

1145-AH-2442      **Karen M. Bliss\*** (blisskm@vmi.edu), 404 Mallory Hall, Lexington, VA 24450. *Modeling to Engage Students in Policy Issues.*

Instructors have long used applications to provide context and relevance to the mathematical concepts in their classes. We can increase our students' interest even more by encouraging them to apply their mathematical skills to issues currently being addressed by policy makers. Real-world issues tend to be messy and not well-defined, so students' judgements about which factors to include matter, and they need to justify their decisions. Students also have the opportunity to practice verbal and written communication skills. Examples of modeling scenarios involving policy issues will be provided. (Received September 25, 2018)