

OH, THE PLACES YOU'LL GO

TOGETHER

VOL. 31



TABLE OF CONTENTS

IS EIGHT SECONDS ENOUGH.....	PG. 2
OVER \$1,000 STOLEN.....	PG. 3
WHO IS MR. H?.....	PG. 3
BILL 111.....	PG. 4
BILL 222.....	PG. 4
BILL 333.....	PG. 5
BILL 444.....	PG. 6
BILL 555.....	PG. 7
BILL 777.....	PG. 7
WORD SEARCH.....	PG. 8
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	PG. 9
STAFF.....	PG. 10

<https://www.uidaho.edu/extension/4h>

www.facebook.com/idaho4hSTA 



#kyg2019southern

#kyg2019central

#kyg2019eastern

#kyg2019northern



Is Eight Seconds Enough?

By: Avery Smock

Engage, Captivate, and Inspire. This is the main goal of motivational speaker Scott Backovich, a man who has dedicated his life to speaking in front of teens, finding a new way to connect with others. Scott has traveled all over North America, speaking at many different schools and conferences to teach and inspire thousands of teens in a new and innovative way. He has spoken at school assemblies, student leadership conferences, and teen summit programs. His clients include 4-H, Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), Future Farmers of America (FFA), Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY), and many more. Scott has been broadcasted on both TV and radio as a teen help advocate. Scott's ambition is to help teens understand the true potential they hold and connect not just through text, Twitter, Snapchat, and Instagram, but through face to face interaction. During Scott's presentation, teens can be found laughing and hollering one moment and the next they are so quiet you can hear a pin drop. His speeches are so powerful and challenging you to want to hold onto every word.

This Presidents Day weekend we were lucky enough to hear Scott Backovich speak and share his message of how we can help change something in this world. He showed us that it only takes eight seconds to change someone's life. He asked us, "how are we going to spend our eight seconds" and "what are we going to do about it?" Mr. Backovich is from Los Angeles and started public speaking in high school. He explained how his life changed within eight seconds after one kid stood up and started clapping causing everyone to stand. From that moment forward he has been many different places and touched many lives. So remember that everywhere you go, you can take eight seconds to connect with someone, because that's enough.



Over \$1000 Stolen?

By: Addie Wegener

This year, Kamryn French has engaged in the theft of Sage Hitchcock's and many other citizens' packages they have ordered. On Monday, February 18, there will be six separate trials with each Know Your Government delegate playing a role with this case. There will also be third-year committee members playing the role of judges. The delegates playing lawyers have to prove certain points about the case for the defendant to be proven guilty, such as what date the crime was committed, if it was in the state of Idaho, or if the value exceeded \$1,000.

In an interview conducted with Erin Olson, the lead justice of the mock trial, she stated that the idea for the trial by finding some recent crimes that took place in Idaho this past year, the case was based off a trial of someone stealing Christmas presents this holiday season. She also stated that the case was created with room for defense, so there was room for questions and trial. She gave some advice for the judges to be prepared on judging a grand theft because it is a lot different than judging the other previous cases we had and to focus mainly on the testimonies rather than the DNA or hard footage.

This case has brought together all the delegates and steering committee members participating in this branch of government. The outcomes will be different depending on the interaction between the delegates playing different roles with the judges. Mock trials are difficult but, they are fun to take part in. These delegates have experienced everything it takes to be in a real trial for the future.

Who is Mr. H?

By: Mja Towner

There are many important figures that play a big role in the Know Your Government Conference, but one of them is Mr. Horikami. Mr. H started attending KYG four years ago as a social studies teacher. Mr. H was passing his fascination with our government to his students and he was looking for a way to further his knowledge-craving students to learn more before he knew about KYG. He proposed to the principal at his school a field trip to the capital, but with lack of money they couldn't. There was another option provided by the principal, a program known as Know Your Government. With Mr. Horikami's help, this program gets a little bigger every year.

We asked him how he gets students interested in government? He responded,

"I think a big part is how you teach history in the first place. I focus a lot on the history and the politics on why things happen. Then we talk about how laws are passed, we go through a constitutional study once a month, between that and writing laws. So they get into the law-writing process and it increases some excitement. So when I say you should do this (KYG), they say yeah that sounds like fun".

The four years that he has been helping as a chaperone, his favorite part is seeing all the committees grow and going through their mock trials and bills and see the delegates growing and learning. Educational figures and promoters like Mr. Horikami are important to KYG, especially to the mission to grow KYG and impact more students every year.



Bill 111: Free College

By: Lauren Young

Have your parents ever had a dream for you? With the opportunity that this bill has there could be a chance for students to go to college for free. Aidan Crabtree, a legislator from the Northern District, has this dream. Although he feels torn about this, he wrote this bill so that there would be great debating, amending, and opportunities for the delegates to make remarks on what they feel. Crabtree says that this bill can go either way, and he really wants is for the delegates to learn how the legislative process works rather than if the bill passes or not. Bill 111 was written to engage delegates on a topic that may affect them in the future and that might even change the country.

Delegates have strong opinions on this topic. Lobbyist Jon Silvinsk from the Eastern District is against this bill because he says that diplomas will be devalued due to the fact that most everyone will have the chance to get a free education. While Silvinsk was researching this topic, he noticed that Harvard University and the University of California-Berkeley also disagreed with the decision of free college especially with the lower cost. If there is a lower cost, more people will have an incentive to pursue a higher education which will create waiting lists to get accepted into a college.

Lobbyist Elizabeth Wisniewski from the Eastern District is for this bill because she believes with a free college education, there is less of a burden on the taxpayers. Wisniewski also states, "people would pay less on medical care but they will have to pay more taxes for all of the free diplomas."

This bill had many debates including the amendments of adding a rule that crimes committed in college will void the scholarship. They also added paying fees for books but excluded room and board costs. As there is still a long process to go through, the first steps of discussing this bill were proven to be interesting. [Bill Passed]

Bill 222: Gun Control Laws

By: Kascity Gitto

Bill 222 confronts the idea of more gun control in Idaho to protect citizens. This bill created by Saydee Henning. A few reasons that she wanted to do this because it is something she is passionate about. She doesn't want more gun control because she is in a gun sports program and this law will eliminate high powered or semi-automatics which she likes to use.

Caring something that dangerous in your vehicle or on you can lead to an increase of violence or accidental injuries to those around you. For example, in October 58 people died when a man opens fire. Over 546 people were injured. Situations like this happen everywhere. Even if citizens had concealed carrier permit it might have happened anyways.

Gun control laws are here to prevent those who are not allowed to own guns to legally purchase one. Those who do purchase a gun can still do damage. For example, many incidents that happened with a gun that took lives were legally purchased. By creating more restrictions on legal purchases, it may reduce the number of mass casualty incidents that occur.

Additional gun control laws in the United States may help us address accidental shootings. According to Giffords Law Center, unintentional shootings caused deaths of over 600 people in 2010. From 2005-2010, more than 1,300 people were the victim of an accidental shooting were under the age of 25. Over 30% of unintentional deaths caused by firearms could be prevented by more gun safety laws. Creating more gun control laws, it could save lives.

In conclusion, there are many ways to argue whether there should be more gun control. On this bill, the delegates came up with arguments, for or against the bill. For instance, they argued that the guns helped to defend themselves, another one is that they could also do a background check on anyone who is trying to buy a gun, and finally for accidental gun explosions they should get their gun tested every 5 years.

On Monday, Know Your Government delegates will decide. [Bill Failed]

Bill 333: Medical Marijuana - Wrong or Right?

By: Annie Miller

Marijuana, a controversial topic that has different meanings for everyone. Some look at this word as solely a medical term while others see it as a gateway to a life of drug abuse. Let's take a look at Medicinal Marijuana and the benefits and risks around legalization.

The legalization of medical marijuana is one of the mock bills Know Your Government (KYG). The bill #333, or legalization of medical marijuana, was written by third-year steering committee member Vicky Chaires

Medicinal Marijuana is known to help with chronic pain without the side effects of Opioid Pain relievers (Very well Health). It is also known to decrease nausea caused by chemotherapy and can help with muscle spasms of multiple sclerosis (MS).

According to 420 Intel, Medical Marijuana has been directly connected to a reduction in suicide rates. The same site states that scientific research has shown cannabis can ease the pain, reduce the symptoms of autism, slow down cancer and looks promising for reducing epileptic seizures.

A Montana based newspaper named the Missoulian states that the economic benefits to the local community have been positive. Garden Suppliers, attorneys, security companies, and other agricultural related businesses are benefiting from the new industry.

On the other side, marijuana is known to have risky side effects. Very well Health tells us about how medicinal marijuana also has a downside. Drawbacks include a serious impact on short-term memory; damage to lung tissue; and risk of abuse and addiction. Marijuana is also, "likely to increase the risk of psychosis, including schizophrenia," said Medical News Today.

No matter the restrictions, legalizing medicinal marijuana will increase the number of suppliers, and regardless of the number of restrictions is likely to make it into the hands of those who intend to use it for recreation. [Bill Failed]



Bill 444: Is Homework Helpful?

By: Addie Wegener

How often have you thought about how homework affects a learning environment? Every year Idaho students collectively spend over 30 million hours on homework.

House Bill 444: Elimination of Homework in Public Schools created by Angel Melendez, a third-year KYG steering committee member. The bill's goal is to remove all school work assigned to be completed outside of the classroom for Idaho students.

Melendrez was motivated to write this bill because he believes homework is a waste of valuable time and resources. He stated "Homework doesn't really help us learn anything. It just divides the class and strains the teachers." Melendrez also hopes an exclusion of homework would result in less technology usage from the younger generation since much of the current usage is from school assignments.

Many potential benefits arise from the application of this bill and the removal of homework. Studies show the stress levels in students of today are skyrocketing due to pressures from friends, family, culture, and most of all school. There are many correlations between heavy homework loads and high levels of detrimental stress. Between college prep, extensive expectations, and emphasize on succeed, student are heavily taxed. With the elimination of homework, educators would hope to see an improvement in students behavior and attitudes toward learning.

Homework has many effects on learning that many people overlook. Some sources have shown how helpful a specific amount of homework can be extremely beneficial to student test scores. The Nation Education Association states how high-quality assignments are an effective tool for helping students understand concepts and material. Working on learning while not at school prepares students for college and teaches time management skills. If homework were to be banned, many opportunities for higher learning would also be eliminated.

The delegates on this bill are well versed in the inner workings and prepared for debate. The lobbyist Chloe Rowland stated why she was against this bill. "Homework is the parents' window into the classroom." She is worried that the committee will pass the bill without thinking about how helpful homework actually can be. Mallory Scott, the lobbyist against Bill 444 talked about the busy schedules of students and how stressful homework can be. She is confident her bill will pass the committee and is excited about the debate.

The topic of homework is a highly controversial issue as some people might say this is just some kids trying to get out of working hard. However, there is significant scientific research to cause educators to stop and think about what is actually happening with this issue. [Bill Passed]



Bill 555: Should Teens Drive at Night?

By: Annie Miller

Bill #555 purposes that “ all licensed Idaho drivers will be able to drive at night”; the purpose of this bill is to make it possible for newly licensed teen drivers, usually 15 years of age, to drive after dark legally.

Idaho teens are eligible for the driver's education program at the age of 14 ½ and by the age of 17, most teens have a driver's license. Since most teens obtain the license before the age of 18 they are required to take a Graduated Drivers Licensing (GDL) course. This course takes the teen through drivers training. If the students pass they will get their learner permits. With the permit each teen has drive 50 hours with a licensed adult, 10 out of the 50 hours have to be driven at night. In light of the fact that the students have to go through training, the maker of the bill finds that we are instructing teens to drive at night then restricting them unreasonable and perplexing. Along with the training as soon as a teen has a license their parents depend on the teen to be able to drive themselves places.

Although teens are required to drive many hours at night, statistics show us that teen drivers are irresponsible and dangerous drivers. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 49 percent of fatal motor vehicle crashes will happen between the hours of 3 p.m. and 12 a.m. Teendriversource.org supports their claim by stating that, “Fourteen percent of the miles driven by 16-to 17-year-old drivers occur between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., yet this time period accounts for 32 percent of fatal crashes in this age group.” [Bill Passed]

Bill 777: Stand for the National Anthem & Pledge

By: Mja Towner

The question is, is it a right or is it mandatory for citizens of the United States of America to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem? Arguments about behavior during patriotic performances have been a hot topic before Colin Kaepernick knelt for the national anthem in 2016. In response to using the National Anthem to protest, Michigan Governor, Rick Snyder, required every schoolroom in Michigan to display an American Flag and give time for students to recite the pledge. Ethan Reneau from KYG Idaho introduced a bill requiring to stand for the Pledge and National Anthem because of his feeling towards students in his school sitting during the pledge and “disrespecting the fallen soldiers that have died to protect America”. Ethan said he is excited where the debate goes and where the delegates go with it.

Those against this bill find this contradicts U.S citizen's constitutional rights in the First Amendment of being able to exercise freedom of religion and freedom of speech, this may play a large part in the proceeding of Bill 777 at the 2019 Know Your Government conference. Also, there are many different reasons people take part or don't take part in the Pledge of Allegiance. For Americans that are against standing say that their beliefs are protected by the first and fourteenth amendment that says that they have a right of speech, religion, and are required to be treated equally along with their beliefs.

Ethan Reneau, the maker of this bill, introduced this to bring attention to the sacrifice of American soldiers that have fallen. He understands the repercussions to freedom of speech and the challenges of passing this bill. He still wants to bring the bill forward and see where it goes. He can see both sides of this topic can go with this bill that he has present KYG and the delegates. The KYG chairman of bill 777 understands those who against this bill find there are Americans who are not religious or their religion believes in a certain figure, not necessarily one God, in which the Pledge of Allegiance states, “...under God.” [Bill Failed]



Know Your Government 2019 Word Search

N G T T I J L Q W R E A G O K
 W O O J D F K E E O N W T E W
 Q E I V Q U Q P H Z P A S T P
 V E T T E K O U J N T O H A F
 A Z H O A R G Y B O X S R T O
 X L F L T L N U P M T D O S S
 J V O E E J S O W H G N T R U
 U F R T U T V I R E T E A I T
 D E L D I Y O U G N I I L D C
 I W G A K P O H E E Q R S A A
 C E E W G F A M B A L F I H S
 I S E M A G N C G O C Z G O E
 A N U F H R P R E S I D E N T
 L U S R E C I F F O T S L O K
 N V T V C L O V E R S C E A X
 K S O D A N C E D T I S D A L
 P G X A Z V Z M Q B X Z K W I

BOISE	FLAG	GOVERNOR	LEGISLATOR
BUS	FOURH	HOTEL	OFFICERS
CAPITOL.	FRIENDS	IDAHO	POTATO
CASE	FUN	JUDGE	PRESIDENT
CLOVER	GAMES	JUDICIAL	REPORTER
DANCE	GOVERNMENT	LEGISLATION	STATE

THANK YOU!

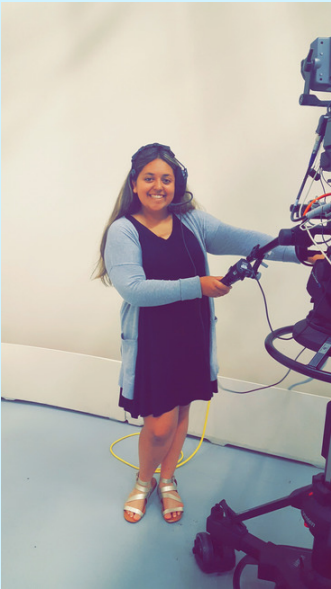
2019 KYG CONFERENCE DONORS

J.R. Simplot Company
Gooding Lincoln Farm Bureau
Ada County Farm Bureau
KYG Crowdfunding Campaign Donors
Rep. Caroline Troy
Sen. Jeff & Cynthia Siddoway
Terry & Mary-Ann Peterson
Tom & JoAnne Trail

2018 LEGISLATIVE DONORS

Sen. Steve Bair	Rep. Steven Miller
Rep. Marc Gibbs	Rep. Gary Collins
Sen. Dean Mortimer	Rep. Maxine Bell
Rep. Rick Youngblood	Sen. Bert Brackett III
Rep. Thomas Loertscher	

STAFF



ALYSSA MURILLO
NEWS EDITOR

4TH YEARS



HUNTER SQUIRES
VIDEO PRODUCER



3RD YEAR REPORTERS

- ADDIE WEGENER
- AVERY SMOCK
- MCKENZEE THOMPSON
- ANNIE MILLER
- KASCITY GITTO
- MJA TOWNER
- LAUREN YOUNG

