

KENTUCKY UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY OFFICIAL PROPOSAL

Proposal #: **20**

Assignment: **C**

Country: **Ethiopia**

School: **Bate MS**

City: **Danville**

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Title: **An act to put a halt to deforestation in Ethiopia.**

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Justification Clause: Imagine a world without trees, without paper, pencils, and obviously no homework. Deforestation causes trees to diminish year after year. Deforestation is a major problem not only in Ethiopia, but all over the world. If we can find a way to stop deforestation in one area, we can easily do the same with others. In Ethiopia, animals are being kicked out of their natural habitats, and the soil is losing its nutrients. What good is clearing trees for planting space if the soil is becoming less and less fertile? Trees also help reduce global warming by their uptake of carbon dioxide and their roots protect the land from erosion. Ethiopia risks the loss of all of these natural benefits by losing an estimated 1,410km of natural forests each year.

Section I: Since trees are being used in Ethiopia for firewood and are cleared for farmland, they are rapidly disappearing. The country has lost 98% of its forested regions in the last 50 years. Bercele Bayisa, a 30 year old Ethiopian farmer said, "My district was very forested and full of wildlife but overpopulation caused people to come to this fertile land and clear it to plant crops, cutting all trees to sell as fire wood." According to the Global Methane Initiative, only 43% of the waste in Ethiopia is collected and properly disposed in landfills. If each family in the community were given one recycling bin and one trash can, the amount of excess garbage could be greatly depleted. With less space taken up by waste, there would be more room for trees and/or crops.

Section II: Global warming is a world-wide problem. The atmosphere is gradually growing with each addition of carbon dioxide. Trees take up carbon dioxide and produce oxygen, which is a win-win situation for us. If we were to have several designated nature reserves in Ethiopia, the trees being cut down and the animals driven out of their habitats could live and prosper without having their daily lifestyles disrupted by mankind.

Section III: Whenever a tree in Ethiopia is cut down, the soil around it loses some of its nutrients. There is no point in clearing trees for farmland when the soil is just becoming less fertile for the crops. Another way to save trees is to make a law that farmers in Ethiopia are unable to clear space for farmland if there are other places open. In other words, if a farmer was trying to sell their land and another farmer wanted to clear space for their own farm, they could either buy the land or wait until there were no other available spaces.

Date of action: January 1st, 2014