**The Title of the Page Should Be the Resolution Number and Position**

Introduction: The first thing you need is an introductory idea and a thesis statement

Point 1: Then, give three main points and supporting ideas and evidence below each one.

Point 2: Be sure to give the sources of the evidence.

Point 3: The more information you include, the better the speech will be. You should be detailed and give elaboration. This assignment is not the place to be lazy or incomplete.

Conclusion: Finally, end with a Conclusion

**Additional Information**

Add additional information that the speaker might need to answer questions after the speech.

**Resolution 5 Affirmative**

Introduction**:** Currently, gender-related issues such as rape are extremely controversial not only because they highlight gender discrimination, but also the government’s inefficiency when it comes to giving law-enforced punishments to sex offenders. As an effort to reinforce police efforts in solving rape-related cases, I urge you, fellow congressmen, to join me in supporting this resolution for 3 main reasons: the funds are not being used appropriately, the victims deserve justice, and the processing will be an effective tool to prevent rape.

Point 1: **Police agencies nationwide are not using rape-kit processing funds for their intended purpose.**

* USA Today posted a public investigation on rape-kit processing in July 2015, in which it concludes that “decades of promises from politicians, and more than $1 billion in federal funding, has failed to fix the problems. The roughly $1,000 cost to analyze each kit is among the hindrances for police”.
* Results have shown that even the U.S. Department of Justice is failing to comply with a 2013 law that was meant to get more rape kits tested and set national protocols for processing sexual assault evidence.
* In Houston, analysis of about 6,600 untested rape kits resulted in only about 850 matches, 29 prosecutions and six convictions.
* Although uploading offenders' DNA information into state and national databases is proven to identify serial predators who move across jurisdictions, police often treat rape kits as if the evidence is relevant only to the single assault with which it is associated.
* Hence, it is imperative that we pass today’s resolution to make sure that these agencies no longer have any excuse to hinder these processes. But moreover,

Point 2: **Victims of rape deserve to be given justice, but under the current system, the process is extremely slow.**

* CBS News report from Nov 9, 2008: *Valerie Neumann was raped by an acquaintance on her 21st birthday two years ago, but her rape kit has remained untested and her rapist is still walking free. Neumann told CBS News that the authorities told her that her rape kit could not be tested due to lack of funds; the cost of testing forensic evidence from a rape kit can be upwards of $1,500. Prosecutors told CBS it was because Neumann’s case was deemed “unwinnable” in court. Neumann said, “I feel like they didn't do their job to protect me and to protect everyone else.”*
* Neumann’s case is one of the 70,000 that show how police agencies are inefficient in testing sexual assault kits. Victims such as Neumann have the right to seek help from police agencies, and the rapists deserve to be persecuted by law. Every single one of those rape kits is a person, and everyone in their sphere of influence, such as their families and friends, is affected by what happens to the victim.
* If we don’t pass today’s resolution, these victims’ cases will remain unsettled. There is nothing we can do to make up for the psychological torment that they go through, but passing this bill and returning them their justice is the least we can do compensate for what they have been through.

Point 3: **Most effective tool in preventing rape**

* Nearly 90,000 women reported they were raped in the United States last year. It's estimated another 75,000 rapes went unreported.
* According to the Rape, Abuse and Incest Network, DNA evidence from rape cases not only helps police identify rapists in existing unsolved cases, but also prevents future assaults and spares potential new victims by bringing perpetrators to justice early in their criminal careers. Undeniably, prosecuting rapists early on is the single most effective rape prevention tool that we have available. By passing this bill, we allow rapists to be persecuted and allow those who are innocent of accused rape clear their reputation.

Conclusion:Fellow congressmen, as an effort to bring justice to rape victims and innocently accused

defendants, as well as to persecute rapists who deserve punishment, please join me and pass today’s bill so that we can walk one step closer to making America a rape-free country. Thank you.

**Additional Info: How Rape Kit Processing Works**

**Virginia - Rape, Abuse and Incest Network**

After submission, the kit is brought to the Biology Section and inventoried. At this time, liquid blood samples are dried down and oral rinses are processed (material is allowed to settle in the tube, and is then removed on swabs and a microscope smear is made).

When necessary, phone calls requesting known samples from previous intercourse partners are made at this time.

**NOTE:** New kits allow for the collection of a dried blood sample, so only those containing liquid samples, i.e., oral rinses will need to be inventoried prior to being assigned to an examiner. The outside of the kits is labeled with instructions regarding contents (liquid [what kind] / no liquids)

The kit is repackaged and stored until the time it is assigned to an examiner.

When an examiner is assigned and ready to work the case, the kit is retrieved from evidence storage. Once the facts of the case are reviewed and any necessary consultations are made, the examiner will begin to work the case.

Based on the facts of the case, initial screening is conducted on samples taken from the area(s) of assault for the possible presence of semen. The presence or absence of sperm is confirmed by a microscopic examination of the corresponding smears.

Samples taken to DNA include samples in which sperm/semen were identified. If no sperm/semen identified, then possible evidential saliva stains (cunnilingus or bite marks) are taken to DNA. The number of samples taken to DNA is dependent on the number of assailants, previous intercourse partners, and types of assault committed on the victim.

Once DNA analysis is completed, the profiles are made by the examiner and a 2nd analyst (second sizer). Depending on the results, the examiner must decide whether further DNA testing is warranted.

If not, conclusions are then made with regard to determining whether known contributors are included or excluded. Pursuant to CODIS requirements, If the case is an unknown suspect case, or the known suspect is eliminated, the data is reviewed by another examiner prior to searching the profile through CODIS.

It’s at this point that statistics are calculated, the report is written, and then the case file is technically reviewed by another examiner.