

Harvard Model Congress Boston 2024

House #2 February 25, 2024

Presiding: Christine Li and June Park

H.B. 8 - Resources Alliances for Prosperity and International Development Act
H.B. 9 - Youth Delinquency Prevention Act
H.B. 10 - Punitive Action Against Companies Act
H.B. 11 - Social Media Oversight Act



H.B. 8 Resources Alliances for Prosperity and International Development Act

WHEREAS THE FARMER HERDER CONFLICT IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REQUIRES URGENT DISCUSSION AND MEDIATION; THEREFORE,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Resources Alliances for Prosperity and International Development Act" or "RAPID Act."

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE.

- (a) The House Committee on Foreign Affairs shall establish a committee aiming to alleviate the farmer herder conflict for all parties involved. This committee shall:
 - (i) Mediate conversations between involved parties; and,
 - (ii) Lead discussions about resource allocation between involved parties.
- (b) The committee shall consist of the following representatives chosen at the discretion of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs:
 - (i) Two members of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs;
 - (ii) Two members of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations;
 - (iii) Two representatives of Central and West African farmers;
 - (iv) Two representatives of Central and West African herders; and,
 - (v) Two representatives of governments from select West African and Central African states.

SEC. 3. RESOURCE NEGOTIATION AND TRADE.

- (a) The House Committee on Foreign Affairs shall allocate funds to send water, fertilizer, or food to farmers and herders in West and Central Africa if recommended by the committee established in §2;
- (b) Upon agreement from all parties and the committee, in exchange for these resources, relevant nations in Central and Western Africa shall provide mineral resources to the United States of equal value.

ENFORCEMENT: This bill will be enforced by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

FUNDING: This bill will be funded by reallocated money from the existing Biden Administration commitments to Africa and the Global Fragility Act.

Authors: PA-10, TX-01, NY-22, CA-51, CO-1, MI-4

COSPONSORS: AS-AL, CA-32, NY-09, CA-05, TX-32, FL-06, LA-04, KY-06, AK-02



H.B. 9 Youth Delinquency Prevention Act

WHEREAS THERE IS A NEED TO INCREASE ENGAGEMENT WITHIN SCHOOLS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Youth Delinquency Prevention Act."

SEC. 2. INCREASING EDUCATIONAL SUPPLY QUALITY.

- (a) The Department of Education shall instruct states to place increased emphasis on the quality of any supplies and equipment purchased for school purposes:
 - (i) Products of a higher quality shall be prioritized, including, but not limited to, school supplies and sports equipment;
 - (ii) Funding shall be provided by an increase in the percentage of taxes going to public schools from 3% to 3.5%

SEC. 3. FREE LUNCH PROGRAM

(a) The Department of Education shall require all states to provide free lunches for all students whose parents make under \$65,000 in combined household income per year as determined by the previous year's federal income tax filings.

ENFORCEMENT: This bill will be enforced by the Department of Education and the Department of Justice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

<u>FUNDING</u>: This bill will be funded through reallocating funds as described in $S^2(a)(ii)$.

Authors: CNMI-AL, NC-12, NJ-01, CT-02, CA-10

COSPONSORS: MO-07, PA-17, OR-01, AZ-07, LA-05, SC-01, IN-09



H.B. 10 Punitive Action Against Companies Act

WHEREAS THERE IS A NEED TO PROTECT WORKERS' RIGHTS TO FORM UNIONS AND ADVOCATE FOR THEMSELVES; THEREFORE,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Punitive Action Against Companies Act" or "P.A.C. Act."

SEC. 2. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR COMPANIES.

- (a) The House Committee on Oversight and Accountability shall establish a subcommittee to review complaints and reports of union-busting activities by corporations:
 - (i) This committee shall consist of 10 Democratic members and 10 Republican members from the Committee on Oversight and Accountability; and,
 - (ii) The committee shall receive complaints submitted by unions in the form of reports outlining the illegal actions of the offending corporation.
- (b) If the subcommittee finds the claim legitimate, the subcommittee may demand a hearing and negotiations session to determine fair damages for the union:
 - (i) The accused corporation's chief executive officer and union head shall be present.
- (c) Compensatory damages and other sanctions shall be based on the following:
 - (i) If the company is deemed responsible for illegal actions, it shall pay a minimum of \$150,000 in fines;
 - (ii) The subcommittee shall determine recompensation for union workers;
 - (iii) If the company is publicly traded, it must notify their shareholders;
 - (iv) Repeat-offenders shall have their fines raised by 15% per offense; and,
 - (v) All companies with legitimate complaints of union busting shall submit a report of all union avoidance spending, including but not limited to the commissioning of consultants and annual expenditures on union avoidance, for 5 years:
 - (1) Companies that do not comply or submit incomplete reports shall pay a fine proportional to their profits, determined by the subcommittee; and,
 - (2) The subcommittee shall check reports annually for five years to ensure accurate statistics.

DEFINITIONS:

Union-busting – any activities intended to weaken the power of labor unions in the workplace
ENFORCEMENT: This bill will be enforced by the Committee on Oversight and Reform.
EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.
FUNDING: This bill will be funded by the House Appropriations Committee.
AUTHORS: NY-14, TX-35, VA-11, RI-01, OH-10, CA-17, PA-12, IL-08, FL-10
COSPONSORS: IL-13, DC-AL, VT-AL, SC-01, KY-01, OH-04, WA-03, MO-01, AK-AL, MA-08, KS-02, FL-19, CA-04, NC-05, FL-23



H.B. 11 Social Media Oversight Act

WHEREAS THERE IS A NEED TO PROTECT CITIZEN RIGHTS WITHIN SOCIAL MEDIA; THEREFORE,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Social Media Oversight Act."

SEC. 2. OVERSIGHT.

- (a) A Federal Communications Commission subcommittee shall be created to oversee social media platforms. The subcommittee shall:
 - (i) Audit social media platforms' algorithms and policies that create echo chambers that encourage extremism and hate speech;
 - (ii) Encourage social media company policy transparency with users; and,
 - (iii) Work with academic institutions and social media companies to study how to combat online extremism and hate speech.

SEC. 3. DISCOURAGING HARMFUL POLICIES AND POSTS.

- (a) Companies which are found by the subcommittee to have harmful policies shall have a 90 day grace period to update their policies and take down harmful posts.
- (b) After the grace period has elapsed, the company will be fined \$10,000 per day per harmful post until they are taken down.

DEFINITIONS:

Extremism - The advocacy of or support for radical, political, religious, or social beliefs, often involving violence to achieve desired outcome.

Hate Speech - Negative speech targeted at a specific person or group; words that incite violence *Social Media Platform* - Any public domain, such as website or app, where people are free to upload content and communicate

ENFORCEMENT: This bill will be enforced by the Department of Justice and the Federal Communications Commission.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill will take effect 91 days after passage.

<u>FUNDING:</u> This bill will be funded by the House Appropriations Committee.

AUTHORS: VI-AL, IL-08, CA-16, AK-AL

Cosponsors: LA-04, AL-01, MS-01, IL-16, AK-04, WI-12, CA-06, CA-14, GA-08, AR-02, UT-02