



**The National Alliance Renewal Act (NARA)  
for  
The Establishment of a 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution**

**A Proposed Act**

To establish the *Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus (TANC)* as a  
complementary, binding “fourth branch”  
(aka “*Electorate Branch*” or “*Trans-American Branch*” [TAB])  
of the United States Government.

Proposed for enactment by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of  
America in Congress assembled.

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

(a) SHORT TITLE — This proposed Act can be referred to as “*The National Alliance  
Renewal Act*” or “*NARA*.”

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS — The table of contents for this act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; Table of Contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

**TITLE I—TRANS-AMERICAN ALLIANCE FOR A NATIONAL CONSENSUS  
(TANC)**

Sec. 101. Establishment of a new federal government branch.

- a) Assembly members, functions.
- b) Option to call for a “*National Electorate Referendum*.”
- c) Mission.

## TITLE II—PROPOSED 28<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Sec. 201. Amending Article I of the Constitution.

Sec. 202. Proposed language of the 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution.

## TITLE III—ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Sec. 301. Organization, management; executive director, directors, counsels, and delegates of *TANC*.

Sec. 302. Terms of scholar “Counsels” and student “Delegates.”

Sec. 303. Formation of localized university/college *TANC* structure.

## TITLE IV—FISCAL IMPACT AND INFORMATIONAL ANALYSIS

Sec. 401. Fiscal impact and analysis.

a) Overview of costs and potential funding sources.

(1) Management and administrative costs.

(2) “Working Grants” for student participation.

(3) “Bonus Grants” for scholar participation.

(4) Full organizational, projected startup and first-year annual budget.

(5) Potential costs, logistical considerations for optional *National Electorate Referendums*.

## SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this proposed Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) Abbreviated terms “*TANC*” and “*The Alliance*” refer to full name of *The Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus*.

(2) As a complementary, proposed “fourth branch” of the U.S. Government, *TANC* is also referred to as “*TAB*” (or the “*Trans-American Branch*”), the “*Electorate Branch*” and/or “*Electorate Legislative Branch*.”

(3) Students participating in *The Alliance* are referred to as “Delegates” and “Senior Delegates” while participating scholars are referred to as “Counsels,” “Senior Counsels” and/or “Directors” (the latter two titles being on a much smaller appointed, representational basis).

(4) Acronym of “*NARA*” stands for the *National Alliance Renewal Act*, this proposed legislative Act.

(5) Under the proposed structure of *The Alliance*, “Steering Committees” will be broad national committees for the setting up specialized topical “Standing Committees” and “Select Committees” to convene on the local and regional levels. “Standing Committees” and “Select Committees” are charged with holding local hearings and regional Town Hall meetings in order to solicit testimony, compile findings and public records, and make preliminary recommendations, and then submit it all to the designated

national “Executive Committees” for the formal drafting and authorship of legislative bills and resolutions.

- (6) The annual meeting of *TANC* assembly members will be the “*National Alliance Convention*,” also to be known as “*NAC*.”
- (7) References to the “*Alliance Executive Committee*” or “*AEC*” refer to a national council — led by select scholar “Counsels,” other leaders of public/private sectors and *The Alliance’s* Board of Directors — intermittently impaneled to create and amend guidelines, student and scholar recruiting criteria, standards, Code of Ethics, Bylaws, and review all other areas of the organization.

## **TITLE I—TRANS-AMERICAN ALLIANCE FOR A NATIONAL CONSENSUS (TANC)**

Sec. 101: ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BRANCH; role of assembly members; and option to call for “*National Electorate Referendums*.”

- a) ESTABLISHMENT — The formation of a fourth “Electorate Legislative Branch” of the United States federal government, to be known as the “*Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus*” (aka “*TANC*” and “*The Alliance*”). Under the proposed Congressional enactment of the “*National Alliance Renewal Act*” (aka “*NARA*”), a new 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution will establish “*The Alliance*” as a binding, complementary “fourth branch” of the federal government, designed to operate as an electorate-backed assembly to propose and author new “reform” bills either independently or in joint coordination with the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America.
- b) ASSEMBLY MEMBERS — *TANC* proposes the recruitment of a rotating pool of select college students and scholars to serve as “Delegates” and “Counsels,” respectively, as full-time members of “*The Alliance*.” The student “Delegates” and scholar “Counsels” will be charged with setting an annual agenda for “Proposed Bills” and will then commence committee/Town Hall meetings on a local and regional basis through the existing university/college system in each of the 50 United States. In holding localized committee hearings, *TANC* assembly members will have the power to invite any key experts and societal leaders — ranging from economists, municipal/state government officials, retired civil servants, union activists, regional economic development commission leaders, and think-tank experts, etc. — to provide testimony and analysis on pressing socio-economic needs in their region. All findings from the local/regional, university-sponsored committee hearings will be compiled and then handed over to an appointed, representational national body of *TANC* members for formal authorship and drafting as proposed bills to then be presented to the House of Representatives and Senate for their own amending or return to *TANC* for further revision. Once a bill gains voting passage from *TANC* assembly members (two-thirds [66%] or more in the affirmative), the compromise bill would go the Senate, House and President of the United States for final legislative passage.

- c) OPTION TO CALL FOR “*NATIONAL ELECTORATE REFERENDUMS.*” — In the event, if either houses of Congress vote-down a *TANC*-authored bill, or if the President of the United States vetoes it outright (and failing an override vote by the Senate and House), *TANC*’s membership will have the option to vote for a “*National Electorate Referendum*” to override a veto or Congressional no-votes. *National Electorate Referendums*,” similar to state or municipal propositions and measures, will be attached to regularly scheduled primary and general election calendars nationally. Once votes are tallied nationally, American citizens will be able to exercise their rights to either vote affirmative (needing at least 51% of the popular vote for passage) or negative in ultimately determining if the *TANC*-sponsored bill gains “final” federal legislative passage. In the event a *National Electorate Referendum* is deemed fiscally imprudent and logistically difficult to mount, an internal “override vote” presented to the full *TANC* assembly will require at least two-thirds majority (66% or more) to overturn Congressional no-votes or Presidential vetoes. Similar to a referendum vote made in the affirmative, a *TANC* vote to override vetoes or no-votes will mean the Bill will automatically be placed into federal law.
- d) MISSION.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.— The primary mission of *The Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus* is to:
- (A) establish a permanent, complementary fourth branch of government designed to bring consistency, participation, transparency, accountability, and a national consensus decision-making process toward domestic policy-making and legislative bill passage.
  - (B) give incentive and an entirely new level of direct citizen participation in America’s democratic institutions.
  - (C) harness the power of America’s world-leading university/college system — as localized meeting conduits accessible to all key elements of society in lending vital input — to shape and institute *nonpartisan* legislation, looking to address domestic economic and socio-political problems facing this country.
  - (D) seek out the “consensus” brain power of America’s leading academics (professors and students, alike), economists, think-tank organizations, union leaders, local/regional economic development commission members, industry trade association leaders, business leaders, and civic activist organizations, etc., to account for the local/regional needs of the American electorate.
  - (E) be inclusive as possible, guided by the principles of “consensus” law-making.

- (F) compile testimony and findings, placing student “Delegates” and scholar “Counsels” in the central roles of ultimately weighing the social responsibilities and consequences of federal socio-economic policies and regulation/deregulation — then crafting that towards the authorship of *TANC*-backed legislative bills.
- (G) largely mitigate the influence of an estimated 36,000-plus lobbyists registered in Congress and Washington, D.C., by spreading out *TANC*’s legislative process through each of the 50 United States and multiple campuses in four defined U.S. regions (East, West, South, North).
- (H) help un-tether our elected U.S. Representatives and Senators from the “institutionalized” need to factor in and comply with the conflicting agendas of lobbyists and special interest groups in order to raise and maintain a flow of election donations/contributions.
- (I) rely on *TANC*’s students “Delegates” and scholar “Counsels” to craft legislation reflective of the American electorate’s localized needs — freeing our elected Congressional representatives to leave the truly equitable, tough regulatory decision-making the responsibility of *The Alliance* — in fairly dispersing the previously overwhelming influence/power of lobbyists, special interest groups and political action committees.
- (J) leave open the option by *Alliance* membership to call “*National Electorate Referendums*,” which could attach *TANC*-authored bills (previously voted down by either houses of Congress or vetoed by the President of the United States) to regularly-scheduled state primary and general elections — offering American voters the ultimate extension of democratic power in deciding if the bill should be automatically passed into federal law.
- (K) if a *National Electorate Referendum* is deemed fiscally imprudent and logistically difficult to mount, an internal “override vote” presented to the full *TANC* assembly will require at least two-thirds majority (66% or more) to overturn Congressional no-votes or Presidential vetoes.
- (L) inject a new independent, uncompromised “checks-and-balances” governing body intent on making the established Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches more responsive to the needs and desires of the American electorate.
- (M) extend “*Working Grants*” to participating student “Delegates” of *The Alliance* in exchange for the their legislative efforts —

potentially restructuring annual Federal Student Aid (FSA) loans and/or Pell Grants as tuition reimbursement compensation — thus making quality undergraduate and postgraduate educations more accessible to cash-strapped middle- and low-income American families.

- (N) relieve American-born or naturalized students from accruing significant student-loan debt, thus making it easier for them to compete and increase the productivity and skill sets of the American workforce.
- (O) offer student “Delegates” of *The Alliance* direct, “real-world” experience and course credits/grading for such things as economic and scientific policy- and law-making — providing students *infinite* educational, working benefits to learn and excel.
- (P) create a broader, more robust mechanism to restructure established federal and private foundation research-and-development grants going to universities — in return for the university’s participation and hosting of localized *TANC* committee hearings — reenergizing America’s standing in critical “measures of industrial and intellectual competitiveness” among the world’s leading industrial powers.
- (Q) establish the ultimate extension of democracy, an “Electorate Legislative Branch” truly responsive and more reflective of the needs and demands of the American electorate.

## TITLE II—PROPOSED 28<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT TO U.S. CONSTITUTION

### Sec. 201. Amending Article. I of the Constitution.

- a) AMENDING ARTICLE. I.— Language of the Article and Sections should amended as follows:
  - (1) Article. I, Section. 1 — “All legislative powers shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives, and an Electorate Legislative Branch represented by the *Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus* (also referred to as *TANC* and *The Alliance*).”
  - (2) Article. I, Section. 4 (with Section. 4a. added as follows) — “*Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus* shall convene its annual “*National Alliance Convention*” to be held in a pre-determined location (most likely in Washington, D.C.) within the fourth or first quarters of each year to set an agenda on “Reform Bills” it will set for proposed rulemakings. Attended by a representative percentage (up to 25%) of *TANC*’s student “Delegates” and scholar “Counsels” body, the full-time

members of *The Alliance* will then assign “Select Committees” to specific colleges and regions in which they are holding hearings and Town Hall-like meetings. These committees (assigned by the bill’s proposed content, such as “Healthcare Reform”) will be parceled out by assignment according to each college’s school of curriculum (i.e., healthcare/medical schools, economics, law, etc.) — with one school chosen as a “Steering Committee” to parcel out local and regional committee hearing assignments and to undertake the final authorship of Bills. *TANC* will also, accordingly, invite members of Senate and House of Representatives to attend the *National Alliance Conference* to confer and coordinate with *Alliance* members on setting a proposed bill-making agenda. All other meetings of *TANC* assembly meetings, regional and local hearings and town hall meetings shall take place at the dates, times and locations of the membership’s choosing.”

- (3) Article. I., Section. 6. (with Section. 6a. added) — Student members, accepted to serve as “Delegates” of *The Alliance*, will qualify for “Working Grants” directed as college tuition assistance as compensation for legislative service to their country. Based on their previous grades, major and minor areas of studies, and economic backgrounds (etc.), scholar “Counsels” and university deans will field student applications to join *The Alliance* as participating “Delegates” — voluntarily agreeing to 1- or 2-year rotating terms of membership (in order to make *The Alliance* accessible to as many interested undergraduates and postgraduates as possible, and to minimize the impact of an added course load). College scholars serving as “Counsels” to *The Alliance* will be eligible to receive “Bonus Grant” compensation at a maximum of 7 percent of their gross monthly university compensation for electing to serve an initial one-year term, and will largely originate from a restructuring and rerouting of federal and private foundation grant funding regularly contributed for existing college “Research and Development” programs. Scholars who choose to serve a subsequent second-year terms will receive 10-percent “Bonus Grant” compensation; electing to serve in third- and fourth-year terms will be capped at a maximum 12-percent rate. Four years should be the maximum length of service by scholar “Counsels,” but that could be subject to change by an appointed “*TANC Executive Committee*” comprised of a representational group of academics and public/private sector thought leaders. Bylaws and Code of Ethics provisions, those mandated and regularly reviewed by the *TANC Executive Committee*, will prohibit lobbyists, special interest groups and political action committees to offer any kind of donations or contributions and for American-born or naturalized students and scholars participating in the *TANC* assembly to accept them. Lobbyist donations will be subject to federal prosecution and should any student or scholar accept an illicit contribution, it will result in the revoking of their *TANC* membership and participation.”

- (4) Article. I., Section. 7 — “All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills. *The Alliance* will not have the power to Raise Revenue or disperse Appropriations, but will have the power to author Bills for the establishment of new reform-based federal agency programs, proposed budgets and tax assessments, and regulatory guidelines and legislation.”
- (5) Article. I., Section 7 (added as Section 7a.) — “Any *TANC*-authored Bills gaining at least two-thirds passage internally (66% or higher) will then be submitted to the House of Representatives, Senate and President of the United States for subsequent modifications, passage or non-passage. (Interaction between *The Alliance* and the Judicial branch will be limited largely to input from either sides regarding Constitutional Law issues relating to a *TANC*-authored Bill.) Should the House and/or Senate make amendments or attach riders to the *TANC*-authored Bill, it will be returned to *Alliance* membership for further modification and a re-vote for passage. If either houses of Congress vote down a *TANC*-authored Bill, or the President of the United States vetoes it outright, members of *The Alliance* can subsequently vote (51% or higher in the affirmative) to call a “*National Electorate Referendum*,” attaching the rejected Bill as a Proposition or Measure to regularly scheduled local primary and general election calendars. If more than 51% of the American electorate votes in the affirmative, the Bill would then automatically be legislated into federal law. In the event a *National Electorate Referendum* is deemed fiscally imprudent and logistically difficult to mount, an internal “override vote” presented to the full *TANC* assembly will require at least two-thirds majority (66% or more) to overturn Congressional no-votes or Presidential vetoes. Similar to a referendum vote made in the affirmative, a *TANC* vote to override vetoes or no-votes will mean the Bill will automatically be placed into federal law.”

Sec. 202. Proposed Language of the 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment Of The Constitution.

- a) 28<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT.—“Under the approval and working in consort with both houses of Congress, an Electorate Legislative Branch known as the *Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus* (also referred to as *TANC* and *The Alliance*) shall serve as a binding, complementary fourth branch of the federal government of the United States of America. As a decentralized and localized legislative extension of the federal government, a rotating pool of non-elected, qualification-based (appointed) college student “Delegates” and scholar “Counsels” — participating through the auspices of select universities and colleges around the country — will serve as full-time assembly members empowered to initiate proposed Bills (and Bill-setting agendas), Proposed Rulemakings, Resolutions and convene Committee hearings towards the authorship and legislation of federal Reform Bills. Having voted at least two-

thirds (66%-plus) full assembly approval, *TANC*-authored Bills will be subsequently submitted to both houses of Congress and the President of the United States of America for final federal legislative approval. If either houses of Congress vote-down a *TANC*-authored Bill, or the President vetoes it outright, membership of *The Alliance* may vote in the affirmative (with 51% or higher approval) to call for an optional *National Electorate Referendum*. Attached as Propositions or Measures to regularly scheduled Primary or General Election ballots locally, if more than 51% of the American electorate votes in the affirmative for the *TANC*-backed Bill, it will automatically be placed into federal law. In the event a *National Electorate Referendum* is deemed fiscally imprudent and logistically difficult to mount, an internal “override vote” presented to the full *TANC* assembly will require at least two-thirds majority (66% or more) to overturn Congressional no-votes or Presidential vetoes. Similar to a referendum vote made in the affirmative, a *TANC* vote to override vetoes or no-votes will mean the Bill will automatically be placed into federal law.”

### TITLE III—ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Sec. 301. Organization, Management: Executive Director, Directors, Counsels and Delegates of *TANC*.

- a) ORGANIZATION.— *Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus*, based in Redondo Beach, California, is a non-profit organization dedicated to establishing a national “Electorate Branch” as part of a nonpartisan, college-backed consortium bringing together all key segments of society to author and enact “consensus” federal legislation. Under soon-to-be authored By-Laws and Code of Ethics guidelines to be put in place (by leading academics heading up the *Alliance Executive Committee*), it will be prohibited for outside lobbyists, special interest groups and political action committees to take any active role in the organization or to make any direct contact or contributions to student “Counsels” and scholar “Counsels.” However, leaders and expert lobbyists of special interest groups (also operating as non-profit associations, etc.), may only be invited by *The Alliance* to provide testimony and other input at designated official committee hearings and town hall meetings conducted on a local/regional basis.
- b) MANAGEMENT.— At present, *TANC* has set up the following management framework and responsibilities, which could be subject to future modifications, additions or deletions:
  - (1) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.— The responsibilities of Executive Director largely encompass “organizational functions,” actively engaged in soliciting college and university participation, along with providing opportunities/incentives for key public, private and civil organizations to participate within the legislative consortium structure. Initially, the only legislative functions of the Executive Director will be largely confined to lobbying Congress for the enactment of the *National Alliance Renewal Act*

(NARA) and establishment of the *Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus* as an “*Electorate Branch*” of the federal government.

- (2) DIRECTORS.— Oversight and functions along the lines of the Executive Director. Key university deans, scholars, business leaders and civic leaders will be named as Directors.
- (3) COUNSELS.— Enlisting scholars will play leading roles as Counsels in helping guide student “Delegates” in setting proposed Bill-making agendas and in the formation of committees. Counsels, along with Delegates, will have full rights in authoring and voting on Bills.
- (4) DELEGATES.— Student “Delegates” will hold the same aforementioned rights as scholar “Counsels” in terms of proposed Bill-making agendas, forming committees, calling and co-chairing committee hearings (with Counsels), assigning national “Select Committees” for authorship of Bills, and voting yes or no on a Bill’s submittal to both houses of Congress and the President of the United States. If either houses of Congress vote-down a Bill, or if the President vetoes it outright, it will be the sole right of Delegates to quorum and vote in full assembly to call for a Bill to be entered into a *National Electorate Referendum* ballot.

#### Sec. 302. Terms of Scholar “Counsels” and Student “Delegates.”

- a) TERMS — A rotating pool of scholar “Counsels” and student “Delegates” will have the following lengths of service applied (which will later be formally set terms of service):
  - (1) COUNSELS — Scholars enlisting as “Counsels” will have the options of serving in one-, two- and four-year terms. However, if serving the maximum four-year term, scholars will not be able to re-join for an interim two-year period (in order to allow other scholars the opportunity to rotate in with their service).
  - (2) DELEGATES — Student serving as “Delegates” will have the options of serving one- or two-year terms (maximum), excluding offering service to incoming first-year freshmen. By focusing on offering second- or third-year undergraduates (and some postgraduate students), service to *The Alliance* will more closely fall into their major and/or minor areas of studies. Through a limiting of terms to one or two years, it will allow a greater rotation of students and the ability for more to gain access to “working endowments” for their legislative service, and thus alleviating a major portion of their tuition costs and potential loan burdens.

#### Sec. 303. Formation of a Localized University/College TANC Structure.

- a) MARSHALLING TOGETHER THE TANC SCHOOL AFFILIATE PROGRAM.— From pre- to post-launch of *The Alliance*, the Executive Director, Directors and other

future organization staffers will consistently be charged with recruiting and visiting college campuses to secure a representational balance of American universities and schools of specialization around the country. Taking into account committees that will be dealing with economics, colleges with many disciplines could be recruited, or a school specializing in business, could be offered the opportunities to be sponsoring *TANC* universities. The same strategies will be applied with schools with strong medical/healthcare programs and criminal justice/law programs, etc. Correspondingly, school deans and leading professors will be actively solicited and offered the opportunities to internally convene on what scholars they would choose to serve as “Counsels” (aka senior advisors) on *TANC* committees. It should be noted, however, that theological/religion-based colleges will be excluded from recruitment in observance of the federal government’s adherence to the “Separation of Church and State.”

- b) RECRUITMENT OF SCHOLAR “COUNSELS ”— Depending on the universities and schools of specialization signing up as participating *TANC* affiliates, scholar “Counsels” will have the options to serve one-, two- or four-year terms and earning “grant bonuses” of up to 20-percent of their gross monthly income. If they should commit to shorter, one- or two-year terms, scholars would then earn bonus pay of 7- or 10-percent of monthly school income, respectively.

#### TITLE IV—FISCAL BUDGET, IMPACT AND INFORMATIONAL ANALYSIS

##### Sec. 401. Fiscal Impact and Analysis.

- a) OVERVIEW OF COSTS AND POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES — Funding for the *Trans-American Alliance for a National Consensus*, spread out through college campuses in all 50 United States, will come from a variety of sources including federal government appropriations (largely from existing programs), foundation contributions and individual charitable contributions. Given the opportunity to restructure existing federal grant funding and loans to students, it is anticipated that *TANC*’s legislative programs and annual operating budgets will create little, if any, *new* demand for federal appropriations (outside of existing grant, student loan and educational research & development funding).

- (1) MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS — Salaries for the management of *TANC* are reflective of current marketplace compensation for non-profit senior- to mid- and lower-level personnel within the U.S. Census Bureau’s 10 largest U.S. metropolitan populations (revised July 1, 2007) — with *TANC* initially set to be based out of No. 2 Los Angeles (12.8 million population). Given that Los Angeles also ranks as the third-most expensive U.S. city (91.8% above the U.S. mean average in Cost of Living Index measurements) behind only New York (137.9%) and San Francisco (98.7%), according to a July 2006 study by Runzheimer International, it may later be considered prudent to move *TANC*’s headquarters to Washington, D.C. (67.1%) or another nearby metro locale

with a lower Cost of Living Index — in order to also reasonably contain personnel cost increases. In 2006, the average annual cost of living in Los Angeles was \$117,726 for a family compared to \$102,589 annually in Washington among the five most expensive cities. Accordingly, it would be advisable to monitor annual increases in the Cost of Living and Consumer Price Indexes (compiled by U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics) in determining annual salary raises. Ideally, it would be advantageous to keep raises (also depending on individual personnel reviews) within the 3-6% range annually. Salaries for Executive Director, Chief Operating Officer/Deputy Executive Director, Regional Managers, and administrative staff reflect the increased level of city-to-city travel and workloads in recruiting universities/colleges around the country as participating *TANC* affiliates on a rotating basis. It is considered likely, with up to a dozen employees within the first year of startup, that labor costs should be contained to approximately \$1.5 million dollars for the first year.

- (2) “WORKING GRANTS” FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION — In order to induce students to participate as legislating “Delegates” of *The Alliance* and to do “civil service” to their country, a minor modification to either the current Federal Student Aid (FSA) or Pell Grant programs could make for the attractive, non-disruptive options in helping to cover participating *TANC* students’ one- or two-year terms of federal legislative service. As the chart below illustrates below (Figure 1), the extension of “Working Grants” to an estimated 51,000 students participating in *TANC* annually will have minimal to no fiscal impact on existing grant or loan programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education. The average annual non-scholarship tuition at public universities is just over \$6,000 annually, according to The College Board, a nonprofit association of colleges (*College Board’s Trends in College Pricing 2007*). Meanwhile, private university tuition is currently averaging close to \$24,000 per year, which makes the median range of all public/private college tuitions close to \$15,000 annually (taking into account a 7 percent projected rise in 2008 tuition costs). As part of this proposed Bill, if 51,000 participating *TANC* student “Delegates” (or three-tenths of 1% of all U.S. students) are compensated at a capped \$12,000 maximum “Working Grant” in the form of tuition reimbursement for one year, it would translate to up to \$612 million in federal government outlays annually — or 5% of the current Pell Grant program budget (\$12.7 billion in projected in FY 2007, according to the U.S. Department of Education). At the annual \$12,000 maximum tuition grant for this small body of *TANC*-enlisted students, it would be almost three times more than the current Pell Grant cap (\$4,731) normally extended to students — the increased reflecting the reward *TANC* “Delegates” would be rewarded for their legislative efforts. To make *TANC* “Working Grants” available to as many students as possible,

it is recommended that “Delegates” will serve either one- or two-year terms maximum (ultimately to be determined in guidelines set by the *Alliance Executive Committee* and Board of Directors) in order to rotate other post-freshmen students into the enhanced grant program. Unlike the long-standing structure of federal grant programs, the proposed “Working Grants” extended to participating *TANC* students would translate to a simple re-stating of federal grant program budgeting — meaning that students would actually be required to “work” in federal legislative service (while also receiving college course credits and grading associated with normal course loads) as an exchange for receiving tuition reimbursement. Given that the federal government already reduced student loan programs by 18% year-to-year in 2007 (\$74.3 billion) and Congress is considering bills looking to shave about \$18 billion from student loan budgets from FY 2008-2012, restructuring to allot for *TANC* “Working Grants” out of this budget is less practical and logical — although it would account less than 1 percent of current budget spending levels (or eight-tenths of one percent). Current long-term federal debt “reconciliation” bills working through both the House of Representatives and Senate, along with backing from the Executive Branch, are proposing reductions in student loan programs while *increasing* student grant outlays over the next 10 years — making a restructuring (or re-stating) of existing grant funds perhaps the most palatable, economic solution. Among other viable alternative funding sources of *TANC*’s student “Working Grant” proposal is funding from private individual contributions and foundation/trust donations for education-based “research and development” programs, which could go into a blind trust to negate the impact of “lobbyist”-based special interest groups.

**Figure 1**

<b>TANC Annual Student “Working Grant” Allotments</b>	
Total U.S. College Students Sought for TANC Yearly Enrollment (.003% of Estimated 17 Million Total U.S. Students) <sup>1</sup>	51,000
Average Annual Tuition/Public Institutions (All Students) <sup>2</sup>	\$6,185
Average Annual Tuition/ Private Institutions (All Students) <sup>2</sup>	\$23,712
Average Annual Tuition All Schools (Public/ Private) for 2008	\$12,000
Projected Total of Annual Working Grants -- Based on 1-Year Commitment to TANC	\$612 MIL
Percentage of Total Allotted Federal Student Aid (Total=\$74.3 Billion in FY2007) <sup>3</sup>	0.8%
Percentage of Total Allotted for Pell Grants-Only (Total=\$12.7 Billion in FY2007) <sup>3</sup>	5%
Sources: 1 U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (2004 figures), <i>Digest of Education Statistics, 2005</i> 2 The College Board ( <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i> , Oct. 23, 2007) 3 U.S. Department of Education ( <i>White House, Office of Management and Budget, FY 2007 Budget</i> )	

(3) “BONUS GRANTS” FOR SCHOLAR PARTICIPATION — In the spirit of maintaining *TANC* with minimal federal budgetary outlays, the scholars “Counsels” of *The Alliance* will be offered single- to low double-digit percentage “Bonus Grant” compensation based on their college-derived gross income. Much of this “bonus” compensation can originate from long-standing government and private foundation grant programs already being extended to a variety of collegiate-led “research and development” activities (such as technology, economics, life/biotechnology sciences, etc.). As proposed in the “Bonus Grant” Compensation chart below (Figure 2), a pool of 5,100 *TANC* scholar “Counsels” (reflecting the current 10:1 ratio of students-to-scholars in universities/colleges nationally) would be extended gross income bonuses ranging from 7% to 12% for respective one-, two-, three- to four-year terms they choose to take in legislative service. A one-year commitment for the first year of service to *The Alliance* would total \$27.075 million, which is calculated by the 7% bonus based on scholars’ median gross income (\$75,849 national median average during the 2007-2008 school year). At that level, the \$27.075 million first-year bonus outlay represents only three-tenths of 1% (or .003%) of the total \$83.3 billion in federal funding for academic research and development recorded by the National Science Foundation in 2004. Again, to get an idea of the minimal impact this small re-allocation of federal foundation grant funding in favor of supporting *TANC* reform and scientific initiatives (such as adult stem-cell research, etc.), similarly existing private-sector “foundation” funding for academic research and development totaled \$219.2 billion in 2004 (source: National Science Foundation) — meaning a campaign to re-direct small portions of private foundation funding would easily cover *TANC* counsel monthly bonus compensation. As such, any private foundation funding, which might also originate from special interest groups or political action committees, would be allocated into a “blind trust” to negate the influence of lobbyists. Either way, if the funding comes solely from government or private foundations, or a combination of both, the “Bonus Grant” program would be of very little, if any, impact on current budgeting. Additionally, because of the “consensus-building influence” of *TANC*-led technology/sciences and economic development committees, it would conceivably allow both government and private foundation funding to be better focused on a variety of legislative-based strategic initiatives and civic programs. And it would potentially hyper-energize and increase the size/scope of college-based academic research and development programs, too.

**Figure 2**

<b>TANC College Scholar “Bonus” Compensation Estimates</b>	
Total Scholars (.003% of 1.7 Million U.S. College Scholars Total) <sup>1</sup>	5,100
Average Annual Salary For All Professor Ranks - Public/Private Collegiate Institutions (for 2007-2008) <sup>1</sup>	\$75,849
Average Annual Bonus for One-Year Commitment (7% of Gross income)	\$5,309
Total Estimated Allotted Bonus Compensation (For One-Year Commitment)	\$27.075 MIL
Average Annual Bonus -- Second-Year Commitment (10% of Gross Income)	\$7,884
Total Estimated Allotted Bonus Compensation (for Second-Year Commitment)	\$40.212 MIL
Average Annual Bonus for Third- to Fourth-Year Commitments (12% of Gross Income)	\$10,218
Total Estimated Allotted Bonus Compensation (Third- & Fourth-Year Commitments -- 2-Year Total)	\$104.232 MIL
Sources: 1 U.S. Department of Labor, <i>Teachers-Postsecondary: Earnings</i> (December 18, 2007)	
Explanation: Projected second- through fourth-year "allotted bonus compensation" is based on "overall median" scholar salaries increasing by 3 to 4 percent annually, approximately in keeping with average rate increases in U.S. inflation indexes for the last five years. Annual increases, accordingly, could be higher or lower depending on the actual rate of inflation, negotiated teacher increases and other variables like the differences between the lowest to highest median salaries — through the Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Full Professor ranks.	

(4) FULL ORGANIZATIONAL, PROJECTED STARTUP AND FIRST-YEAR/ANNUAL BUDGET — As discussed above, the prospect of TANC being a minimally budgeted, self-reliant national “*Electorate Branch*,” largely results from the potential to re-allocate and re-direct funding from existing federal- and private-sector programs. The largest budget outlay (\$612 million), as listed in the below chart (Figure 3), is from the previously discussed “Working Grant” program for the projected 51,000 students participating as Delegates of *The Alliance*. The student funding accounts for roughly 83% of the projected \$739.3 million budgeted for the entire administrative and legislative budget for TANC’s first year of operations (conceivably starting in mid-year 2008 or fiscal year 2009). Among the other major budget allocations is a projected \$26 million being allocated as voucher-based reimbursements to participating “affiliate” universities/colleges for items like auditorium-based committee hearings and Town Hall meeting logistical setups, security, secure broadband Internet/Webcast access nationally (and/or closed-circuit TV

access), and assorted office supplies, etc.; and \$70 million for the inaugural *National Alliance Convention* (to be attended by a chosen representative 25% of the full *TANC* assembly), covering the cost of convention space (in a city to be determined at some future date), transportation, catering, and lodging for roughly 14,000 attendees (made up of approximately 12,000 students and 2,000 scholars).

**Figure 3**

<b>Administrative &amp; Operational Costs/Budget Projections (startup)</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Monthly Cost</b>	<b>Yearly Cost</b>
HQ Personnel/Salary Costs	\$125,000	\$1,500,000
Est. Payroll (Withholding) Taxes	\$18,750	\$225,000
Office Lease (at \$3 per sq. ft., 3,000 feet total)	\$9,000	\$108,000
Travel/Lodging Costs (principally for initial college recruiting)	\$60,000	\$720,000
Insurance Costs (Employee Health & Indemnity Insurance)	\$7,000	\$84,000
Campaign/Recruitment Marketing & Advertising Costs	\$100,000	\$1,200,000
Utilities (broadband Internet access, VoIP Phone service, electricity, water, gas)	\$21,000	\$252,000
Computer Mainframe & Workstation hardware & software (Lease and/or Purchase)	\$3,000	\$36,000
Office furniture/misc. small office equipment -- first-year startup only (Lease and/or To-Buy)	\$2,500	\$30,000
Cellular/Smartphone service (unlimited usage/email plans @ \$120-140 per month)	\$1,680	\$20,160
Overnight Security & Janitorial Services	\$2,500	\$30,000
Miscellaneous Office Supplies	\$5,000	\$60,000
<b>SUB-TOTAL OF TANC HQ COSTS</b>	<b>\$355,430</b>	<b>\$4,265,160</b>
TANC Student "Working Grant" Program (based on 1-year commitment)	N/A	\$612,000,000
TANC Scholar "Bonus Grant" Program (first-year)	N/A	\$27,075,000
University/College Local Committee Hearings & Town Hall Reimbursement Affiliate/Sponsorship Program	N/A	\$26,000,000
Inaugural TANC "National Alliance Convention" (location TBD; 25% representation of 56,000 total membership=14,000 attendees)	N/A	\$70,000,000
<b>GRAND TOTAL OF TANC PROGRAMS</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$739,340,160</b>

(5) POTENTIAL COSTS, LOGISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR OPTIONAL NATIONAL ELECTORATE REFERENDUMS — The specter of a TANC assembly vote calling for a *National Electorate Referendum* (requiring a 51% or higher majority) could present something of a unique set of challenges — given the United States of America has never held a national referendum ballot and there is no federal precedence to refer back to. However, state and regional/municipal referendums — often also collectively referred to as “initiatives,” “legislative referrals,” “ballot measures” and “propositions” — have been utilized in 24 states (*Initiative Research Institute [IRI] at the University of Southern California*), primarily those concentrated in the western United States. In fact, there have been 2,873 varying types of referendums (mostly propositions, initiatives and ballot measures) on state ballots from 1904-2004, according to the Zurich, Switzerland-based *Centre for Direct Democracy (C2D)*. C2D’s research counted California holding 1,769 state and regional/municipal ballot initiatives during that span, with voter passage of Proposition 13 in 1978 (restraining property tax levy increases) widely considered as ushering in the modern-day popularity of referendums in other states around the country. Oregon, also with a century-long history of ballot initiatives, follows with 793 referendum ballots as well. Again, there appears to be little to no empirical research or other studies on the fiscal cost implications involved with individual state referendums, thus making it similarly difficult (at present) to exponentially project/estimate the cost of holding a national, trans-continental *National Electorate Referendum* in the United States. On a global basis, at least two-dozen countries have held, or continue to hold, national referendums, with Switzerland by far the most active at 529 national and 4,094 regional (canton)/municipal referendums held since 1848. Yet, again, there is little, if any, expanded research on the cost of national referendums in countries around the world, making it difficult to project out the cost of holding similar national initiatives in the 50 United States and outlying territories. Advocates of referendums (known in practice as “direct democracy”), according to Wikipedia.org research, argue that certain ballot initiatives take certain critical legislative decisions out of the hands of elected representatives to be determined directly by citizen voters. Critics of referendums, however, contend that voters are more likely driven by “transient whims than careful deliberation” and can sometimes be deceived by conflicting political advertising (TV and print). However, with a large body of TANC assembly members proposed (counting over 51,000 students and 5,100 scholars), *The Alliance* could easily be considered a representational cross-section of American voters — and would likely carry enough credibility and weight with the national electorate to consider TANC-authored legislation. For those reasons, given the potential of getting Congress, the President and state/municipal election officials to reach unanimity on the financial and logistical

considerations of proposed optional *National Electorate Referendums*, it also could be considered somewhat more prudent to hold “veto override” votes internally within *The Alliance* (requiring two-thirds/66% majority vote in the affirmative).