

The 2025 Glenbrooks Congressional Debate Legislation



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE RULES AND PROCEDURES

Thank you for choosing to attend the 46th annual Glenbrooks Tournament. The following rules intend to promote procedural unity among the chambers and to foster a consistently high standard of Congressional debate. A chamber cannot alter or ignore these regulations with a motion to suspend the rules. They are consistent with the guidelines and standards suggested by the Tournament of Champions, to which the top 60 students earn a qualifying bid. Note that the Glenbrooks tournament follows NSDA rules unless otherwise outlined and seeks the relevant advice of the latest available edition of Robert's Rules of Order for matters on which this document and the NSDA are silent. Tournament directors reserve the right to issue additional special rules for the Glenbrooks as warranted.

Expect to receive additional information to these Rules and Procedures via a live Google Document; its contents will supersede any instructions found here.

1 SESSIONS & CHAMBERS

1.1 Number of Sessions: The tournament will consist of three preliminary sessions, one semi final session, and a final session.

1.2 Assignment to Preliminary Chambers: Students will be assigned to geographically diverse preliminary chambers. When possible students from the same school will be placed evenly in chambers. However, students may be placed together to leave chambers open such that judges from that school can be assigned without conflicts.

2 LEGISLATION

2.1 Submission of Preliminary Legislation: The tournament will publish guidelines and deadlines for student legislation submission annually in the invitation. Tournament officials will consider submitted legislation from attending students, selecting bills and resolutions that are controversial, timely, well written, properly formatted, and that there substantial affirmative and negative arguments. Submission of legislation for consideration is not a guarantee that it will be included in the tournament's docket, as it must be limited to a reasonable number of pieces of legislation so that debaters can adequately prepare. In keeping with longstanding Glenbrooks tradition, legislation selected for the tournament will be assigned to three categories: Economics, Foreign Affairs, or Public Welfare.

2.2 Semifinal and Final Legislation: The Congressional debate tabulation staff will select semi final session legislation from students' submissions, selecting one from each of the three categories while final session legislation will be provided by the tabulation staff.

2.3 Publishing of Legislation: Legislation will be available on Tabroom.com.

3 ESTABLISHING THE AGENDA

3.1 Determining the Agenda: Prior to the beginning of Session 1, each preliminary chamber will act as a committee of the whole to determine the order of legislation to be debated throughout the three preliminary sessions. The chamber may do this by unanimous consent or by voting on multiple proposed agendas. The agenda established by each chamber must rotate between legislation drawn from Economics, Foreign Affairs or Public Welfare; the rotation can be initiated by any of the three categories.

3.2 Freedom of Debate: *The agenda may be amended **once** after adoption. Amendments may not change the original rotation adopted at the start of the legislative day. Any suspensions for the rules thereafter to allow for changes to the agenda are not permitted. Debate on a bill will continue until time expires in the session during which it began, or for the previous question called, whichever comes first. There is no minimum or maximum time (i.e. no one-hour time limit) for each agenda item to be debated.* (rule change for 2025)

4 ELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

4.1 Election Procedures: The parliamentarian will conduct elections for presiding officers, assisted by scorers in the collection of the secret ballots. Each student within the chamber may cast one vote. Voting will continue, dropping the lowest vote-getter(s), until one person receives a majority. The voting for the second session Presiding Officer shall be held at the end of the first session and voting for the third session presiding officer shall be held at the end of the second session. One elected a presiding officer may not relinquish the chair for the purposes of delivering a speech affirming or negating the legislation under consideration.

4.2 Progression of Speeches and Cross-Examination: Debate on each bill or resolution will begin with a call for a three-minute authorship/sponsorship speech by a representative from their school. An author or student(s) from the author's school may decline to stand for this speech. In the absence of such a speech, the presiding officer will call for any representative to deliver the first affirmative speech, functionally sponsoring the legislation. Following the delivery of the first affirmative speech, the chair will allow for two minutes of questioning of the speaker. Following the questioning, the chair will ask for a speech in opposition to the bill. This speech will be three minutes long followed by a two-minute period of questioning. All subsequent speeches shall be three minutes in length followed by a one-minute questioning period. There will be no "final appeal" speeches for the first affirmative speaker as have been experimented with at some recent tournaments around the country. Cross-examination in all preliminary and elimination round sessions will be by direct questioning. The chair will yield time to members of the chamber wishing to question the speaker in blocks of 30 seconds using recency followed by prioritizing those who may have been refuted.

4.3 One-Sided Debate: In the unlikely absence of a first affirmative speech, debate may also begin on a new piece of legislation with a negative speech. There is no limitation on the number of consecutive affirmative or negative speeches that can be given.

4.4 Recognizing Speakers: When more than one debater seeks the floor, the presiding officer must follow the precedence/recency method, that is: • First, recognize students who have not spoken during the session. Choose between these students at random. • Next, recognize students who have spoken fewer times during the session. • Finally, recognize students who spoke earlier (least recently) during the session. The Glenbrooks does not publish or use preset recency.

4.5 Penalty for Speeches Exceeding Time Limits: Any regular floor speech that extends more than 10 seconds beyond the maximum speaking time of three minutes shall be penalized one full point on the speech score by the judge evaluating the session. The Presiding Officer is required to keep accurate time of each speech and report it to the judges when the speaker has finished.

4.6 Precedence and the Legislative Day: Within each session precedence/recency do not reset, to ensure that all students in a chamber have opportunities to speak and receive evaluation from the scorers. When each new session begins precedence/recency will be reset. The length of sessions should not be altered to indulge the debaters' desire to allow all members to end with an equal number of speeches (i.e., do not recess early after all students have given two speeches in the session).

5 OTHER NOTES OF DECORUM

5.1 Amendments: Legislators may submit amendments to the Presiding Officer in writing. A motion to amend is necessary to consider the written amendment; such a motion is in order any time after the first affirmative speech. Once the motion is made, the Presiding Officer decides if the amendment is germane. The Presiding Officer must consult with the Parliamentarian to make this decision. If the amendment is deemed not to be germane, the chair rules it out-of-order and the amendment process stops. If the chair rules the amendment germane, he/she should read the contents of the amendment to the chamber. A 1/3 second of the members present in the chamber is required to 5 debate the amendment. If the chamber votes a second, debate on the amendment commences immediately. Legislators may make a motion to table or call the previous question on the amendment at any time. The first speech on the amendment is a sponsorship speech. The chair determines speaker recognition for the sponsorship speech based on priority; the author of the amendment is not guaranteed the sponsorship speech. The sponsor accepts responsibility for the mechanics of the amendment and yields to two minutes of questioning. All amendment speeches receive a score and count towards priority. A majority vote is necessary for the chamber to adopt the amendment (this of course after a 2/3 vote has been achieved to call to a previous question on the amendment).

5.2 Voting by Unanimous Consent: When a motion is unlikely to be contested, it is appropriate for the Chair to call for unanimous consent by asking, "are there any objections" before executing the motion. Members may then respond by announcing "objection" to the chamber. This is not an automatic recognition to explain the substance of that objection. Proper expression of your objection is to then vote "Nay" in the subsequent division of the chamber (this prohibition includes explaining that you have a speech you still wish to deliver; the chamber is aware that you've been standing thus far and is not obliged to allow every member to deliver every speech he/she may desire). It is imperative that Presiding Officers cease the inefficient practice of allowing explanations of objections ad nauseam.

5.3 Personal Privilege: It has become common practice in recent years to suspend the rules and allow for an “open” chamber where members may freely enter and exit between speeches. While this does relieve the Chair of traffic directing duties, it has led to some degree of abuse by debaters. Therefore, at the Glenbrooks tournament suspension of the rules for the purposes of an open chamber is not permitted. No more than two members should be excused from chambers simultaneously.

5.4 Designation as a House of Representatives or a Senate: The Glenbrooks tournament strives to be a contest with the highest standards of behavior at all times among attending students. Debate modeling the work of the United States Congress should be enjoyable but also taken seriously. All preliminary chambers are designated as a House of Representatives, while semifinal chambers and the final chamber are designated as Senates. A member of a Senate is always referred to as Senator, while a member of a House of Representatives is always referred to as Representative. The Presiding Officer of a Senate is addressed as President, while the Presiding Officer of a House of Representatives is addressed as Speaker. The Presiding Officer is responsible for enforcing proper decorum.

5.5 Advocates in Good Faith: A debater may not speak on both sides of the same legislation but may speak as many times on the same piece of legislation as their priority permits and the chamber allows before calling the question.

6 JUDGE AND PARLIAMENTARIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1 Number of Judges: Two qualified judges will serve for each session, and the tournament directors will attempt to seat larger panels for semifinal and final sessions. A judge will not be assigned to evaluate a student from their school(s).

6.2 Instructions to Judges: Judges should rank the students as "legislators" and not merely as "speakers" considering their argumentative skill, oratorical skill and overall effectiveness as a leader in the chamber. Brief guidelines are specified on the speech ballots.

6.3 Judges' Scoring of Speeches and Preferential Rankings: In the preliminary session, each judge will score every speech on a scale of 1-6 points (6 is best). At the end of each session, the two judges will independently rank the top eight students who advanced the debate most effectively (1st is best). All unranked students will receive a rank of ninth. The Presiding Officer may be ranked in the top eight and should be if s/he provides outstanding service to the chamber. All judges will be instructed that they must consider the Presiding Officer.

6.4 Parliamentarians: A Parliamentarian will be appointed to serve continuously for the three preliminary sessions. The Parliamentarians ensure order, allowing the chamber to run itself but correcting significant procedural errors that affect fairness.

6.5 Scoring of the Presiding Officer: The Parliamentarian will be solely responsible for scoring the performance of the presiding officer following each session. As per NSDA rules, the Parliamentarian will award the Presiding Officer up to six points per hour per session.

6.6 Parliamentarians' Preferential Rankings: Once at the end of all preliminary sessions, the semifinal session, or the final session as appropriate, the parliamentarian will rank all of the legislators in the chamber. The parliamentarian's top eight rankings will be included in the calculation of which legislators advance from each chamber, and his/her rankings beyond eighth will be used to break ties as below indicated.

6.7 Best Legislation: The Parliamentarian will conduct an election for Outstanding Legislation at the end of the third session. All legislation debated within the chamber will be eligible for consideration. The winning legislation must receive a simple majority of the votes cast. If no legislation earns a simple majority, the legislation that receives the lowest vote total (or the legislation with the same lowest total) will be dropped from consideration until one piece of legislation does obtain the required simple majority.

6.8 Best Presiding Officer: The Parliamentarian will also conduct an election for best Presiding Officer at the end of the third session. The winning candidate must receive a simple majority of the votes cast. If no person earns a simple majority, the candidate who receives the lowest vote total will be dropped from consideration and voting will be repeated. If the two lowest vote getters are tied, a runoff between the two will occur with the lowest vote getter being dropped. Another vote will be taken between the two remaining candidates

7 THE SEMIFINAL & FINAL SESSIONS

7.1 Number of Students Advancing: Consistent with TOC guidelines, the tournament intends to advance no more than one-third of all preliminary contestants to the semifinal session. The number of students advancing is dependent on the number of preliminary chambers and the optimum number of students in the semifinal chambers. The exact number of students advancing from each preliminary chamber will be announced before the tournament begins.

7.2 Determining Advancing Students: Each individual preliminary chamber is tabulated independent of the others. Legislators with the lowest cumulative rank total (each judge's top eight plus the parliamentarian's top eight) advance to the next level of competition. The parliamentarian's preference will break all ties. Ranks do not carry forward from preliminary sessions to the semifinal session, or from the semifinal session to the final session.

7.3 Balancing the Semifinal Chambers: Advancing students shall be assigned to a semifinal chamber with an effort made to ensure geographical distribution, disperse students from the same preliminary chamber, and balance strength of competition based on preliminary rankings. Students from the same school will be evenly placed in different semifinal chambers.

7.4 Judges and the Parliamentarian: At least two judges - and ideally more - will be assigned to the semifinal session and will be responsible for evaluating the participants' speeches. At least four judges will be assigned to the final session.

7.5 Presiding Officer: Each parliamentarian and the Director of Congress will act as the temporary presiding officer of the semifinal and final sessions respectively, accepting nominations for the Presiding Officer. The members will vote immediately for one nominee after each nominee has the opportunity to address the chamber.

7.6 Legislation and Authorship Speeches: Tournament directors have selected the legislation to be debated in the semifinal and final sessions. The chamber will meet as a committee of the whole to choose the order in which the legislation will be debated. There are no authorship speeches in the semifinal or final sessions. Any student may give the sponsorship speech.

7.7 Awards: All participants in the final session will receive awards at the awards ceremony following its conclusion.

8 ETHICAL AND BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

8.1 Ethical Use of Evidence: The tournament will utilize the National Speech and Debate Association's evidence rules for Congress found in the latest version of the NSDA's High School Unified Manual. The tournament directors will rule on any appeal of a parliamentarian's decision.

8.2 General Tournament Rules: Beyond the rules and procedures specific to Congressional debate outlined above, the Glenbrook schools also require that you observe the following general standards of conduct.

- Inappropriate language will not be allowed.
- All school district policies, local, and state laws regarding harassment must be observed.
- All school district policies, local, and state laws prohibiting smoking (including vaping), alcohol, and weapons must be observed.

8.3 Penalties: Consequences for infractions may result in any or all of the following actions at the sole discretion of the tournament directors whose decisions are final.

- Disqualification from the tournament
- Loss of participation points
- Forfeiture of awards
- School administrators being notified of any misconduct

Any additional consequences deemed appropriate to the severity of the infraction Schools will be held financially responsible for all damages incurred.

Preliminaries Legislation

A Bill to Promote Renewable Practices in Deep Seabed Mining for Critical Mineral Security

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** In order to strengthen American economic competitiveness and ensure a secure supply
3 of strategic minerals, Congress supports investment in deep seabed mining conducted
4 with renewable energy.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. Deep Seabed Mining shall be defined as the collection of polymetallic nodules, crusts,
6 or sulfides located at depths greater than 200 meters on or beneath the ocean floor.

7 B. Renewable Extraction shall be defined as the use of sustainable power
8 sources, including but not limited to offshore wind, solar, tidal, or
9 hydrogen fuel cells, to conduct mining and processing operations.

10 **SECTION 3.** Oversight of this legislation will be conducted by the Department of Energy (DoE), the
11 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Department of
12 Treasury (DoT).

13 A. The Department of Energy will ensure that funded entities use
14 renewable energy as outlined in Section 2B, and report violations to the
15 Department of Treasury for immediate funding suspension.

16 B. \$10 Billion will be provided to the National Oceanic & Atmospheric
17 Administration for research & development to improve energy efficiency
18 in seabed mining operations. Prior to extraction in international waters,
19 companies must obtain an ISA permit through this agency.

20 C. The Department of Treasury will provide \$5 Million in annual funding
21 to private entities complying with this legislation while also monitoring
22 the commercial viability of Deep Seabed Mining.

23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st of 2026. All laws in conflict
24 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Monte Vista High School

Liberty Wallet Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A national wallet will be created in the United States with access to every U.S.
3 citizen.

4 **SECTION 2.** National wallet: A government-backed digital platform that allows
5 individuals and businesses to store, send, and receive money
6 electronically, working like Apple Pay, Venmo, Cash App, etc.
7 U.S. Citizen: A person who is recognized under law as a legal member of
8 the United States.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Reserve System will oversee enforcement of this legislation as
10 well as any funding.

11 A. An amount of 800 million will be given to create the national wallet and
12 for the running of the wallet.

13 B. The Liberty Wallet will be accessible on any internet-enabled device.

14 C. In order to gain access to the Liberty Wallet, an application will have to be
15 made online with information like proof of citizenship, proof of address,
16 and an initial fee of 10 cents.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on March 5th, 2027. All laws in conflict
18 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dowling Catholic High School

A Bill to Repeal the Jones Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Merchant Marine Act of 1920, or better known as the “Jones Act”

3 shall hereby be declared null and void upon passage of this legislation.

4 **SECTION 2.** The United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States

5 Coast Guard, the United States Department of Transportation, and the

6 United States Department of Commerce shall be in charge of overseeing

7 this legislation.

8 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2028. All laws in conflict

9 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Des Moines North High School

A Bill to Prohibit the Use of Private Military Contractors

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Defense, including all subdivisions
3 and agencies, is prohibited from forming new contracts with or
4 otherwise renewing existing contracts with Private Military Contractors
5 (PMCs).

6 **SECTION 2.** Private Military Contractors (PMCs) are defined as non-governmental that
7 provide military, security, or defense-related services to the United States
8 government under contracts. These services include, but are not limited
9 to combat support, intelligence, or infrastructure-related projects. This
10 does not include defense contractors that simply procure weapons,
11 Equipment, or vehicles for the Department of Defense.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense will be responsible for implementing this bill.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in January 2026. All laws in conflict with
14 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Archbishop Mitty

A Bill to Expand Membership of the USMCA to Countries in Central America, South America and the Caribbean

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States is in the USMCA (United States-Mexico-Canada
2 Agreement); and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** This agreement brings economic and environmental benefits to all
4 three nations; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** The regions of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean
6 are currently facing economic and environmental challenges; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** Nations in those regions often look to other countries like China for
8 trade and support; now, therefore, be it
- 9 **RESOLVED,** That this Congress here assembled encourages the governments of
10 Canada and Mexico to allow the expansion of other nations into the
11 USMCA, or to create an equivalent agreement that allows the
12 membership of all nations in North and South America.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by American Heritage Palm Beach

A Bill to Reinstate The Cuban Medical Parole Program to End Cuban Exploitation

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall reinstate the Cuban Medical Parole Program in full
3 force.

4 **SECTION 2.** The definitions for this act are as follows:

5 The Cuban Medical Parole Program shall be defined as the previously
6 existing program that granted exploited Cuban medical professionals a
7 path to American citizenship.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security will oversee the enforcement of
9 this bill.

10 A. Specifically, this shall fall under the purview of the United States
11 Citizenship and immigrations services in conjunction with the Customs
12 and the Border Protection office.

13 B. Both of these offices will be in charge of facilitating the process for
14 Cuban medical practitioners as well as their immediate family to enter the
15 US via parole.

16 C. The Congress shall allocate 15 million dollars of our discretionary
17 budget towards this initiative.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in Fiscal Year 2027. All laws in conflict with
19 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano Senior High School

The BAE (Better Agricultural Efficiency) Act of 2025

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall allocate 50 billion dollars in the
3 form of grants to eco-friendly, American-owned small farms.

4 **SECTION 2.** An eco-friendly farm shall be defined as a farm that considers local agricultural
5 and social conditions and adapts management practices to maintain the health
6 of the ecosystem and the environment.

7 A. Eco-friendly practices include but are not limited to: Crop Rotation &
8 Diversification, Conservation Tillage, Agroforestry, Biological Pest Control, No-Till
9 Farming, Aquaponics, and Composting.

10 B. "Small farms" shall be defined as farms with less than \$350,000 in annual gross
11 income.

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

14 A. The Department of Agriculture shall determine eligibility for subsidies, review
15 proposals from farms, and oversee the distribution of subsidies to said farms.

16 B. All funding necessary for this legislation shall come from a \$0.01 tax on every
17 gallon pumped by large corporations who have profits of over 5 million yearly.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Flintridge Preparatory School

A Bill to Invest in Recycling Technologies to Decrease Nuclear Waste

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** 50 billion USD shall annually be allocated towards research and
3 development for the recycling of nuclear waste. 75 billion USD shall
4 annually be allocated for 30 years towards building facilities to recycle
5 nuclear waste.

6 **SECTION 2.** Nuclear waste shall be defined as radioactive material that is left over
7 after nuclear reactions in power plants.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy will oversee implementation of this bill.

9 A. Funding for this legislation shall be allocated from the budget of the
10 Department of Defense.

11 B. The Department of Energy will begin planning for this legislation 2 years
12 prior to implementation.

13 C. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall audit the implementation of
14 this legislation every 6 months and will prepare a report on safety and
15 progress for the House Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid
16 Security and the Senate Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety
17 every two years.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2030. All laws in conflict
19 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Desert Vista High School

A Bill to Restrict the Use of Artificial Intelligence Technologies in Healthcare

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Artificial Intelligence and Large Language Models are hereby banned from
3 use in healthcare settings unless a human operator retains
4 decision-making control at every step of the process. Under no
5 circumstances should the aforementioned technologies be implemented
6 without proper controls.

7 **SECTION 2.** “Artificial Intelligence” is defined as any technology which makes
8 autonomous decisions without human input. “Large Language Models”
9 are defined as any chatbot technology that can process natural language
10 and autonomously generate a response.

11 **SECTION 3.** Enforcement of this bill will be delegated to the Department of Health
12 and Human Services. Healthcare entities found to be in violation of this
13 bill will be fined no less than \$10,000.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately after passing. All laws in
15 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by American Heritage Broward

Semifinals Legislation

A Bill to Foster Sustainable Arctic Development

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A. \$2 billion shall be allocated over a period of five years for the purpose
3 of funding Commercial Arctic development.

4 B. A carbon dioxide emissions cap shall be established starting at 2
5 million metric tons per commercial entity; any found to be exceeding this
6 cap shall lose federal funding privileges.

7 ii. The carbon dioxide cap shall increase by 100,000 metric tons
8 every 2 years for 20 years.

9 **SECTION 2.** “Commerical Arctic Development” shall be defined as the process of
10 commercial entities creating creating and using infrastructure for the
11 extraction of critical materials, such as rare earth elements, lithium,
12 cobalt, etc., from the Arctic.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency and the Economic Development
14 Administration shall oversee and enforce this bill.

15 i. Commercial development entities shall submit annual reports
16 and projections detailing annual carbon dioxide emissions.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2027.

18 **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

A Bill to Create an Asian Climate Treaty

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A. The United States shall establish a task force to combat Southeast and East
3 Asian climate change and respond to extreme weather events.

4 B. To join, eligible countries must agree to switch 20% of their energy sector
5 from fossil fuels to sustainable energy sources by 2035.

6 C. Countries that successfully transition 5% of their energy sector to sustainable
7 sources within the first three years of joining this treaty shall receive a \$100
8 million grant for the purpose of responding to extreme weather events.

9 D. The United States shall work with UNICEF to provide emergency relief aid
10 for extreme weather events.

11 **SECTION 2.** A. Extreme weather events shall be defined as monsoons, droughts, and other
12 weather events that impact human lives and/or capital.

13 B. Sustainable energy includes but is not limited to wind, solar, hydroelectric,
14 and nuclear energy.

15 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of State shall oversee implementation of this bill in
16 conjunction with the Foreign Agriculture Service and the US Environmental
17 Protection Agency.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on the first day of Fiscal Year 2026.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Highland Park High School

Sustainable Communities Act of 2025

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** In order to reduce the impact of the transportation sector on US greenhouse gas
3 emissions and to mitigate urban sprawl, this Congress hereby requires the States to:
4 A. Prohibit the construction of new single-family homes that are not within a half-mile
5 walking distance of high quality public transit service, and to
6 B. Prohibit exclusionary zoning laws that ban the construction of high-density housing
7 within a half-mile walking distance of high quality public transit service.
8 C. Twenty percent (20%) of Highway Trust Fund allocations shall be withheld from
9 states deemed to be out of compliance with this legislation.

10 **SECTION 2.** A. "High quality public transit service" shall be bus or rail service that runs every 15
11 minutes during peak commute hours and every half hour during non-peak commute
12 hours.
13 B. "High density housing" is defined as multi-family residential dwellings that are
14 three to five stories high and include between four to ten units that are at least 600
15 square feet in area.

16 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Urban Housing and Development and the Department of
17 Transportation shall implement and enforce this legislation.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bellarmine College Preparatory