



The Blake School / John Edie
Holiday Tournament

8th Annual
Congressional Debate
Round Robin

Legislation Packet

2018 Topic Area:
Education & Commerce

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Improve American Education and Promote Equality

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court ruled in *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954 that “separate but equal” is never equal, and

WHEREAS, the modern-day American education system based on local property taxes fails to provide sufficient funds to certain schools in low-income districts, and

WHEREAS, there are no common standards to ensure that students across the United States are learning uniform curriculum, causing massive disparities between states, and

WHEREAS, teachers are often underpaid due to insufficient funding from school districts, which harms their students; be it therefore

RESOLVED, By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

ARTICLE 1, SECTION 8

SECTION 1. The U.S. Congress shall have the power to regulate, fund, and create curriculum for primary and secondary schools.

SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ranen Miao from Millburn High School

THE EDUCATIONAL EXEMPTION ACT

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Campuses that increase tuition higher when taking into account the Consumer Price Index inflation rate after the passage of this legislation hereby lose their tax-exempt status.

- a) The tax revenue received by the government through the passage of this legislation shall be diverted to the Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid.

SECTION 2. The following shall be defined as-

- a) *Tax exempt status*- tax exempt status given to campuses because of their educational purpose through the Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3)
- b) *Campuses*- institution that provides graduate and professional education in addition to four-year post-secondary education
- c) *Tuition*- the amount of money charged by campuses for education
- d) *Consumer Price Index*- A mathematical calculation made and published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Labor Department that tracks the price level of goods and services purchased by the average consumer which tracks inflation

SECTION 3. The Internal Revenue Service shall enforce this bill.

SECTION 4. The bill shall take effect on November 1, 2019.

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Rep. Alexander Al-Najim
Edina High School*

Education and Workforce Modernization Act of 2018

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A 10% tax will be placed on the purchase cost of automated technology used for business purposes. All funds raised from this tax will go toward High School Job Training Programs to train students for “In Need Jobs”.

SECTION 2. “Purchase cost” will be defined as any capital improvements related to the use of Automated Technology. “Automated technology” will be defined as technology, mechanical, electronic or otherwise, that replaces a task human workers currently complete or have been paid to complete within the past fiscal year. “In Need Jobs” will be defined as classes of positions identified by the Bureau of Labor Statistics that: 1) do not require a college degree, and 2) where the number of industry job openings currently exceeds (or is predicted to exceed within five fiscal years) the number of job seekers for those and similar positions. “High School Job Training Programs” will be defined as educational and certification programs that public high schools offer to students to prepare them for work in the field.

SECTION 3. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Department of Education (DOE), and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) will oversee this legislation.

- A. The IRS will implement and enforce the new Automated Technology Tax
- B. The DOE will oversee the High School Job Training Programs, allocate funding, and determine standards for these High School Job Training Programs.
- C. The BLS will be tasked with identifying and prioritizing “In Need Jobs” as well as advising the DOE on job training and requirements for said positions.

SECTION 4. The tax for this legislation will be implemented on January 1, 2019. High School Job Training Programs will begin in the 2021-2022 school year.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by William Naviaux.

A Bill to Rid the United States of For-Profit Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The use and continuation of For-Profit schools shall hereby be abolished.

SECTION 2. A. "For-Profit School" shall be defined as educational institutions operated by private, profit-seeking businesses.

B. The Department of Education shall determine what will happen to the physical manifestations of these educational facilities, and any previous governmental funding towards these facilities will be reallocated through discretion of the Department of Education.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education shall be responsible for implementation and execution of this bill.

SECTION 4. Will be put into action at the start of Fiscal Year 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate at the Blake Round Robin by Grant Davis of Eagan High School

A Bill to Create Universal Pre-K

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Education shall provide block grants to each
3 state for the purpose of offering every child residing within the United States of
4 America and its territories a publicly funded and administered education
5 beginning at three years of age.

6 **SECTION 2.** “Administered” shall not be construed to mean a school voucher program.
7 Rather, the programs will be publicly funded and under direct public oversight
8 through expansion of existing public school districts.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will oversee the allocation of funds and any future
10 necessary national regulations. Individual states will carry out the
11 implementation of the new universal Pre-K system, consistent with current
12 public schooling and above administration requirements.

13 A. States that do not implement a universal Pre-K program consistent with the
14 above shall have all Federal education funding withheld.

15 B. 12 billion dollars will be allocated annually to the Department of Education
16 for apportionment as block grants. The annual funding commitment will
17 continue until FY 2025, when this program shall be due for reauthorization.
18 States are encouraged to supplement this funding.

19 C. The 75 billion dollars will be reappropriated from the Department of
20 Defense’s budget.

21 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall immediately go into effect, but States will have until January 1,
22 2020, to begin the program.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Luke Tillitski, Charlotte Latin School.

A Bill to Set up an Interstate Federal Foundation Program to Reduce Education Disparities Among States

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Interstate Federal Foundation Program be established as an optional educational program. States must follow all guidelines set by the federal government to be eligible for program benefits.

SECTION 2. A. The “Federal Foundation Program” will calculate and provide per-student funding to participating states, adjusting for geographic and other differences.

B. As an incentive, the federal government will allocate an additional 40 million dollars to each participating state’s special education program. “Special Education” will be defined as education for those who have learning and mental disabilities.

SECTION 3. In conjunction with the Department of Education, a new Congressional Committee will be established to oversee the creation and implementation of this program.

A. Participating states will raise the state income tax by 4% for any individual earning more than one million dollars annually to help cover costs of the program.

B. Any remaining expenses will be budgeted from the Department of Defense’s annual budget.

SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect 3 months after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bharat Sanka of Ridge High School

A Resolution to Reassess U.S. Foreign Economic Policy

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States has adopted an “America First” doctrine that has
2 isolated itself on the global stage.
- 3 **WHEREAS,** This doctrine has alienated our allies, handed power to our rivals, and
4 damaged our image abroad.
- 5 **WHEREAS,** If the U.S. continues on with this doctrine, it will derail U.S. economic
6 competitiveness as well as the global economy.
- 7 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled reassess U.S. foreign economic policy.

8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

A Bill to Expand School Breakfast and Lunch Meals

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) will be expanded to all students hereby eliminating the current three-tier system and establishing a single free tier for all students.
- SECTION 2.** **A.** National School Lunch Program is defined by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act of 1964.
- B.** School Breakfast Program is defined by the 1975 SBP Authorization Act.
- SECTION 3.** The program is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service shall be responsible for implementation and execution of this bill.
- SECTION 4.** Will be put into action at the start of Fiscal Year 2020.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bethany Brynteson of Robbinsdale Cooper High School

A Resolution to Improve the Visibility of Trade Schools to Decrease High School Dropout Rates

1 **WHEREAS,** The United States' in recent year has maintained a higher
2 drop out rate with students leaving high school at younger ages without
3 opportunities to advance in our society; and

4 **WHEREAS,** With few career paths being advocated for in out public
5 school systems outside of a college pathway, students who don't plan to
6 attend college need other outlets to know what options they have for their
7 future occupations; and

8 **WHEREAS,** When students aren't aware of these options, we will
9 continue to see similar trends in high school drop out rates which allows
10 for our education rates to drop; now, therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled suggest to all public
12 education facilities to present trade schools in the same light as colleges:
13 and, be it,

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That we allocate block grants to state legislatures
15 and competitive grants to specific trade schools to increase the
 advertisement of trade schools to high school students.

Respectfully Submitted by Theodore Roosevelt High School



The G.E.D. (Growth in Education and Development) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Title 26, subsection B of the United States tax code shall be amended to
3 limit tax exclusion from the estate tax at 2.1 million dollars per person, or
4 4.2 millions dollars per couple. All funds raised from the estate tax shall
5 be appropriated to the Department of Education. The Department of
6 Education will account for the payment of all staff hired by public schools.
7 All staff members of the public education system currently employed
8 shall have their wages or salaries doubled. The base salary or wage shall
9 also be doubled.

10 **SECTION 2.** “Staff member” shall refer to anyone employed by a public school, or its
11 respective district.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service shall enforce the change in tax code and the
13 Department of Education (DoE) will finance all public staff.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect for fiscal year 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Braden Johnson of Chanhassen High School