

## **PENNSBURY FALCON INVITATIONAL**

### **2019 Congressional Debate Preliminary Session Legislation Packet**

The following Bills and Resolutions may be debated in the three preliminary sessions of Congressional Debate. Bills and Resolutions must be debated in the order in which they are presented in this packet.

**#1: A BILL TO DECRIMINALIZE DRUG USE AND POSSESSION**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A. Use of all narcotics and illicit substances shall be decriminalized.

3 B. Possession of up to a 10-day supply of narcotics or illicit substances  
4 shall be decriminalized.

5 C. Those who are found using narcotics or illicit substances or possessing  
6 up to a 10-day supply are to be offered but not mandated to accept support  
7 services by the state in which the offense occurred.

8 D. States that fail to comply with the above provision shall have all federal  
9 drug control funding cut.

10 **SECTION 2.** A. Narcotics and illicit substances shall be defined as a drug or other  
11 substance affecting mood or behavior and sold or used for nonmedical  
12 purposes.

13 B. Decriminalization shall be defined as the removal of criminal penalties.

14 C. Support services shall be defined as methadone programs, needle  
15 exchange programs, and rehabilitation services.

16 **SECTION 3.** The Drug Enforcement Agency shall oversee the enactment of this  
17 legislation.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect January 1, 2020.

19 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Dallastown Area High School*

1     **WHEREAS**, The Russian Federation has blockaded the Ukrainian port of Mariupol by  
2                   deploying naval ships to the Kerch Strait; and

3     **WHEREAS**, The Russian Federation seized three Ukrainian ships in the Kerch Strait in  
4                   international waters; and

5     **WHEREAS**, These actions have harmed Ukraine’s ability to access international trade  
6                   markets; and

7     **WHEREAS**, These actions have harmed Ukraine’s sovereignty; and

8     **WHEREAS**, These actions are another example of the Russian Federation’s  
9                   increasingly aggressive behavior; now, therefore, be it

10    **RESOLVED**, that the Congress here assembled urge NATO to pressure the Russian  
11                   Federation to end its blockade by deploying ships to the Kerch Strait and  
12                   Sea of Azov; and, be it

13    **FURTHER RESOLVED**, the United States make a firm commitment to defend Ukraine  
14                   against any further military aggression by the Russian Federation

*First Colonial High School*

**#3: THE SOCIAL SECURITY SOLVENCY ACT OF 2019**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Full Retirement age will be redefined as 10 years less than the average life  
3 expectancy of the United States. Average life expectancy is to be updated,  
4 for this purpose, every ten years after passage of this legislation.

5 **SECTION 2.** Full retirement age is defined as the age at which an individual may  
6 receive full Social Security benefits. The average life expectancy is to be  
7 determined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

8 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will be implemented by the Social Security  
9 Administration.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be implemented at the beginning of the next fiscal  
11 year, with and adjustment of the full retirement age per the average life  
12 expectancy at that time.

13 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Ryan Sheats  
Southern Lehigh High School*

#### **#4: A BILL TO ENCOURAGE SPACE DEBRIS REMOVAL**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** \$5 billion shall be awarded on a competitive basis to no fewer than five (5)  
3 space corporations to develop technology for the removal of orbital space  
4 debris.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. All developed technology must be able to remove all debris that weighs  
6 a quarter and is smaller than 4 cm in diameter or is at least one ton and is  
7 larger than 4 cm in diameter.

8 B. “Space Corporations” shall be defined as all public and private actors  
9 involved in developing and providing space-enabled products and services  
10 including vehicles, satellites, boosters, technology, and tools for use in  
11 space.

12 **SECTION 3.** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will oversee  
13 the enforcement of this bill by.

14 A. Developing a grant application and requirements for the awarding of the  
15 grant; and,

16 B. Evaluating grant applications to determine the distribution of funds with  
17 the goal of achieving large-scale space debris removal operations by  
18 2030.

19 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be in effect for the beginning of fiscal year 2020.

20 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School*

1     **WHEREAS,** Turkey is currently imposing tariffs on goods from the United States and  
2                     threatens to further raise retaliatory tariffs against the United States; and  
3     **WHEREAS,** The United States has contributed to a currency crisis in Turkey causing  
4                     their export market to struggle to maintain stability of their financial  
5                     sector; and  
6     **WHEREAS,** The impact of severe stress will jeopardize the U.S-led anti-terrorist  
7                     coalition with Turkey; and  
8     **WHEREAS,** If the United States fails to take action, we may risk a cohesive partnership  
9                     against terrorist groups and risk a drastic decrease in trade volume; now,  
10                    therefore, be it  
11    **RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled encourage the President to  
12                    maintain peace and trade affairs with Turkey by lifting tariffs on its goods.

*Strath Haven High School*

**#6: A BILL TO PRESERVE THE CIVILIAN RIGHT  
TO LARGE-CAPACITY FIREARMS MAGAZINES**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall ensure the national market for high-capacity magazines is  
3 not infringed for a period of 10 years.

4 **SECTION 2.** When state restrictions infringe upon the production and sale of high-  
5 capacity firearms magazines, federal powers shall take precedence and the  
6 limiting law shall yield.

7 A. "Limiting law" is defined as any state law excluding possession,  
8 manufacture, loan, import, or sale of firearms components on the  
9 basis of high capacity.

10 B. The definition of high capacity is arbitrary and deferred to the  
11 state.

12 **SECTION 3.** Enforcement is deferred to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and  
13 Explosives.

14 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2020.

15 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Pelham Memorial High School*

**#7: A BILL TO REINSTATE FUNDING FOR THE CLEAN POWER PLAN**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall reinstate funding for the  
3 Clean Power Plan.

4 **SECTION 2.** The Clean Power Plan is a policy aimed at combating anthropogenic  
5 climate change.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall oversee planning,  
7 funding, and distribution of this bill.

8 A. The current budget provides \$5.7 Billion for the Environmental  
9 Protection Agency, a 31% decrease from 2017's budget, and  
10 eliminates all additional funding for international climate change  
11 research, the Clean Power Plan, and climate change programs.

12 B. The federal government will continue to endorse climate change  
13 research for the Clean Power Plan.

14 C. An additional \$4 billion from the 2016 budget that is no longer  
15 provided shall be reinstated to restore the Clean Power Plan.

16 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be enacted on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at the start of the fiscal year.

17 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Council Rock High School North*



**#8: A BILL TO GIVE AID TO  
THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall give 1 billion dollars in the form of humanitarian  
3 and developmental aid to Iraqi citizens in Iraq recovering from the Islamic  
4 State War.

5 **SECTION 2.** The aid shall work at the grassroots level to rebuild Iraq's water and  
6 electricity systems; provide food, health care for its people; and take care  
7 of those who were forced from their homes in the fighting.

8 **SECTION 3.** USAID, Peace Corps, and Department of State will all oversee the  
9 implementation of this bill to ensure effective implementation.

10 **SECTION 4.** At the beginning of the 2020 fiscal year, the effectiveness of the aid will  
11 be Determined, and if 10% or more of the aid is said to be improperly  
12 distributed or inefficiently utilized, humanitarian aid to Iraq in the form of  
13 this bill will stop. However, if the aid is deemed effective, an additional 3  
14 billion dollars each year shall be given to help the Iraqi people recover.  
15 This legislation will be implemented on March 1, 2019

16 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Perkiomen Valley High School*

**#9: A BILL TO INCREASE FUNDING TO THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION TO CURB DISEASE EPIDEMICS IN THE UNITED STATES**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shall  
3 be given an additional \$800 million each year to fight and prevent the  
4 spread of harmful pathogens, per the CDC's definition, in the United  
5 States.

6 **SECTION 2.** The CDC shall use this funding to:

7 A. Improve hospital response protocol during an epidemic by providing  
8 training, drills, lectures, etc. for hospital staff.

9 B. Purchase provisions to contain and treat patients for hospitals not  
10 currently equipped with supplies such as masks, HAZMAT suits,  
11 quarantine facilities, etc.

12 C. Develop public service announcements meant to either prevent an  
13 epidemic or respond in aiding containment.

14 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall implement this  
15 legislation. This legislation shall be funded by redirecting \$800 million  
16 from the Department of Homeland Security annually.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect 1 year after passage.

18 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Ridge High School*

**#10: A BILL TO ESTABLISH A TWO-STATE SOLUTION**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall recognize the state of Palestine and help establish  
3 its sovereignty through diplomatic mediation and developmental aid.

4 **SECTION 2.** A. The United States shall recognize the current Israeli territory  
5 encompassing Gaza and the below the 31st Parallel as the sovereign area  
6 of Palestine.

7 B. The United States shall grant \$500 million over a ten year period in  
8 developmental aid to set up and enable an effective provisional  
9 Palestinian government to be instituted.

10 C. The United States shall be willing to act as an intermediary between  
11 Palestine and Israel to peacefully implement this legislation.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State and the USAID shall implement this legislation.

13 **SECTION 4.** A. The United States shall recognize Palestine upon passage.

14 B. Developmental aid shall be allocated at the beginning of FY2020.

15 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Phillipsburg High School*

1     **WHEREAS**, Congress has the power to set an unachievable budget while barring the  
2                   president from borrowing required money to fulfil Congress' budget; and  
3     **WHEREAS**, This often leads to political situations where the budget is held hostage  
4                   such that Congress can make demands of the executive branch under  
5                   threat of financial ruin; and  
6     **WHEREAS**, Legislative bodies in similar nations automatically allow for the borrowing  
7                   of money for the sake of fulfilling their spending budget implicitly; now,  
8                   therefore, be it  
9     **RESOLVED**, That the Student Congress here assembled allows the executive branch to  
10                  borrow money needed to fulfill congressional budgets upon their passing.

*Gettysburg Area High School*

**#12: A BILL TO MANDATE THE ELIMINATION OF ALL SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IN  
FEDERAL PRISONS, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The inhumane use of Solitary Confinement programs in all Federal  
3 prisons, whether operated by the Federal government or private  
4 corporations, shall be discontinued.

5 **SECTION 2.** Solitary Confinement is any form of imprisonment distinguished by living  
6 in single cells with little or no contact to other inmates.

7 **SECTION 3.** This Bill will be enforced by the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

8 A. Companies with prison contracts that are found to be using solitary  
9 confinement after the indicated date will be fined \$500,000.00 and  
10 will lose their federal contracts in perpetuity.

11 B. Employees of government-run prisons who are found to be aiding  
12 in the use of solitary confinement after the indicated date will face  
13 immediate termination, a fine of \$10,000.00 and/or 6-12 months  
14 imprisonment.

15 C. Surprise spot checks will occur at least once a year and an  
16 anonymous tip line will be set up for witnesses to report the use of  
17 solitary confinement.

18 D. Monies for monitoring will be transferred from funds originally  
19 used for maintaining and staffing solitary confinement units.

20 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020.

21 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Academy at Palumbo High School*

**#13: A BILL TO REDUCE CIVILIAN ABILITY TO CONSTRUCT IEDs**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The purchase of powdered sulfur shall require a Civilian Permit to  
3 Purchase Sulfur.

4 **SECTION 2.** "Civilian Permit to Purchase Sulfur" shall be defined as a new permit that  
5 must be applied for and will be distributed by the Bureau of Alcohol,  
6 Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives shall be  
8 responsible for the implementation of this legislation.

9 A. The application for this new permit for civilians shall require the  
10 recipient to not have committed violent crime in the past five years  
11 and to be a citizen of the United States.

12 B. Companies that purchase sulfur to produce goods shall require the  
13 CEO or founder to have a Civilian Permit to Purchase Sulfur for  
14 the corporation to continue purchasing sulfur.

15 C. Applications shall be reviewed and accepted by the Bureau of  
16 Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

17 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect on July 1st, 2019.

18 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Christ the King High School*

**#14: A BILL TO IMPLEMENT ONLINE VOTING**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States government shall hereby allow for online voting as an  
3 alternative to the current voting system.

4 **SECTION 2.** Online voting shall be defined as a US governmental online voting service  
5 that allows for the use of electronic means to aid or complete the process  
6 of casting and counting votes. The online voting service shall use  
7 blockchain technology.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Election Assistance Commission and the Federal Election  
9 Commission shall be combinedly responsible for creating a council to  
10 secure online voting. The council shall be responsible for protection from  
11 fraud and identity theft. 7 billion dollars shall be allocated for the  
12 development of this service.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect immediately after passage.

14 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Hopkinton High School*

**#15: A BILL TO DISCONTINUE USE OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN FEDERAL PRISONS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Whereas, Capital Punishment, or the application of the death penalty, shall  
3 be discontinued in use from federal prisons in the United States of  
4 America.

5 **SECTION 2.** Capital Punishment is the legally authorized killing of a person as  
6 punishment for a crime. These crimes include some of the following but  
7 not limited to: capital murder, the 41 federal crimes, treason, ex...

8 A. Capital murder is murder that it involves special circumstances,  
9 such as killing a police officer or firefighter while on duty, or  
10 committing a crime while committing another serious felony like  
11 rape or kidnapping.

12 B. Federal prisons are prison facilities run by the Federal Bureau of  
13 Prisons (BOP). Prisoners housed in these facilities are under the  
14 legal authority of the federal government. This excludes private  
15 facilities under exclusive contract with BOP.

16 **SECTION 3.** This bill shall be enforced by the Department of Justice.

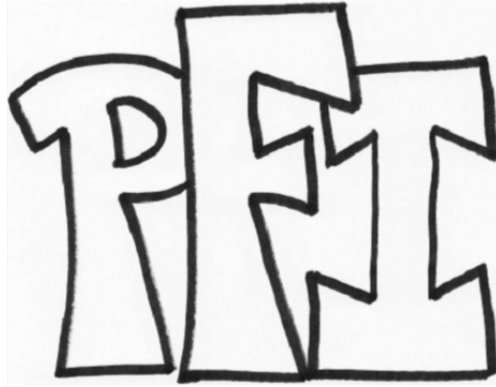
17 **SECTION 4.** Implementation of this bill it will begin January 1 of the new year.

18 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Notre Dame HS (PA)*





# **PENNSBURY FALCON INVITATIONAL**

## **2019 Congressional Debate Final Session Memo**

Legislation for the Final Session will be released to competitors one hour before the beginning of debate. The following memo should guide pre-tournament preparation for the topic of the Final Session.

**CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**



**Date:** January 15, 2019  
**From:** Secretary of Labor Christopher M. Kubek  
**Subj:** Joint Select Committee on Labor

Honorable Member of Congress,

The newly-created Joint Select Committee on Labor will convene for its first meeting on February 2, 2019, to consider several legislative proposals drafted jointly by Congressional leadership and the Department of Labor to shape the future of U.S. federal labor policy.

The longest federal government shutdown in history has renewed public interest in labor issues. While much focus has been placed on public employees, other issues have been simmering across the country, such as the advance of “right-to-work” legislation, massive teacher strikes, and the Supreme Court’s decision in *Janus v. AFSCME*.

As head of the Department of Labor, I am pleased to convene a frank and open discussion on the federal workforce and broader national labor issues. This discussion will focus on three major policy areas:

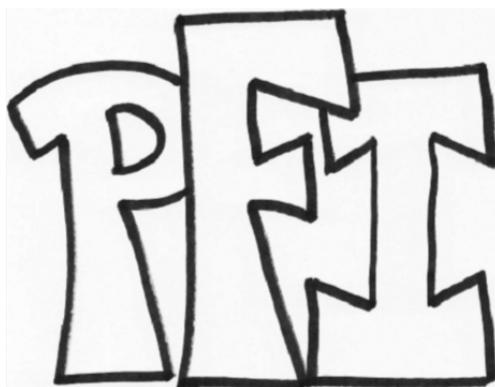
First, I encourage Congress to entertain changes to the federal minimum wage, which is overdue for an adjustment. Congress could improve future stability of labor markets by indexing the federal minimum wage to inflation, and could rebalance the flow of workers and capital across international boundaries by synchronizing our minimum wage with those of our neighbors.

Second, Congress should step into the national debate on the “right to work.” State laws and court decisions have dramatically altered the relationship between unions and employers over the past several decades. The Department of Labor supports collective bargaining and the rights of workers to unionize, but Congress should consider ensuring union leadership accountability to their members through regular recertification votes.

Third, the federal government must reconsider its treatment of the federal workforce. It is our responsibility to ensure that our federal workforce does not become collateral damage of partisan warfare. Federal workers are presently restricted from striking and can be compelled to work without pay, which privately employed workers would never accept. However, generous government retirement and health care benefits are bankrupting our country. A shift from defined-benefit to defined-contribution pension plans may be necessary to ensure the solvency of these programs.

You will receive more information, including several marked-up bills for consideration, immediately before the Committee’s first meeting on February 2. Please prepare accordingly.

Sincerely,  
Christopher M. Kubek  
United States Secretary of Labor



# **PENNSBURY FALCON INVITATIONAL**

## **2019 Congressional Debate Tournament Rules and Procedures**

## PENNSBURY FALCON INVITATIONAL

### CONGRESS RULES for PARLIAMENTARIANS

1. **Agenda.** The Preliminary Session agenda is determined by the tournament to vary topics and the region of sponsorship. The order of debate can be amended, but requires a 2/3 vote. The Parliamentarian should intervene if a bloc of students attempt to advance their own interests over those of other participants or the educational value of the event.
2. **Authorships.** When a new piece of legislation comes to the floor, a student from the submitting school should be granted the first affirmative speech as an authorship. If no author is present, any member of the house may speak as a sponsor of the legislation.
3. **Questioning.** There is a mandatory questioning period of one minute for each speech – two minutes for the first affirmative and negative speech on each bill. In the Preliminary Sessions, questioning will follow the standard one question per questioner format, recognized by the Presiding Officer in turn. Ignore any remaining speech time; do not add it to time available for questioning. Motions to extend questioning periods are discouraged (but permitted).

In Finals *only*, questioning will follow a direct questioning format in which questioners selected by the Presiding Officer will be allotted 30 seconds to question the speaker on the floor.

4. **Precedence/Recency.** Precedence should reset to a clean slate at the beginning of each session (though it is a common, but not mandatory, courtesy to allow the Presiding Officer of the previous session preference for his/her first speech). President Officers should be discouraged from using “activity” or questions to determine recency. ONLY recency should be used to determine who can speak and when; before recency is determined, speakers should be chosen randomly.
5. **“Gentlemen’s Agreements”.** The tournament strongly opposes this practice. Informal agreements between some to coerce the behavior of all is a form of bullying. Any attempt to change the rules or compel certain behavior must be voted upon as a Motion to Suspend the Rules, requiring a 2/3 majority. Do not allow students to decide to limit the number of speeches or bills debated.
6. **Congress is a DEBATE event!** The tournament believes that all speeches should advance the debate, whether as constructive, rebuttal, or crystallization. Please reward competitors who engage with prior speakers rather than reading prepared remarks, and please discourage the chamber from prolonging debate so someone can deliver a prepared speech rather than moving to a fresh topic.
7. **Scoring.** Judges may not score speeches by students from their schools; the Parliamentarian should score those speeches. A judge or Parliamentarian may rank a student from their school, but may not score the speeches. Only the Parliamentarian will score the Presiding Officer. There is no requirement to rank the Presiding Officer; s/he may be ranked as each scorer sees fit.
8. **Ranking.** Judges will rank the top 8 contestants at the end of each session; the Parliamentarian completes one ranking sheet at the end of all sessions, ranking ALL students.
9. **Voting.** Approximately 5 minutes before the scheduled end of the final session, a representative from the tab room will arrive to collect judges’ ranking sheets and begin the student voting process. Please ensure that the chamber is prepared to complete the session at this time.

**Please refer to Congress Tab with any questions or needs that may arise during the session.**

# PENNSBURY FALCON INVITATIONAL

## INFORMATION FOR CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE JUDGES

### **BALLOTS**

Please fill out a ballot for each speech in the round and give comments and a score (from 0-6) to the speaker. Each ballot sheet can be used for 4 speeches from the same speaker. You may continue comments or notes on the back of the sheet. Please DO NOT score different speakers on a single sheet, even if they are from the same school. Notify the parliamentarian if you run out of ballots.

At the start of the round, inform the parliamentarian if any contestants are from your school – you may rank those students, but may not score their individual speeches.

### **RANKINGS**

Please rank the **top 8** competitors in this session on the enclosed sheet, and turn it in as soon as possible after the conclusion of the round so that the students may vote. Rankings should reflect the overall impact of each legislator on the course of debate and the session as a whole.

Rankings should take into account both quantity and quality of speeches, as well as other participation in the session (questions, motions, decorum, etc). The tournament frowns upon repetitive debate, and on the abuse of parliamentary procedure to change the agenda or rules excessively. You may make note of these issues on the back of a speech ballot for individual competitors.

### **SPEECHES**

Congress is a DEBATE event! Speeches, whether constructives, rebuttals, or crystallizations, are all equally valuable. Please reward students who advance debate and engage with prior speakers, and students who move the chamber forward to the next legislation rather than giving a repetitive speech filled with “rehash.” Students do not possess the right to speak on every legislation, and students should not be penalized for moving the previous question to end debate on an exhausted topic.

### **QUESTIONING**

In preliminary rounds, each speech will have a mandatory one-minute questioning period (except the first affirmative or negative speech on each piece of legislation, which will have two minutes). In Finals, we will utilize a direct questioning format where questioners will be selected for 30 seconds of back and forth with the speaker.

You should not score questioners, but should consider the quality of their questions and participation in questioning when ranking contestants at the end of the session. As part of the effort to turn the event into Congressional *Debate*, speakers are expected to be able to defend their arguments during questioning. How a speaker handles questioning should be part of the score for their speech, as well as part of their overall ranking. Keep in mind that although the questioner holds the floor, an overly aggressive or hostile posture should be discouraged.

### **PRESIDING OFFICERS**

The Presiding Officer is an essential role in a Congressional Debate round. Students serving as the PO are sacrificing their opportunity to speak to serve the community. This is a leadership position. Accordingly, consider the PO when completing your rankings; rankings are a search for the Best Legislator, not the Best Speaker. It is not required that you rank the PO, but it is encouraged if they are able to run the chamber in a fair and efficient manner and contribute positively to the quality and quantity of debate.

# **Advancement Procedures – 2019**

As of 1/15/19, we expect to hold 4 preliminary chambers. The following will be adjusted if the number of chambers changes.

There will be two judges in each of the three preliminary sessions. Judges will rank the top 8 competitors. The six judges ranks, plus the parliamentarian's ranking at the end of the preliminary sessions, will create a rank score for each student. The three students with the lowest combined ranks (with all ranks beyond 8 counting as a 9) will advance to the Final session. Additionally, one student will advance via student preferential ballot. Students placing 4th-9th according to the seven judges' ranks as above will be placed on a preferential ballot, voted on by all competitors in the chamber. Ranked choice voting will be used to determine the preferential ballot winner. Finally, the next highest ranked competitor on the Parliamentarian's ballot who has not already advanced will also advance to the Final session. Thus, five students will advance from each preliminary chamber to the final round. All ties will be broken first on judges' preference and then the Parliamentarian's rank.

There will be three judges in the Final session. Judges will rank the top 8 competitors. Additionally, competitors will rank all participants in the Final round. Using ranked choice voting, the top 8 from the collective student vote will count as a 4th judge score. Final round placement will be determined by the lowest combined score of the four ranks, with all unranked competitors receiving a score of 9. All ties will be broken by the Parliamentarian's ballot (which is only used to break ties).