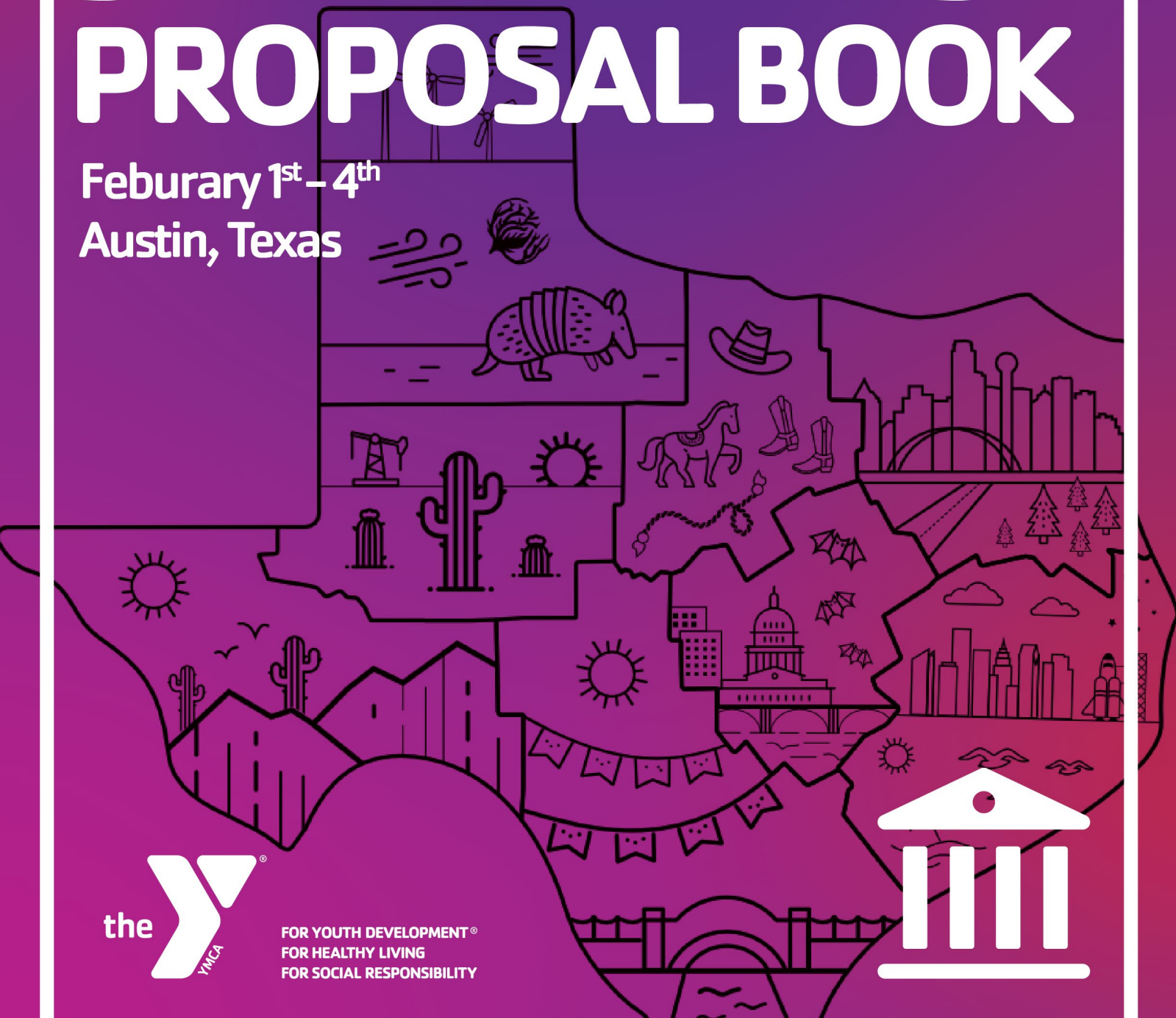


2024 STATE AFFAIRS PROPOSAL BOOK

February 1st – 4th
Austin, Texas



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



TEXAS YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT

Proposals of the 2024 YMCA Texas Youth and Government State Affair Forum

Author: Sofia Dominguez-Trejo
School: Austin High School District: **District 2**

Proposal No.1
Committee 3

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1 **Title or Purpose:**

2 The purpose of this proposal is to increase healthcare access to the most vulnerable Texans residing
3 in rural counties.

4 **Major Area to be Affected:**

5 The most immediate entities affected by the passage of this proposal would be the hospitals and
6 governmental funding programs. In addition, people who reside in rural counties and would be using
7 the resources from rural hospitals would also be affected. At a wider scope, the entire state of Texas
8 would be impacted as a result of the chain of command.

9 **Justification:**

10 In recent years, there has been a surge in rural hospital closures. In 2022, 26% of rural hospitals
11 were found to be at risk of closure, this is a 10% increase in the risk of closure from the 16% risk of
12 closure one year prior in 2021. These figures, compared to the 5% risk of urban hospitals closing are
13 startling. In addition, 28% of Texas counties do not have a hospital. Texas is closing its rural
14 hospitals at a quicker rate than any other state in the country, yet holds the highest rural population
15 of over four million in the country.

16 The demographics of those who live in these rural counties include some of the most vulnerable and
17 valuable of the state. Rural Texas is vastly composed of older and economically disenfranchised
18 communities. This demographical makeup means we must aid those more at risk in rural
19 communities. In addition to rural communities being composed of predominantly older and
20 economically disenfranchised communities, the health of Rural Texas is necessary to the entire state.
21 Rural Texas produces over \$24 billion through agriculture and meat production industries which all
22 Texans depend on, making Texas the 5th largest producing agricultural state in the nation.
23 Additionally, the Texas Food and Fiber system, which includes all economic activities linked to
24 agricultural production, reported that it produced over \$159 billion, about 9%, of the state's total
25 GDP. Bearing in mind the vital role that rural communities play in supporting the state, we should
26 strongly consider implementing measures to support the healthcare of these communities so that
27 they may continue to play their essential role.

28 **Proposal for Action:**

29 Texas to adopt Medicare and Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act
30 This would increase the total allotment to hospitals, ensuring we fully fund them and minimize the
31 risk of closure. In addition, doing this would create a boost in insured Texans. Because Texans are
32 insured they would now be more likely to seek treatment, therefore, keeping hospitals open.
33 Create a committee composed of state representatives, donors, funders, hospital representatives,
34 and constituents

35 This common ground space would promote collaboration and discussion as to the importance of
36 funding rural hospitals from various perspectives
37 Urge the State of Texas to adopt Telehealth and the Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes
38 Telehealth would allow patients to receive remote consultations and healthcare plans remotely. This
39 would minimize the burden of patients having to travel long distances for expensive treatment in the
40 meantime while the rest of this proposal becomes implemented.

41 **Results to be Expected:**

42 As a result of the implementation of this proposal, over 3 million Rural Texans will have access to
43 life-saving treatment. By ensuring these communities have equitable access to healthcare, we can
44 guarantee that they will have a positive quality of life and the capacity to continue contributing to our
45 state through their industries. By creating a better healthcare system in these regions, we are also
46 helping families and professionals decide to stay in rural communities since they will no longer face
47 the burden of deciding whether to leave their county due to a lack of healthcare. Mitigating the risk
48 of hospital closures would also promote professionals' migration to rural areas as employment
49 opportunities would grow.



Author: Zoe Moreno, Annika Singh
School: Austin High School **District:** District 2

Proposal No.2
Committee 2

STATE AFFAIRS PROPOSAL

1 **Title or Purpose:**
2 Separation of Church and State: School Safety

3
4 **Major Area to be Affected:**
5 Texas Public Schools, Teachers, Students

6
7 **Justification:**
8 Senate Bill 763 was approved in the Texas House and Senate, which allows Texas schools to use
9 safety funds to pay for unlicensed religious chaplains (church clergy members who provide spiritual
10 care) to work in mental health roles. Volunteer chaplains are permitted on campus with no license to
11 counsel in this bill. Unlicensed religious chaplains cannot provide adequate services for students in
12 need without proper training. Opponents even say, "the bill could deepen the state's youth mental
13 health crisis by providing students with unproven, nonscientific counseling that treats common
14 childhood problems, such as anxiety, as "sins" or issues that can be prayed away." (Downen, 23).
15 Reversing this legislation in Texas is critical, so students may receive professional help. It's not just
16 counselors, however. ACLU finds, "The federal courts have made it crystal clear that officially
17 sponsored prayer is not acceptable in the school environment. Separation of church and state is a
18 principle that must be adhered to, school-sponsored prayer is unconstitutional. But with Texas's new
19 legislation and the examples of violations listed above, Texas public schools are sorely lacking.

20
21 **Proposal for Action:**
22 The proposal for action has two parts. The first addresses the issue of unlicensed religious
23 counseling: A policy in all non-affiliated Texas public schools that a license is legally required under
24 any grounds to professionally counsel students. Part two would address staff members other than
25 counselors. It would create a formal report system that is easily accessible to report any teacher if
26 believed themselves or their child is being religiously influenced in ways similar to ACLU's offenses in
27 justification. Examples and specifics would be required in a form in the student's school portal. Staff
28 would be tasked to review the forms and address the conflict one-on-one with the student. Reported
29 staff members would be called in, and if the school decides the staff member was imposing religious
30 practices on students, they will be disciplined including; training on religious discrimination and
31 warnings about imposing personal beliefs onto students. If a staff member is a repeat (x3) offender
32 of asking students to participate in religious activities, the school can decide if they should dock the
33 teacher's salary by \$300-1,000. Other penalties are up to the school's jurisdiction.

34
35 **Results to be Expected:**
36 A safer environment for all students and staff across all Texas public schools. A religiously inclusive
37 environment for students, a fostering of personal beliefs in a non-coerced manner, better counseling
38 resources for students, safer professional advising for students, an increase in the separation of
39 church and public education, more inclusivity, and finally, more thorough insurance that student's
40 beliefs are respected.



Author: Rozhan Barzani, Daksha Chaddha & Mira Sardeshpand
School: Plano YMCA Branch Club **District:** District 5

Proposal No.76
Committee 7

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1 **Title or Purpose:**

2 Implementing the Bottle Deposit System in Texas to Reduce Plastic Bottle Waste

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

5 Grocery Stores in Texas

6
7 **Justification:**

8 Every second, about 1,000 people open a bottle of water in America. Americans throw away 35
9 billion empty water bottles a year, and only 12 percent are recycled. Specifically, in Texas, roughly
10 400,000 tons of plastic waste is produced each year, costing about \$50 million; imagine the drastic
11 changes that could be made for the better without the loss of this money. Additionally, 8 million tons
12 of plastic bottles end up in our oceans, and 25 million tons in landfills, proving plastic bottles to be a
13 leading factor of plastic waste today. However, it is notable that Texans are willing to take account of
14 this waste but are unsure of how to do so. More than three-quarters of American voters recognize
15 the importance of stopping plastic pollution, with 83% of voters who are concerned about single-use
16 plastic products ----- so let's start here in Texas, with the implementation of the Bottle Deposit
17 System in local grocery stores to reduce plastic bottle waste.

18
19 **Proposal for Action:**

20 This proposal aims to limit the waste of plastic bottles. We plan to implement a Bottle Deposit
21 System in Texas grocery stores in which customers return their used and empty plastic bottles to a
22 bottle deposit machine. Once the items have been deposited to the machines, customers will be
23 presented with a receipt coupon which will give them the option to either receive their money back
24 and use the credit earned for any in-store purchases, or donate the money earned to charities
25 corresponding with the city the resident lives in. After the machine reaches the maximum capacity of
26 plastic bottles, a recycling operator from the city's corresponding recycling company will collect the
27 bottles, which will then be crushed, washed, and dehydrated to then be converted to flakes. These
28 flakes will be heated, dried, and cooled to be made into small pellets. These pellets will be used to
29 make new plastic products, excluding plastic bottles and food containers. To determine the plastic
30 bottle's eligibility to be recycled and how much credit the customer will receive for that item,
31 different codes will be placed on each bottle for consumers to scan while using the machine. After a
32 consumer has scanned a bottle(s), the slot for insertion will open, providing a quick and easy process
33 for disposal.

34
35 **Results to be Expected:**

36 The execution of the Bottle Deposit System in Texas will encourage individuals to recycle and reduce
37 the majority of plastic waste. Customers that bring plastic bottles will be rewarded with an incentive
38 which further ensures a lower rate of plastic waste. With the implementation of this proposal, we can
39 effectively decrease the vast amounts of plastic bottles harming our ecosystems and mitigate this
40 ongoing issue to create a thriving environment.



Author: Wansu Deng, Lachlan Polefka
School: Highland Park High School **District:** District 5

Proposal No.38
Committee 2

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1 **Title or Purpose:**

2 A proposal to increase the efficiency and efficacy of the United States Citizenship and Immigration
3 Services (USCIS) through technological integration.

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

6 The USCIS, those seeking asylum in the United States; and other areas.
7

8 **Justification:**

9 Whereas, the USCIS is legally permitted to spend up to 180 days processing the Application for
10 Asylum and for Withholding of Removal (Form I-589).

11 Whereas, asylum seekers may spend years considered "out of status" while their application is
12 pending, unable to work or access certain benefits while constantly fearing deportation.
13

14 **Proposal for Action:**

15 Integration of innovative technology into the asylum-seeking process will consist of
16 three major renovations:

- 17 1. Develop a user-intuitive site tailored specifically for asylum seekers and refugees.
- 18 1.1. Gather interdisciplinary expert opinions and perspectives on the accessibility and content of the
19 website.
- 20 1.2. Revise outdated language on official government documents.
- 21 2. Establish AI assistance for each step of the asylum-seeking process.
- 22 2.1. Subsidize key players in the AI industry to develop interactive and culturally trained AI chatbots
23 with expanded linguistic capabilities across 50+ languages.
- 24 2.2. Establish a preliminary screening of forms to ensure all information is presented correctly in
25 preparation for human review.
- 26 2.3. Assist with preparation for the credible fear interview by providing language assistance and
27 organizing up-to-date information about the crisis they are seeking asylum from.
- 28 3. Replace paper-based documentation processing with a digital filing system.
- 29 3.1. Dedicate USCIS resources to the development of and transition to a fully digital database with
30 progress markers on the processing of each application.
- 31 3.2. Streamline the background check process through strategic organization of identification
32 documents.
- 33 3.3. Retain all records and case-related documents in electronic format.
34

35 **Results to be Expected:**

36 The reduction of complications due to document navigation issues, a decrease in instances of
37 rejection on the basis of trivial errors, and a major reduction in application backlog.



Author: Germany Herrera, Preston Lee
School: Duncanville High School District: District

Proposal No.23
Committee 7

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

Title or Purpose:

Humanitarian/Refugee Crisis

Major Area to be Affected:

Refugees & Workforce

Justification:

A) The United Nations Refugee Agency writes, "Refugees are people who have been forced to flee their homes and have crossed an international border to find safety in another country according to the United Nations Refugee Agency."

B) Since the Refugee Act of 1980 was passed by President Jimmy Carter, the United States has admitted more than three million refugees. Carter initially set the cap at 50,000 refugees, but the president has the authority to change these numbers dramatically depending on the country's surroundings.

C) For refugees to enter the U.S., they must register with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Their application will go under review, and if they are qualified, their application will be sent to the Resettlement Support Centers (RSC). After being received by the RSC, background checks and biometric screenings would be performed; if the results are secure, they will be let into the U.S.

D) With the drastic changes of refugee ceilings, especially in recent years, the US workforce has begun to lack diversity of skills, which can damage the flow of the economy. For refugees to be accepted for admission into the U.S., it can take about 24 months; to receive permanent residency, it can take up to 52 months. Immigrants and refugees make up almost 20% of the United States' workforce. As a whole, the U.S. workforce has statistically been proven to be in decline by the US Census.

E) According to the UNHCR, there are currently nine national resettlement agencies with over 350 affiliations located throughout the U.S. Since the implementation of the Refugee Act of 1980, which established protocols and regulations, there have been zero reported cases of terrorism from individuals who were seeking asylum.

Proposal for Action:

Due to unreasonable circumstances, refugee ceilings have drastically restricted the number of individuals who were able to enter the country, which limited the increase and diversity of the US workforce.

To prevent a recurrence, our proposal for action is to set a minimum cap of refugee admissions at 50,000 and to limit refugee admissions wait time to 18 months. By taking these steps, will decrease limitations on refugees entering the U.S. which will aid the declining workforce and help lessen the effects of global humanitarian crises. By working alongside the UNHCR; personnel will increase to a minimum of 20,000 to accommodate the minimum cap, which will ensure the UN Refugee Agency will have sufficient staff to process the incoming refugees efficiently.

Results to be Expected:

This will decrease limitations on refugees entering the U.S. by 20%, which will aid the declining workforce and help lessen the effects of global humanitarian crises. With the efforts by the government and the UNHCR, refugee support and resources will increase.



Author: Lindsey Khuu
School: Garland High School **District:** District 5

Proposal No.35
Committee 5

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1 **Title or Purpose:**

2 Drug Rehabilitation Program for Prisoners

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

5 Public Prisons

6 Prisoners incarcerated due to drug-use related offenses

7 Prisoners convicted due to drug-use related offenses

8
9 **Justification:**

10 Substance abuse plays a large role in criminal activities and violence. It has the ability to lower
11 inhibitions, impair a person’s judgment and increase the risk of aggressive behaviors. Because of
12 this, substance abuse-related violence and crime rates are on the rise throughout the country.
13 Offenses range from minor to serious and include property crime, public-order offenses, driving while
14 intoxicated, assault and homicide. On average, roughly 40% of inmates who are incarcerated for
15 violent offenses were under the influence of alcohol or drugs during the time of their crime.
16 Currently, there are rehabilitative programs for prisoners in place, however, most of these programs
17 are only set in place during the last 6 months before the release of the prisoner, and/or have very
18 short programs not lasting more than 6 months. Additionally, these current programs are not
19 effective, seeing as 47.5% return back to prison within their first year released.

20
21 **Proposal for Action:**

22 We propose to rehabilitate prisoners through a new program: Substance Abuse Rehabilitation and
23 Release (SARR). This program is based on an already existing one implemented by Judge Hector
24 Garza of 195th District Court of Texas, a felony court with jurisdiction in Dallas County. And the new
25 curriculum will be based off of the successful STAR Drug Rehabilitation Program in California.
26 Prisoners who are convicted of misdemeanors, state jail felonies, third-degree felonies, and second-
27 degree felonies, or first-degree felonies due to influence of substances will have the option to be
28 placed into SARR, if eligible. The qualification varies as some felonies can be preplanned and
29 implemented on the use of drugs. In order to qualify, the person convicted must be solely
30 committing the offense because of the influence of substances. After completion of SARR, prisoners
31 will be released without probation and a removal of their conviction on their record. The number of
32 years that prisoners must remain in SARR will range depending on the severity of the case and the
33 context, however the minimum must be 6 months for misdemeanors and state jail felonies, and 1.5
34 years for third, second, and first degree felonies. Ultimately, it will be up to the judge’s discretion as
35 to whether or not they qualify for the program and how long it will be. The duration of a SARR
36 sentence can be appealed and overturned if deemed unreasonable. If a prisoner goes through SARR,
37 is released, and returns to prison, they will not be allowed to go through SARR again.

38
39 **Results to be Expected:**

40 The SARR program aims to reduce drug-related crimes by addressing the root cause of prisoners'
41 criminal behavior through extended rehabilitation. This approach increases their chances of
42 overcoming substance abuse, breaking the cycle of addiction-driven crimes, and lowering recidivism
43 rates, resulting in cost savings for the criminal justice system. Moreover, it fosters a shift towards a
44 more rehabilitative and compassionate criminal justice system, aligned with modern principles,
45 emphasizing the importance of addressing underlying causes. This reduction in recidivism will also
46 alleviate prison overcrowding and enhance public safety. Lastly, SARR incentivizes prisoners to take
47 the chance to have a clean slate and fully reintegrate into society.



Author: Anusha Narway
School: Coppell High School **District:** District 5

Proposal No.15
Committee 2

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1 **Title or Purpose:**

2 Implementing a Deepfake Protection Act Task Force: Detecting, Preventing, and Mitigating Deepfake
3 Attacks

4 **Major Area to be Affected:**

5 Texas citizens, creators and propagators of deepfake attacks, Texas law enforcement, media, video-
6 sharing companies, and social media companies.

7 **Justification:**

8 Deepfakes are defined as "AI-generated media that depicts a person saying or doing something they did
9 not say or do." The majority of deepfakes, 90-95%, are of non-consensual pornography. However,
10 deepfakes have also been used in election campaign disinformation, political disinformation, harassing
11 activists, identity theft, and monetary scams. The most common types of deepfakes use machine learning
12 technology to face-swap in videos. Prominent deep fake attacks have targeted public figures such as
13 Barack Obama, Mark Zuckerberg, and Nancy Pelosi. However, they also target the general population
14 through defamatory, derogatory, and pornographic fake videos. The use of deepfakes has been rising in
15 recent years, with over 85,000 deepfake videos detected up to December 2020. It is more necessary
16 than ever to implement protections and security measures against deepfakes to prevent their production.
17 Deepfakes are harmful because they perpetuate disinformation and can have lifelong effects on a victim's
18 reputation, employability, and internal relations. Campaign misinformation and identity theft also
19 compromise media integrity and democracy and harm personal data collection. In Texas, deepfakes are
20 lightly criminalized as a class A misdemeanor in two vague instances: deepakes used to influence
21 elections, and sexually explicit deepfakes. Therefore, it is crucial to implement more regulations in order
22 to combat the rising issue of deepfake attacks.

23 **Proposal for Action:**

24 A Deepfake Protection Act Task Force will be implemented in Texas and will be responsible for the
25 following oversights:

- 26 1. Defining malicious deepfakes as those that spread misinformation and disinformation or damage a
27 person's integrity. Malicious deepfakes include but are not limited to non-consensual pornography, those
28 that impede election campaigns, identity thefts, and more.
- 29 2. Increasing the use of machine learning techniques such as biometric authentication and liveness
30 detection on a nationwide scale to detect deepfakes on social media sites, news channels, entertainment
31 platforms, and more.
- 32 3. The techniques will be used in conjunction with methods of corroborating videos and cross-checking
33 their authenticity with other videos.
- 34 4. Partnering with the Department of Information Resources.
- 35 5. Implementing legal consequences of conducting a deepfake attack such as greater fines or
36 imprisonment for the creators and/or propagators of the deepfake based on the severity of the attack.
- 37 6. Mandating that sites remove and prevent the dissemination of videos once they have been identified
38 as malicious deepfakes.
- 39 7. Creating public awareness by using campaigns that include information on how deepfakes are created
40 and spread, how to identify deepfakes, methods to report deepfakes, how to protect oneself from a
41 deepfake attack, and the severity and pervasiveness of deepfakes.

42 **Results to be Expected:**

43 The future holds an increased reliance on technology and machine learning to counteract the threat of
44 deepfakes. This heightened technological defense will lead to greater trust among users of social media
45 platforms, as the risk of encountering deepfakes diminishes. Legal repercussions will await those who
46 create deepfakes with malicious intent, acting as a deterrent against their production. Consequently,
47 instances of deepfakes being employed for nonconsensual pornography, blackmail, disinformation,
48 identity theft, and fraudulent schemes will decrease. All these factors will collectively bolster trust in the
49 media, enhance its integrity, and fortify domestic and personal security.



Author: Amulya Ganta, Nicole Patel

School: Midland Legacy High School **District:** District 1

**Proposal No.71
Committee 5**

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1 **Title or Purpose:**

2 Kinetic and Solar Powered Public Lighting

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

5 Texas major cities, Texas highways

6
7 **Justification:**

8 The Houston, Dallas, and Austin metroplexes are home to nearly 600,000 streetlights according to
9 ERCOT- the electric reliability council of Texas. These 600,000 lights waste nearly 550 million
10 kilowatts of energy and over 25 million dollars annually. This exorbitant energy usage puts nearly 47
11 million pounds of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, exacerbating climate change. Kinetic energy
12 tiles embedded into pavement and solar powered roads, both connected to streetlights, are the latest
13 technologies used to mitigate the issue of carbon emissions, cost, and energy consumption. The New
14 York Times tells of cities like Las Vegas that have seen a decrease of nearly 5 million dollars in cost
15 and 75,000 kilowatts of energy because of these methods. The South China Morning Post also
16 reports massive success in China’s experimental solar road initiative, stating that major cities like
17 Beijing have already seen an increase in efficiency in energy consumption. Coupling these effects
18 with the large amount of streetlights in the metroplexes and other large cities of Texas, it’s clear that
19 the state will only benefit.

20
21 **Proposal for Action:**

22 Install Pavegen technology to pavement in major Texas cities allowing for kinetic tiles that power
23 streetlights.
24 Incorporate photovoltaic modules in roads in major cities and highways stretching across Texas. The
25 road is covered in solar panels that are protected by thin sheets of silicon in order to handle the
26 weight and wear of the traffic in select parts of highways.
27 Maintenance inspections will go out every 5 years.
28 Reports of damage will be issued to the Department of Transportation.
29 Phasing out period of 5 years.
30 Modeled after Las Vegas kinetic tiles that generate electricity powering the city.
31 Trials in China show entire roads embedded with energy harvesting modules that power streetlights
32 and melt snow.
33 In 2008, a piezoelectric system was installed in Tokyo by the East Japan Railway Company. The
34 piezoelectric floor in Tokyo Station uses energy from footsteps to power ticket gates.

35
36 **Results to be Expected:**

37 Texas will see an exponential influx in energy. By moving to kinetic powered lighting in major cities,
38 the state can expect to see a 30% decrease in energy consumption and nearly 45 million dollars
39 saved in kilowatt per hour fees. This “left over” energy recycles back to the grid giving Texans a
40 decreased risk of shortages and power outages. Not only this, our environment will improve as we
41 decrease dependence on fossil fuel powered energy. In turn, Texas will become a leading example of
42 an energy efficient system promoting the reduction of emissions and innovative technologies!



Author: Thomas Gao
School: Coppell High School **District:** District 5

Proposal No.13
Committee 6

STATE AFFAIRS FORUM PROPOSAL

1 **Title or Purpose:**

2 To augment firearm carrying policies in the State of Texas.

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

5 The State of Texas and its citizens, especially gun owners.

6
7 **Justification:**

8 Throughout the United States and especially in the State of Texas, deaths resulting from massing
9 shootings and homicide continue to rise. Even during the pandemic gun ownership increased.
10 Immediately following our return from shutdowns, dozens were killed in various shootings in Texas,
11 including those of Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Cleveland, and Allen Premium Outlets. Though
12 mass shootings can not be blamed on law-abiding citizens, it is the responsibility of the people's
13 government to act in their interest, and protect their rights to life and safety. Limiting possession of
14 certain firearms is both Constitutional and necessary, especially of firearms solely intended for mass
15 murder or at least assault on humans, as the guns used in the deadliest seven mass shootings in the
16 last decade were. According to Gifford's Law Center, "An analysis of public mass shootings resulting
17 in four or more deaths found that more than 85% of such fatalities were caused by assault rifles"
18 (DiMaggio 11-19).

19
20 **Proposal for Action:**

21 Beginning a calendar month from the passage of this bill: Civilians will no longer be permitted to
22 carry any form of assault or automatic firearm in public without all associated federal and state
23 licenses (as defined below). If the firearm is loaded or the carrier is simultaneously in possession of
24 ammunition, the carrier must have a gun license and all associated firearm licenses on their person.
25 The aforementioned gun license will also be augmented to include the ability to carry long guns, such
26 as rifles and shotguns. Two separate licenses will also be required, including a license for all Rifles
27 and a license for all Shotguns. The Regulatory Services Division of the Department of Safety (which
28 provides/monitors handgun licenses) will oversee this process, using the same methods to gauge
29 whether a candidate will be given a license as used for Handgun licenses. Any person found to be
30 illegally carrying/possessing firearms will be detained and punished according to existing legislation
31 regarding illegal firearm possession.

32
33 **Results to be Expected:**

34 This proposal, while not intended to completely eliminate ownership nor carrying of firearms in the
35 State of Texas, is expected to limit the carrying of weapons intended solely to harm people, while
36 simultaneously increasing regulation of who is permitted to carry, either concealed or unconcealed,
37 thus reducing mass shootings and other gun-related violences (according to Harvard's School of
38 Public Health, "states with more gun control laws have lower levels of firearm homicide and firearm
39 suicide").