

NEW YORK CITY INVITATIONAL
DEBATE & SPEECH TOURNAMENT
2019

CONGRESS LEGISLATIVE PACKET
Prelims



A Resolution to Protect The Rights of The People of Hong Kong

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States has the duty of promoting human rights and
2 democracy around the globe; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** The People Republic of China is assuming greater authority over the
4 government of Hong Kong starting with a proposed extradition bill ; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** As a result the people of Hong Kong staged mass protests against the bill
6 and the Chinese government in Beijing; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The Chinese government has been ruthless against the protesters
8 employing violent tactics and stripping away the rights of the people of
9 Hong Kong; now, therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the people of Hong Kong have the
11 United States full support behind their demands; and be it
- 12 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** The United States government shall engage in diplomatic talks
13 with the Peoples Republic of China to ensure that the people of Hong
14 Kong have their previous rights are respected.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Unionville High School

A Bill to Implement Platform Utilities to Break Up Big Tech

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** Large technology companies will be broken up into platform
2. utilities.
3. **SECTION 2.** A. Technology companies will be defined as companies that offer
4. to the public an online market place, or exchange, or platform for
5. connecting third parties.
6. B. Large will be any technology company with an annual global
7. revenue of \$25 billion.
8. C. Platform utilities shall be smaller units or the original company
9. that will not be allowed to transfer data with third parties.
10. **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission will oversee implementation.
11. A. Other federal regulators, State Attorneys General, and private
12. parties will have the right to sue platform utilities which
13. violate these requirements.
14. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be implemented upon passage.
15. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null
16. and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Chapel Hill High School

A Resolution to Ratify CIFTA

1 **WHEREAS,** Illegal transactions concerning weapons, such as guns and ammunition,
2 continue to occur across borders in Northern and Southern American
3 countries; and

4 **WHEREAS,** Millions continue to be persecuted and killed by violence that is
5 facilitated by the illicit transfer of weapons transnationally; and

6 **WHEREAS,** The constant instances of conflict have continued to destabilize Latin
7 American countries; and

8 **WHEREAS,** The Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in
9 Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA)
10 requires parties to criminalize the illegal manufacture, import, or export
11 of high-powered weapons; and

12 **WHEREAS,** CIFTA encourages cooperation and intelligence sharing on policy
13 initiatives to hinder the illegal trafficking of weapons; and

14 **WHEREAS,** Countries across Latin America who have been signatories and ratified
15 this treaty have seen decreases in their rates of gun-related crime and
16 violence; therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the following recommendation is
18 made to ratify CIFTA.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano West Senior High School

A Resolution to End the Endless War

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States has been fighting a war in Afghanistan since
2 2001 as part of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation
3 Freedom’s Sentinel; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** Since 2001, there have been over 2,300 US military casualties in
5 Afghanistan, over 1700 civilian contractor casualties, and over
6 100,000 Afghan casualties, including 31,000 civilians; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The United States has not achieved its goal of successful regime
8 change and the permanent ousting of the Taliban; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** The Taliban has used prolonged US involvement in Afghanistan as
10 a successful recruitment tool; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** Our brave men and women are being put in harm's way in
12 Afghanistan with no clear objective, misguided foreign policy and
13 unacceptable loss of life; now, therefore, be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following
15 recommendation to the Trump Administration and Department,
16 and of Defense for the complete withdrawal of US combat forces
17 from Afghanistan including private military contractors; and, be it
- 18 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the withdrawal take place over a period of 5 years, and that
19 a meeting be held with the Trump Administration, Taliban and
20 Afghan government to create a peace deal during the withdrawal
21 process, and that the meeting be held outside of both the United
22 States and Afghanistan.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by New Trier High School.

A Bill to Ban National Injunctions

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** National injunctions will hereby be banned and labeled as unconstitutional
2. in order to check judicial power. Federal statutes, regulations, and
3. executive orders can be challenged by the Supreme Court only.
4. **SECTION 2.** National injunctions shall be classified as when an individual federal district
5. court judge moves to block the enforcement of a federal statute,
6. regulation, or executive order nationwide.
7. **SECTION 3.** The department of justice that will oversee the enforcement of the bill.
8. **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect upon passage.
9. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Adlai E. Stevenson High School Debate.

A Resolution to Establish Comprehensive Legislation For Combating Industrial Impact

1 **WHEREAS,** the issue of climate change and global warming is a worldwide problem humankind
2 currently faces; and

3 **WHEREAS,** climate change is resulting in increase of temperatures and thereby melting of polar ice
4 caps and rising sea levels -- which are on track to create two billion refugees by 2100 --
5 and thereby vastly increasing the transmission range of vector-borne diseases such as
6 malaria and dengue fever, which kill 700,000 annually and already put 3.9 billion at risk;
7 and

8 **WHEREAS,** due to the United States' high level of production capacity and industrialization, we are
9 a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, pollution, et cetera worldwide, and
10 therefore the U.S. Congress is uniquely placed to address this issue; and

11 **WHEREAS,** this rising in temperature is able to be remediated through various methods of cutting
12 US byproduct emissions in industry and production; and

13 **WHEREAS,** pollutant production in industry can be remediated through methods that both reduce
14 climate change impacts and increases financial performance and efficiency of adopting
15 companies by 5 to 8%, leading to a net benefit for the nation; now, therefore, be it

16 **RESOLVED,** that the Student Congress here assembled make the following recommendation to draft
17 legislation to incentivize and/or mandate companies to reduce use of pollutants,
18 implement methods of treating toxic nonmetal and heavy metal byproducts such as
19 biological degradation and electrokinetic treatment, conduct research into new
20 techniques for distillation and chemical separation in cooperation with the EPA, and
21 implement "low-use" techniques.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Highview Academy

A Bill to Fund Prisons in America to Stop the Spread of Hepatitis C

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** One and a half billion dollars in treatments shall be allocated to public and
2 private prisons to help treat the spreading of hepatitis C in prisons.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** A. Treatment shall be defined as medicines, vaccinations, and constant
4 checkups.
5 B. A “Netflix policy” shall be defined as paying a flat fee for an unlimited
6 amount.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice, the Department of Corrections, and the
8 Department of Health shall be responsible for the implementation of this
9 bill.
- 10 A. The three departments shall be charged with working with private
11 prisons to ensure effectiveness.
- 12 B. The three departments shall attempt to institute a “Netflix policy” in
13 order to effectively pay for medicines.
- 14 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented approximately one year after passage.
- 15 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Boca Raton Community High School

A Bill to Improve Public Transportation to Lower Carbon Emissions

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The U.S Government will invest in and build eco-friendly public transportation in large cities with the goal of reducing CO2 emissions by 50% in those cities by 2030.

SECTION 2. A. Eco-friendly shall be defined as not releasing any CO2 during regular operation.

B. Public transportation shall be defined as mass transit provided by the city including but not limited to trains and busses.

C. Large cities shall be defined as cities whose metropolitan areas have a population greater than 2.5 million.

D. CO2 emissions shall be defined as emissions of carbon dioxide arising from the operation of vehicles.

SECTION 3. This bill shall be carried out by the Department of Transportation in conjunction with the state and local governments of affected cities.

A. 20% of the Highway Trust Fund shall be allocated annually each year until 2030, or until CO2 emissions have been reduced by 50%, whichever comes first.

B. Emissions shall be measured the EPA in conjunction with state and local officials, and shall be measured in the same location each year.

SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect October 1, 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ransom Everglades School.

A Bill to Mandate Same Day Voter Registration to Increase Voter Participation

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. In Federal Elections, including during early voting, all states shall permit any eligible voter at a polling location for such election to:

A. Register to vote, and

B. Cast a vote

SECTION 2. “Eligible voter”, with regards to Federal Elections, is defined as any individual who is qualified to vote in that election.

“Register to vote” shall also include, if the individual is already registered to vote, the updating of voter information.

SECTION 3. The Attorney General, under the Department of Justice, may bring any appropriate action against a State or jurisdiction for violating this law.

SECTION 4. States must be in compliance with this law for the Federal general election in November 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Whitmer High School

A Resolution in Support of a Pacific Defense Treaty

1 **WHEREAS,** The United States and her Pacific allies presently lack a formal
2 alliance for mutual defense and diplomatic coordination, such as
3 the U.S. enjoys with NATO in Europe; and

4 **WHEREAS,** States in the Pacific Ocean and its surrounding seas face ongoing
5 and escalating threats from aggressive, expansionist nations,
6 including Russia, North Korea, and the People's Republic of China,
7 as well as a host of smaller regional disputes; and

8 **WHEREAS,** The United States' recent withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific
9 Partnership and other international agreements has eroded the
10 trust of its allies and diminished its level of diplomatic influence
11 around the world; and

12 **WHEREAS,** A formal alliance would provide a structure for more coordinated
13 & effective responses to threats, lend international legitimacy to
14 such responses, and create a structure for dispute resolution
15 within said alliance; now, therefore, be it

16 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here, assembled that the United States supports
17 the creation of a Pacific Defensive Treaty that formalizes ties and
18 institutes a policy of mutual defense, with the original members
19 being The United States of America, Canada, Japan, the Republic
20 of Korea, Republic of China, the Republic of the Philippines, the
21 Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Singapore, the
22 Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Xavier High School

A BILL TO END THE MINTING OF PENNIES

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will end the production and active circulation of
3 pennies.

4 **SECTION 2.** The United States Mint shall be charged with the implementation of this
5 legislation.

6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will go into effect in the fiscal year of 2020.

7 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cary Academy

A Bill to Exclude Non-Citizens from the Census

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. Only individuals who are considered United States citizens may be
3 counted by the United States Census Bureau toward official redistricting
4 data.

5 SECTION 2. “Citizens” are legally recognized subjects of a state or commonwealth,
6 either native or naturalized.

7 A. Individuals considered non-citizen legal residents, non-citizen
8 long-term visitors, or undocumented immigrants are to be excluded
9 from the official Census.

10 SECTION 3. The United States Bureau of the Census (which is a part of the United
11 States Department of Commerce) will oversee the enforcement of this bill.

12 SECTION 4. This bill shall take effect prior to the 2030 United States Census.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Wellington High School

A Bill to Create a Public Option Health-Care System

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The US government will hereby create a public option healthcare system
2 "POHS" which our constituents may choose government insurance or
3 private insurance.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** The public option healthcare system is defined as a proposal to create a
5 government-run health insurance agency that would compete with other
6 private health insurance companies within the United States.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services in conjunction with the
8 Department of Commerce will oversee the implementation of this
9 legislation.
- 10 A. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services within the Department
11 of Health and Human Services will work to establish an insurance plan
12 as well as making it available to our constituents.
- 13 B. POHS shall be structured and operated in a manner so as to be revenue
14 neutral.
- 15 C. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of
16 Commerce has the authority to work with any other agency in order to
17 implement and enforce this bill.
- 18 D. One time funding of one billion dollars shall be allocated to establish
19 the administration and offices necessary to operate POHS.
- 20 E. All funding shall be provided from the Department of Defense budget.
- 21 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect on the first day of the 2030 Fiscal Year
- 22 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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CONGRESS LEGISLATIVE PACKET
Semifinals



A Bill to Provide Americans with Economic Security

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All citizens of the United States will receive \$1,000 per month as a
3 universal basic income (UBI).

4 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Health and Human Services will oversee the
5 distribution of UBI.

6 A. This legislation will be funded by the implementation of a 5% value
7 added tax on all goods sold within the United States, and an
8 additional 10% tariff on all technology products manufactured
9 outside of the United States.

10 B. The Internal Revenue Service will enforce the aforementioned
11 taxation.

12 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will be implemented at the start of the next fiscal year.

13 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the New York City Invitational Debate & Speech Tournament.

A Bill to Engage the DPRK in Diplomatic Relations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby suspend all sanctions under Title III of
3 Public Law 115-44 (Countering America's Adversaries through Sanctions
4 Act) for 12 months.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of State shall appoint a special envoy to the DPRK to work
6 with nations affected under this legislation in an attempt to open
7 diplomatic channels.

8 A. The special envoy and their staff shall submit a report to the
9 Secretary of State, the President and Congress periodically
10 and no less than every 3 month period after their
11 appointment, and 2 weeks before this legislation sunsets.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State shall oversee the implementation of this
13 legislation.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be implemented immediately upon passage and shall
15 sunset 12 months after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the New York City Invitational Debate & Speech Tournament.

A Bill to Protect the American Workforce

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** I.R.C. § 174 will no longer apply to Artificial Intelligence equipment. All
3 companies producing Artificial Intelligence must capitalize all
4 expenditures over the useful life of the equipment.

5 **SECTION 2.** “Useful Life” will be defined as no less than fifty years.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of the Treasury will oversee the collection of the tax in
7 Section 1.

8 A. Funding will be allocated towards the creation of a Lifelong Learning
9 and Training Account program that will create tax-preferred savings
10 accounts that employers and employees can contribute to fund
11 training efforts.

12 B. Funds from this tax will match up to \$1,000 of contributions towards
13 the retraining of employees.

14 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect on January 1, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the New York City Invitational Debate & Speech Tournament.

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TOURNAMENT 2019

Congress Final Round Topic

Immigration & Border Security

