

Govt. Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

## **MODEL CONGRESS BILL PROJECT**

### **Issue Identification and Analysis**

#### **OVERVIEW**

At the root of governing and political actions are important issues that are complex. Many are problems that are challenging to resolve or topics that elicit strong opinions from stakeholders. As part of our Model Congress simulation, you will choose an issue you care about, conduct research about that issue, and then write a bill that you will introduce in our class legislature.

For this Issue Analysis task you will:

- Identify and describe an important issue related to your bill project.
- Select and evaluate reliable resources to learn more about the issue from multiple perspectives (a minimum of THREE sources on the content of your bill is required; more are recommended).
- Provide a detailed description of the problem including the causes, effects, and significance of this issue based on your research.

#### **I. PRELIMINARY IDENTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF AN ISSUE**

Describe in as much detail as you can, the problem/issue, its causes and effects, and importance.

#### **II. RESOURCE ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION GATHERING**

After searching for sources, select three that provide information and analysis about the problem you have identified as your focus issue and complete a summary sheet for each resource. Based on your evaluation, these sources should be reliable and purposefully selected to give you multiple perspectives on your topic. List the three sources below:

- Source #1
  
- Source #2
  
- Source #3

## SOURCE #1: RESOURCE ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION GATHERING SHEET

### A) Source Information

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Source Name: | Source Location:  |
| Author(s):   | Publication Date: |

### B) Source Format: Choose from the list below

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b><u>Digital Sources</u></b><br>___ General website (try to find author)<br>___ Chapter/section of a book<br>___ Article – from a database or journal<br>___ Article – from a magazine/news media<br>___ Article - from a Non Profit Association<br>___ Artwork, Cartoon, Map or Chart<br>___ Multimedia – Video Clip, Radio/TV,<br>Sound Recording | <b><u>Print Sources</u></b><br>___ Chapter/Page in a book<br>___ Article – magazine/newspaper<br>___ Film or Movie<br>___ Sound Recording<br>___ Visual Artwork, Photo or Cartoon | <b><u>Other Sources</u></b><br>___ Survey results<br>___ Public opinion poll<br>___ Personal Interview<br>___ _____<br>___ _____ |
|--|---|--|

**C) Source Evaluation:** Consider issues of bias, legitimacy or authority of this source. How did you decide to use this source for your research? Summarize your evaluation in the space below.

**D) Source Summary:** Use the space below to summarize the key facts and conclusions from your source. Do not copy information word-for-word unless it is a direct quote. (Can be bulleted)

## SOURCE #2: RESOURCE ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION GATHERING SHEET

### A) Source Information

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Source Name: | Source Location:  |
| Author(s):   | Publication Date: |

### B) Source Format: Choose from the list below

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b><u>Digital Sources</u></b><br>___ General website (try to find author)<br>___ Chapter/section of a book<br>___ Article – from a database or journal<br>___ Article – from a magazine/news media<br>___ Article - from a Non Profit Association<br>___ Artwork, Cartoon, Map or Chart<br>___ Multimedia – Video Clip, Radio/TV,<br>Sound Recording | <b><u>Print Sources</u></b><br>___ Chapter/Page in a book<br>___ Article – magazine/newspaper<br>___ Film or Movie<br>___ Sound Recording<br>___ Visual Artwork, Photo or Cartoon | <b><u>Other Sources</u></b><br>___ Survey results<br>___ Public opinion poll<br>___ Personal Interview<br>___ _____<br>___ _____ |
|--|---|--|

**C) Source Evaluation:** Consider issues of bias, legitimacy or authority of this source. How did you decide to use this source for your research? Summarize your evaluation in the space below.

**D) Source Summary:** Use the space below to summarize the key facts and conclusions from your source. Do not copy information word-for-word unless it is a direct quote. (Can be bulleted)

### SOURCE #3: RESOURCE ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION GATHERING SHEET

#### A) Source Information

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Source Name: | Source Location:  |
| Author(s):   | Publication Date: |

#### B) Source Format: Choose from the list below

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <u>Digital Sources</u><br><input type="checkbox"/> General website (try to find author)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Chapter/section of a book<br><input type="checkbox"/> Article – from a database or journal<br><input type="checkbox"/> Article – from a magazine/news media<br><input type="checkbox"/> Article - from a Non Profit Association<br><input type="checkbox"/> Artwork, Cartoon, Map or Chart<br><input type="checkbox"/> Multimedia – Video Clip, Radio/TV, Sound Recording | <u>Print Sources</u><br><input type="checkbox"/> Chapter/Page in a book<br><input type="checkbox"/> Article – magazine/newspaper<br><input type="checkbox"/> Film or Movie<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sound Recording<br><input type="checkbox"/> Visual Artwork, Photo or Cartoon | <u>Other Sources</u><br><input type="checkbox"/> Survey results<br><input type="checkbox"/> Public opinion poll<br><input type="checkbox"/> Personal Interview<br><br><input type="text"/><br><input type="text"/> |
|---|---|--|

**C) Source Evaluation:** Consider issues of bias, legitimacy or authority of this source. How did you decide to use this source for your research? Summarize your evaluation in the space below.

**D) Source Summary:** Use the space below to summarize the key facts and conclusions from your source. Do not copy information word-for-word unless it is a direct quote. (Can be bulleted)