

A Bill to Promote Fair and Reasonable Drug Policy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All mandatory penalties for drug offenses under Federal law are hereby
3 abolished.

4 **SECTION 2.** A “mandatory penalty” shall be defined as a minimum penalty which
5 federal judges are required to impose on every person convicted of a
6 particular crime. A penalty shall still be considered mandatory if a lesser
7 sentence may be imposed, but only in specifically defined circumstances,
8 or only on motion of the prosecution. A “drug offense” shall be defined as
9 an offense consisting essentially of the use, possession, manufacture, or
10 sale of a controlled substance.

11 **SECTION 3.** Sentences pronounced before the enactment of this legislation shall stand,
12 but prisoners serving sentences for drug offenses under a mandatory
13 penalty scheme shall be permitted to apply for Presidential pardons. A
14 commission of fifteen members shall be appointed by the President of the
15 United States, by and with the consent of the Senate, to review such
16 pardon applications. This commission shall also be responsible for
17 researching and promoting rehabilitative drug programs to replace purely
18 retributive sanctions.

19 **SECTION 4.** This Bill shall take effect on January 1, 2010.

20 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully Submitted,
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