An Act to End State Testing

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: When kids take different state tests, such as SC READY and SC PASS, all year teachers are preparing students for the tests.

Section 2: Kids stress out and take an even longer time in analyzing the questions because state testing is so important for the years to come and if we don’t do well then we will get mad at ourselves.

Section 3: If we didn’t have state testing then we wouldn’t have to rush to know everything, and we could take our time in really understand what we are learning.

Section 4: The entire year all teachers try to plan out what they are going to do for every lesson, but they don’t get to everything or kids don’t understand it quickly enough. That’s when the teachers get stressed out because the test scores determine how well they are as teachers.
Decrease the Voting age to sixteen

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current state law is that individuals that are under the age of 18 as of 30 days before an election are not eligible to vote in South Carolina.

Section 2: The voting age rules will change in the State of South Carolina effective January 1, 2019.

Section 3: This law will enable anyone turning 16 before Election Day will be allowed to register to vote and then vote in all Statewide and Federal elections in the State of South Carolina.

Section 4: Eligible voters must register to vote based upon permanent residence, before the Election Day in order to vote.

Section 5: When signed into law, persons who meet the criteria outlined in this bill will be eligible to vote in all subsequent elections.
A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

If Universities Receive Any Kind of Federal Funding, Tuition Should Be Free

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Current tuition for one of the largest public colleges in the state of South Carolina, USC, is $27,062, and when the law is passed, students will be able to attend for free

Section 2: SC residents that have dependents between the ages of 12-21 will be required to pay property taxes to the state of SC

Section 3: Because a tax such as this would disproportionally affect people that don’t own property, all residents would be required to file taxes. If a resident’s income falls below the poverty level, they would receive the benefit automatically.

Section 4: When signed into law, the graduating class of 2020 would be the first to receive the college tuition benefit
An Act to Make Epipens Tax Deductible

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This bill will affect children and the families of children with anaphylactic reactions caused by allergies.

Section 2: This bill is needed because it can reduce medical costs of families with kids that have allergies leading to anaphylactic reactions. This includes the costs of epipens and hospital bills if they cannot afford epipens. The price of epipens (epinephrine) can be up to 600 dollars in South Carolina, which can put stress on families since they can sometimes not afford them, and if they don’t have them they could risk a large hospital bill or even death. 25% of children are in need of epinephrine and 40% can die from allergic reactions.

Section 3: This bill will encourage more people to buy epipens for their children with anaphylactic reactions caused by severe allergies, by making epipens tax deductible. Since epipens are so expensive many people either buy them and don’t use them or do not buy them, and by doing that can risk either death of their child or a detrimental hospital bill.

Section 4: This bill would not lower the cost of epinephrine but make it task deductible so the families can receive at least a portion of the money they spend on epipens back when they do their taxes. By doing this it will:
A: Improve the livelihood of those affected by anaphylactic reactions caused by severe allergies.
B: Lower the percentage of people that go to the hospital because of anaphylactic reactions. By decreasing the amount of people that are going to the hospital, it will lower the amount of money families with kids that need epinephrine have to spend on medical costs. If we can do this it can help support families and help improve their quality of life.
C: Increase the amount of money families with kids that need epinephrine can spend on other necessities of life.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect on September 21, 2021.
An Act to Require Teachers to Take Courses on Sexual Assault Prevention

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Our bill will affect sexual offenders, victims of sexual assault and teachers in South Carolina.

Section 2: Our bill is needed because there is not a mandatory minimum sentence for sexual offenders in SC. This leads to the fact that, oftentimes sexual attackers only spend ⅓ of their full sentence in jail because that they can get bailed out earlier. Because of this not only does this give the victim the feeling that justice was not served it also doesn’t stop the attacker from attacking again. Nearly 1 in 5 women have reported being sexual assaulted in their lifetime and 1 in 72 men report being sexually assaulted in SC. In addition 45.5% of SC women and 17.8% of men report being victims of sexual attack.

Section 3: We want to enforce a mandatory minimum sentence so that sexual offenders will serve the amount they deserve instead of being able to end their time in prison early. The mandatory minimum sentence will be 5 years.

Section 4: As a result of this bill, sexual offenders will serve the time they deserve for the crime they have done. This will also help the victim have a feeling of justice when the attacker serves for the time for their crime. By keeping the offender in jail longer and not allowing them to get out of jail, it can decrease the sexual assault crime rate.

Section 5: This bill will take effect January 31, 2020.
An Act to Require Teachers to Take Courses on Sexual Assault Prevention

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Our bill will affect the lives of victims of sexual assault in the long term by making sure their school lives are functional and there is no backlash after reporting the assault. This bill will also impact teachers in South Carolina.

Section 2: Sexual assault is when a person touches or forces someone else into doing sexual acts without consent. Nearly 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men say they’ve been raped in their life. In South Carolina, 45.9% of women and 17.8% of men in our state say they’ve been victims of sexual violence. Victims are 4 times more likely to abuse drugs and 4 times more likely to develop PTSD as adults. If victims do not have the support system at school that they need, they could be more susceptible to issues in their current life or in the future. Often times victims feel it is their fault because of victim blaming. Teachers need to be there to support and handle the situation in case the victim is being bullied or harassed by their peers after the assault. Our bill is needed to make sure the victim does not have further issues after reporting the assault. And if there are problems, our bill we make sure teachers are trained on how to handle it in a supportive and professional manner.

Section 3: Our bill will require teachers in public schools take two free courses on how to prevent and deal with sexual assault victims at school through the PCAR (Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape) and NSVRC. (National Sexual Violence Resource Center). The first course is a two hour long course written by the NSVRC that explains the neurological and psychological trauma that happens after sexual violence and how to help victims deal with the trauma. The second course is also a two hour long course written by the NEARI. (New England Adolescent Research Institute). This course will teach bystanders such as parents and friends but specifically in this case, teachers, on how to prevent sexual harassment and violence at school. (We do not have the power to control charter schools since they are not run by the government but it will be highly recommended that their administrators take these course to create a zero tolerance environment for sexual harassment and assault)
Section 4: We expect that after our bill is put into effect, teachers will have a better understanding of how to deal with sexual assault prevention and victims will feel like they are supported and worthy of recovering from the trauma. We hope to create a supportive environment to prevent sexual assault. Educating teachers on how to help students who have experienced sexual violence it is a crucial part of creating this environment.

Section 5: When signed into law, our bill will take effect on July 1, 2019. This will allow teachers to have time to take the courses before the next school year starts.
The Allergy Lunch Act

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: The Allergy Lunch Act shall allow students with allergies to consume lunches prepared by the school free of the top eight allergens.

Section II: This bill shall be mandatory in all public, charter, and private schools with five or more students with allergies.

Section III: This bill will affect students with allergies in schools.

Section IV: The school prepared allergen lunches must be the equivalent price of a regular school lunch.

Section V: Students that qualify for regular free and reduced lunches also qualify for allergen free and reduced lunches.

Section VI: This bill will go into effect the first day of the new school year following the signature of the youth governor.
The Hurricane Disaster Relief Act

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: This act shall make the government of South Carolina provide financial aid for certain citizens of South Carolina whose real properties are damaged.

Section II: This act shall financially aid the citizens who have an annual wage of 60,000 dollars or less.

Section III: If you are a citizen with the above listed wage ($60,000) the government shall pay 60% of the real property damage and you will pay the remaining 40%.

Section IV: After you are financially secure you will start to pay off the 60% given by the government over a period of twenty years with a 4.425% interest rate. There will be a time limit of three years for you to regain financial stability then you must immediately start repaying the aid given by the government and the interest rate over the course of twenty years.

Section V: However, if your real property damage exceeds 750,000 dollars then the government will only pay you sixty percent of $750,000 which is $450,000.

Section VI: If your damage exceeds $750,000 then you will pay a 3.325% interest rate.

Section VII: If the citizen is a retired senior citizen that had a former wage of $60,000 then the government will pay 60% of your damage repair expenses as said before. However, if you are a retired senior citizen and your real property damage is $750,000 then the government will give you $450,000, but in the twenty years following you being financially stable you will only have to pay a 2% interest rate.

Section VIII: This act shall only be in effect from mid-July to the end of December.

Section IX: This act shall go into effect in the next hurricane season following the signature of the Youth Governor.
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
14th Annual Model Legislature
November 11th- 13th, 2018

BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S9
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 9
AUTHORS: Rebecca Earle, Elena Garcia, Ansley Lightsey
SCHOOL/CLUB: Langston Charter Middle School

An Act to Pay College Athletes

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: This act will pay college athletes, since they have little to no time for a job outside of sports and school.

Section II: This bill will affect all college students who participate in a college sport.

Section III: Different sports will come with different amounts of income, depending on how much money their sport brings in to the school.

Section IV: The money will come from what the sport brings in from the public.

Section V: All the money brought in usually goes to the school, but this bill will give some of the money to the players who work hard for their team.

Section VI: This bill will go into effect at the beginning of the new year following the signature of the youth governor.
Recycling Bins in Schools Act

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: This act will require recycling bins in schools which will reduce waste produced by students and faculty.

Section II: The purpose of this bill is to help protect South Carolina’s environment by putting recycling bins in schools.

Section III: Recycling bins will be put in classrooms, cafeterias, offices, gyms, and libraries.

Section IV: Property tax will be raised by half a percent to pay for recycling bins in schools.

Section V: This act will go into effect the first day of the school year following the signature of the youth governor.
Post-Secondary Special Education Scholarship Act

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MIDDLE SCHOOL MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: The Post-Secondary Special Education Scholarship Act is an act that will require the palmetto scholarship (funded by the South Carolina Education Lottery) to include eligibility criteria for intellectually disabled students who have been accepted into post-secondary programs such as, ClemsonLIFE, USCLIFE, and WinthropTHINK.

Section II: The South Carolina Education Lottery funds the Palmetto Life scholarship, which gives money to typical students attending schools in South Carolina with an A-B average. (The higher the grade, the more money the student receives) The problem with this is that intellectually disabled students who have been accepted into post-secondary programs aren’t eligible to receive this scholarship money because they generally do not earn a typical high school diploma.

Section III: Many intellectually disabled do not earn a standard high school diploma. They typically earn what is called a ‘certificate of attendance’. Once thought to be out of the question, having a traditional college experience is now becoming a reality for the intellectually disabled. But such programs are highly competitive and cost prohibitive for many. Allowing the disabled to participate in the Palmetto Scholarship will reduce some of the costs.

Section IV: The scholarship money will vary on the intellectually disabled student’s grades.

Section V: If an intellectually disabled student has a B they will get the same amount of scholarship money as a typical student who has a B.

Section VI: This bill will go into effect on January 1st of 2019, following the signature of the youth governor.
BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S12
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 1
AUTHORS: Madi Wilkerson, Nyla Thomason, and Chiara Flodder
SCHOOL/CLUB: Langston Charter Middle School

The Compost Bill

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: The Compost Bill shall offer to people a compost collector for every trash collecting business that will accept.

Section II: The purpose of the compost bill is to help reduce the amount of food wasted, that is compostable.

Section III: The Compost Bill shall affect every county that trash collector business that accepted.

Section IV: The trash collecting businesses that we ask to join will include but is not limited to: Kirby sanitation, Waste Industries, Griffin Waste, Public Works, Landson Garbage, Republic Services, and Waste Connections.

Section V: The cost of the buckets for compost will be $10 in total per month. These costs will pay the trash collecting businesses.

Section VI: The Compost Bill shall go into effect six months following the signature of the Youth Governor.
Coastal Recycling Act

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: The Coastal recycling act will help reduce recyclable waste on our coast by providing recycling cans next to every lifeguard stand along public beaches.

Section II: This bill will reinstate the South Carolina Beverage Container act, which states that you may bring beverage bottles to redemption centers to receive a five-cent deposit or more; This act was stopped when most glass bottles or beverage containers were replaced with plastic.

Section III: This bill will promote recycling and attempt to reduce recyclable waste in our oceans and along the coast of South Carolina.

Section IV: The bill will affect our ocean life, coastal residents, and tourists that visit the coast.

Section V: This bill will take effect on the first official day of summer which is June 20th following the signature of the youth governor.
An Act to Promote Environmentally Friendly Commutes

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: This act will build bike paths and bike rental stations in cities and in suburbs, encouraging people to choose a more environmentally friendly commute and discouraging the use of gasoline powered-cars.

Section II: This act will build two bike rental stations and bike in each of the three major cities in South Carolina which are Greenville, Columbia, and Charleston. This act will also build bike paths that will run from residential neighborhoods to common job locations.

Section III: The creation of bike paths throughout the state will be paid for by an increase in gasoline taxes. The effect of higher gas prices will result in people looking for cleaner options of transportation without the use of gasoline. Bike rental stations will be paid for by their own revenues.

Section IV: The construction of the new bike paths and bike rental stations will take between six months and a year to complete.

Section V: This act shall go into effect the first day of the new year following the signature of the Youth Governor.
Bill Originates In: MS Senate
Bill Number: S15
Recommended For Committee: 4
Authors: Angelina Brooks, Elodie Citeno, and Kali Dobbins
School/Club: Langston Charter Middle School

An Act to Prohibit Animal Abuse for Dissection

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: We believe the freezing, drowning, and latex injection is an unfair treatment for animals. Companies that sell animals for dissection are doing these awful things to animals including fetal pigs, squids, pigeons, frogs, sharks, and turtles.

Section II: Our alternative to live dissection is a free online dissection course. This course has been proven just as educational and much cheaper. The online program will help gain more student involvement and more sanitary measures.

Section III: This bill prohibits dissection of animal usage of grades up to senior year of high school. Students with majors in medical fields will not be prohibited from live dissections.

Section IV: Each year over 6 million animals are treated for unnecessary dissections in schools across the US. This is a very large number when it comes down to how many are actually used for dissection a year. Many animals are being treated unfairly only not be used for dissections.

Section V: This bill shall go into effect the first day of the new school year following the signature of the youth governor.
Repel Capital Punishment Act

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: The RCPA will end Capital Punishment and charge the maximum sentence of 1st degree murder to life in prison without parole.

Section II: The purpose of this bill is to end the cruel and unusual punishment presented on prisoners with the death penalty.

Section III: Any person convicted of 1st degree murder will have their sentences changed to life in prison without parole.

Section IV: Money from the execution center will go to the prisons.

Section V: This act will go into effect the first day of the new year following the signature of the youth governor.
An Act to Equip All Teachers with Tourniquets and Proper Training

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: All teachers will be equipped with tourniquets and the proper training to use tourniquets.

Section 2: The teachers of South Carolina will be provided a tourniquet and training to use the tourniquet to help save the lives of our students. The hospital systems (GHS, USC, MUSC) will be in charge of training the teachers and the Department of Education will provide the tourniquets.

A. The Tourniquets are made by Tac Med Solutions and the total cost for all 48,072 teachers is $1,287,368.16.
B. Two-thirds of the cost ($858,245.44) will be funded by the South Carolina Education Budget. This will be added to the Department of Education budget as a new line in next year’s budget.
C. The remaining ⅓ ($429,122.72) will be funded by the StopTheBleed Organization. (An organization for tourniquet funding.)

Section 3: The training will be provided by the closest state hospitals so the teachers know how to use the tourniquets. Training will be taught by medical students in hospitals.

A. The teachers will be given times to receive free (to them) tourniquet training.
B. Training takes less than thirty minutes.
C. Teachers will be recertified every five years.
D. The medical students will get this as training. Therefore, they will earn no pay.

Section 4: Our bill will go into effect in 2019-2020 school year when the education budget is approved.
An Act to Reduce the Cost of Medical Bills in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The bill presented here is changing a law from the South Carolina Code of Laws. It is changing Title 15, Chapter 32, Section 520 which states that Punitive Damages are legal.

Section 2: Medical bills are expensive, and the reason for that is the cost of insurance for doctors and nurses in hospitals. The reason for the high cost of insurance is that when procedures or other treatment goes wrong, the victim typically sues the hospital where the victim was treated by the person they are suing.

A. This cost usually exceeds the simple compensation and is used for emotions.
B. Since this is an actual bill, it can be monitored in court.

Section 3: By taking this emotional (punitive) litigation away, it lowers the cost for medical bills.

A. For this bill it will not include any additional costs. As the cost that doctors, nurses, and hospitals have to pay for litigation decreases, the cost for medical procedures will decrease.

Section 4: This bill will take into effect on January 1st, 2019.
An Act to Improve Children's Lives in Foster Care

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: 428,000 children in foster care in the United States. ⅔ of the kids have a sibling. There are currently 3,700 children in foster care in SC.

Section 2: Many children across the state are separate from their siblings during the process of adoption and foster care. We will create summer camps throughout South Carolina so that children all over the state could access a camp. The camp would allow children to reconnect with their siblings and do other activities with other children as well. The money to help build the camps would come from taxes. 2% of peoples taxes would go to the construction of the camp. This summer camp would be for the kids that have already been adopted separately.

Section 3: If you want to adopt one of the siblings, you have to adopt the other one as well. This would bring more joy into your child’s life because he/she would have someone who understands what they have experienced. Children who become separated from their siblings may develop depression and anxiety. The children suffering from the traumatic event are hurting enough. Separating the children is another thing that may add to why the child is depressed. If these children are together, it will hopefully improve their emotional state.

Section 4: This bill will help...

A. The children that were separated could be reunited with their loved ones.

B. Fight against the children that suffer anxiety and depression because they were separated from their family

Section 5: When signed in law, this bill will be enacted on August 25, 2018
An Act to Create Mandatory Autism Courses for Schools in SC

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This bill will affect students, staff, and teachers in SC. It will affect all public schools. This could also majorly affect parents as well. Many parents that have kids with autism are misunderstood just as much as their kids.

Section 2: There are many stereotypes and misconceptions about autism, like blaming the parents for strange behavior and thinking something is “wrong” with the kid. 1 in 55 boys in school have autism and 1 in 286 girls in school have autism. This may not be the majority, but it is still something everyone will experience, especially in public schools that have high populations of students. Students with autism need to be understood by their teachers and their classmates.

Section 3: If this bill gets signed into law then all schools in SC will be required to take an autism course that teaches them the basics of autism and how to treat people with autism. For students, this course will be an hour every day during the school day for a week. Teachers will have a separate class after school, since they need to know specifically how to teach autistic kids in a way that they would understand. This week will be one month into school. The courses will be funded by lottery funds that go towards education.

Section 4: When this Bill is passed we expect people to respect and accept people with autism. This will cause the employment rate of people with autism to rise and less people will judge others with autism.

Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will take effect on March 2, 2018
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S21
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 10
AUTHORS: Tabor Hines, Jordyn Alfieri, Bradley Chambers
SCHOOL/CLUB: Lead Academy Public Charter School

An Act to Increase Punishments for Accused Rapists

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This bill will affect accused rapists and rape victims in South Carolina.

Section 2: Our Bill is needed because each year many innocent people are being
sexually assaulted in SC. 31% of people have lifetime PTSD after they are sexually
assaulted. If the accused rapist is in jail for a short time or not at all, the victim is
forced to live in fear that they will be “hunted” or assaulted again. We want to
dissuade people from committing rape in the first place.

Section 3: We would like to propose harsher punishments for people found guilty of
rape. We want all the accused rapists to have the assigned jail time in SC laws. Our
proposition is to require longer jail sentences, no matter if they know that the victim
has a physical or mental disability. The jail sentences will be in between 30 and 50
years of prison, depending on the details of the assault.

Section 4: People who are thinking about raping someone will be more afraid to do
it because of the harsher laws, in addition, rape victims will feel protected if the rapist
wants “revenge” for being put in prison/jail.

Section 5: When this bill is signed into law, it will take effect January 1, 2018.
An Act to Prevent Domestic Violence in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: South Carolina was ranked fifth in the nation for the most frequency of domestic violence. The current fines for domestic violence in South Carolina range from one thousand to five thousand dollars, and jail time ranges from ninety days to twenty years.

Section 2: This bill would raise the fines to two thousand to ten thousand dollars, and/or one to ten years in prison if the crime is a third or second degree offense. If the crime was a first degree or DVHAN (domestic violence of an aggravated nature) offense, then the punishment would be twenty to thirty-five years in prison.

Section 3: In South Carolina, one in three women and one in four men are victims of some type of physical violence with an intimate partner in their lifetime. One in four women and one in seven men are victims of severe physical abuse in their lifetime. The average rate of femicide (when a woman is killed by a man) in South Carolina is twice the national rate. If this bill is passed, these statistics will vastly improve.

Section 4: The leftover fines will help to improve relief programs for victims of domestic violence.

Section 5: If signed, this bill will go into effect on November 25, 2018.
An Act to increase the Salary of Public School Teachers in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Federal Funding - money given to states by the national government.

Section 2: The purpose of this bill is to increase the salary of public school teachers. By doing so we shall promote an increase in the declining number of enrollment at teaching training programs. More student coming out of college shall be able to pursue the career of teaching knowing that they shall be able to supports themselves.

Section 3: South Carolina teachers are underpaid when compared with their competing states, and the rest of the world in general. The average teacher salary in S.C is $56,103 compared to California which is $67,871 and NYC $54,000 for a bachelor and a master is $81,694.

Section 4: We shall be taking money from the high amount of money we receive from federal funding each year. Also cut the yearly teacher income tax in South Carolina which is 7%. Another way for us to increase the yearly salary of public school teachers is to add a penny to the overall gas taxes we can use the money that are being used for the roads and use it for teacher salary. The effects of this bill be an increase in teacher salary, students going to college to get a teaching degree, increase in teachers overall.

Section 5: We shall instill this bill following the next upcoming year.
BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S24
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 2
AUTHORS: Haston Meeks, Hunter Lancaster
SCHOOL/CLUB: Dawkins Middle School

An act to require the drug testing of high school athletes prior to signing athletic scholarships to college

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently high school athletes who are offered college scholarships to play a sport are not being drug tested.

Section 2: There are too many freshman athletics losing their scholarship status because they cannot pass a drug test once in college. High school athletes need to be drug tested prior to signing a scholarship to make sure they are not taking performance enhancing drugs (PED’s). Another reason, high school athletes using marijuana is extremely prominent in today’s society. According to the Washington Post, one in every four high school students use marijuana every thirty days. Colleges have no tolerance for the use of any drugs including marijuana. Athletes are losing their scholarships due to smoking marijuana as well as using PED’s.

Section 3: There is no worry about the money if this bill becomes a law. The college who is potentially offering a scholarship will be required to pay for the drug testing of each athlete. The drug test should be a blood test, which is more difficult to get a false result.

Section 4: By passing this bill, students who work hard on and off the field will have a better chance to get college scholarships. Scholarships should be not wasted on athletes that are using drugs.

Section 5: This bill should go into effect January 1st of 2018.
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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14th Annual Model Legislature
November 11th-13th

BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S25
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 3
AUTHORS: Peyton Rollins, Taylor Morgan, Field Easler
SCHOOL/CLUB: Dawkins Middle School

An act to establish an official minimum wage law in SC

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: South Carolina currently has no official state minimum wage law; the federal minimum wage is $7.25 an hour. But, South Carolina employers do not have to pay employees minimum wage.

Section 2: Under this bill the state will establish an official minimum wage law that all employers must follow.

Section 3: The new minimum wage for South Carolina will be $10.50 an hour.

A. The new tipped wage will be $5.25 an hour.

Section 4: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2019.
BILL ORIGINATE IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S26
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 4
AUTHORS: Marshall King and Henry White
SCHOOL/CLUB: Sterling School

Improving South Carolina Roads

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: According to The National Transportation Research Group, Or TRIP South Carolina is tied at first place for the highest number of traffic deaths and that many roads and bridges are deficient, congested, lack desirable safety features, and cost drivers a total of $3 billion statewide annually. TRIP said their research showed that road conditions were costing drivers in the Upstate urban area alone $1,248 per person per year due to higher vehicle operating costs, traffic crashes, and congestion-related delays. TRIP also said that 46 percent of South Carolina's major roads and highways are in poor condition. The report lists South Carolina's overall traffic fatality rate of 1.76 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles of travel. South Carolina's rate is tied with West Virginia as the highest in the nation and is significantly higher than the national average of 1.13. The report states an average of 151 traffic deaths occurred each year in the upstate.

Section 2: We will use the money from the taxes on tobacco, alcohol, and gas to fix the roads. This consists of fixing the bridges, adding rumber zones and repaving the main interstates in the state.

Section 3: This bill will be funded by a tax increase. The taxes on tobacco and alcohol will be raised 1% and the gas tax will be raised by .5%. All funds will go to SCDOT to fix the South Carolina roads.

Section 4:
A. Roads that are in bad condition will be restored to good condition.
B. More rumble strips will be added to the sides of roads.
C. Bridges that are in crippled conditions will be repaired.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect January 1st, 2019
Limiting Amount of Money Non-Profits Can Use Towards Overhead

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: In South Carolina, many nonprofit organizations spend around half of the donations received on overhead. Overhead is the administrative expenses needed to operate a business. When more money goes to the nonprofit than to the cause, significantly less progress is made for the intended mission.

Section 2: With this law, all nonprofit organizations originating in South Carolina must put 75% of the donations they receive towards the cause they pledged they would help. The maximum amount of money that can be put towards overhead is 25%.

Section 3: If this law is violated, the nonprofit is fined the amount spent on overhead that was over the allotted 25% limit. That money is then given to the cause it was originally supposed to go towards. The nonprofit must still meet the 25% overhead limit. Each nonprofit is already required to submit an annual report, so this will just be added to the checklist of requirements.

Section 4: This bill will benefit the community by:

A. Ensuring that citizens who donate money to charities and nonprofits are not cheated out of their money under false pretenses.
B. Helping charities in need receive the help they are deprived of.
C. Keeping nonprofits as nonprofit organizations, instead of the charities generating more money than they put towards their mission.

Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will go into effect January 1, 2019.
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
14th Annual Model Legislature
November 11th- 13th

BILL ORIGINATE IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S28
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 6
AUTHORS: Morgan Maddox, Olivia Waycott, Charlie Sanderson
SCHOOL/CLUB: Sterling School

An Act to Require Licenses for Corrosive Substances

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Corrosive substances can be extremely dangerous, yet many are
available to people through the internet. According to a CNN article about acid
attacks, one of the biggest causes of acid attacks is the easy access to acids online.
If this bill is enacted, it will prevent everyday people from misusing acids and
corrosive substances.

Section 2: To reduce the amount of everyday people buying acids, we will require
a license to buy acids. There will be 4 levels or degrees of licenses. License holders
will need to renew their licenses after a period of time.
1: Experimentalists, Elementary/Middle school teachers; 5 years
2: More advanced science teachers, small labs; 1 year
3: College research labs, commercial labs; 6 months
4: Military/Government; 4 months

Section 3: If a company sells corrosive substances/acids, they will need to require
a license before finalizing the purchase. If the company doesn't abide by these
rules, they will have to pay a fine. The fine money will go towards school programs
that teach kids how to be safe around chemicals. The amount of the fine will
depend on what acid they sell. If they sell a level one acid, they will be fined less
than if they sold a level 2, 3, or 4 acid. The fine amounts will be this:
Level 1: $100
Level 2: $200
Level 3: $1000
Level 4: $2000

Section 4: This bill will have such benefits:

A. Acid attacks will be harder to organize, as corrosive substances will be
less openly available.
B. This will make sure that someone doesn’t gain possession of deadly acids.

C. An unqualified person can’t buy corrosive substances, preventing them from mishandling them and getting hurt.

D. Minors will have a better understanding of corrosive substances which will lead to prevention.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first enactment of this bill will take place on January 1, 2019.
An Act to Raise Taxes on Harmful Products such as Tobacco and Alcohol

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Three of the biggest issues in South Carolina are bad roads, a large state debt, and a way too high college tuition. Another problem is that there are so many DUI's and people dying of alcohol poisoning, and people dying of lung and mouth cancer from tobacco products such as cigarettes and dip. This bill would not only prevent some of these deaths due to not wanting to pay the extra money, it would also produce funds to go towards some of the state's biggest problems.

Section 2: This bill would fix the problem of expensive college tuition fees, large state debt, and bad roads by raising the tax on cigarettes from the current $0.57 to 8% on each box. The alcohol tax would also grow to 8% from its previous 5%.

Section 3: The funding for this bill will come directly from the buyers based on their purchase. This means that it will require no additional funding so no drastic changes would be necessary. This makes it overall more convenient for the state and the citizens of it.

Section 4: This revenue would go towards fixing our terrible roads, lowering college tuition, and reducing our state debt.

Section 5: When passed, this bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2018.
An Act to Prohibit the Ability to Ban Books in Public Schools

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently, any book is allowed to be challenged or banned if an adult brings it to trial. This means that the aforementioned banned or challenged book will be removed from public schools and libraries in their district. This bill will prohibit that action.

Section 2: Public schools will be allowed to use any book for teaching purposes. If a parent or guardian does not want their child to read the material taught in a certain class, they have the ability to keep their child from reading that specific literary work.

Section 3: Parents or guardians should not be able to take away student’s learning potential. Thus, any parent or guardian is not allowed to suggest the banning or censoring of a book for everyone in a school system. If they do, the case will not go to court.

Section 4: The passing of this bill will:

A. Educate students on important events and concepts.
B. Allow students and their parents/guardians to decide what material is suitable for them.
C. Keep resources available in libraries and schools.

Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will be go into effect starting July 2018.
An Act to Require Seatbelts on School Buses

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Every 18 hours, an unrestrained person dies in a vehicle accident. A lack of seatbelts in South Carolina has caused many child mortalities. One traffic crash occurs every four minutes, and this is even more prevalent because of the large size of buses. Children like us are at risk every day riding in school buses, and there is an easy way to stop these deaths and injuries.

Section 2: Our bill would require children to wear seatbelts when they are in school buses. There was a bus related accident almost everyday in 2006, with 100 of these involving injuries. We intend to decrease this number with our bill and kids all around SC. The impact that kids can have on the world is amazing, and this will preserve their ability to make changes.

Section 3: We will enforce this law by putting a camera in every bus so that all seat belts are showing. If a student has to be reminded about fastening their seat belt more than 3 times the student would then receive a disciplinary referral. If the bus driver does not remind students to wear a seat belt three times then the bus driver will be put on parole for three months. During this time period an alternate driver will be assigned. After the parole, if the bus driver fails to remind passengers to fasten their seat belts, then their license will be taken away. This bill will be funded by increasing the ticket price for unrestrained people from $25 per person (with a max of $50) to $40 per person (with a max of $80) and an extra $10 for each child unrestrained. The total cost for a child that does not have their seat belt on would be $50.

Section 4: Benefits

A. The amount of children dying on school buses will significantly decrease.

B. Due to the safer environment, children will not have to worry about safety so they can focus on education.
C. If students are required to wear seatbelts, then they will more likely wear seat belts in different types of transportation such as cars and vans.

Section 5: Training will begin for this on January 1st, 2018, but this bill will start going into effect in the 2021-2022 school year. This will give bus manufacturers and drivers enough time to practice making sure these laws are abided by.
An Act to Require Money Management Classes

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Today in the US, close to 60% of homeless people are over the age of 18. One of the ways this could be prevented is if they were experienced with financial knowledge. High-school students going to public school will be required to take this class for one semester out of the four years of high school in order to graduate.

Section 2: The central focus of the class will be financial education. The students will learn how to spend their cash wisely, and how to budget and save funds. Students would learn what is mandatory and not mandatory to buy. Budgeting is crucial because it gives you a goal or a limit to how much you should spend. The class can teach the students how to make “a list”. The list will have the prices of items that they would need to buy a month, and if they would be able to afford it.

Section 3: The average amount of money a teacher makes at a public school a year is around $57,000. Because it is not a core class, it is an elective, so each full semester that the teacher teaches they would get a paid for $25,000. That would be $50,000 a year, for one class. The teacher for this elective class will be provided with the proper supplies and a classroom like any other core-class teacher.

Section 4: 1 out of 5 children in the US goes hungry a day because their parents don’t know how to manage their money. This could be prevented if high-school students were involved in a finance class. Even if the work their parents have doesn’t have a large payout, pupils would still know how to finance their money and help their family eat. After taking the finance class, a student will be properly educated on the subject of finance.

Section 5: This act will take affect at the start of the 2018-2019 school year.
An Act to Make Miles Ridden On a Non-Motorized Bicycle Tax Deductible

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current South Carolina state sales tax rate of six percent would be deducted to three percent when applied to non-motorized bicycles or related products.

Section 2: The sales tax on non-motorized bicycles would be deducted by one percent each year and would stay at a three percent deduction as of January 21, 2021.

Section 3: The deductions would encourage a more people to be active and take a bicycle rather than a car, which would reduce air pollution.

Section 4: The reduction would not hugely affect the overall tax collected by the state, but it is proven that places that encourage and invest in cycling have seen significant growth in the amount of people who use bicycles as their main transport and the growth of their city/state.

Section 5: When this bill is signed into effect the first deduction will be on January 1, 2018
An Act to Eliminate State Income Tax for Workers under Eighteen

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current state income tax for South Carolina laborer on his/her paycheck is 7%. The new state income tax would be 0% for all non-voters with jobs. 70.2% of teens in South Carolina are employed and are being taxed on their checks. If we took away the state income tax from employees that are 17 and younger a very large amount of money would go back into the economy.

Section 2: We will take away the state income tax for anyone that cannot vote. This bill will take action immediately for employed teens that cannot vote.

Section 3: On the United State Constitution it states that there shall be no taxation without representation. Taxing non-voters paychecks is breaking this part of the constitution. Therefore, we are not following the Constitution by taxing non-voters on their paychecks.

Section 4: Exempting non-voting age workforce from state income tax would help in the following ways:

A. It would help stimulate the economy with letting them have more money to spend.

B. It would further encourage teens to get jobs. This would raise the teen employment rate to an even higher percentage in South Carolina.

C. This would be an example of “Trickle Down Economics”. The “trickle down theory” is a proven method to help the economy prosper. It basically says that by taxing people less there's more money to spend and help the economy grow.

Section 5: When our bill is signed into law, it will be effective immediately.
An Act to Prohibit Smoking in Cars with Children under the age of 18.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Secondhand smoke, also known as environmental smoke, consists of both the smoke given off by a burning tobacco product (side stream smoke) and the smoke exhaled by the smoker (mainstream smoke). Secondhand smoke contains approximately 4,000 chemicals. Many of these chemicals are dangerous, and more than 50 are known to cause cancer. Children are exposed to these chemicals anytime they breathe secondhand smoke. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of secondhand smoke because they are still developing physically, have higher breathing rates than adults, and have little control over their indoor environments.

Section 2: Currently, eight other states have legislation in place banning smoking in cars when children are present. While the South Carolina Clean Indoor Air Act protects children from secondhand smoke in public schools, preschools and all other indoor facilities providing children's services (to the extent that smoking is prohibited in the facility by federal law), there is no South Carolina law protecting children from secondhand smoke in the confined space of an automobile. This bill bans smoking in cars when children under age 18 are present.

Section 3: Police officers would enforce the law as a primary offense, meaning that law enforcement could pull over a smoker without any other reason. If the officer finds a child under the age of 13 in the car, the officer would issue a ticket plus levy a fine of $250. For children between 13 and 18 who are present in the car, a written warning would be issued. Once a warning is issued, each subsequent violation would result in a fine of $250.

Section 4: No additional cost would be required to fund the implementation of the bill since it will become a part of routine traffic law enforcement. Revenue generated from fines will be used to support education about the dangers of secondhand smoke and to further research on the effects of secondhand smoke on children.

Section 5: When this bill is signed into effect, enforcement will begin on 1/1/2018.
Mold Inspection for All Schools

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: All Educational institutions have a required bi-yearly mold inspection.

Section 2: At least twice a year an inspector must be called in to check for mold.

Section 3: In between visits school custodians must check for mold in warm damp areas. If any mold is found a professional must be called in to treat the area.

Section 4: All school districts in the state of South Carolina must enforce this bill.

Section 5: Department of Health and Environmental control will administer and monitor the program. Applies to public and private schools and childcare centers. Cost of inspection is $500 per school, per year. The cost will be borne by the school. Passing reports conducted by a certified inspector will need to be filed with DHEC annually.

Section 6: After this bill is implemented into schools the number of students absent and the risk of health problems caused by mold will decrease.

Section 7: This bill will go into effect in the 2018/2019 school year.
A Bill to make it Less expensive to Give birth in a hospital

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The total cost for a C-section can be up to $50,000. The total cost for a vaginal birth can be up to $30,000.

Section 2: Most of the time the ambulance ride itself can cost up to $164 per mile.

Section 3: A premature birth, out of the 15 million per year, can cost up to $1.9 billion in labor and delivery cost without insurance.

Section 4: This bill will not be funded but will require hospitals to decrease the total cost by 10% each year until the hospital shows struggle with money then it will be raised back up by 5% until they don’t show signs of money struggle.

Section 5: Whoever makes the decision not to lower the cost will be fined $250 dollars every week they do not lower the cost.

Section 6: The cost will be required to start to go down by January 13, 2020.
An act to change state voting age

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE

Section 1: The current state law is that an eligible voter must be 18 on or before the Voting day.

Section 2: The State voting age rules will change on the next state wide voting day which is November 16th, 2018.

Section 3: This law will enable anyone turning 18 by midnight of the 20th day beyond the day of election.

Section 4: Eligible voters must register to vote based upon permanent residence, six months prior to the day of election.

Section 5: When signed into law, persons who meet the criteria outlined in this bill will be eligible to vote in all subsequent elections.
An act to increase to the South Carolina foster care budget

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current budget for the foster care system is about 3 million dollars for 50,000 children in foster care. Each case is worth $60 dollars. We want to increase this amount to $100 per case. This means the state budget us get for foster care would increase to $5,000,000

Section 2: The state alcohol and cigarette tax will increase by 1 percent a year until the budget reaches the goal of $5,000,000

Section 3: We want to create a more safe environment for foster kids. By increasing the budget, it is giving more resources for the caseworkers to provide healthy homes.

Section 4: Revenue from the tax fund would increase
A. The amount of social workers in SC
B. Less cases for each social worker
C. More check ups on foster homes

Section 5: When signed into law, the first increase will take place January 1, 2019
An Act to End Animal Cruelty in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current state law for animal cruelty is for your first offense is 60 days in jail, and a fine of $100- $500, and second and third offense is 90 days - 2 years in jail and a fine up to $2000.

Section 2: We want to change the first offense jail length to 120 days, and a fine of $200- $600, and second and third offense is 8 months - 3 years, instead of the shorter jail time for animal abuse.

Section 3: The money from the extra fines would go to fund:
A. An anti-cruelty drive across the state
B. School programs like speakers and TV spots.

Section 4: When signed into law the first increase will take place January 1, 2018
An Act to Prevent Animal Cruelty

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current jail time for first act of animal cruelty is sixty days. The jail time for the second offense is ninety days. The jail time for the third offense is two years.

Section 2: We propose to raise the jail time for the first offense to one year. We also propose raising the second offense to three years, and then we will raise the third offense to 5 years in jail.

Section 3: We are going to raise the fine imposed for these offenses by $200 dollars. This will make the first offense $700. The second offense $1000, and the third offense will be fined $2200.

Section 4: Revenue from these proposed changes will fund:

A. More shelters will be built.
B. Shelters will be able to rescue more animals
C. With these increased punishments and fines the number of animal cruelty cases should decrease.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first increase will take place on January 1, 2018.
A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An act to increase teachers’ salary

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The average salary of a public school teacher in South Carolina is about $48,000 per year, while the average trash collector in South Carolina makes about $58,000 per year.

Section 2: We plan to increase SC teachers’ salaries by $10,000 every year until they reach national parity.

Section 3: This revenue would come from a $200 education fee attached to SC income tax that would not apply to those in the lowest income brackets.

Section 4: When signed into law, the law will take effect on April 15,
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA  
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT  
13th Annual Model Legislature  
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS Senate  
BILL NUMBER: S43  
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 10  
AUTHORS: Josh Burns, Davis Dickerson, Luke Krall  
SCHOOL/CLUB: St. Mary’s Catholic School

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An act to bring back glass recycling

BE IT HERBEY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section1: There is presently no glass recycling system for glass in South Carolina. Glass is being used once but we can recycle and reuse it.

Section2: Glass is one hundred percent recyclable and can be recycled endlessly without loss in quality or purity. Glass is made from sand, soda ash, limestone, and cullet. These materials cost money to acquire when we could reuse the glass we already have.

Section3: South Carolinians money by reusing glass. We wouldn't have to keep on paying for new glass products.

Section4: By January 13, 2018 the South Carolina DHAC will have built 5 glass recycling centers.
An Act to Enforce Vaccinations in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: All over the State, children and adults are going unvaccinated. Aside from being a danger to themselves, they can infect any otherwise healthy children who cannot be vaccinated due to medical issues. These people also can infect vaccinated people, if their vaccinations have expired or if they have weakened immune systems. In 1964-65, 2000 children died of rubella and another 11,000 pregnancies resulted in a miscarriage. In 1921, 15,000 Americans died of diptheria. In 1952 alone, nearly 60,000 were infected and 3,000 died.

Section 2: This can be fixed by a fine of $1,000 on the first offense and $10,000 per unvaccinated child, or a two week prison sentence on the refusal to vaccinate a second time. Before any of this, however, there will be one warning. The money from the fines will be used to finance the prison sentences itself and for the District Attorney.

Section 3: This likely will have little impact on the general population, although Police Offices will be even busier with yet another thing to track and arrest people for. Presumably, though, this will pay for itself through the fine. The jail sentence is light enough to have little effect on the person’s life. Obviously, they will have multiple warnings and minor fines before it comes to an arrest.

Section 4: This bill will encourage the practice of vaccination throughout the state of South Carolina, resulting in:
A. A healthier, happier population. Sick people do not like being sick, and most diseases that are vaccinated against can be harmful.
B. Protection from the more dangerous kinds of diseases, such as rabies. These types of diseases reach their terminal stages very fast, and are almost always deadly. By requiring vaccinations, the death toll will decrease significantly.
C. Healthy people do not take off sick days, resulting in increased productivity. This means a better economy with more hard working individuals taking fewer days off.

Section 5: Upon being signed into law, our bill will come into effect starting March 10, 2019. There will be a one week grace period for families to get accustomed and vaccinated.
An Act to Prevent Animal Fatalities in Car Crashes

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Unharnessed pets get injured or die in car accidents. It is estimated that 100,000 dogs die from riding in truck beds alone each year. And that doesn’t include the dogs, or cats, who are unsecured in the car during a collision. Another issue is that pets can be a distraction to drivers if they are allowed to move freely, as they may poke the driver or impede their vision.

Section 2: We will require that all dogs and cats be either in a kennel, or wear some sort of harness or strap to keep them safe during the transportation. During accidents seat belts have been proven to cut the risk of death by 45%, and the risk of serious injury by 50% for humans. It is reasonable to assume that these statistics will also apply to dogs and cats.

Section 3: Consequences for breaking this law would be: $50 fine for first offense, $200 and possible jail time for second offense, on the third offense, it will be considered animal abuse, resulting in losing custody of your animal, as well as possible jail time.

Section 4: If this bill is passed, it will result in less injuries and fatalities to pets. Even if restraining pets only reduces risk by a fraction of the amount that seat belts.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2019.
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S46
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 1
AUTHORS: Max Hovious and Christian Thayer
SCHOOL/CLUB: Sterling School - Charles Townes Center

An Act to Prevent Child Fatalities in Hot Cars

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The amount of child heatstroke deaths in cars is the highest it has been in more than five years. While this issue is mostly a matter of a lack of common sense, it is also because South Carolina, currently, has no law against leaving young children unattended in hot cars. Our bill aims to change that.

Section 2: This bill will set a limit to how long a child is able to be left unattended in a car. If a child under the age of 10 is left in the car for longer than 30 minutes when the temperature is more than 75 degrees, the consequences will go into effect.

Section 3: If a child is left in a car for longer than the aforementioned time, the legal parent or guardian will be charged with a second degree misdemeanor and fined a minimum of $1000. If the child dies because of being left in the car, the parent/guardian will be charged with vehicular manslaughter.

Section 4: This will hopefully decrease the amount of children killed because they are left in hot cars and compel parents to keep their children with them on a hot day.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2018.
An act to restrict trucks over two axles in the left lane

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Every year, over 3,700 people in South Carolina lose their lives in car crashes involving trucks over two axles. Other drivers may be irritated by these trucks, and therefore more aggressive. A truck moving at 65 miles per hour takes six seconds to safely stop, and can travel 512 feet in this time frame. In the left lane, these trucks are driving even faster, and take even longer to stop. Truck’s blind spots are larger than those of normal driving cars, and this provides a danger to drivers. We as South Carolinians are not taking advantage of an easy way to solve this issue.

Section 2: Our bill would restrict trucks with more than two axles to be in the left lane. We intend to decrease crashes involving trucks because of this. A truck going 60 miles per hour could exert about half of the force of the Challenger’s main engine, and these trucks weigh 40 times that of an average car. This weight can easily crush a car, and trucks in the left lane have huge blind spots that cause these accidents. Although trucks with a trailer do have more than three axles, these trucks will be allowed in the left lane. The drivers of cars all around the state of South Carolina will patrol their fellow citizens.

Section 3: Our patrolling service for this bill would be the drivers on the road. We would suggest that users call their local police system, rather than call 911. The punishment for breaking this law would be a fine of $500 for the first offense. Repeat offenders would pay a fine of $1500. We hope that this fine will draw truck drivers away from being in the left lane, as it will cost them dearly.

Section 4: The benefits of this bill would be:
A. Accidents involving trucks over two axles would go down.
B. Drivers will experience less road rage, and this will also help the number of accidents in South Carolina decrease.
C. Many drivers will pay more attention to trucks, and therefore be more cautious around them.

Section 5: This bill would go into effect on January 1st 2020. This will allow drivers in the area time to adjust to the new law. All major delivery companies will be notified of this change one year before it goes into effect, on January 1st 2019.
An Act to Have Schools Donate Money and Support Local Charities in their Communities

Publicly funded schools should donate money to local charities in their communities. Doing this will benefit the school and the places where the kids live. If a school has a mass of 500 people than even if each student donates 2 dollars each quarter than that would raise about 1000 dollars each quarter which is about 4000 dollars a school year. A donation as small as 2 dollars can make such a big impact on their communities. Hosting fundraisers and smaller charities could help the school itself as well.

Research- Research shows that students that help host fundraisers gain social skills and learn how to help others. As a fundraising idea schools could create a food stand where they can sell food to other students. Many schools do not have necessary equipment like textbooks, sports gear, and writing utensils. Providing these types of fundraisers really helps kids that may not have enough money to buy school clothes and materials. The money can also go to things like homeless shelters and nursing homes, doing this makes the community much more active and friendly.

Financial Description- The only money spent is to get the supplies for the fundraiser, but that money is next to nothing and will be got back in profit. The profit will go to the places were the school wants to donate. The money the school spends on the fundraiser goes to the school and the profit goes to the charity.

This bill will help the community of the kids so that everyone has a better life. This bill can be issued into action the school year after it has passed.
An Act To Increase the Legal Vaping Age from 18 years to 21 years

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: According to a survey conducted by the group 2017 Monitoring the Future (MTF), about 13 percent of 8th graders, 24 percent of 10th graders, and nearly 28 percent of 12th graders at U.S. schools reported using a vaping device in the past year. These statistics show that much of the youth population is involved with vaping.

Section 2: Many e-cigarette companies state that vaping is considered to be an alternative way to quit smoking. Studies have shown that vaping can be even more addicting than regular smoking. One JUUL pod contains 20 cigarettes worth of nicotine.

Section 3: The excessive amount of nicotine that is exposed to your body by vaping makes e-cigarettes extremely addictive. Many people think that the aerosol released by e-cigarettes is harmless, but it actually contains fine particles that have toxic chemicals linked to cancer, heart disease, and respiratory system problems.

Section 4: Our bill will be to increase the legal vaping age from 18 years to 21 years. Many teenagers do not realize the harm and risks they are putting their body at by vaping. Raising the legal vaping age will help bring the seriousness of this matter to teenagers.

Section 5: Our bill will be enacted on January 1st, 2019.
**An Act to Redefine Voluntary Manslaughter in South Carolina**

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**Section 1:** In the state of South Carolina, the minimum penalty for voluntary manslaughter is 2 years, whereas the maximum is 30 years. Voluntary manslaughter is defined as killing without knowledge of what will happen, or without previous planning.

**Section 2:** Our bill will only affect voluntary manslaughter not done as an act of self-defense. In cases where there was an intruder that was threatening, you would not be punished. However, if you were in no danger, and you proceeded to attack or harm the other individual, you would be punished.

**Section 3:** With our bill in action, we would raise the minimum punishment to six years, and raise the maximum to 50 years. Therefore, no individual that committed a violent crime will go without a rightful penalty.

**Section 4:** Our bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2019.
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: Senate
BILL NUMBER: S51
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 6
AUTHORS: Liza Webster and Caroline Hedges
SCHOOL/CLUB: Spartanburg Day School

An Act to Test, Count, and Submit Rape Kits in South Carolina.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently in South Carolina, there are no laws mandating the submission or testing of rape kits by law enforcement. Victims do not get notified nor alerted if their rape kit is tested.

Section 2: This bill would mandate the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division to test, count, and submit every backlogged and all new rape kits and have a running tab accessible to South Carolina and its victims. This would mean that every victim would get justice and have a better chance to convict the perpetrator.

Section 3: If a local law enforcement office does not abide by this law, it would result in a thorough investigation of the office by S.L.E.D. officers. If the investigation determines that gross negligence or a refusal to follow this law is the reason for their non-compliance, S.L.E.D. has the right to assume management of the office for 6 months followed by a second review of the office’s management.

Section 4: Our bill will go into action on January 1, 2019.
A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

Eliminating Tax on Feminine Hygiene Products

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: We will eliminate sales tax on feminine hygiene products (i.e. pads, tampons, etc.). Tampons and pads are medical necessities therefor, they should not be taxed. Many prescription drugs and medical supplies are exempt from sales tax. 5 states do not have sales taxes on pads and tampons.

Section 2: Currently South Carolina has a 6.25% sales tax. According to, an average box of tampons is approximately $7. With a 6.25% sales tax on that, it equals around to $7.44. With girls and women needing an average of ten boxes of tampons per year, they end up spending up to an average of $70 a year, without the feminine hygiene sales tax. With the sales tax on top of the $70 a year, females spend an average of $74.40 each year, just as a necessity. That may not seem like much but a single mom with 2 girls is going to have to pay three times that amount.

Section 3: This tax will make it easier for people who live paycheck to paycheck to afford pads and tampons. It will also make it easier for organizations like The period Project to get more products to help more people.

Section 4: Once signed into law, the tax elimination will begin on May 28 2019.
BILL ORIGINATES IN: Senate
BILL NUMBER: S53
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 8
AUTHORS: Nicolas Depalle, Jonathan Tucker
SCHOOL/CLUB: Hughes Academy

An act to start school later

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: We would like to change the time of when the school starts so that we
don’t always have the urge to sleep during class, or have that dreaded alarm wake
you up every single day and let us naturally wake up, and it would also allow us to
maybe stay up a little longer so that we can finish up your homework instead of
worrying about it all night.

Section 2: We would make it so that you would start elementary and preschool at
9:00 AM and finish at 3:30 PM and the school doors would open at 8:00, middle
school would open their doors at 8:30 AM and start at 9:30 AM and finish at 4:15
PM, and high school would open their doors at 8:45 AM and start at 9:45 AM and
finish at 4:45.

Section 3: This bill works out for everyone because students will get the sleep that
they need for class, and teachers will have more time for planning or sleeping.

Section 4: The benefits of this bill include:
A. Students have a healthier amount of sleep.
B. On some occasions you might be able to have doctors, dentist, orthodontist,
or other kinds of appointments before school without missing any school.
C. When you get to your bus stop it will be light out which is really good
because I am a bus rider and even to this day I hate staying out in the dark waiting
for my bus stop.
D. Buses have an easier chance of getting students to school on time due to
ditching the morning traffic.
E. Meetings for clubs will be held later, giving students a chance to be at the
meeting on time.

Section 5: If this bill does get signed then this bill will go into action on the first
day of school of the 2019-2020 school year.
A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Protect Minors from Being Affected by Secondhand Smoking and Vaping in a Vehicle

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This bill is to outlaw smoking and vaping in a car with a child under the age of 18.

Section 2: Smoking or vaping in a car with minors is a major problem and needs to be restricted in order to protect the health of minors. The CDC states that every year in the United States more than 41,000 deaths occur from second hand smoke, which is equivalent to over 100 deaths every day.

Section 3: Second hand smoking and vaping is just as harmful as first hand smoking and vaping. For example, if a young child is in an enclosed space with a smoker, the child’s growth and health will be greatly affected. Many parents don’t believe that second hand vaping also affects children. A recent study by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that over fifty percent of parents think second hand vaping is of “little” or “no” harm to children. The nicotine or tiny particles and heavy metal is polluted into the air when someone vapes altering, what the child is breathing in. Harmful smoking and vaping in an enclosed space with a minor impacts the child in a cognitive capacity. The National Institute of Health conducted a study that proved people involved in second-hand smoking had the same amount of brain damage as the person smoking.

Section 4: This will decrease the deaths caused from smoking, which is the leading preventable cause of deaths in the United States. This bill is needed to protect those helpless children and the 41,000 citizens that die a year from secondhand smoking. Children who aren’t able to control the chemicals they breathe in due to smoke from cigarettes and vaping will be protected.

Section 5: This will be enforced the same way texting while driving is enforced. When a police officer spots someone who is smoking in a car with a minor they will be fined the following amounts:
First time offense- $200 fine.
Second time offense- two points will be added to the driver's license which increase the insurance cost.
Third time offense- $800 fine or 3 nights in jail.

Section 6: When this bill is signed into law, it will go into effect on January 1, 2019.
An Act to Remove Income Tax for Minors

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently in South Carolina, officially employed minors are forced to pay income tax. Percentages of income tax vary based on salary, but the average income tax for a minor is about 5 or 6 percent.

Section 2: Eliminating income tax for minors will not only allow teenagers to earn more money, but will work as an incentive for minors to get employed. This will boost the economy, making up for the money lost. On has to consider: No taxation without representation. Why tax minors who can't even vote represent America? Income tax should ONLY be for adults, for they can represent the state government.

Section 3: The income tax will only be eliminated on a state level, not federal. According to newsok.com, about 25% of high schoolers have a job. There are about 93,000 minors between the ages 15-17 in South Carolina. This means about 23,250 minors are employed in South Carolina. The average teenager works around 15 hours a week earnings $7.25 an hour. This means that the state government will lose about $7.9 million a year from losing the tax revenue.

Section 4: This seems like a huge loss of money, but once again the loss of the taxes will act as an incentive to get a job, boosting the economy. This is a grand problem that must be fixed.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first enactment of the law will take place on January 1, 2019.
An Act to Reduce Opioid Overdoses

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This bill will enforce a 50 percent increase on opioids price with a money back rewards program.

Section 2: Opioid overdoses claimed the lives of over 42 thousand Americans in 2016 and 33 thousand in 2015. In 2016 the EMS reported a 39 percent increase from 2015 to 2016. Opioids have a street value near as high as Marijuana, give or take 3.00. Opioids are a very common narcotic usually dealing with pain killers.

Section 3: The average Opioid costs anywhere from $60.00 to $20.00 with insurance it drops to $20.00 to free, this is too low of a price for narcotics.

Section 4: This bill is suggesting a 50 percent increase on the current opioid price we will start a reward program for bringing back the container with a certain amount of pills remaining will get anywhere from 30 dollars to 20 dollars back to the individual who it was prescribed to. By increasing the opioid price the revenue will be used towards opioid research and rehabilitation.

Section 5: In 2016 two out of three drug overdose deaths included some type of opioid and every 12 minutes someone dies from an opioid overdose. In 2017 HHS (The United States department of Health and Human services) declared a public emergency to combat the opioid crisis.

Section 6: When signed into law this bill will take effect on January 1, 2019 once signed by the Youth Governor.
BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S57
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 1
AUTHORS: Payton Burch and Payton Laubacker
SCHOOL/CLUB: Cardinal Newman

An Act To Have A Minimum Wage for Starting Firefighters

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The average starting firefighter in South Carolina is paid $10.52 an hour. This act will raise their starting firefighters wage to $15 an hour.

Section 2: The wage will increase be $1 every 3 months, making their wage to be $15 an hour by March 1st 2020.

Section 3: Adding $5 to a firefighters wage in South Carolina would allow more people to be helped when a natural disaster happens and when there is multiple fires going on somewhere. With more pay, more people would be willing to become a firefighter, causing more people to be able to respond immediately during a fire. South Carolina would then have enough first responders for a fire, keeping South Carolinians safe.

Section 4: This bill would help:
A. people in fire danger
B. firefighters from overwork
C. SC firefighters could be sent to emergencies in other states without risking the safety of South Carolinians

Section 5: When signed into the law the bill will start on January 1st 2019
An Act to Decrease the Days in a School Year

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current 180 days in a school year will be lessened to 129 days, a decrease of 51 days. This would allow for an extra weekend day.

Section 2: School days will be lengthened last nine hours as opposed to the minimum of six hours.

Section 3: This time in school would lessen homework. The extra weekend day would give students time for extracurricular activities and other stress relieving activities. The extra time to work and play would have a positive effect on students.

Section 4: When signed into law, the decrease in school days will take affect starting 2019 - 2020 school year
An act to control pesticides

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Beneficial insects, such as bees, are dying every day because of people spraying pesticide when these insects are most active, which is during the day. Since people only spray pesticide for insects that are harmful, mainly mosquitoes, they are hurting more bees than harmful insects. Unfortunately, pesticides harm more than just bees, they also harm humans. Pesticides are toxic and can cause a number of health issues and disorders. Ranging from respiratory problems to even cancer.

Section 2: This bill will ban the top 7 most dangerous pesticides (Acetamiprid, Clothianidin, Dinotefuran, Imidacloprid, Nitenpyram, Thiacloprid, and Thiamethoxam). These pesticides listed all contain neonicotinoid. Some pesticides that can replace the highly toxic pesticides are Bacillus thuringiensis, Cydia pomonella granulosis, Kaolin Clay, Corn gluten, and Gibberellic Acid. This will insure that bees will be able to pollenate and get back to the hive and not be intoxicated.

Section 3: If a company sprays one of these harmful pesticides, they will be fined $2,000. For every time they commit this crime the fine will go up by 20%. By changing these toxic pesticides to healthy organic ones, we will help our bees from becoming extinct, we will protect our environment, and hopefully help reduce cancer cases in the future.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect by January 1, 2019.
AN ACT TO INCREASE CHILDREN’S HEALTH

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently, South Carolina has no law in place to prevent the damaging effects of secondhand smoke in vehicles transporting minors. This act will ban smoking in vehicles transporting minors.

Section 2: No safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke exists. Exposing passengers, both children and adults, to secondhand smoke in the confined space of a car is extremely hazardous. When someone smokes in the small enclosed space of a car or other vehicle, people breathe toxic air at levels many times higher than what the EPA considers hazardous, even when a window is down. A 2006 study by researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health found “alarming” levels of secondhand smoke were generated in just five minutes in vehicles under various driving, ventilation, and smoking conditions. Secondhand smoke contains more than 7,000 chemicals. Hundreds are toxic and about 70 can cause cancer. Secondhand smoke causes numerous health problems in infants and children, including more frequent and severe asthma attacks, respiratory infections, ear infections, and sudden infant death syndrome.

Section 3: Violations of the bill will incur the following penalties:
- Drivers will be given a warning for the first offense.
- Each following offense will result in a $100 fine.
- For a third offense, violators will be sent to a substance abuse program to help them with their current addiction.

Section 4: Fines collected for violations of this bill will fund the state-sponsored substance abuse program.

Section 5: This law will take effect January 1, 2019.
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
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November 11th- 13th

Bill Originates In: Senate
Bill Number S61
Recommended for Committee: 5
Authors: Emily Miguel-Ceron, Jennifer Godinez Perez, Maria Rodriguez Silva
School/Club: Lakeview Middle School

AN ACT TO BAN HUMAN CLONING

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: This bill will ban human genetic cloning. This law will be enforced by DHEC (The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control). If companies do not cooperate, the first offense will be a warning; the second offense will result in a fine of $7500. This fine will increase 25% with each offense.

Section 2: Although, there no federal laws prohibit human cloning in the United States, multiple states have statutes regarding the subject. For instance, Virginia, California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and 12 other states have banned cloning for the purpose of producing children.

Section 3: Genetic human cloning cons can range from clinical complications to disagreements in the community. Over 90% of human cloning tests have been declared as failures as well as putting human lives at risk and increasing the chances of abuse. South Carolina would benefit from this bill because so much money is spent every year attempting to create a successful genetic clone and improving the human organism itself. At least $2 million are spent just to obtain eggs from multiple females, not including the equipment and personnel needed to perform the experiment. Many conservative individuals will claim that humans are acting like gods and will strike in opposition if there is a successful human duplicate. We also have to consider that genetic cloning can put human rights at risk which will also devalue mankind.

Section 4: Fines collected by violations of this act would fund state projects, such as construction of buildings and roads as well as funding for human service programs.

Section 5: This law will take effect January 1, 2019.
AN ACT TO SHIFT SCHOOL START TIMES

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently, schools run from 8 a.m. to around 3:30 p.m. This bill would mandate that high schools begin at 9:30. This act would help kids get better sleep that they truly need.

Section 2: California, Alaska, North Dakota, and Maryland as well as 19 other states have either already passed to start schools later or are considering it.

Section 3: Many teenage students need to sleep at least 8 ½ - 9 ½ hours of sleep; the majority of students sleep for only 6-7 hours. Lack of sleep increases the rate of bad behavior and also can cause depression and other mood swings. Lack of sleep also affects the health of the student. The later start time would enable students to achieve adequate amounts of sleep which would optimize their learning levels enabling higher success rates in school translating to higher graduation rates. More students would suffer from depression and other down moods. Athletes would also benefit from this change since sleep directly impacts on athletic performance.

Section 4: This law will take effect on January 1, 2019.
AN ACT TO PROMOTE FAMILY UNIFICATION

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently 185,000 out of 5 million women in South Carolina are displaced without money to provide for their families which places them at risk of separation from their sons at age 8. Many shelters housing women and children exclude men and older boys which forces mothers to separate from their older male children. This bill mandates that shelters allow for families to remain unified while in residence at the shelter.

Section 2: In 2014, South Carolina ranked 40th out of 56 US states and territories in poverty rates. Increasing family unity would promote social order which would also decrease poverty rates. Studies have also shown that trauma experienced as a child has profound psychological and physiological impact on that child.

Section 3: This law will take effect January 1, 2019.
An Act to Raise the Minimum & Maximum Amount of Jail Time for Felony Domestic Abuse

Section 1: A domestic violence felony is a crime where one family or household member commits a serious act of violence against another member of the household. The first offense of domestic violence is a misdemeanor. You must pay a fine of $1,000 to $2,500 or up to 30 days in jail. The second offense is also considered a misdemeanor the punishment is a fine of $2,000 to $5,000 and 30 days to one year in jail. There is a minimum sentence of 30 days in jail. Third offenses are felonies, punished by one to five years in prison.

Section 2: Depending on how serious the felony is, the offender will be given a sentence of at least 30 days in jail, and at most 15 years in prison. A fine will also be required for the offender to pay.

Section 3: The judge, depending on how extreme the crime is, will be expected to give the offender a fair amount of jail time that falls in between 1-10 years

Section 4: Changing these laws would help:
A: By raising the punishment, domestic violence rates will start going down
B: People feel safer by knowing that the felons have longer jail times
C: Satisfy the country’s economy by making the felons pay larger crimes

Section 5: If law will take action on January 1st, 2019 in South Carolina.
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS SENATE
BILL NUMBER: S65
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 9
AUTHORS: Sania Williams, Alexis Hudson, and Breanna Bayne
SCHOOL/CLUB: Sevier Middle School

An Act to Create Resources for Victims of Human Trafficking

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: In South Carolina, there are currently no physical buildings for victims of Human Trafficking.

Section 2: In Greenville, Columbia, and Charleston, we will create facilities for victims of human trafficking to restore their lives, and help them get back on their feet. These facilities will be free to the victims of human trafficking. Since Greenville is the top place in SC for human trafficking, the first human trafficking center will go up here.

Section 3: If people aren’t able to provide transportation to these facilities, professional bus drivers will be hired to specifically take these victims to the nearest human trafficking facility. In these facilities, professional therapists will be hired to assist these victims, security and background checks will occur so the facility can be safe, and a walk-in policy so that no matter when these victims were trafficked, they can walk in. Heavily trained volunteers will also be able to assist us in these facilities.

Section 4: By raising tax on alcohol and tobacco products by 3%, we will be able to build centers and facilities for victims of human trafficking. This money will also fund the payment for the therapists, and security. We will also create fundings for these facilities by partnering with existing human-trafficking combating resources such as Switch in Greenville.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first increase in tax will take place on January 1, 2019.
An Act to Increase Support for Missing Alzheimer’s Patients

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: There are about 89,000 people in South Carolina with Alzheimer’s, and 6 out of 10 of those people go missing. By 2025 the number of Alzheimer’s patients will increase to about 120,000, which means more patients will go missing.

Section 2: Our goal is to decrease the number of missing Alzheimer’s patients by 70%. The impact that this bill will have is, it will decrease the number of missing Alzheimer’s patients along with people who don’t have the money put a patient in an assisted living facility.

Section 3: We are wanting to create a bracelet that has a GPS chip that can track an Alzheimer’s patient if they go missing. The bracelet (or watch), that has a GPS chip in it, that can track an Alzheimer’s patient if they ever go missing and it is connected to an app that has a code (which is created by a family member or caregiver), the code lets you track them down.

Section 4: We are planning for the money for this bill to come from raising taxes on tobacco products and holding fundraisers with the Alzheimer’s Association.

Section 5: When signed into law, the first action will take place on January 1, 2019.
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BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS SENATE
BILL NUMBER: S67
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 11
AUTHORS: Elias Sigmon, Elijah Posner, Camden Aiken
SCHOOL/CLUB: Sevier Middle School

An Act to Increase the legal smoking age

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Our bill is to change the legal smoking age from 18 to 21

Section 2: This will make it illegal for all teens 18,19,20 to not be able to smoke. They will have to show their id.

Section 3: We feel that late teenagers should not be able to smoke as we do not want them to start the bad habit of smoking at a young age. Which could result into lung cancer. If any person 17 years to 20 years of age will be tried as an adult if found with tobacco the punishment will be jail time (30 days) or $3,000 in fines.

Section 4: the results of this age increase could cause
• A possible decrease in lung cancer in the state
• A way to end the widespread use of tobacco
• And an increase in physical fitness

Section 5: If passed into law the bill will come into full effect in March 19th of 2019
An Act to Reduce the Amount of Standardized Tests Taken in the State of South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current standardized tests taken in South Carolina costs the state about 1.7 billion dollars. Our bill would be reducing the number of these tests taken in schools across South Carolina.

Section 2: In grades 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th the students take the SC Ready tests in English/Writing, and math. Grades 3-8 take SC PASS tests in science and social studies depending on what year.

Section 3: Our bill would be removing the 5th grade, and 7th grade SC Ready for ELA/Writing. Math would stay. We will not be reducing the SC PASS because it was previously reduced by the state.

Section 4: This bill would allow school systems in South Carolina to

- Have more time to teach material
- Have more money in the budget to spend
- And just less stress on the students

Section 5: When signed into law, the first decrease will go in to law at the beginning of next school year.
BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Some animals are very fortunate and find a kind and loving home, but some animals aren't as fortunate and are adopted by “Class B” Dealers. These dealers take pets from the humane societies to a holding facility until they are sold to laboratories for harmful experiments. There was a dog who was recently killed for a piece of his jaw. These killings should be classified as murder. These murders are not dealt humanly either. During studies for the experiments they use pharmaceutical, industrial chemicals, pesticides, or household products.

Section 2: Some more information on the Class B Dealers: Class B dealers are licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to acquire dogs and cats from “random sources” to sell them to universities and other research institutions for use in experiments. In contrast, how many animals do the Class B dealers snag? 2,863 Class B dogs and 276 Class B cats were sold for research. At the time, it was estimated that the combined total of Class B dogs and cats used in research represented 3 percent of the total number of dogs and cats used in research. Class B dealers, also called random source dealers, can sell abandoned or unwanted animals that they obtain from other sources, including, shelters, pounds and small breeders.

Section 3: One of the main animals are dogs and cats. These defenseless animals are murdered for studies that aren’t necessary "We have moved away from studying human disease in humans. ... We all drank the Kool-Aid on that one, me included. ... The problem is that [animal testing] hasn’t worked, and it’s time we stopped dancing around the problem. ... We need to refocus and adapt new methodologies for use in humans to understand disease biology in humans.” —Dr. Elias Zerhouni It is time that we step away form this cruel animal abuse and start using other things without a life or feeling of pain.

Section 4: These are some brands that still make profits and test inhumanly on small and large animals like dogs, cats, and small rodents. Avon, Benefit, Clinique, Estée Lauder, Makeup Forever, Maybelline, OPI, Victoria’s Secret, I know that you are thinking of Underwear but they also sell perfumes, lotions, lipstick, and nail polish they test on animals whether they are small rodents or big cats it is still
Section 5: Instead of using animals in experiments they should use computer modeling. Researchers have developed a wide range of sophisticated computer models that simulate human biology and the progression of developing diseases. Studies show that these models can accurately predict the ways that new drugs will react in the human body and replace the use of animals in exploratory research and many standard drug tests, research on human volunteers. A method called “microdosing” can provide vital information on the safety of an experimental drug and how it is metabolized in humans prior to large-scale human trials. Volunteers are given an extremely small one-time drug dose, and sophisticated imaging techniques are used to monitor how the drug behaves in the body. Microdosing can replace certain tests on animals and help screen out drug compounds that won’t work in humans so that they won’t needlessly advance to government-required animal testing. Human Patient Simulators Strikingly life-like computerized human-patient simulators that breathe, bleed, convulse, talk, and even “die” have been shown to teach students physiology and pharmacology better than crude exercises that involve cutting up animals. The most high-tech simulators mimic illnesses and injuries and give the appropriate biological response to medical interventions and injections of medications. Ninety-seven percent of medical schools across the U.S. have completely replaced the use of animal laboratories in medical training with simulators like this, as well as virtual-reality systems, computer simulators, and supervised clinical experience. These are just some alternatives for experiments.
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BILL ORIGINITES IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S70
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 3
AUTHORS: Harper Rehmann and Bryce Marion
SCHOOL/CLUB: Porter-Gaud

An Act to Increase the Punishment for Animal Cruelty in South Carolina

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently in South Carolina the punishment for animal cruelty is inadequate. A first time offender is punished with a fine of $100-$500 or imprisonment up to 60 days. We believe that the punishment should be intensified, in hopes to decrease the amount of animal abuse.

Section 2: To accomplish this goal we would increase the fine for a first time offense to $300-$800 and the maximum jail time to 90 days.

Section 3: If an offender cannot afford the fine, they will automatically be punished with jail time.

Section 4: The more severe punishments for animal cruelty will:
A: Decrease the amount of offenders.
B: Protect the well-being of animals.
C: The additional money could fund the building of animal shelters and promote public awareness of proper animal care.

Section 5: If signed into law this bill will take action on January 1st, 2019 in South Carolina.
An Act to Increase the Punishment for Hate Crimes

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: A hate crime is a criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by and offender’s bias against race, religion, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. South Carolina is one of five states that have no hate crime laws. There are 17 known hate groups in South Carolina today. Overall, our bill will reduce the amount of hate crimes across the state of South Carolina.

Section 2: When a misdemeanor, or a lesser crime is committed it is considered an assault against someone based on their race, the punishment would include an additional 6 months in jail, a minimum of 30 day mandatory incarceration, and up to 100 hours of community service. If the hate crime committed is a felony, which means it result in the victim being injured the punishment would be up to 5 years in prison, a maximum fine of $2,500 when convicted, and up to 300 hours of community service.

Section 3: If the person who commits the hate crime is unable to pay the fine given when they are convicted, it can be traded for time in jail or more community service.

Section 4
   A. An increase in the punishments for people who commit hate crimes will result in a decrease of the number of hate crimes committed each year.
   B. The punishments for hate crimes will not apply if violent actions are not taken because the freedom of speech is the first amendment.

Section 5: When signed into law, the punishment will take place in January, 2019.
Bill Originates In: MS Senate
Bill Number: S72
Recommended For Committee: 5
Authors: Rhett Andrews and Rowan Sullivan
School/Club: Porter-Gaud School

A Bill to be Entitled

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently, the manufacturing on 3D printing guns has become more and more prominent in today’s society. Our bill proposes that these people making the weapons require a government issued license to manufacture and/or sell guns.

Section 2: The government will enforce a strict licensing program for manufacturers. It will state that one must go through the process of receiving a license from the government allowing them to manufacture guns.

Section 3: Plastic companies have plenty of money to spend, which could make hundreds of thousands of guns in one year. Currently, just about anyone who knows how to work a 3D printer and has the resources can legally create a rifle. These plastic companies can provide the resources, and give their employees the blueprints. This is very dangerous because the plastic companies can hire people to make hundreds of guns a year. These guns are not strong enough to fire a bullet without making an explosion back at the shooter. They are also not easily controllable, so the bullet may shoot in any direction. These guns are incredibly dangerous, and shouldn’t be legal.

Section 4: This law would be put into place to prevent the illegal production and/or manufacturing of guns. When this production is regulated and limited, it would inevitably increase public safety and reduce the amount of public attacks or assaults.

Section 5: This bill would be signed into law on January 1, 2019. This would restrict the illegal production of or manufacturing of plastic guns.
An Act to Increase Punishments for Human Trafficking

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: In 2012 South Carolina passed a law that prosecutes traffickers specifically and identifies human trafficking as recruiting, harboring, or obtaining of a person by force, fraud, or coercion for sexual exploitation or forced labor. The crime is considered a felony.

Section 2: For a first offense imprisonment should not exceed 15 years, for a second offense the guilty party must be imprisoned for not more than 30 years, and a third offense carries a penalty of not more than 45 years. Additionally a person convicted of trafficking must be ordered by the court to pay restitution to the victim.

Section 3: Restitution is frequently overlooked, occurring in only 36% of cases nationwide. Victims who have been held in bondage are frequently left empty-handed, deprived of funds that would help them rebuild their lives.

Section 4: With this bill a mandatory minimum payment of $20,000 would be awarded to each victim of human trafficking, along with the costs of medical care and counseling for up to 4 years.

Section 6: When signed into law, the law will go into effect January 1, 2019.
An Act to Increase the Drinking Age to 25

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: In South Carolina the current legal age to buy alcohol is 21.

Section 2: In the United States, lower drinking age laws have been associated with more traffic fatalities and teen suicides. Findings support an association with drinking problems that persist into later adulthood, such as binge drinking.

Section 3: In states where the average drinking age was raised, there was a 16% decline in traffic related deaths, and less likelihood of binge drinking.

Section 4: Raising the legal drinking age to 25 would result in fewer traffic related deaths.

Section 5: The legal drinking age will be raised yearly for 4 years beginning in 2019.

Section 6: When signed into law, the law will go into effect January 1, 2019.
An Act to Increase the Minimum Wage

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: The current minimum wage is $7.25 an hour.

Section 2: This bill will raise the minimum wage to $9.25 an hour.

Section 3: The minimum wage will increase 0.75 cents each year over the course of 3 years.

Section 4: With this bill:

A. a family of 3 would rise above the poverty line.

B. a family could rent a 2 bedroom apartment on a 40 hour work week.

Section 6: When signed into law, the law will go into effect January 1, 2019.
An Act to Fine for Air Pollution and Health Costs

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: There is currently no established fine for air pollution in South Carolina. Offenders have their permits revoked.

Section 2: The Department of Health and Environmental will administer a fine for air pollution violations not to exceed $500,000 per violation.

Section 3: Health expenses of any patient proving direct cause will be paid by the offending company, not to exceed $1,000,000.

Section 4: Revenue from this fine will fund:

A. Treatment for patients affected by air pollutants.
B. The Department of Health and Environmental Control.
C. Grants for research into how to prevent and clean-up air pollution.

Section 5: When signed into law, the bill will go into effect January 1, 2019
An Act to Ban Handheld Device Usage in Cars

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Using a handheld device while driving will result in a $25.00 fine with no points on your license for a first offense.

Section 2: Using a handheld device while driving will result in a $75.00 fine with 1 point on your license for a second offense.

Section 3: Texting while driving is a major cause of traffic accidents; 33% of teens and young adults admit to using handheld devices while driving.

Section 4: Revenue from the fines would be used to fund driver safety education courses.

Section 5: When signed into law, the tax increase will take place on January 1, 2019.
An Act to Create Menus for the Blind

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: About 3% of South Carolinians suffer from legal blindness. Despite this number seeming small, that is about 147,000 people. Although this number may not be able to be decreased, there are ways to make those 147,000 people's lives easier, and more fulfilling. Something as simple as reading a menu is a daunting task for legally blind citizens. Pearcy from Roslindale Patch says, “I love going into a place where I can read a Braille menu. It puts me on an equal playing field with the rest of the people in my group. It's a nice feeling of being included.” Many legally blind people feel the same way as Pearcy.

Section II: We propose to require restaurants to provide a Braille menu for every 15 seats available at the restaurant. A menu costs on average $7.00. It is a right for the blind to be able to use a menu. In order to open a restaurant, the owner would have to buy the appropriate amount of menus necessary for that establishment. Braille menus will be necessary for fast food restaurants (inside), food trucks, dine-ins, and fine dining. This will give legally blind people a plethora of options and make everyone feel more welcome in general. On average, a restaurant uses 80 seats. That amounts to a total cost of only $42 to change a blind person's experience and overall quality of life, while happiness has no cost. We would begin enforcing this bill on January 1, 2020.

Section III: This bill would positively affect the owner of the establishment and all legally blind people. By giving legally blind people the ability to eat at a restaurant on their own, legally blind people will want to eat out more often, creating strong business and more potential clients. As stated above, the average cost per restaurant would be $42, which would easily be recouped in the first day. This bill affects the legally blind citizens and their partners, spouses, caregivers, etc.

Section IV: This bill would allow the legally blind to eat by themselves for the first time in their lives. Our bill gives the blind person the independence they deserve. Legally blind people should be able to enjoy independence, whether they are at a coffee shop, fast food, or fine dining restaurant just like the rest of us.

Section V: When signed into law, An Act to Create Menus for the Blind will take effect on January 1, 2020.
An Act to Support the Families of Fallen Police Officers

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: There have been 370 police officers deaths so far in the state of South Carolina. This bill will allow the state to financially support the families of fallen state troopers and police officers, and for these officers to know that their family will be provided for, should the unthinkable happen. This bill will make sure that the families will be supported with money to pay the utility bills and other expenses. The state will also provide for the proper funeral expenses.

Section II: This bill will financially support the families of fallen state troopers and county police officers.

Section III: This bill will affect families of fallen state troopers and police officers.

Section IV: Families will be financially supported and a proper funeral expenses will be paid.

Section V: When signed into law, An Act to Support the Families of Fallen Police Officers will take place on January 1, 2019.
An Act to Increase Minimum Wage

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: The current minimum wage in South Carolina is $7.25, and many people would agree they don’t get paid enough. The minimum wage should increase to $10.25. The minimum wage should be raised so people can support their families. $10.25 an hour is just three dollars more, which is a lot, but it is worth it. Companies will raise prices and people will still buy their products, but the company will increase revenue enough to pay the new minimum wage.

Section II: By raising the minimum wage in South Carolina, it gives more money to the working people who need it. It will also raise the overall wage scale, giving others more money when working for longer periods of time. By giving the workers more money, they can buy more products to make other employers pay their employees.

Section III: The people who will be affected by this bill are people who work for a job to get money, especially families in need. People who are also going to be impacted by this bill are employers. The employers are going to be impacted because they have to have the money to pay their employees. They will earn this money by increasing the cost of their products.

Section IV: People who need money and work for a long time will receive it. Everyone working will receive a living wage. People would love to work if they had more money, and this is the perfect opportunity for anyone in need or anyone who just needs a little more money. Even some people who work really hard like teachers, fire fighters, and police will get the money they deserve.

Section V: When signed into law, An Act to Increase Minimum Wage will take place on January 1, 2019.
BILL ORIGINATES IN: MS Senate
BILL NUMBER: S81
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 3
AUTHORS: Ella Foster and Ashlyn Arflin
SCHOOL/CLUB: BECK ACADEMY

An Act to Require a Locked Safe for Medications and Firearms

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: “In the United States, 73% of children under the age of nine have reported knowing the location of their parent’s firearms and 36% of these children have admitted handling these firearms,” a study from Giffords Law Center stated. In 2015, a study showed that there were over 4,230 overdose deaths from ages 15-19. Our death rate is one of the highest and we need to decrease it.

Section II: The purpose of this bill is to lower the firearm death rate and medication overdose death rate for children by requiring parents or guardians to have a fingerprint-activated safe where they store medications and firearms in the home. If they do not have a fingerprint activated safe they will need to buy one and if they refuse to purchase one they will be fined $100.00.

Section III: Children and teenagers will be affected significantly because much fewer will have access to firearms and medications. This could lower the suicide rate and prevent accidental deaths by at least 60%.

Section IV: This Bill will have a tax credit that rewards people who follow this law by giving them a deduction on their taxes. This bill will also benefit families with children and teenagers because the chance of suicide and accidental deaths could be lowered significantly. The school shooting rate will be reduced because most of the people who are responsible for school shootings get their firearms from family or close friends that have insecure guns.

Section V: When signed into law, An Act to Require a Locked Safe for Medications and Firearms will take place on January 1, 2019.
An Act to Make Sure All School Bus Stops Are Safe

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section I: In South Carolina, drivers don’t have to stop for a bus if they are on a four-lane road with a median. Cars don’t have to stop for buses if they stop on a four or more lane road. The current school bus law states that once a student gets off the bus it is the parent’s responsibility for them to get home safely. If a student has to cross the street and gets hit by a car their parents cannot sue, get compensation, etc.

Section II: We propose that until the student reaches home, it is fully the school’s responsibility if the student is harmed in any way that was not their own doing. (etc. tripping out of clumsiness). Additionally, if the student dies from being hit by a car, and it was not their own mistake, the parent(s)/guardian(s) have the full right to sue the school. Students should also be at a reasonable bus stop, on the same street if possible. If the student’s stop is not on the same street as their home or in their neighborhood, the school district should resolve that issue as soon as possible. If a student has to cross the street when they get off the bus it will be classified as “not safe”. All busses need to be on the correct side of the street at every stop. It won’t cost any money to make sure all school bus stops are safe so it’s not that big a deal.

Section III: Parents, guardians, students, and the school system will be affected by this bill. Parents and students will be affected by this bill because it will make students feel safer walking home and parents feel better about their kids walking home, especially if they have to walk on busy roads.

Section IV: The benefits of this bill are improved safety for students, mental security for parents, and overall an improved system. This bill will reduce the amount of accidents students have while walking home from the bus. If a student gets badly hurt while walking home from the bus, the parent can sue and the money they might get can be used for hospital bills and other medical expenses.

Section V: When signed into law, An Act to Make Sure All School Bus Stops Are Safe will take place on August 1, 2019.
An Act to Diminish and Define Hate Crimes and Hate Groups

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, South Carolina currently has 14 active hate groups. A hate group is a radical group of extremists proclaiming hateful beliefs or views that target a group of people. Hate groups range from Neo Nazism to members of the Ku Klux Klan to Antifa.

Section 2: Hate crimes will be expanded to include people who are attacked or harassed because of their non-extreme political beliefs.

Section 3: Anyone who commits a traditional offense against a person because they support conservative or progressive ideals will be charged as a hate crime.

Section 4: Anyone who injures, oppresses, threatens, or intimidates anyone while wearing a disguise, mask (not including ski masks), anarchist symbol communist symbol or the swastika will be charged as a hate crime (not including tattoos).

Section 5: A hate crime in South Carolina is classified as a felony, and must be fined no less than two thousand dollars and no more than ten thousand dollars and/or no less than 2 years in prison and no more than 10 years in prison.

Section 6: When signed into law, this bill will take place on January 1st 2019.
An Act to Further Legitimize Emotional Support Animals

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: Currently there are very few requirements to legally obtain an emotional support animal license. In fact, the current certification program has led to widespread counterfeiting and other abuses. This bill would make it more difficult for those who are not entitled to an emotional support animal to obtain one, while still allowing those in need of an emotional support animal to obtain one easily and affordably.

Section 2: The state would require all emotional support animals to have a legitimate identification card from the State of South Carolina having a valid U.S. therapist’s signature, as well as an explanation as to why the person is in need of an emotional support animal. In order to qualify for an emotional support animal, a person would need to have a demonstrated emotional or mental disorder as defined by the American Psychiatric Association. Those who already own an emotional support animal would need to fill out an application including a signature and explanation of disorder for an emotional support animal license.

Section 3: There is no necessary funding for this endeavor; however, there will be a $20 licensing fee that can be covered by insurance or is payable up-front.

Section 4: Revenue from this fee would fund:
   A. The cost of producing the license.
   B. The facilities that train the emotional support and other service animals.

Section 5: When signed into law, this will take place on June 1, 2019.
An Act to Require able bodied workers on long term unemployment to do community service for 20 hours a week.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: In the state of South Carolina nearly 3.5% of the people are on long term unemployment. To be on long term unemployment you must have no job and be receiving government benefits for at least 4 months.

Section 2: The state would require all able bodied workers on long term unemployment currently receiving government benefits would have to complete twenty hours of community service each week.

Section 3: The state of South Carolina would put into effect a three percent increase for the tax on cigarettes.

Section 4: We would use the funding for other community service facilities.

Section 5: We would enforce this law by taking away government benefits.

Section 6: When signed into law it will take place on January 1, 2020.
An Act to Create a Minimum Age for Kids to Stay Home Alone

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: There is currently no law in the state of South Carolina that has an age for children to stay home alone. We would like to create a law that says the minimum age for staying home alone would be ten years of age or older. This bill is not new to the U.S. There are many strong suggestions stating that children under a certain age should not be left alone for a certain amount of time. But none are written down in law.

Section 2: In the case where a younger child or sibling under the age of ten would be home alone, there would have to be another person, thirteen years or older, with the child. This would include babysitting.

Section 3: Currently, there are three other states with this law. All three of them charge fines, jail-time, or both.

Section 4: We are going to enforce this law by having the parents or legal guardians of the child pay a $150 fine if in an accident were to happen where the police, fire department, or hospital were called therefore showing that the child was left home alone. Second and subsequent offenses would result in a $215 fine and up to 30 days in jail depending on the seriousness of the incident.

Section 5: Revenue from this fine would fund:

A. Small local daycares and children’s homes

Section 6: When signed into law, this act will take place on January 1, 2020.
SOUTH CAROLINA YMCA
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
14th Annual Model Legislature
November 11th- 13th

BILL ORIGINATES IN: Senate
BILL NUMBER: S104
RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE: 1
AUTHORS: Karolina Montalvo and Vidya Mehta
SCHOOL/CLUB: St. Joseph’s Catholic School

An Act to Enforce “Equal Pay for Equal Work”

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: In South Carolina, in comparison to caucasian men, the average caucasian woman makes 20% less. When it comes to minority women, it gets much worse; Asian women are paid 32% less; African American women are paid 43% less; and Latin women are paid 49% less.

Section 2: In order to establish an environment where everyone is paid equally, this bill includes a fine to companies who have unequal pay for equal work. The fine would be 30% of the company’s annual payroll.

Section 3: The company will have 4 months to achieve equality, but if changes have not been made, the company will be fined. The fine will double every month until equal pay has been proven.

Section 4: The money that is collected from these fines will go to the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce. This department will strictly be in charge of enforcing Equal Pay and will use the money to hire people to investigate the records of enterprises. It will be their job to make sure that this bill is truly enforced in the state of South Carolina.

Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will be effective in the year 2019.
A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

An Act to Require An Economic Life Skills Class

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE YMCA MODEL LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Section 1: There currently is no required economic life skills class in South Carolina. Economic life skills are important to know. This is important because once a child gets out of high school and wants to be on their own they will have a basis of life skills to start.

Section 2: The state will require high school students to take one semester-long economic life skills class in either 11th or 12th grade. Benefits of this include being able to start your own business, having skills to live on their own, and getting a higher education. If the class is not taken then it could affect the student’s graduation.

Section 3: This bill is helpful because young adults seeking independence are starting out in the working world not really knowing how to keep a budget or do proper taxes among other financial issues.

Section 4: The cost of this class would be the cost to add an additional teacher. The average high school teacher’s annual salary is $52,000.

Section 5: This bill will be enacted in the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year upon approval by the Youth Governor.