Econ/Gov

How To Write A Bill, (bill writing, part 2)

M. Hughes

ANIMAS HIGH SCHOOL MODEL SENATE

Committee: Senate Judiciary Committee

Principal Authors: Senator's Full Name (Your name in brackets), Co-author's info similarly

Bill No: (Bill numbers to be determined later – leave blank for now)

Submission Date: 12/11/2014 (Date of Exhibition)

The Elements of a Bill:

Headíngs:

All bold-faced text needs to remain unchanged. I have written all of the cursive font as an example for you to follow.

Title of Bill: Freedom of Marriage Act (example)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ANIMAS HIGH SCHOOL MODEL SENATE

1	Preamble: Whereas same-sex civil unions are legal only in California, Hawaii and Vermont, and since
2	same-sex marriage is only legal in Massachusetts and since marriage is currently defined as a union

- 3 between a man and woman, and since the Defense of Marriage Act prevents same-sex couples from
- 5 between a man and woman, and since the Defense of Marriage Act prevents same-sex couples from
- 4 receiving family health coverage, medical and bereavement leave, child custody, tax benefits and pension
 5 plans, and since the Supreme Court declared marriage as a fundamental right under the Constitution,
- 6 plans, and since the Supreme Court declared marriage as a fundamental right under the Constitution
- 7 SECTION 1: Let the definition of marriage be only a legal union between one man and one woman, one
- 8 man and one man and one woman and one woman.
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SECTION 2: Let married couples, as defined in SECTION 1, and persons in a civil union receive all

10 SECTION 2: Let married couples, as defined in SECTION 1, and persons in a civil union receive a 11 rights and benefits reserved for married couples under the definition of marriage in the Defense of

12 Marriage Act.

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14 SECTION 3: Let same-sex couples receive equal opportunity, privilege and right to adopt a child.

16 SECTION 4: Let states receive increased federal funding.

17	Sub-SECTION A: 15% increase in highway funding and 10% increase in
18	discretionary funding when adopting SECTION 1
19	Sub-SECTION A: 15% increase in highway funding and 15% increase in

- Sub-SECTION A: 15% increase in highway funding and 15% increase in discretionary funding when adopting SECTION 2
 - Sub-SECTION A: 5% increase in highway funding and 2% increase in discretionary funding when adopting SECTION 3
- 24 SECTION 5: This bill shall go into effect 91 days after passage.
- 25

Preamble:

This section should provide your reasons for the necessity of your bill. Why is your topic something that should be addressed by the government? This section's clauses should always begin with a "Whereas..."

Body:

<u>Sections:</u> This section should be separated into sections and subsections. Each proposed idea for the implementation of the bill should be a section.

<u>Subsections</u>: Subsections should be used to provide further detail and clarification (definitions, etc.) for their appropriate bill sections.

Enactment Clause:

This is the final section of the bill (and can be labeled as a section as normal). EACH BILL MUST HAVE AN ENACTMENT CLAUSE!! The enactment clause tells your fellow congressmen when your bill will take effect if passed. It may specify a future date or a certain number of days following the passage of the bill (60 days after passage). Enactment dates within 30 days of passage are used for EMERGENCY legislation only. Enactment dates more than 90 days after passage is used for most legislation.

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