**Problem Summary**

**Directions**: Write a 2-page typed research paper to explain the public policy issue you have selected for Project Citizen. Make it persuasive and convincing proof that this is a serious problem. Your paper must answer the following questions:

1. What is the problem?
2. What are the causes and effects of this problem?
3. How many people are affected by the problem?
4. What is the history of the problem? How long has it been a problem?
5. What resources are at stake because of this problem?
6. What is the government doing to address this problem? What public policies are already in place? Are these policies being enforced consistently?
7. Why should the government be involved in solving this problem? What makes it a public policy issue?
8. What disagreements about the problem exist in the community?
9. Who is taking sides on the issue? Explain their positions.

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| Stated and explained the problem and its causes and presented **evidence that there is a problem** |  |  |  |  |
| Demonstrated an understanding of **existing public policies**  (what is the government doing about it?) and why they are inadequate |  |  |  |  |
| Explained **major groups, individuals, or organizations taking sides on the problem,** and **disagreements** about the problem that may exist in the community |  |  |  |  |
| Explained **why government should be involved** in the solution, and what level and branch should be responsible for it |  |  |  |  |
| Provided evidence of **research** from a variety of sources; cites sources correctly |  |  |  |  |
| **Writing quality** (hook sentence, thesis statement, supporting examples, conclusion) |  |  |  |  |

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