

KENTUCKY UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY OFFICIAL PROPOSAL

Proposal #: **53**

Assignment: **I**

Country: The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago School: Hill-Williams Independent City: Versailles, KY
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Title: An act to reduce water pollution in the Caribbean Sea by a tourism taxation fund administrated the United Nations

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

Justification Clause: The Caribbean Sea is one of the most polluted in the world. The causes of pollution as well as the solutions are transboundary in nature. Elimination of the pollution would benefit the well being of the citizens and industries such as tourism of all countries in the area. There are United Nation conventions and plans of action to reduce pollution. However, funding for their implementation is lacking. This proposal sets up a system through which funds will be generated by taxing Caribbean tourism. The funds will then be made available to decrease Caribbean water pollution. This pollution is the result of both sea and land based activities. The land based activities include industrial wastes, pesticides, erosion (usually following deforestation), untreated sewage and dumping of solid wastes into the ocean. Sea based activities include the pollution of the oceans by Oil rigs and ships.

Section I: The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the Global Plan of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA) are two international agreements developed to decrease water pollution. UNCLOS calls upon States to create laws and regulations to prevent reduce and control marine pollution from land-based sources and the GPA highlights the need for action. Together these agreements are the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sourced and Activities (LPS Protocol). To date, 10 Caribbean countries (including Trinidad and Tobago) have adopted the LPS Protocol. In addition, there are international proposals pending to regulate sea based pollution sources such as eliminating the dumping of sewage by cruise ships.

Section II: There is currently no meaningful funding for enforcement of regulations, education or infrastructure improvements needed to reduce water/marine pollution. A Caribbean tourism tax will be assessed by the UN to make UN funds available to Caribbean countries for infrastructure improvements (mostly sewage treatment plants), education and enforcement of regulations all to decrease water pollution.

Section III: A UN committee will be formed to determine the type/amount of tax(es) to be assessed and mechanisms by which the funds will be distributed to member states. The committee will be comprised of representatives from Caribbean countries that are UN members and who have approved the LPS Protocol.

Section IV: This proposal would go into effect immediately after enacted.