is an important cause because some of the greatest food sources could be threatened and later stop the food chain. For example, the Great Lakes are a main source of drinking water that are not becoming dangerous because of industrial pollution, invasive species, and warming climate from the melting of the ice caps. However, we are not the only people who would have to suffer, because of the melting of the ice caps the ocean levels are rising animals habitats are being flooded and they are having to find new homes. A final example, is the Native Inuit people have lived in a harsh environment for centuries but are now being forced to move because of habitat destruction. This move will cost approximately 180 million dollars and will be stopped by President Trumps budget cuts.

Proposal for Action:

It is easy to slow down this destructive process or even stop it if we all contribute. First let me explain how this was caused. First, trucks gases created air pollution that then infected the waters. Then, pollution cause the climate to warm which made the ice caps begin to melt. Finally, the ocean levels rose, habitats were destroyed by flooding, and that brings us up to current day. The next steps would be, the prime resources to become extinct, then up the food chain until they get to the humans. Your probably asking the question "Why does this affect us? Why should we care?" The reason is because this won't happen in the next centuries, but in the next 5-10 years." We are cause of this and we could fix our mistake. We can slow this down by getting environmentally friendly cars, not abusing our resources, and spreading the word.

Results to be Expected:

The results expected are to people to become more aware of the threats coming, that could happen in the next couple of years not centuries. Also that the government makes a law that the EPA should always be funded and the environmental polluting should decrease tremendously.

2017-2018 Texas Youth and Government

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. We are doing social media bullying.

3. **Major Area to be Affected:**

4. According to "bullyingstatistics.org" over 25% of adolescents have been cyber bullied.

5. According to "bullyingstatistics.org" 25% percent of people have cyberbullied others.

6. According to "bullyingstatistics.org", over 14% of high school students have been reported to have committed suicide. (about 4,400 deaths per year)

8. **Justification:**

9. Instagram

10. Snapchat

11. Facebook

12. Twitter

13. Tumblr

14. Google+

16. **Proposal for Action:**

17. Take action about this situation, and came up with a great solution.

18. Our idea is to make filters, so we can lessen the probability of social media bullying.

19. The filters will block any rude or disrespectful comments or description posts popular social media sites and apps.

21. If the cyberbully attempts to send more than 3 mean comments or inappropriate post description, they will be blocked from the user automatically.

23. 2nd attempt leads to a 3 day suspension from the app.

24. 3rd attempt leads to a banning of your account and IP address, so they cannot just go and make a new account.

26. The most common things that people are cyberbullied for are gossip, exclusion, impersonation, harassment, cyber stalking, flaming, and cyber threats.

29. **Results to be Expected:**

30. The cyber bullies will attempt to bully the victims.

31. The user will get notified when someone cyber bullies them.

32. The user has a choice to block and unblock other users at their own risk.

33. After their accounts get suspended or banned, they will try to make a new account.

34. Although, this is a high probability, the IP address will be blocked, making it very difficult to break through the Firewall.

36. There is a probability that some of the cyber bullies might have some background in computer technology and know their way around somethings like for instance, hacking.

39. The firewall protecting it will be secured to make sure that they will not be able to hack the program that easily.

41. Overall, the cyber bully will be somewhat prevented from the Social Media atmosphere.

43. The probability of people being depressed, self-harming, or have suicidal thoughts, will decrease rationally.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Creating a monthly assembly to teach students the understanding of cyberbullying,
3. social media, and its consequences.
4.

5. **Major Area to be Affected:**

6. Texas Public Schools from grades 4th to 12th
7.

8. **Justification:**

8. 13.8 percent of students had been electronically bullied in Texas.

9. Most Cyberbullying incidents occur off of school campus, but often result from an
10. incident that occurred on school property.

11. Both males and females are more likely to become cyberbullies by being cyberbullied

12. Students who are cyberbullied in the 6th,7th,and 8th grades are more likely to become
13. cyber bullies.

14. More students daily in Texas have been committing suicide or attempting to hurt
15. themselves because of being cyber bullied on social media sites such as instagram,
16. twitter, facebook, and snapchat. For example Ritu Sachdeva, Hillary Kuzion, and
17. McCann Utu jr. have been driven to suicidal actions.

18. The definition of cyberbullying is simply any form of bullying taking place online or by
19. digital communication. This can include text messages, social media and email.

20. Children with disabilities are more likely to get cyberbullied. Most cyberbullying will
21. take place on social media.40 percent of cyberbullying occurs on social media, 30

22. percent of cyberbullying occurs

23. while playing online games, and the other thirty percent of cyberbullying occurs on
24. instant messaging programs. Starting after 4th grade 69 percent of children own there
25. own electronical device such as a laptop,phone,ipad,and etc..

26. Our Resources:

27. [https://www.dallasnews.com/business/health-care/2016/06/28/suicide-takes-teenage-lives-](https://www.dallasnews.com/business/health-care/2016/06/28/suicide-takes-teenage-lives-ever-social-media-may-cause-key-solution)
28. [ever-social-media-may-cause-key-solution](https://www.dallasnews.com/business/health-care/2016/06/28/suicide-takes-teenage-lives-ever-social-media-may-cause-key-solution)

29. <https://txssc.txstate.edu/topics/bullying/articles/cyber-aggression>

30. [http://tea.texas.gov/Texas Schools/Safe and Healthy Schools/Coordinated School He](http://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Schools/Safe_and_Healthy_Schools/Coordinated_School_Health/Coordinated_School_Health_-_Bullying_and_Cyber-bullying/)
31. [alth/Coordinated School Health - Bullying and Cyber-bullying/](http://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Schools/Safe_and_Healthy_Schools/Coordinated_School_Health/Coordinated_School_Health_-_Bullying_and_Cyber-bullying/)

32. **Proposal for Action:**

33. Texas Public Schools should have a once a month assembly for grades 4-12. The This
34. once a month assembly will go over what is right and wrong to post on social media,
35. what cyberbullying is, how it affects individuals, and students will know how to handle
36. getting cyberbullied. As the grade level increases the difficulty of the curriculum in this
37. course does as well. 40 percent of teenagers over the last year (2016) have been
38. reported getting cyberbullied. It will be up to the school district's decision on when this
39. class will take place.

40. **Results to be Expected:**

41. With this proposal put into all Texas Public Schools students will understand that it is
42. wrong to cyberbully, what is right and wrong to post on social media, what to do if you
43. or anyone gets cyber bullied, and the effects of being a cyberbully or getting
44. cyberbullied. This class will not only prevent cyberbullying in Texas but it will also help
45. future generations know what cyberbullying is and what they can do to help prevent
46. cyberbullying.
47.
48.
49.

Author: Kennedy Carter, Sophia McLean, and Kristina Miller YMCA: Middle School .

YMCA: Cooper Family Center City: Fort Worth PROPOSAL #54: __COMMITTEE 2 GLASS OAKS B

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Help bring down the amount of kids going into the School-to-prison to pipeline

Major Area to be Affected:

The students that would normally be affected by this system

Justification:

To help kids get on the right path and help them plan for a better future

Proposal for Action:

We have a 3 step plan to ensure that amount of young adults going into the school to pipeline system will dramatically decrease.

Step 1: We will encourage multiple schools that have the highest number of students that are being affected by this system to Start an after school care for kids where they can go after school to a safe place and get away from the negativity that might be going on at home. There will be food and water available. Now your next question might be "where will we get the funding for this organization" well that's when our second step comes into play.

Step 2: By show of hands how many of you admire your parents and would like to follow in their footsteps? According to alcohol-statistics.com "Families who have issues with alcohol addiction often have other problems in addition to alcoholism. Complete lack of effective communication, non existent parenting skills and poorly run homes with no set structure or discipline." Statistics show that adults that are alcoholics or drug addicts are broke. So we want to raise the overall price of alcohol by 2%. We will take the excess money from the raise in alcohol and apply it to the after school care. Without the distractions of alcohol families can focus on helping their children grow and develop properly with rules and structure.

Step 3: Finally. we will make it mandatory that a counselor should come to all public school in Texas so kids know that they have come one to talk to. This will become a time that will be added into the students schedules where they will have one on one talk with the counselor about anything that's bothering them and really build that relationship with a proper adult figure.

Results to be Expected:

Using these methods after our bills passed positive results are to be expected.
Kids will have constant grades, and their behaviour will be classroom acceptable
The crime rate will drop dramatically

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Social Media Bullying

Major Area to be Affected:

Student and bullies with access to technology in the state of Texas

Justification:

100s of people get bullied everyday, and as technology advances social media bullying becomes a bigger problem. Social media bullying is where children are bullied through the internet and more specifically social media. They might receive harsh messages or something that invades their personal space. This new type of bullying is having short and long term side affects. Children who get bullied in this fashion tend to have suicidal tendencies because they are feeling very pressured. Older culprits will also lean towards using drugs to mentally rid themselves of the bully. Social media bullying can also affect their school life because they might skip school or might receive bad grades. They will also have lower self-esteem and might experience health problems because of too much stress or anxiety. They will usually also experience in-person bullying while being bullied through social media at the same time. But this growing epidemic is easily stoppable with a little bit of technology and self-reassurance.

Proposal for Action:

There are 3 mandatory steps that we can take to ensure that this matter does not get out of our hands. Firstly, schools need to have talks with students about cyberbullying. They need to have monthly discussions about the first symptoms of social media bullying. They also need to tell the students to be open to talk to someone if they are being cyberbullied and also to tell social media bullies to speak up if they have ever done this crime. Secondly, parents need to take a stand on cyberbullying. Parents need to talk to their kids about social media bullying, and they are the only people who can regulate what their child does on his/her device. This way parents can see if their child is receiving unwanted messages on their device. They can also make sure that their child is not cyberbullying someone else. Finally, cell phone companies can add softwares as options to phones when you buy it. There are literally 100s if not 1000s of social media bullying preventing softwares that you can download onto phones. Phone companies can combine the best softwares to make one safe jumbo software that can be easily purchased on the device to add a layer protection to your child. This huge download will detect rude messages, mean comments, etc. and will notify someone about it. It will have many features for different scenarios so that the social media bullying doesn't get too far.

Results to be Expected:

If these precautionary steps are followed, then 100s of children may not commit suicide every year because now they won't be cyberbullied. Many students will also not ruin their life because of drugs or health problems since they won't have the stress or anxiety that social media bullying gave them. Strong students will keep up with their shoolwork and will continue to have good grades because they don't have to worry about anyone bullying them both mentally and physically. Finally, kids who have gone through cyberbullying will support kids who are going through it and will tell them to push through it.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. A proposal to grade schools using a scale with A-F.
3.

4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Schools that have problems and have never been graded. The community these schools
6. serve will be affected.
7.

8. **Justification:**

9. I believe that every school should be the best possible educators for their students.
10

11 **Proposal for Action:**
12

13 The grading system should be more specific about the grades for the school. The grades
14 should come with a number grade and then specific sections of the grade. For example,
15 if the overall grade is an A, it is a very good school and if a school has a F that means
16 the school should improve. Ways for the school can improve can include changing their
17 principals or other staff.
18

19 The grade should be broken into subcategories of student happiness, student college
20 percentages, quality of instruction, and the percentage of students that graduate high
21 school. These qualities are what the grades will be based on. The people overseeing the
22 teachers' quality of instruction grades are their principals. To make sure the grades are
23 not biased, staff from different schools will come in and do the evaluations for students'
24 happiness so that the kids don't lie just because they do not want to complain to their
25 principal.
26

27 **Results to be Expected:**
28

29 The results that are expected from implementing this grading system are for schools to
30 be more motivated to improve because parents will be able to see the school's grade
31 and make judgements of attendance based on that. Also, parents will have more
32 information in making sure they are making the right choice for their students
33 education. Also students will more likely succeed in their choices.
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STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Bilingual Education

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Kids stress levels and taking too much time

6. **Justification:**

7.
8. This law should be passed because, it would cause better test scores and will cause
8. students to receive more job offers in the future. Also having bilingual education will
1 reduce Alzheimer's disease.

11
12
13
14
15 **Proposal for Action:**

16 To make bilingual education classes mandatory, this will be efficient because bilingual
17 students have a tendency to do better on state standardized testing.

18
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28 **Results to be Expected:**

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30 Results to be expected are lowering the risk of Alzheimer's disease and better test
31 scores. Overall giving kids better jobs in the future and better grades from better test
32 scores.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Human Trafficking

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Texas Border and Major Cities

6.
7.
8. **Justification:**

9. Texas has 2nd highest rate of human trafficking victims in the United States. There are
10. 2,236 people in Texas who are victims of human trafficking. This is a terrible system of
11. exploiting human rights.

12.
13.
14. **Proposal for Action:**

15. We will also require all vehicles to be thoroughly checked by a border official. The
16. official will go through all of the car and all of the bags in the vehicle. All of the border
17. official will go through a background check. Background checks will occur every six
18. months and there will be several check ins from a supervisor every month. Adding, to
19. this we would require all missing person cases will be looked at after 24 hours+ by the
20. human trafficking task force. This can also help identify the culprit of the
21. misdemeanor.

22.
23.
24. **Results to be Expected:**

25. Fewer victims of human trafficking on the Texas border and major cities. Human
26. trafficking victims can be found working in normal places. Some examples are
27. hotels, restaurants, and they are often "hiding in plain sight". The government does not
28. have a lot of attention for the matter of human trafficking. They should be more eager
29. to identify trafficking victims and recover them. This includes cars being checked as they
30. are crossing the border.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Texas is the home of over 300,000 human trafficking victims

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Texas ,Houston ,san Antonio

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. (a) Boys cause 50% of sex trafficking

9.
10. (b) 68% of are trapped in forced labor

11.
12. (c) 26% of them are children

13.
14. **Proposal for Action:**

15. We will get let kids know what it is by 5th grade for girls and boys so they will need

16. To about human trafficking and why it happens in a social studies tek.

17. 1: they will learn about slavery in forced labor in human trafficking

18. 2: They will also get the human trafficking number, once they receive a phone

19.
20.
21.
22.
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30.
31. **Results to be Expected:**

32. A: a decrease in the problem by 50%

33. B: there will be more help with this situation

34. C: suicide rates will also go down decreasing forced labor

Author: Wendy May

YMCA: White Rock YMCA. City: Garland

YMCA Delegation: Austin Academy

PROPOSAL #: 13 COMMITTEE 3 GRAND BALLROOM A

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. Concerns of LGBTQ

2. There is a rising problem in Texas. Members of the LGBTQ community or supporters of the
3. community are being discriminated against, in some degree.

4. East Texas, and other areas of intolerance towards the community. Most conservative or
5. republican states are intolerant towards the association and those who are involved. These
6. areas will be the most affected because they will become more inclusive.

7. The death rate for people involved or associated with the LGBTQ community is at an all- time
8. high.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13. There will be an organization of activists, and they will consist of leaders in authority and
14. protective positions. They will educate and serve those who are involved in, are part of, or
15. are violent towards those in the community.

16.

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27. The number of people in LGBT rallies and Pride Parades will increase, but there will be
28. significantly less violence. There will be more criminals in prison for harming those of the
29. LGBTQ community and the death rate of those involved will decrease massively. There will
30. be fewer suicides, and the major cities with the most intolerance will be more accepting
31. towards those in the community. The state of Texas will be much safer, and people can
32. practice being more accepting, while others can exercise their freedom of assembly.

33. The organization will be put to work and

34.

35.

36.

Author: Alyssa Smith and Tiire Eshokhai
YMCA: White Rock YMCA City: Garland

School: Austin Academy For Excellence
PROPOSAL#: 23 COMMITTEE 3 GRAND BALLROOM A

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. Title or Purpose

2. Requiring a Bilingual Education, Especially Spanish

3.

4. Major Area To Be Affected

5. Children in South Texas and areas near the Texas/Mexico border up until Midland

6.

7. Justification

8. More and more people from Mexico and South America are moving to the U.S. These people may
9. also bring their children who get enrolled into schools. Many of those immigrants don't speak English,
10. or don't speak it well enough. Because of this, they may not understand what is being taught in school.
11. But, with a bilingual education, they will be able to learn the required topics and English. Plus, studies.
12. have shown that if someone knows more than one language they will be more successful when they
13. get older.

14. Proposal for Action

15. To start small, we will hire at least 1 bilingual teacher per grade in schools, depending on the number
16. of students who need this program. Then we will slowly start requiring other schools to adopt the
17. system.

18.

19. Results to be Expected

20. Children who do not speak English well or at all will be learning to speak English. This will help them to
21. understand what is being taught in English speaking schools. Other students who speak primarily
22. English will also learn how to speak Spanish.

23.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Animal Cruelty in Texas

Major Area to be Affected:

Texas Citizens and Pet Owners

Justification

Animal abuse is a prominent problem in the state of TX. Texas animal cruelty laws apply to, "domesticated living creature or any wild living creature previously captured." This means that criminal cruelty laws protect livestock." The "intentional or knowingly cruel treatment of animals is expressly prohibited," which should be good for the animals. However, only 1% of animal cruelty cases are pursued in Texas, which means that the majority of the abusers can continue their acts without any fear of punishment. This issue can lead to trauma and in a lot of cases death. These animals could die from "extreme blood loss, dehydration, exhaustion, and infection" (Richardson, 2013). With all of these animal cruelty cases, the fact that only 1% of the cases are unpursued is cruel. Something should be done about it that will decrease the number of cases while increasing the number of cases pursued. Inspectors will do their jobs of calling in every week until the case is heard. All of these precautions should increase the number of animal cruelty cases heard in court.

Proposal for Action:

Our first priority is to reduce animal cruelty cases in Texas. In order to do this, we will take several precautions to determine if the person is fit to own a pet. First, we will issue out a questionnaire to gauge whether the owner is likely or unlikely to mistreat pets. If the person qualifies to own a pet, we will send an APHIS inspector to inspect their home so that we know that it is an appropriate environment for a pet. If they pass the questionnaire and the first inspection, the person is eligible for a Texas Pet License, and will not have to be inspected again to get the same pet. However, if the individual wants a different type of pet, their house will have to be inspected again to make sure the house qualifies for the pet. To authenticate the measures that have been taken there will be a yearly inspection that takes place. If animal cruelty is suspected, then the inspector will report the case and check on the case every week until it is pursued. In this way, we will know everyone who has a pet and what kind. All major Texas animal shelters will have its own inspectors to complete their jobs when needed. Breeders will be able to call an inspector before they sell a pet to an owner. The questionnaire will be easily accessible to shelters, breeders, and customers alike to know if you would be an acceptable pet owner. Only the breeders and shelters will have access to what answers will be considered correct. On the other hand, customers are allowed to know the requirements for the inspection and what is required for each pet.

Results to be Expected:

When our proposal gets passed, we expect all positive results. The proposed questionnaire and license requirements can be set into action immediately at all Texas animal shelters and breeders. Before a customer is sold a pet, the questionnaire and inspection will be required, which will hopefully reduce the number of animal cruelty cases. This should make it easier for all of the cases to be pursued, because there will

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Restrict use of neonicotinoids in Texas

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Bee population and the whole state of Texas

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. The honey bee population has been decreasing dramatically since the early 1990s when
8. neonicotinoids were introduced the Texas agricultural system and the use of these
9. products have kept going up since. But these chemicals have harmful side effects that
10. hurting the Texas bee population statewide. From 2015-2016 bee colonies have
11. decreased in size by 44.1%. In one year, bee population has decreased nearly 50
12. percent and it will continue drop if nothing is done. Bees hold an important role as
13. pollinators to Texan plants and the loss of them is major loss to one of our state's
14. revenue sources. If bees continue to die, growing crops would become near impossible
15. which hurts the economy and the life of people in Texas.

16.
17.
18.
19.
20. **Proposal for Action:**

21.
22. Our proposal for action is to completely do away with the use of neonicotinoids in the
23. whole state of Texas. This should insure that the population of bees in Texas should
24. increase. There are many other bee-safe replacements for neonicotinoids available to
25. pesticide companies who use neonicotinoids. Majority of these substitutes are
26. significantly cheaper than neonicotinoids. Therefore, this would protect bee population
27. and the agricultural state of Texas.

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39. **Results to be Expected:**

40. By ending the use of neonicotinoids in Texas, the bee population will significantly
41. increase ensuring the safety of bees across Texas. Maintaining bee population will
42. guarantee the ability to continue growing crops which depend on bees pollination.
43. Since growing crops is essential to the economy of Texas, this will benefit the lives of
people amongst Texas. Prices of pesticides will become cheaper due to the changes in
ingredients.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Houston petrochemical facilities violating the clean air laws.

Major Area to be Affected:

The Texan/Houston Population.

Justification:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency shut down Texas' program regulating air discharges from oil, gas, and manufacturing, causing the clean air laws to be violated at least 405 times in 2015, releasing 5 million pounds of pollution. This pollution contains chemicals that can cause asthma, strokes, cancer and other illnesses which cuts life short of about 12,000 Texans each year, according to researchers at MIT.

Proposal for Action:

We propose that the government of Houston does quarter annual checks of any factories or plants that use chemicals or substances that could be harmful to breathe in to check and make sure that they are not releasing harmful chemicals and that the amount of chemicals being released does not exceed a set limit.

Results to be Expected:

The amount of deaths caused by petrochemicals released in the air will decrease. The factories using petrochemicals and other chemicals will be more regulated in what they release in the air and how much of it is released.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Animal Cruelty

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Texas

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Every 10 seconds in Texas, an animal is abused in some way. Qualifications consist of -
8. torturing an animal, failing to provide food, care, or shelter, abandoning an animal,
9. transporting or confining an animal in a cruel manner, killing, seriously injuring, or
10. poisoning an animal, causing an animal to fight with another, using a live animal as a
11. lure in a dog race, tripping a horse, injuring an animal belonging to another person, or
12. seriously overworking an animal. A law currently in place, the locos law, is named after
13. a dog whose eyes were intentionally gouged out of its head. One incident that happened
14. was about a dog who was beaten to death and found lying a pool of blood. There was
15. also a case where 3 cats were cooked to death in an oven. 2 dogs were kidnapped,
16. tortured, and decapitated. Sadly, this isn't even the worse of things happening to
17. animals every day.

18.
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22.
23. **Proposal for Action:**

24. Currently in a civil case, if a judge rules that a person or people have been cruel to
25. animals, the judge may take away their animals and/or order them to pay restitution.
26. This however does not prevent any further adoption, abuse, and cruelty. Our proposal for
27. action is to create an animal cruelty list, that prevents that person from adopting, or
28. taking ownership of another animal. Once put into trial, that person's name will be put
29. into a government document, and they will be followed, and checked up upon, securing
30. the fact that no animal will be living in their premises.

31.
32.
33.
34. **Results to be Expected:**

35. The animal cruelty list will prevent anyone whom has previously abused an animal, or
36. treated them in a cruel manner, from adopting another animal, or having one on their
37. premises. Preventing more abuse should lower the cruelty rate - and save animals lives.
38. Animals are people too, and no one deserves to be treated like this.

39.
40.
41.
42.
43. **Sources-**

44. Our sources -

- 45. ● spca.org
- 46. ● www.animallaw.info
- 47. ● www.capitol.state.tx.us
- 48. ● Texas Health and Safety Code 821.001

Author: Joshua Dawit and Brianna Bell YMCA Delegation: Austin Academy

YMCA: White Rock YMCA City: Garland PROPOSAL #: 34 COMMITTEE 3 GRAND BALLROOM A

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Labelling Genetically Modified Foods

3.

4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Texas Agriculture Companies

6.

7. **Justification:**

8. Genetically Modified Foods, or GMOs, are the results of a laboratory process where
9. genes from the DNA of one species are extracted and artificially forced into the genes of
10. an completely unrelated plant or animal. The foreign genes may come from bacteria,
11. viruses, insects, animals or even humans. Some effects of genetic engineering are:

11.

12. I. Genetically Modified Foods are known to increase allergens. One instance is when
13. the UK introduced genetically modified soy, soy allergies increased by over 50%.

14. II. The overuse of antibiotics causes antibiotics to change or become "resistant." In
15. most genetically modified foods they put a gene that is antibiotic resistant. The
16. British Medical Association, the FDA scientists, and the American Medical
17. Association, have found out there are many harmful side effects. This can be very
18. harmful because if the gene transfers into other bacteria, it can create an
19. antibiotic resistance pathogene, making our once dependable antibiotics useless.

20. III. Genetically Modified Foods are also known to cause liver and kidney problems.
21. GMO corn specifically has caused liver and kidney problems in rats and mice.
22. They are also known to cause reproductive and infertility issues in rats and even
23. humans

24. IV. Genetically Modified Foods are another factor in accelerated aging. There have
25. been tests over rats being fed GMO corn and roundup ready corn, and they all
26. had extreme accelerated aging symptoms.

27.

28. **Proposal for Action:**

29. That all genetically modified foods be labeled. This way all Texans will know what they're
30. eating. The label would say "made partially/fully with genetic engineering, depending on
31. the product.

32.

33. **Results to be Expected:**

34. More people will be cautious and aware about how dangerous GMOs can be. GMO
35. consumption will decrease, as will liver, kidney, endocrine, reproductive, allergy, tumor
36. growth, and other side effects of GMOs gradually decrease.

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STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Banning neonicotinoids

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Farms and fields around Texas

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. The Texas honeybee population has been decreasing, and now 30% of the honeybees
8. in Texas has gone. This is very dire situation, as bees are one of the most important
9. pollinators, pollinating about 30% of our crops. The loss of our bees would be
10. devastating to Texas's and the nation's economy. 90% of our natural plants are also
11. pollinated by bees. Colony collapse disorder is on the rise in many communities, in both
12. wild and farmed bee populations. Many insecticides can lead to the problems in
13. combination with other problems. The most common and dangerous pesticide is
14. neonicotinoids, an effective nerve agent. By banning these chemicals, we can help the
15. bees.

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21. **Proposal for Action:**

22. The state of Texas will be banning neonicotinoids to save the bees. The only exeption is
23. for veterinary use. With the population decline on the rise, the banning of neonics will
24. be an important first step to stop it. There are many alternatives to the dangerous
25. insecticide after all. Natural predators can be used, such as ladybugs, and specific
26. formations of crops can be used to reduce the nutrients from the soil and lessen the
27. amount of pests. This method is cheaper and more effective than the much more
28. damaging neonics used on a daily basis. Biannual checks would be performed by
29. Texas's Department of Agriculture on farms, both small and large farms. Refusal to
30. participate would result in penalties.

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36. **Results to be Expected:**

37. Many other countries and a US state, Maryland, has already banned this kind of
38. insecticide. The expected result is less deaths of colonies from Colony Collapse Disorder
39. due to the use of neonicotinoids. This would open ways for new laws to be put into
40. place protecting our honeybees, as they are absolutely essential to humanity's survival
41. for life as we know it.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Tech companies data mining personal information.

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Every citizens use social media in the U.S.

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Tech companies steal personal information from U.S. citizens every year.

8. A) Tech companies is 100% not accurate when data mining according to the
9. Washington Post.

10. B) 70 Million more customers were hit by December due to data breach and some
11. who also might have had their card data stolen according to the Washington
12. Post.

13. C) Credit card members for about 209,000 consumers and documents related to
14. credit reporting disputes for 182,000 people also were exposed according to CBS
15. News.

16.
17. **Proposal for Action:**

18. A) The government would hire hackers & help find the people making false
19. advertisement.

20. B) Shut down tech companies that use data mining for advertisement.

21. C) Create a new security app for their electronics to help prevent data mining their
22. personal information.

23. D) For the people who datamine other people's information would owe a fine.

24. E) If they get caught multiple times they would be banned from buying any
25. technology for about 6 months.

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38. **Results to be Expected:**

39. There will be less chances citizens get their personal information stolen or used in
40. unethical ways.

41. A) The percentage of data mining would go down about 21.54%.

42. B) If the tech companies are shut down there wouldn't be any more problems with
43. mining.

C) Stolen credit card reports wouldn't be a problem in the U.S.

D) Those 70 million customers who were hit by the december due to data breach,
they would get about \$100-\$300 and their information back in return.

E) They say tech companies aren't 100% accurate, so if we shut down tech
companies then we wouldn't have to worry about false or fake advertisement.

YMCA: City: Arlington PROPOSAL #55: COMMITTEE 3 GRAND BALLROOM A

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. Title or Purpose: Animal Cruelty

2.
3. Major Area to be Affected: Texas

4.
5.
6. Justification: Over 56 billion animals are killed every year by humans. This doesn't
7. even include fish or other sea creatures. Over 115 million animals – mice, rats, dogs,
8. cats, rabbits, monkeys, birds, among others, are killed in laboratory experiments
8. worldwide for chemical, drug, food, and cosmetics testing every year. Every major
9. circus that uses animals has been cited for violating the minimal standards of care set
10 by the United States Animal Welfare. Researchers determined that between 71% and 83%
11 of women entering domestic violence shelters reported that their partners also abused or
12 killed the family pet. 4 to 5 million animals die in shelters every year. Piglets who are too
13 sick or too small are killed by being slammed head first onto concrete floors. This is why it is
14 imperative that everyone does their part and that we take action to help as many of these
15 poor, helpless animals as we can.
16
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21 Proposal for Action: We will do monthly checks to make sure that the animals are not
22 being abused. All we will do is check up on the animals and ensure that they are being
23 cared for properly. We will also encourage people to report any animal abuse that they
24 witness. If people abuse animals then they will have to get a trial and go to court. If
25 they are found guilty then their punishment will be decided.
26

27 If they are abusing the animals they will have to pay a fine or go to jail depending on
28 what they did to the animal.
29

30 If they only abuse the animal a little then they will have to pay a fine of 200-500
31 dollars depending on how much the animal was abused.
32

33 If they abuse the animal a lot they will have to pay around 1,000 or more.
34

35 If they kill the animal they will have to go to jail for at least a year or maybe even 5
36 years depending on how gruesome the killing was and how much pain the animal had to
37 go through.
38
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41

42 Results to be Expected:
43

Less animals will get abused.
Less people will abuse animals.
More people will be prosecuted for abusing animals.
There would be less dog fights for money.

Author: Elizabeth Bishop, Halayna Jones, Katia Smith **School:** Gentry Jr. School

YMCA: Baytown family YMCA **City:** houston PROPOSAL #73 COMMITTEE 3 GRAND BALLROOM A

1. **Title:**

2. GMOs effects on health.

3. **Issue:**

4. People and animals getting sick or dying due to harmful GMOs.

5. **Major Area to be Affected:**

6. Any living thing that eats a genetically modified product.

7. **Justification:**

8. Many people can't eat most food due to an allergy to GMOs. Not only

9. people are affected by GMOs but animals are as well. Many people and

10. animals are hurt and affected by GMOs.

11. **Proposal for Action:**

12. GMOs are when plants have viruses and bacteria inserted into the

13. genes and chemical makeup of the plant. When people with a GMO

14. allergy either consume a food containing GMOs or touch a fabric like

15. cotton that has been modified they could be harmed. Animals can get

16. sick or develop a rash due to eating GMOs. Over ¼ people get cancer

17. from GMOs that they don't know about it until the last minute and then

18. it will be too late to fix it. Another bad of GMOs is that it is causing EOE.

19. Many eosinophilic esophagitis (A.K.A. EOE) people all have the same

20. allergy, GMOs. EOE wasn't popular until GMOs came into the picture.

21. The price of a cure is around \$4 thousand dollars and even then the cure

22. only works for about 4 years and then it would come back up. GMOs also

23. causes other illnesses and can lead to death. If you go to any GMO

24. websites you can find many people who has been affected by GMOs.

25. GMOs are genetically modified organisms that can mutate any animal

26. or person by touching or eating a GMO.

27. **Results to be Expected:**

28. While there are some advantages to using GMOs the negative effects

29. far outweigh the good. Both people and animals are hurt due to the

30. causes of GMOs and all the consequences and just want to keep them

31. fresher longer is not worth the health risks that GMOs cause. In

32. Conclusion GMOs should not be used at all. The good is that people can

33. have food fresher longer and not get moldy. The taste is good, but isn't

34. worth the cost of getting sick or getting cancer, but it is safe generally

35. safe to consume GMOs.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2.
3. Increase number of homeless shelters

4.
5. **Major Area to be Affected:**

6.
7. Texas homeless population

8. **Justification:**

9. 10
11. In 2016, more than 23,000 people were homeless. Homeless shelters provide
12. a place where people have access to food, water, and other resources – which
13. are desperately needed, as 32% of the US homeless population were
14. unsheltered in 2016. With this proposal, that number will drastically decrease.
15. 16.

17.
18.
19. **Proposal for Action:**

20.
21. 22. 23. Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, add homeless shelters to areas (cities, counties) with
24. 25. 26. 27. a high unsheltered homeless population, as determined by the Texas
28. Department of Health and Human Services.
29.

30.
31.
32. **Results to be Expected:**

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35. 36.
 - Significant decrease in Texas homeless population
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 - Decrease in crime committed by the homeless in Texas
38.
 - Decrease in the unsheltered homeless population in Texas
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43.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

LGBTQ rights after transforming such as sports.

Major Area to be Affected:

Texas student/citizens.

Justification:

According to the new study from LGBTQ researchers at the Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law, there are 0.66% of the state's population identify as transgender. A widely contested question within the literature and among sport organizations, fellow competitors and spectators is whether transgender people should be able to compete in sports in accordance with their gender identity. Concerns surrounding transgender people especially transgender female individuals having an athletic advantage. Several sport organizations place restrictions on transgender competitors (e.g. must have undergone gender-confirming surgery). In addition, some transgender people who engage in sports, both competitively and for leisure, report discrimination and victimization.

Proposal for Action:

We propose a law that any LGBTQ student or citizen should be able to participate in any sport that they choose after transitioning. Psychologists have testified that gender isn't about what's between your legs it's about what's between your ears. They released a statement opposing the bill, saying it would "single out transgender youth and permanently deny them the ability to take part in their school's sports, and use the facilities, as the gender they live every day."

If this proposal is passed all citizens will have equal opportunities to participate in the sport of their choosing without being criticized.

Results to be Expected:

If we follow our proposal to let LGBTQ students and citizens chose the sport that they transition into. This will let our students and citizens feel more comfortable around the Psychologists have testified that gender isn't about what's between your legs. It's about what's between your ears. It will also let them focus academically because they will focus more on their education and not worry about sports.

We got our information from:

<https://www.huffingtonpost.com/topic/lgbt-sports>

<https://www.aclutx.org/>

Excellence YMCA: White Rock YMCA City: Garland ISD
PROPOSAL #:12 COMMITTEE 4 GRAND BALLROOM B

Title or Purpose:

LGBTQ rights and community in Texas

Major Area to be Affected:

Texas schools

Justification:

Students that belong in the LGBTQ+ community face trouble in schools all across the state and country. With many unsupportive figures in their life, it is hard to be open about their sexual orientation and gender identity. Numbers of teachers who know of a student's LGBTQ+ status have "outed" out to their parents. This can cause many family issues that revolve around the child and can therefore leave them in an abusive relationship with their family, or even homeless. This bill will prevent that from happening so students can feel more comfortable in safe in their learning and home environment. Coming out to family members is an important personal decision for an LGBTQ+ child, and that decision can affect their lives drastically. This bill can help students that face unsupportive families and prevent them from being pushed out onto the street. The teacher committing the crime would be charged with Class a misdemeanor. They would be charged according to the seriousness of the issue.

Proposal for Action:

Teachers or counselors who know of an LGBTQ+ students LGBTQ+ status, are legally prohibited from informing a student's parent/guardian of their status as a member of the LGBT community. If a teacher were to do so, they would be charged with a Class A Misdemeanor. The student would decide on whether to pursue the offense. If they deem it just, the penalty would require the defense to pay anywhere from 500\$ to 5,000\$ to the student. The fine would depend on the seriousness of the issue. (For example: if a student was kicked out of their home due to their LGBTQ+ status informed by the teachers, the fine would be high.)

Results to be Expected:

Will prevent child abuse in households across the state and give LGBTQ+ kids a sense of safety and comfort. Up to 1.6 million kids are being abandoned on the streets, and 40% of them are LGBTQ+ students are kicked out from their homes. Since LGBT youth makes up about 7 percent of the population, that 40% figure is an alarming number. This bill would lower that number and protect LGBT youth from being put out on the streets and being abused.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. LGBTQ+ rights and community in Texas

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. The major area to be affected will be anyone and everyone who has an involvement in
6. the LGBTQ+ community whether for or against it.

7.
8. **Justification:**

8. In Texas, it is legal to discriminate against people on the basis of sexual orientation and
9. gender identity.

10. (A) According to the ACLU of Texas, ninety percent of transgender Texans have
11. been mistreated in the workplace.

12. (B) According to ACLU, you can still get fired from your job for being a
13. homosexual or transgender in 28 states, Texas being one of them.

14. (C) An article from USA Today states that 24 anti-lgbtq bills were introduced into
15. the Legislature in Texas.

16. (D) According to an article in Human Rights Watch, the Governor of Texas signed
17. into a law that ensures child welfare agencies that discriminate on the basis
18. of sexual orientation and gender identity will still receive government support.

19.
20. **Proposal for Action:**

- 21. • We want to make it illegal to discriminate against the LGBTQ+ community.
- 22. • All workplaces shall have equality.
- 23. • You will not be allowed to fire someone without having evidence of them violating
- 24. a job requirement.
- 25. • All child agencies that discriminate based on sexual orientation or gender identity
- 26. shall not receive government support.

27.
28. **Results to be Expected:**

- 29. • Workplaces will have less complaints concerning inequality.
- 30. • More LGBTQ members will have adopted children.
- 31. • The amount LGBTQ members with a job shall increase.
- 32. • The LGBTQ community shall feel safer and protected.

Author: Vivian Nguyen and Sheena Vaghela YMCA Delegation: Austin Academy

YMCA: White Rock YMCA City: Garland PROPOSAL #: 15 COMMITTEE 4 GRAND BALLROOM B

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Flu Vaccination requirements

3.

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6.

7. **Major Area to be Affected:**

8. Urban and Suburban Texan communities

9.

10.

11.

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12. **Justification:**

13. Influenza is a serious disease that can lead to hospitalization and sometimes even
14. death. Millions of people get the flu every year, hundreds of thousands of people are
15. hospitalized and thousands or tens of thousands of people die from flu-related causes
16. every year. Vaccinations are one of the best ways to protect us from the 16 potentially
17. harmful diseases. Flu vaccines cause antibodies to develop in the body about two weeks
18. after vaccination. These antibodies provide protection against infection with the viruses
19. that are in the vaccine.

20.

21.

22.

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24. **Proposal for Action:**

25. Our proposal is that everyone is required to be vaccinated for the flu. They will be
26. required to have the shot in between of the months of September and October.

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31. **Results to be Expected:**

32. The rate of sickness will be decreased.

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STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:** Affirmative Action in Texas Universities

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3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:** Texas College Universities

5.
6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Affirmative action is supposed to be a benefit to black and other minority
8. students admitted with lower academic qualifications than some white
9. students who are rejected

10. Affirmative action is reverse discrimination. The past discrimination against
11. certain minority groups does not justify present discrimination against non-
12. minorities. All people are equal under the laws of the United States of America
13. and should be treated accordingly.

14.
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16.
17. **Proposal for Action:** We propose that college applications exclude all
18. information about race

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32. **Results to be Expected:** We should expect less discrimination in the whole
33. admissions process.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Animal Abuse

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Pet and animal owners in Texas

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. 48% of Texas has a pet/animal but 1/4 of that 48% abuses their pet/animal. Children
8. who witness animal abuse are three times more likely to abuse animals in later in life
9. and play a role in an abusive relationship. There are 7 most common types of animal
10. abuse that are hoarding, dog fighting, neglect, shooting, mutilation, vehicular, and
11. assault. This proposal will lower the percentage of animal abuse in the state of Texas.

12
13
14
15 **Proposal for Action:**

16 We will have animal owners sign a paper and digital document that makes them
17 responsible for their pet/animal and any harm unless they proved they didn't do it to
18 their pet/animals in a limit of 4 months. The document will have the person's ID and
19 their location so if there are reports of abuse from a witness or camera footage in a
20 location or a video, the veterinarian will be able to know who abused the pet/animal and
21 will have them taken up. The digital copy allows other pet shelters to look at the owners
22 document so if they are qualified to adopt a pet/animal. This document also has the
23 owners pet checked up at their house once a year to make sure they are healthy and is
24 living in a reasonable area with enough space to fill its needs. If there are any signs of
25 abuse the veterinarian has to take away their pet/animal and make sure they do not
26 get their pet/animal back.

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36 **Results to be Expected:**

37 We expect the rates of animal abuse cases to lower in the state of Texas. We also
38 expect that all animals in Texas are living longer and happier lives.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

climate change

Major Area to be Affected:One

coastal areas

Justification:

Greenhouse effect is a chemical or chemicals in the air that we produce. Those chemical they get trapped in the atmosphere and cause heat and if we don't stop producing the chemicals soon the glaciers will fully melt and most cities will be flooded or under water .

2012 was the hottest year recorded in history.

We have gained 75 million more carbon dioxide than recorded in 1950.

It is estimated by us that by 2030,the states of Tennessee, Vermont, Iowa, and Missouri will be flooding with sea water about 2-3 times a week due to the rise in sea level

Climate change scientist agree the main cause of climate change is human expansion of the Greenhouse effect

The drop of honey bee population is also a cause of global warming in many places, the ocean water will seep into the ground and poison our main freshwater source and killing or stunning the crops, and without freshwater and food, we would all die

Proposal for Action:

Even if we are to stop the Greenhouse effect it would still be happening for awhile but it would be in are best intrest to stop now.

1. convert 50% of cars from on gasoline to electric by 2030
2. convert 5 % of public land to wind farms to produce electricity for our power grid.
3. Produce subsidies to homeowners to retrofit their homes to solar power.

Results to be Expected:

Less greenhouse gas and more clean electricity

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Less than 1% of animal cruelty is pursued in Texas

Major Area to be Affected:

Pet owners
Puppy mills
Animals
All vets

Justification:

Less than 1% of animal cruelty is pursued in Texas

According to the aspca there is tens of thousands of people involved in dog fighting that we know about now imagine the fights we don't know about.

According to the human society a whopping 71% of domestic abuse victims reported

Their abuser also targeted pets.

Dogfighting, cockfighting and other forms of organized animal cruelty continues in many areas of the United States due to public corruption.
(according to:

1 Compared to the criminal cruelty compared to other states, Texas animal cruelty laws are very narrow in their scope.

2 Puppy mill owners are deceptive. They don't want you to know the truth. They'll never invite you to their rural property, where they keep hundreds of dogs in stacked wire cages. Females don't receive adequate food or care, producing litter after litter until they die of neglect or disease. Many dogs spend their entire lives in a single cage, matted with feces and covered with urine burns, their eyes ulcerated from toxic fumes.

13 In puppy mills 50 or 60 more parent dogs who'd likely never seen sunlight or spent a day outside this toxic room.

Every year in America, it's estimated that 2.11 million puppies are sold that originated from puppy mills, while 3 million are killed in shelters because they are too full and there aren't enough adoptive homes.

14 Almost all pet store puppies come from puppy mills.

there are 5000 puppy mills in the U.S

Animal cruelty is a common trait in rapist and murderers

Approximately 6.5 million companion animals enter U.S. animal shelters nationwide every year. Of those, approximately 3.3 million are dogs and 3.2 million are cats.

1. Most people who abuse animals don't do it on purpose. They hurt animals because they don't think about or realize what they are doing like they keep their dog on a short chain all of the time.

15 2. The next biggest group of animal abusers do it on purpose, but don't keep doing it for a long period of time. These people are usually young, The ones who are aren't really thinking might be mad at someone else (like their parents) and kick their pet dog because they can't kick their parents. Or they may think it's fun to watch an animal run away scared, without really thinking about how the animal feels.

3. The last group of people who hurt animals are the worst. These are people who intentionally hurt animals because they enjoy hurting things, or because it makes them feel powerful. Many of these people would hurt other people if they could get away with it. They just choose to hurt animals because animals are more helpless than people.

Proposal for Action:

- We shall ban buying pets online
- Teach a short course in grade school to high school to teach children about respecting animals
- If the animal has been previously abused or it is determined that is in fact from a puppy mill then they have to get a checkup every 2 months by a vet.
- We shall be required to understand the different types of animal neglect so when we see it in public we can report it.
- We shall ban animals from puppy mills in all pet stores
- Ban puppy mills
- a piece a legislation for animal abuse

Results to be Expected:

We will know if our plan of action worked if more of animal abuse is reported

Pets sales on websites will be eliminate

18 Our generation will know how to care and not abuse animals

The next generation will know how to take care and respect animals

dogs from puppy mills will no longer be sold in pet stores

There will be no puppy mills in the state of Texas

Laws animal cruelty laws will no longer be narrow but wide open.

less animal cruelty in the state of Texas

SOURCES: Humanesociety.org, animallaw.info, rollingstone.com, dosomething.org, spca.org, nbcnews.com

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1.
2. **Title or Purpose:**

3. Teen pregnancies in the State of Texas
4.

5. **Major Area to be Affected:**

6. Teen female parents ages 13-19 in public schools in the State of Texas.
7.

8. **Justification:**

9. Teen female parents and the child are more likely to have health risks without having
10. professional medical care.
11.

12. A) Forty percent of the female population gets pregnant before the age of twenty
13.

14. B) Forty-five percent of the teens that get pregnant before the age of twenty have
15. abortions
16.

17. C) Eighty-five percent of all pregnancies are unplanned
18.

19. D) Texas has one of the highest teen pregnancy rates in the western industrial world
20.

21. E) Parenthood is the leading reason why teens dropout of school
22.

23. F) A child born to an unmarried teen has a twenty-seven percent chance of growing
24. up in poverty.
25.

26. G) Teenage pregnancy is defined as a teenage girl, usually within the ages of 13-19,
27. becoming pregnant. The term in everyday speech usually refers to girls who have
28. not reached legal adulthood, who become pregnant.
29.

30. H) Medicaid is paid for by the FMAP (Federal Medical Assistance Percentages)
31.

32. I) The FMAP is the percentage rates used to determine the matching funds rate
33. allocated annually to certain medical and social service programs in the United
34. States. (A part of the government dedicated to paying for social and medical
35. programs)
36.

37. **Proposal for Action:**

38. Allowing all teen female parents ages thirteen to nineteen to have free Medicaid when
39. signing up for it.
40.

We will do this by splitting the tax money that is given to Medicare to be given to
Medicaid instead to help FMAP pay for it.

Results to be Expected:

A) Teenage mothers will be able to get their child to the doctor without an extreme
amount of money to be owed.

B) It will be easier for them to maintain themselves without having a big debt to
owe.

C) This proposal will also make it easier for FMAP to pay for Medicaid

D) More Females will be able to get a better education by finishing High school and
going to college

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Making it legal for every clinic, including school clinics to provide free forms of
3. contraceptives.

4.
5. **Major Area to be Affected:**

6. Low-income teens
7.
8.

8. **Justification:**

9. Teens need to have access to a free contraceptive to prevent the spreading of STDs,
10 STIs and unintended pregnancies. Low-income teens can't usually afford these things as
11 they are considered luxuries. In Texas, 22% of students don't graduate high school.
12 Part of it can be blamed on the fact that almost a quarter of the students live in poverty.
13
14
15
16
17

18 **Proposal for Action:**

19 Definition-

20 Contraceptives- are any type of device or drug serving to prevent pregnancy and
21 sexually transmitted diseases and infections.
22

23 We propose that all small clinics that are in low-income areas in the state of texas,
24 including school clinics, provide free forms of contraceptives. If a student or teen
25 requests one, they can receive a contraceptive.
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

34 **Results to be Expected:**

35 The results to be expected is for free contraceptives for low-income teens in clinics and
36 school clinics. The teens will not drop out of school due to pregnancy. Abortion rates will
37 go down. We also expect the dropout rates in highschool to become lower and for the
38 levels of STDs to go down quite considerably.
39
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48

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Social Media Bullying
3.

4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Students who use social media websites across the nation.
6.

7. **Justification:**

8. Social media bullying affects millions of students every year with some committing
8. suicide.

9. (A) According to TeenSafe.com, 30 percent of children who have been bullied have
10. suicidal thoughts, a 5 percent rise from 2013 statistics.

11.
12. (B) According to PureSight.com, adolescent girls are significantly more likely to have
13. experienced cyberbullying in their lifetimes (40.1% vs. 29.3%).
14.

15. (C) According to EnoughIsEnough.org, girls (40.6%) are much more likely to be
16. victims of cyberbullying than boys (28.8%). Girls also dominate social media,
17. while boys tend to play videogames.
18.
19.

20. **Proposal for Action:**

21. Social media bullying affects millions of students every year with some committing
22. suicide.

23. (A) Push for legislation against cyber-bullying.

24. (B) Persons caught cyber-bullying will immediately be removed from that social
25. media site.

26. (C) Person's electronic device(s) will be tracked/monitored and confiscated if cyber-
27. bullying continues.

28. (D) Cyberbullies must attend 30 hours of sensitivity training

29. (E) Those who are cyberbullied must attend therapy (optional)
30.
31.
32.
33.

34. **Results to be Expected:**

35. (A) Reduced number of cyberbullying victims from 3.2 million to 2.2 million students
36. per year.

37. (B) Reduced number of suicides attempts as a direct result of cyberbullying.

38. (C) Bills to be passed to decrease cyberbullying across the nation.
39.
40.
41.
42.
43.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Less than 1% animal cruelty cases are pursued in Texas

Major Area to be Affected:

Arlington, Austin, Houston, Texas

Justification:

Did you know that 70.1% of dogs, 20.9% of cats, and 24.1% of other animals are involved in animal cruelty. Animal abuse and neglect are two separate things. Animal abuse is when you hoard, shooting, fighting, beating, throwing, stabbing, burning, or sexual abuse. Animal neglect is when you don't give a animal food, water, shelter, and-or vet care. Animal testing is also really bad. 66,000 dogs and 21,000 cats are test subjects a year.

Proposal for Action:

We Want to make a website for Animal Abuse, such as reporting it and looking out for it.

We want to try to pass this bill, also try to make it more noticeable and strict.

We want to try and lower the percent of animals that get abused.

Results to be Expected:

More strict and firm animal cruelty punishments. Also we want to finish our website and make people know how to recognize the signs of animal abuse more known. Sometimes people are not aware when they see animals being abused that it is actually an animal being abused. Possibly in the future we can have talks in school about looking for signs of animal abuse.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Providing mental health services to veterans

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Veterans

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Veterans are returning with serious mental issues.

8. (A)Of the 1.7 million veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, 300,000 (20 percent) suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or major depression

9.
10. (B)Veterans are at risk for depression,substance abuse,aggressive behavior problems, and severe mental illnesses caused by the stress of war.

11.
12. (C)A study by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration revealed that only 50% of returning veterans who need veteran mental health treatment will receive these services

13.
14.
15.
16.
17. **Proposal for Action:**

18. Government Offers money for medical bills (therapy included)
19. housing utilities
20. starting fundraisers
21. build retirement homes for retired veterans
22.
23.
24.
25.
26.
27.
28.
29.
30.
31.
32.
33.

34. **Results to be Expected:**

35. less homeless people
36. less veteran corpse
37. veterans will have insurance
38. veteran will get the therapy they need
39.
40.
41.
42.
43.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Expanding resources to growing Texas homeless population.

Major Area to be Affected:

Homeless people in Texas.

Justification:

Homelessness affects a thousand of people over decades.

A) 35% people are homeless because of their loss of job.

B) 15% people are homeless because of their bills getting higher.

C) 9% of them are homeless because of drugs and alcohol.

According to – www.homelesshouston.org/homelessness-101/

Proposal for Action:

Youth face devastating harms and barriers in life.

A) They can work and get paid up to \$7.50 and we can provide them a small shelter with them following to certain rules.

B) We can sign up companies or schools to provide large corporations to assist those in need.

C) Stand up for the civil rights of the homeless.

D) Encourage local communities to adopt best practices regarding policing and other public services that directly affect homelessness.

E) Increases investment and more life transforming services.

Website found- https://www.nn4youth.org/wp-content/uploads/IssueBrief_Youth-Homelessness.pdf

Results to be Expected:

A) There will be lives that will be transformed from hopelessness to hope.

B) There will be reconnections with family and faith.

C) They will pursue their educational goals and prepare for work and independent living.

www.bowery.org/about-us/impact-results/

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. School to Prison Pipeline

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Texas schools

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. For many years, the school to prison pipeline has ruined the future for many children.

8. Prisons should not be built based off of children's grades or test scores. Failing scores

9. could come from a variety of reasons. The lack of proper nutrition, home and family

10. issues, and emotional struggles could all lead to a low score on a standardized test. In

11. 2009, the Los Angeles Unified School District reported the following numbers for out-of-

12. school suspensions: 62% are Hispanic students, 33% are Black students, 3% are white

13. and 2% are Asian. LAUSD also reported that of their expulsions, 67% of Hispanic

14. students and 5% of Black students were not offered educational services. Lastly,

15. 18.77% are Hispanics and 8% are of Asian, Black and white students were expelled

16. under zero tolerance policies.

17.
18.
19.
20.
21.
22.
23. **Proposal for Action:**

24. Instead of punishing students the same way, an *intervention level chart* could be

25. created to track offenses. In our intervention level chart, there are six levels. The first

26. level is intervention number one where the student gets a one-on-one positive reteach

27. with the teacher to also figure out what they can do to get better. The second level is a

28. lunch detention. After teacher has gave that student a verbal warning and they didn't

29. get it right the first time, they shall either spend lunch with the teacher in the

30. classroom, or with another teacher if that teacher can't do it that day. The third

31. intervention is an after school detention for however many hours m the teacher thinks

32. that student needs. The fourth level is intervention is a minor incident report which will

33. prevent them from doing any activities or events throughout the whole school year. The

34. fifth intervention is an office referral. Their parents will have to come and sit in class

35. with their child, have a conference with all of their teachers and the principal, and the

36. student will get suspended. The last intervention is that the student gets

37. expelled. **Results to be Expected:**

38. We expect to see children being more responsible with their decisions. They will appreciate

39. their learning more and the learning environment will experience fewer distractions.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. Title or Purpose: Teenage Pregnancy Prevention

4. Major Area to be Affected: high school students, teenagers in Texas

8. Justification: Texas has the highest rate of teen pregnancy in the country. Kids born to these teenagers will more than likely not have much food or time with their parents like the average child. Annually 229,715 babies are born to teenagers age 15-19. A birth rate of 22.3 children per 1000 women in this age group is another record low for U.S teens and a drop of 8% from 2014 birth rates fell 9% for women aged 15-17 and 7% for women 18-19 years.

18. Proposal for Action: This proposal for action is proposing to have to have safe sex education assemblies at least every six months in high schools. Students who are given information more than once a year are more likely to use this information to make wiser choices.

35. Results to be Expected: The rate of teen pregnancy will decrease around 10%. There will be less high school dropouts and there will be more successful students in high school and in collage.

Author: Gia-Uyen Tran YMCA Delegation: Austin Academy

YMCA: White Rock YMCA City: Garland PROPOSAL #:40 COMMITTEE 5 TRINITY B

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Legalizing Medical Marijuana

3.

4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. The Texas Healthcare Industry

6.

7. **Justification:**

8. Medical marijuana refers to various medicines derived from the cannabis plant. Oils
9. are extracted from the plant, and administered to patients through various methods.

10. These extracts have been clinically proven to be effective when treating numerous
11. conditions, including: Alzheimer's disease, cancer, Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, Crohn's
11. disease, glaucoma, arthritis, Tourette's syndrome, and multiple sclerosis. In addition to
12. these uses, there are more general applications, such as pain and nausea relief. Medical
13. marijuana has the potential to impact a multitude of people.

14. The use of medical cannabis has the support of scientists and doctors across the globe. Over sixty
15. U.S. and international health organizations support the legalization of medicinal marijuana. A 1991
16. Harvard study showed that forty-four percent of oncologists have recommended cannabis treatment to
17. their patients. Another fifty percent stated that they would have recommended cannabis treatment — if
18. it wasn't illegal. In 2013, an international study discovered that out of 446 doctors from 72
19. different countries and 56 different states and provinces in North America, seventy-six
20. percent of physicians supported legalization.

21. One common argument is that marijuana can be addictive, and therefore unsafe.
22. However, addiction with marijuana is largely associated with recreational use, not
23. medical use. This is because medical marijuana is comprised of extracts. These extracts
24. can be modified to accommodate the needs of the patient, which means that the
25. addictive parts of the plant can be excluded. Opponents have several other arguments
26. against legalization. Some claim that medical marijuana is under-researched, but for the
27. past twenty years, hundreds of clinical studies have been conducted. Others add that
28. cannabis can have adverse effects. While this is true, the side effects are relatively
29. minor. These include drowsiness and dizziness. Even with side effects, the promise of
30. relief from their illnesses overshadows the negatives.

31. Medical marijuana is a versatile drug that has the undeniable potential to improve the
32. lives of millions that struggle with their conditions.

33.

34. **Proposal for Action:**

35. The use of medical marijuana in Texas will be legalized. All patients that require this
36. medication must obtain a prescription from an accredited physician. The patient will also
37. be given a "medical marijuana card," which is simply a card that includes basic
38. information about the patient and allows them to purchase medical marijuana at
39. approved vendors.

40.

41. **Results to be expected:**

42. Citizens will have more choices regarding their medical care and many will find relief
43. from their conditions.

44.

45.

46.

47.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. The War on Drugs

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. The citizens of the United of America, especially the lower economic neighborhood

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. The War On Drugs is unnecessary, used up trillions of dollars, hundreds of lives,
9. and 40 years of our time

10. (A) According to a CNN interview with Richard Nixon's aide he said "You understand
11. what I'm saying? We knew we couldn't make it illegal to be either against the
12. war or black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana
13. and blacks with heroin. And then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt
14. those communities," Ehrlichman said. "We could arrest their leaders. Raid their
15. homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening
16. news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did."

17. (B) After 40 years and 1 trillion dollars the War on Drugs have not curbed drug use
18. at all

19. (C) According to the Bureau of Prisons there are 207,847 incarcerated because of
20. possession of drugs or drug related crimes. The average taxpayer pays \$31000
21. dollars per inmate

22. (D) The patients in this program has dropped their felony rate by 60% and after a
23. year it's 80%. Patient costs are covered by national health insurance agency.
24. Patients pay 700 dollars/year for the compulsory insurance. The Swiss save
25. about 38 dollars per day per patient mostly in lowered costs for court and police
26. time, due to less crime committed by the patients. The program has been
27. adopted by three countries: Germany, Belgium and Denmark. Four countries are
28. running trials, Holland, England, Spain and Canada.

29. According to six published reports. The Swiss Federal Office of Public Health
30. reviewed and approved its release.

31. (E) According to The Beckley Foundation, the introduction of the Four Pillars
32. strategy also brought about a significant reduction of deaths directly attributable
33. to drug use, such as overdose, and of deaths indirectly related, such as HIV and
34. Hepatitis. Between 1991 and 2004, the drug related death toll fell by more than
35. 50%.

36. (E). Upon admission to the HAT, 73% of the addicts were unemployed and 69%
37. were funding their habit via an illegal income

38.
39. **Proposal for Action:**

40. Cut the government spending on The War on Drugs.

41. Implement the Four Pillar Policy similar to the one in Switzerland.

42. The Four pillar policy is based on 4 aspects Harm Reduction, Law Enforcement, Therapy,
43. and Prevention.

44. Also, Have the same requirements such as (1) be at least 20 years of age; (2) have
45. been addicted to heroin — daily use — for at least two years; (3) present signs of
46. deterioration of health and/or social relations as a result of drug use; and (4) be
47. engaged in conventional treatment without success despite two or more attempts.

48.
49. **Results to be Expected:**

50.
51. The War on Drugs will be stopped.

52. The Four Pillar Policy will affect The United States similar to Switzerland.

53.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. WAR ON DRUGS

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Mostly in Texas because that's where the drug dealers are and their resource also is in
6. different place

7.
8. **Justification**

8. The rate of Texas is 570,000 that from people that die from drug

9. Also people will have heart cancer, lung cancer, and liver cancer from drugs and they
10. overdose also if they are popping pills if they are not sick

11.
12.
13.
14. **Proposal for Action:**

15. We are going to start a program for kids that need help with drugs or think it cool.

16. Trying to make drugs illegal in all parts of the world. We also have bible study for all
17. kids and their problems also if they don't like bible study or it about their region. The
18. people that will teach the kids and adults are people that already been through.

19.
20.
21.
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27.
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29.
30. **Results to be Expected:**

31. That we see these vile groups of people face the consequences for selling illegal herbs
32. and drugs. Also I want to do is make sure they want help so they can get better if they
33. don't want help we will try something else. All I want to do is make sure that the world
34. is safe from these dealers.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1 **Title or Purpose:**

2 Require bilingual education

3 **Major Area to be Affected:**

4 people whose first language is not english

6 **Justification:**

7 Bilingual people do not receive the same education as the other students

8 A.) learning two languages can make their brain more developed

9 B.) parents who speak a language other than English to their children will help them be
10 use to it so that when they go to school it won't be a train wreck

11 C.) bilingual education has been proven that the student's brain is more developed
12 than other students

13 I found all of these facts at <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/~haroldfs/540/bilingtl/myths.html>

17 **Proposal for Action:**

18 Bilingual people do not receive the same education as the other students

19 A.) we would have to require at least one or more bilingual class in all of the schools in
20 Texas

21 B.) require all the bilingual teachers to have a degree in that language that they are
22 teaching

23 C.) we could have fifty percent of the students classes should be bilingual classes and
24 then the other fifty percent of the classes should go be regular classes

31 **Results to be Expected:**

32 A.) there would be a more percentage of jobs for bilingual students because their brain
33 developed to learn two languages

34 B.) their brain will be more developed than the other students

35 C.) they will have a great work ethic

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Driverless Car Regulations

Major Area to be Affected:

All driverless vehicle Company's

Motorist on the highways

All driverless car owners

Justification:

During tests of driverless vehicles a few people have been injured during the process.

(A) Driverless cars might actually make traffic worse www.fool.com

(B) Sensors fail during unexpected conditions according to www.bergenerlaw.com

(C) The newness of technology might cause some accidents according to www.autoguide.com

Proposal for Action:

During tests of driverless vehicles a few people have been injured during the process

(A) Create a class explaining what to do when the technology goes wrong.

(B) Take a test as you would for getting your driver's license.

(C) Get a checkup every 8 months on the driverless vehicle.

Results to be Expected:

Having regulations on driverless cars will result in less crashes, accidents, and injuries in Texas.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

A proposal to better support the LGBTQ Rights and Communities in Texas

Major Area to be Affected:

The major areas to be affected are: the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) communities.

Texas is one of the country's most active places with LGBTQ people. Texas has provided festivals and other events for LGBT Texans. 90% of transgender people have been treated unfairly in their work. LGBTQ children are usually get bullied and can not find help easily. $\frac{2}{3}$ of all of the Texans would support LGBTQ.

Justification:

While Texas is one of the country's most active states for the LGBTQ community, 90% of transgenders have been treated unfairly in their work and LGBTQ children are usually bullied and cannot find help easily. We care about this because many people have been told what to be and what to do and we believe this a free country and that you can be whatever you want to be no matter what kind of people you like or if you believe you were born the wrong gender. Currently, people are being abused and made fun of because they look a certain way. For example on June 12, 2015 there was a massive shooting in a Gay Dance Club in Orlando. At this shooting 49 died and 50 more were injured. This happened during pride weekend. (American Psychological Association) We should not allow for this to happen or see ways to prevent it [1][2].

Proposal for Action:

What we want to happen is that we allow that people who like different genders can be accepted in society and not to be judged or hurt. Some ideas we should try is to hold more pride parades supported by the government. We also think that public schools should allow students to use the restroom of their preferred gender. People should also provide more fair jobs for LGBTQ citizens in Texas.

Results to be Expected:

What we expect to be changed is that people stop getting hurt and for the government to make more public restrooms for LGBTQ people. And for them to make laws more fair for them .

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Houston Petrochemical Facilities Violating Clean Air Laws

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. The Houston Community

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Pollution from refineries and chemical plants is making people sick, but regulators
8. largely look the other way when big polluters break the law. According to the UT Public
9. Health, children living within two miles of the heavily industrialized Houston Ship
10. Channel face a 56% greater risk of contracting leukemia, which researchers link to oil
11. refineries and chemical plants. Our research has found that Houston-area petrochemical
12. facilities violated clean air laws at least 405 times In 2015, illegally releasing 5 million
13. pounds of pollution, including chemicals linked to asthma and cancer and other diseases.
14. For example, ExxonMobil broke clean air laws at its Baytown oil refinery and chemical
15. plant near Houston more than 4,000 times over five years- compounding Texas'
16. pollution problems and endangering the health of nearby residents.

17.
18.
19.
20.
21.
22. **Proposal for Action:**

23. There are ordinances in place that make it unlawful to operate a facility inside Houston
24. unless it was registered with the city. Violations of the ordinances could have been
25. prosecuted in municipal court and were punishable with fines between \$250 and \$2,000
26. per day. I would propose that the people who break these laws should pay more. Some
27. power plants exploded and some houses were burned because of all that chemicals,
28. pollution and gas inside those refineries. I want to help not to prevent more pollution in
29. the city. We should stop putting out chemicals in the in our city.

30.
31.
32.
33.
34. **Results to be Expected:**

35.
36. The more expensive we make the fines the less that companies will want to break clean
37. air laws. If the fines become something that companies cannot afford they will be forced
38. to follow set laws.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. Converting to the Metric system

3. Major Area to be Affected:

4. The areas to be affected are the state department of education system and state
5. department of transportation.

7. Justification:

8. Due to the measurement system differences, our international communication is
9. hindered because whenever they would have to share measurements, they'd have to
10. convert them and this does not always result in an accurate assessment. This hinders
12. the communication of the scientific field; specifically NASA, meteorologists, and
13. international companies.

14. Also, the U.S. is one of the lowest ranking countries in the world in math and science,
15. conversions being one of the biggest reasons. Teaching kids the metric system from
16. the start would help alleviate that problem.

18. Proposal for Action:

19. First and foremost, we'd change the road signs on state roads and recommend GPS
20. systems change from miles to kilometers.

21. Second, the State Board of Education should change the mathematical and scientific
22. standards to emphasize metric measurements over customary.

24. Results to be Expected:

25. One thing that would happen after we convert to the metric system is that cooperating
26. with other foreign countries our results would be the same and we would not have to
27. convert the answers to customary. Another thing that would happen is that the metric
28. system is easier to learn and is on the base-ten system and it's the worldwide
29. standard.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. War on Drugs

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Texas High Schools and Middle Schools

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Statistics show that 30% of teens and pre-teens are stressed because of school work.

8. 43 percent of high schoolers have used marijuana. Stress deals with drug usage

9. because people have problems that lead them to stress out and think drugs are a quick
10. way out.

11.
12.
13.
14.
15.
16.
17. **Proposal for Action:**

18. Establish a program where children from middle school to high school can handle their
19. stress a better way. The program will offer nature walks, circles (where they talk about
20. how they feel), yoga, boxing, swimming, give ways to reduce stress, destroying objects
21. and more.

22.
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33.
34. **Results to be Expected:**

35. This program can help lower the stress levels of teens in Texas and should help stop
36. some drug problems in Texas. Also this lowers our numbers in stress because people
37. will have a better way to not let their emotions overcome their actions.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. A proposal to limit cyberbullying.

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Teens

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Cyberbullying needs to end because 42% of teens say that they have been cyberbullied.
8. Second, 81% of teens say that bullying online is easier to get away with. Third, 20% of
9. kids cyberbullied think about suicide and 1 in 10 attempt it. Finally according to the CDC
20 4,400 people die per year due to cyberbullying

10
11. **Proposal for Action:**

12. Our proposal is that the government supports the creation of a social media app called
13. STEREO to have the same concept of Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.
14. However, unlike those platforms any user that posts negative comments will be
15. suspended based on the severity of the comment. The receiver of the comment will
16. never get the comment, instead it will be automatically deleted. The trigger of the
17. suspension and the comment deletion will be based on the words that will trigger the
18. protocol. The comments will be monitored by a server that will be created and coded by
19. us and a founding partner will help with trigger words of all languages.

20.
21. **Results to be Expected:**

22. The hopeful results will be the number of people cyberbullied will decrease. Also the
23. number of thoughts and attempted suicides in teens will decrease. We expect to help
24. the people who have been cyberbullied to be able to get out of their shell and be able to
25. live life, knowing they won't be cyberbullied. STEREO will not only help this generation
26. but the next one and so on. I urge my fellow delegates to vote for this proposal and
27. help us prevent society's greatest issue.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

LGBTQ+ rights in Texas

Major Area to be Affected:

The LGBTQ+ community in Texas

Justification:

We would like to dwindle all suicide attempts in Texas. Many suicides are committed by people that identify as apart of the LGBTQ+ community. In fact 9 out of 10 teens have reported extensive bullying because of their sexual identity. Did you know that 92% of transgender individuals attempt suicide before the age of 25? Also half of bi-sexual women are rape survivors,who have been raped between the ages of 11-17. Guess how many lesbian and bi-sexual women have experienced one or all of the following, Rape, Physical violence, and/or stalking? 44% of lesbians and 61% of bisexual women have experienced these traumatic attacks. If we want to improve our state we have to educate people on how to treat other with respect, where're they are in the LGBTQ+ community or not.

Proposal for Action:

Our plan for action is to create a 15 minute video that is going to educate the students on the proper pronouns and terminology of whose are in the LGBTQ+ community. We would also like to incorporate a G.S.A. which is a gay straight alliance. This will insure that there is always a safe place for students to go whenever they need support. The G.S.A. will be mandatory in all public and charter schools; private schools may implement this if they choose.

Results to be Expected

The first result we expect is that people will know how to treat people in the LGBTQ+ community. The second result to be expected is that people will be more comfortable with their sexual orientation. The third result to be expected is that people are more open minded, and understand the people around them. The fourth result to be expected is that heterosexuals and people in the LGBTQ+ community will collaborate more and create a better Texas together. The final result to be expected is that suicide rate will lower drastically. Our ultimate goal is decrease the suicide rates committed by those in the LGBTQ+ community while increasing diversity and tolerance.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

War on Drug

Major Area to be Affected:

Texas citizen

Justification:

If we end the war on drugs, then we will be able to end conflicts and come to a solution. Not as many people will go to prison if they stop the war on drugs and less time and effort will be wasted trying to end the war on drugs. A lot of people struggle with paying taxes, but some of the taxes are being used for the war on drugs. This means that if we stop the war on drugs, then we won't have to pay as much taxes

Proposal for Action:

People make their own choice to do drugs, so why spend wads of money trying to stop people from doing something that makes them happy. President after president has tried to eliminate drug war by enforcing campaigns and harsh laws, and all it has done is make people do drugs more. Putting people in jail for taking drugs is stripping away their freedom and is unnecessary. The number of people behind bars for nonviolent drug law offenses increased from 50,000 in 1980 to over 400,000 by 1997. The United States alone spends some \$40 billion each year on trying to eliminate the supply of drugs. The war on drugs isn't working and hasn't for the last couple of decades. Nowadays the UN Office on Drugs and Crime no longer talks about a drug-free world. Its boast is that the drug market has "stabilised", meaning that more than 200m people, or almost 5% of the world's adult population, still take illegal drugs—roughly the same proportion as a decade ago. It arrests 1.5m of its citizens each year for drug offences, locking up half a million of them; tougher drug laws are the main reason why one in five black American men spend some time behind bars. Yet the assault on American citizens and others continues, with 700,000 people still arrested for marijuana offenses each year and almost 500,000 people still behind bars for nothing more than a drug law violation. Many other states are realizing that this isn't working too. Marijuana reform has gained unprecedented momentum throughout the Americas. Alaska, California, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon, Maine, Massachusetts, Washington State, and Washington D.C. have legalized marijuana for adults. Although your taking drugs might affect the people around you emotionally, it doesn't affect them physically and only the person taking it is affected. The war on drugs is also a direct violation of the first amendment. "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Results to be Expected:

2017-2018 Texas Youth and Government

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2.
3. School-to-Prison Pipeline
4.

5. **Major Area to be Affected:**

6.
7. Texas Middle and High Schools and Students
8.

8. **Justification:**

9.
10. As a result of k-12 students being expelled and/or suspended the rate of detainment has
11. been escalating within the Texas student population. Texas Schools are propelling kids
12. who get in trouble, like getting suspended or expelled, into PRISON. Within the student
13. population, for every 1 Caucasian kid arrested 3 African American kids are suspended or
14. expelled. 72% African Americans, 20% Hispanics, 6% Asians, and 2% other ethnicities
15. in Texas have been detained or arrested.
16.
17.

18. **Proposal for Action:**

19.
20. There are many things schools can do to prevent the school-to-prison pipeline from
21. continuing. Schools will be required to hold an assembly each semester on how to
22. properly behave and why proper behavior in schools is important. Schools will stop
23. assigning In School Suspensions and detentions for small offenses, and instead start
24. sending more kids to the school counselors to express their feelings so that a behavior
25. plan could be created.
26.
27.

28. **Results to be Expected:**

29.
30. Since schools will now bring the professional school counselor into the mix to assess
31. students' behaviors and properly assign a behavior plan, more students will be given a
32. proper chance to correct their wrong behavior and be far less likely to be suspended,
33. expelled, arrested, or put into prison for behavior issues.
34.
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43.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:** to jumpstart the coding workforce

2.
3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:** school, and programing jobs

5.
6. **Justification:** We need to start educating ourselves on our technology so we can start
7. understanding the products we buy and make it easier for device repair, as well as the
8. programing workforce going into decline for 3 years.

9. there is only 127,200 coders in the world

10.
11.
12. -which is a drop in the bucket compared to construction workers 1,449,400.

13.
14. -And texas is only 20,430 of those jobs

15.
16. <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes151131.htm>

17. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/construction-laborers-and-helpers.htm>

18.
19.
20.
21.
22. **Proposal for Action:** We should add coding programs for teach the new generation,
23. and give schools bonus pay for taking up this program
24. and allow schools to invest money into more assets to help even more with this
25. program.
26. allow guest speakers to come and increase interest.

27.
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35.
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37.
38. **Results to be Expected:** The economy would get a slight stimulation after a year or
39. two of the program and hopefully more interest in the hobby/job

Author: Celeste Phemister

YMCA: Oakridge Middle School

YMCA: Cooper Family YMCA. City: Fort Worth

PROPOSAL #59: _COMMITTEE 6 TRINITY A_

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Providing mental health services to veterans.

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Veterans' health services

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Mental health issues can develop from anything, especially trauma. Veterans are at high
8. risk of many well known and lesser known mental illnesses, many of which can be
9. dangerous to those with the illness and those around them. The danger is even greater
10. when mental issues go undiagnosed or without treatment.

11.
12.
13.
14.
15.
16. **Proposal for Action:**

17. A mental health screening followed by three (3) therapy sessions regardless of the
18. results. One (1) group therapy session before and after a follow up screening. Further
19. action will be evaluated by a professional based on the results of the final screening. A
20. new department or branch could be created to work funding and processing, which
21. would create jobs.

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31.
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34. **Results to be Expected:**

35. Improved peace of mind to veterans and their families.
36. Better health and safety for veterans and those around them.
37. The creation of jobs.
38. The spread of mental health awareness.

Author: Esmeralda Reyes, Joshua Gomez **School:** Gentry Jr. High School

YMCA: Baytown Family YMCA

City: Houston

PROPOSAL #:_74 COMMITTEE 6 TRINITY A

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Mental health care for veterans.

3. Veterans are not receiving the proper health care they need and deserve.

6. **Major Area to be Affected:**

7. The Veterans, their families along with the rest of the community.

9. **Justification:**

10. Veterans with mental illness, it's not a good thing but it is a common thing. There is no
11. known cure for it, so it affects them and their families too. Studies have shown that
12. approximately 33% of children with at least 1 deployed parent have suffered from
13. psychological disorders such as depression, anxiety and behavioral disorders. Some
14. veterans that have psychological problems such as PTSD develop other disorders they
15. turn to things like alcohol and drugs to try and cope. Between 11-20 % of veterans get
16. PTSD in a given year. Mental health disorders that happen to veterans do not only affect
17. them but affect everyone around them. Out of 1.7 million veterans 300,000 suffer from
18. PTSD. Some call mental health disorders invisible wounds of war because even though
19. you can't see them they still affect that person
20.
21.

24. **Proposal for Action:**

25. It should be standard that all veterans receive a mental health evaluation upon exiting
26. the military. Veterans need this extra care seeing that it not only affects them but their
27. communities as well. Should veterans be assessed to have some sort of mental health
28. issue during their evaluation, the military will be required to provide care free of charge
29. to the veterans.
30.
31.

32. **Results to be Expected:**

33. Doing this for veterans will make the percentage of mental health disorders decrease. It
34. will also help decrease the number of veterans unknowingly living with mental health
35. disorders. These ultimately help Veterans to live a quality life after their time of service.
36.
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43.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

The Starting Time For Texas Secondary Schools

Major Area to be Affected:

Texas, Middle Schools/High Schools

Justification:

According to Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention, over 3,940 public schools in Texas start school at 8:05 A.M. According to National Sleep Foundation, most adolescents will be able to sleep at 11:00 P.M. Sleep is vital to our health just like drinking water or eating healthy. Teens need about an average of 8-10 hours of sleep. However studies show that only 15% of teens get 8½ hours of sleep. Many teens suffer from sleep disorders such as insomnia, or sleep apnea. According to Psychology Today, approximately 25% adolescents suffer from sleep insomnia. Insomnia is also a simple symptom of depression. It is important for teens to have enough sleep so they can remain focus in school. So if teens are sleeping at 11:00 P.M and start school at 8:05 A.M, but have to wake up at 6:00 A.M because they need to get to school early, really, if you look at it this way, teens are only getting about 7 hours of sleep, which is not enough for an average teen. According to WebMD.com, "Studies show that sleep loss and poor-quality sleep also lead to accidents and injuries on the job. In one study, workers who complained about excessive daytime sleepiness had significantly more work accidents, particularly repeated work accidents. They also had more sick days per accident."

Proposal for Action:

Schools in Texas should start at 9:00 A.M because it can provide them an extra 30 to 60 minutes of sleep. According to Health Top, most teenagers are forced to wake up at 6 A.M for school purposes. If teenagers sleep around 11:00 P.M, they can get at least 8 hours of sleep. Also, they can have an extra time in the morning to get ready, finish homework, and have a healthy/nutritious breakfast. If you don't have breakfast daily, then you will start to feel tired and your grades will start to drop down. According to WebMd.com, "Kids who don't eat in the a.m. have a harder time focusing, and they become more tired in school. They may also be cranky or restless. And it isn't just their moods that can suffer. Their school work can, too. One study showed that kids who ate breakfast had higher test scores than those who didn't. Most children don't get all the vitamins and minerals they need from just lunch and dinner." This basically means that adolescents should have a nutritious breakfast in order to have a successful day.

Results to be Expected:

Eventually, we will help teenagers to have a healthier sleep pattern which will benefit them in school. We will put our best effort into changing the starting time for schools around 9:45 a.m. and kids will then be able to improve their grades and study more efficiently every day.

"Insomnia." Psychology Today, Sussex Publishers,
www.psychologytoday.com/basics/insomnia/children-and-teens.

"10 Things to Hate About Sleep Loss." WebMD, WebMD, www.webmd.com/sleep-disorders/features/10-results-sleep-loss#1.

"What Time to Average Teenagers Wake up in the Morning? - Answered by Top Doctors on HealthTap." HealthTap, www.healthtap.com/user_questions/52146-what-time-to-average-teenagers-wake-up-in-the-morning.

"Teens and Sleep." National Sleep Foundation, www.sleepfoundation.org/sleep-topics/teens-and-sleep

"Breakfast: Is It the Most Important Meal?" WebMD, WebMD, www.webmd.com/food-recipes/most-important-meal.

"School Start Times for Middle School and High School Students — United States, 2011–12 School Year." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 7 Aug. 2015, www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6430a1.htm.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1. **Title or Purpose:**

2. Human Trafficking is NOT ok. Texas is home to over 300,000 human trafficking victims

3.
4. **Major Area to be Affected:**

5. Houston, Texas

6.
7. **Justification:**

8. Researchers conducted interviews, focus groups and web-based surveys with
8. professionals at social service agencies who provide outreach and relief services to
9. trafficking victim and survivors to establish benchmarks on human trafficking
10. occurrences across Texas. The main findings include:

11.
12.
 - There are an estimated 313,000 victims of human trafficking in Texas
 - Approximately 79,000 minors and youth are victims in human trafficking in Texas
 - Approximately 234,000 workers in Texas are victims of labor trafficking.

15.
16.
17. **Proposal for Action:**

18.
 - State government should place State Patrol on State border lines that are trained
 - to look for signs of human trafficking
 - Allocate more resources for victims of human trafficking such as medical
 - treatment and substance education and counseling

22.
23.
24.
25.
26.
27.
28. **Results to be Expected:**

29.
30. If the state places State patrol and train them then human trafficking will seize 1 by 1
31. and we will save more victims and place more culprits behind bars.

32.
33. If we allocate more resources to victims of human trafficking then human trafficking
34. victims will have a better life than other human trafficking victims in the past. If victims
35. have more access to medicine they will have a better attitude. If they have more access
36. to education they have more of a chance of a better future. If they are provided with
37. counseling then they can cope with their issues in a better way.

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose: Texas is home to over 300,000 Human Trafficking victims

Major Area to be Affected:

All of the State of Texas

Justification:

Human trafficking involves the recruitment, harboring, transporting, or procurement of a person for labor or services for the purpose of involuntary servitude, slavery, or forced commercial sex acts. In Texas, this crime is committed by criminal organizations and individual criminals who target male and female victims of different ages, nationalities, and socioeconomic classes.

Texas ranks second nationally for human trafficking crimes due to its geographic location on the national border. It also has 4 of the US' 20 most populous cities. In 2012 367 human trafficking cases were reported and 1,547 calls were made toward the suspicion of trafficking.

Proposal for Action:

I would like to create a commission for human trafficking, and a police task force that ONLY focuses on Human trafficking and the crime focused around it. This task force will help cut down on the crime flow of human trafficking they will crack down on gangs and private groups that involve themselves in human trafficking. They will have jurisdiction throughout the country not only in Texas because human trafficking flows everywhere

Results to be Expected:

https://www.dps.texas.gov/director_staff/media_and_communications/2014/txHumanTraffickingAssessment.pdf

http://www.dps.texas.gov/director_staff/public_information/20140320HumanTrafficking.pdf

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2014/01/27/texas-ranks-no-2-for-human-trafficking-crime>

SLAVERY IN TEXAS at a Glance

EL PASO, TX. 14th

IN THE COUNTRY FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES. MANY UNREPORTED CASES BECAUSE OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT POPULATION, AND PROXIMITY TO THE BORDER.

Of 1457 Trafficking Cases
Reported to the FBI, Texas
reported
436 Cases

TEXAS

HOUSTON, TX. 2ND

HIGHEST IN THE COUNTRY FOR KIDS AT RISK OF BEING TRAFFICKED AND 25% OF ALL TRAFFICKING IN THE SOUTH IS SAID TO TRAVEL THROUGH HOUSTON HIGHWAYS

STRICTEST TRAFFICKING LAWS

First state to adopt Tier 1 (strictest) trafficking laws

18 CITIES WITH TRAFFICKING TASK FORCES

AUSTIN HOUSTON
DALLAS EL PASO

ALL NATIONALLY
AWARDED

The Most
Proactive
Law Makers
pertaining to

**Human
Trafficking**

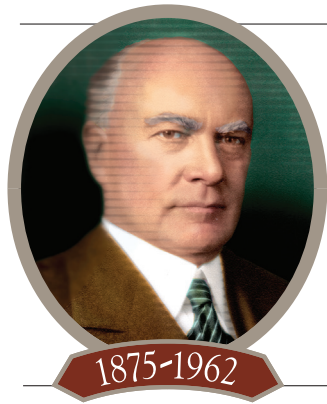
Legislation
Are in Texas

*ALL STATS PROVIDED BY HOUSTON
TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

2016-17 Texas Youth and Government

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