



Minnesota Debate Teachers Association

Legislation for MN Tournaments through
October 13th, 2019.

Compiled from legislation submitted by
students from MN.

A Resolution to Promote Ecotourism in Brazil to Preserve the Amazon Rainforest

- 1 **WHEREAS,** parts of the Amazon Rainforest are being destroyed at an alarming rate
2 under Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) reports destruction of
4 an estimated 2,255 square kilometers of Brazilian Amazon Rainforest in
5 July 2018 alone, the highest level of deforestation registered by the INPE
6 in years; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** Amazon trees account for one-quarter of the carbon dioxide absorbed by
8 the land each year and produce around a one-fifth of the world's oxygen;
9 and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** further destruction of the Amazon rainforest could lead to lasting
11 detrimental effects on the environment as well as those living in it; and
- 12 **WHEREAS,** Ecotourism is a known way of protecting both the environment and
13 the economies of areas with natural resources in need of protection;
14 now, therefore, be it
- 15 **RESOLVED,** the Congress here assembled shall promote, and encourage other
16 countries to invest in, ecotourism in Brazil to prevent destruction of the
17 Amazon Rainforest.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School

Oct 5th

A Resolution to Ensure Legal Counsel to Immigrants Subject to Deportation

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is currently holding
2 approximately 52,000 immigrants in detention centers and jails around
3 the country.
- 4 **WHEREAS,** Many of these detainees, fearing for their lives, sought asylum in the
5 United States to escape the violence and persecution in their countries of
6 origin.
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The Sixth Amendment states that, “In all criminal prosecutions, the
8 accused shall...have the assistance of counsel for his defense.”
- 9 **WHEREAS,** Crossing the border illegally is a civil crime, generally a misdemeanor.
- 10 **WHEREAS,** Most deportation proceedings stem from civil rather than criminal cases,
11 therefore the right to legal counsel often does not apply.
- 12 **WHEREAS,** The majority of detainees cannot afford to hire private counsel for their
13 defense.
- 14 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled should draft a proposed amendment to
15 the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution to include the
16 right to counsel for immigrants subject to deportation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School

Oct 5th

A Bill to Legalize Prostitution

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Prostitution will be decriminalized and legalized in the United States.

SECTION 2. Prostitution is defined as the practice or occupation of engaging in sexual activity with someone for payment.

SECTION 3. The Department of Labor will oversee the enforcement of this bill.

A. Individuals serving prison time for prostitution charges will be released.

B. The Department of Labor will create a license process for those who wish to be employed as a prostitute will need to obtain prior to working.

SECTION 4. This will be enacted upon the start of the next fiscal year.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Robbinsdale Armstrong High School.

Oct 5th

A Bill to Lift all China Tariffs

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

All Tariffs on Chinese imported goods shall be lifted

SECTION 1. All Tariffs on Chinese imported goods shall be lifted

SECTION 2. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the United States Department of Homeland Security

SECTION 3. The CBP will oversee the enforcement of the lifting of all tariffs on Chinese imported goods to the U.S.

SECTION 4. This bill will be implemented at the beginning of the 2020 fiscal year

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Armstrong High School

Oct 5th

A Bill to Legalize all Drug Use and Sales

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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SECTION 1. The use and sale of all drugs shall be legalized.

SECTION 2. Drugs are defined as any substance currently regulated by the Controlled Substances Act.

SECTION 3. The Drug Enforcement Administration and the Department of Justice will oversee the implementation of this bill.

A. All those who were convicted for the use or sale of drugs will be pardoned of those crimes.

SECTION 4. This bill we be implemented two years after its passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by _____.

Oct 5th

A Bill to Ban Grocery Stores from Throwing away Edible Food to Minimize Food Waste

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- Section 1.** Every year, the US throws away one-third of all the food it produces, wasting 133 billion pounds of food. And 10% of that food is lost at the grocery stores, restaurants, and vendors that sell it.
- Section 2.** All grocery stores with a retail space of 4,000 square feet or larger will be banned from throwing away unsold but still edible food. Leftover food will be donated to food banks or to become animal feed.
- Section 3.** Grocery Store shall be defined as: Any retail shop that primarily sells food, excluding restaurants.
- Edible food shall be defined as:
- A) Non-perishables that are approaching/have passed their expiration date
 - B) Produce that is no longer sellable under the FDA's standards but either
 - 1) Is still requested by local food shelves *OR*
 - 2) Meets the FDA's requirements for animal feed.
- Section 4.** The FDA (Food and Drug Administration) will be responsible for enforcing the ban.
- 1. Any retail outlet found to be out of compliance with the ban can be fined \$4,000-\$75,000 for each infraction; depending on the size of the business.
 - 2. Retailers may petition the FDA for an exemption from the ban if they see fit (lack of transportation, storage, etc.).
 - 3. Money accumulated from fines will go towards assisting retailers who are struggling to meet the requirements of the ban.
- SECTION 5.** This Legislation will be implemented on January 1st, 2021
- Section 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eagan High School

Oct. 5th

**A BILL TO MANDATE THE USE OF
PREFERRED GENDER PRONOUNS AT SCHOOL.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** This bill amends Title IV of the Department of Education to include
2 non-discrimination towards gender. All school staff and students shall
3 refer to people by the gender with which they identify.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Gender identity is each person's internal and individual sense of being a
5 woman, a man, both, neither, or anywhere along the gender spectrum.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** This bill will be enforced under the Department of Labor and the
7 Department of Education, specifically the Office for Civil Rights
- 8 **SECTION 4.** Repeated or willful discrimination shall be enforced under law as
9 harassment.
- 10 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Presented by Lakeville

Oct 5th

A Bill to Protect Teenagers from Vaping

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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SECTION 1. Vaping products that use flavoring or are advertised to have flavoring are prohibited from being manufactured, sold, or consumed.

SECTION 2. The following terms will be defined as;

A. Vaping Products; Vapes, vaporizers, vape pens, hookah pens, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes or e-cigs), e-pipes, and any electronic nicotine delivery system

B. Flavoring; substances used to add flavor to the product such as strawberry, vanilla, bubble gum, buttered popcorn, tropical fruit, or any other flavors.

C. FDA; The United States Food and Drug Administration

SECTION 3. The FDA in conjunction with state governments will work to enforce this legislation.

A. States that don't comply with this regulation will not receive any federal funding whatsoever.

B. Penalty for manufacturing, selling, or buying will be determined by the FDA.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect three months after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Edina High School.

Oct 12th

A Bill to End Gender-Based Price Discrimination

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** It shall be unlawful for any person, business or entity to sell or offer for
3 sale in interstate commerce any two consumer products from the same
4 manufacturer that are substantially similar if such products are priced
5 differently based on gender of the individuals for whose use the products
6 are intended or marketed.

7 **SECTION 2.** "Substantially similar" products shall be defined as no substantial
8 differences in the materials used in the product, the intended uses of the
9 product, and the functional design and features of the product. A
10 difference in coloring among any consumer products shall not be
11 construed as a substantial difference for purposes of this paragraph.

12 **SECTION 3.** A violation of section 1 shall be treated as a violation of the Federal Trade
13 Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a) defining an unfair or deceptive act or
14 practice in or affecting interstate commerce.

15 **SECTION 4.** The Federal Trade Commission shall enforce this section in the same
16 manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction as though all
17 applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act
18 were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.

19 **SECTION 5.** This bill will be effective immediately upon passage,

20 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School.

Oct 12th

Peace in Our Time (POT) Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The use of any drug, regardless of scheduling, be decriminalized, marijuana be legalized medicinally and recreationally, and any non-violent drug offender be immediately exonerated. Drug addiction be classified as a mental health issue. Any drug currently requiring a prescription will still require one.

SECTION 2. (A) Decriminalized is defined as cease to treat drugs as illegal or as a criminal offense. This does not mean those drugs will be available for the public to purchase.

(B) Legalized is defined as permitting under law, available for public purchase.

(C) Medicinally is defined as used for medical purposes, prescribed by a licensed physician.

(D) Exonerated is defined as absolving from blame for a fault or wrongdoing and subsequently releasing from prison.

(E) Non-violent Drug offender is defined as persons that have possession of drugs or have consumed illegal substances but are not inherently violent.

SECTION 3. The Drug Enforcement Agency and the Food and Drug Administration shall oversee the implementation of this legislation. The Department of Justice shall ensure compliance with the states. The Department of Health and Human Services shall establish help centers to assist those who are addicted to drugs.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect at the start of FY 2021

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Robbinsdale Armstrong High School

Oct 12th

A Resolution to Formally Recognize Taiwan as a Sovereign State

WHEREAS, The relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China is deteriorating; **and**

WHEREAS, The United States has historically recognized the One China Policy; **and**

WHEREAS, The People's Republic of China claims the entirety of Taiwan; **and**

WHEREAS, Taiwan has been shunned by the International Community since being replaced in the UN by PRC; **and**

WHEREAS, Taiwan has a government more closely aligned with the same democratic values of the United States; **and**

WHEREAS, The United States had provided naval support to Taiwan in the Third Taiwan Strait Crisis; **now, therefore, be it**

RESOLVED, **By the Congress here assembled that** the United States hereby recognizes Taiwan, the Republic of China as a fully sovereign and independent state in coexistence with the People's Republic of China.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Robbinsdale Armstrong High School

Oct 12th

A Bill to Pay Reparations to Iran

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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SECTION 1. The U.S. will pay reparations to Iran as an apology for the CIA's covert involvement in the 1953 coup d' etat.

SECTION 2. Reparations shall be defined as compensation in the form of money.

SECTION 3. The Department of State will oversee the implementation of this bill

A. Go into further details if necessary.

B. Go into further details if necessary.

SECTION 4. This bill will be implemented

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by _____.

Oct 12th

A Resolution To Ban Consumer Advertising Of Pharmaceutical Drugs

- Whereas,** The price of pharmaceutical drugs are tremendously high and;
- Whereas,** in the United States drugs, such as insulin, cost upwards of ten times in comparison to neighboring countries leading to the deaths of constituents and;
- Whereas,** Pharmaceutical companies cite advertising as a reason to increase drug prices and advertised drugs tend to be more expensive than generics and;
- Whereas,** Consumers can also undermine physician advice due to seeing an advert leading to complications and damage to the patient- physician relationship, therefore be it,
- Resolved,** By the Congress assemble today that direct to consumer advertising of pharmaceutical drugs be banned.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eagan High School.

Oct. 12th

A Bill to Tax Plastic and Paper Bags

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Businesses selling food or alcohol will impose a \$0.05 fee per disposable
2 carryout bag. So long as businesses impose at least a \$0.05 fee and warn
3 customers of the fee with signage at sale register, they shall keep \$0.02 of
4 the \$0.05 fee.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** Disposable carryout bag includes paper and plastic bags used to carry items
6 from sale register from a retail establishment.
- 7 A. Does not include in-store bags used to wrap frozen foods, meat, fish
8 poultry, or produce
- 9 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service shall lead enforcement of this bill.
- 10 B. The money from the tax shall be given to the Environmental Protection
11 Agency to fund state environmental projects on a grant basis.
- 12 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect no later than May 1, 2020.
- 13 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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Oct 12th