

WSFA Spring Congress Legislative Packet 2020

Included in this packet are the selections of the WSFA Congress committee designated for use during the sessions of congress held between January and March 2020. The legislation is placed in random order per the decision of the committee. Following the legislation for preliminary sessions is legislation designated for Super Congress. This Super Congress legislation may ONLY be used for Super Congress OR at tournaments where there is no super congress session.

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A

A Bill to Legalize Temporary Asylum

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Asylum seekers, such as those fleeing gang or domestic violence and political persecution, will have the right to temporary asylum in the United States while they await their trial.

SECTION 2. Temporary asylum is defined as all who are at a port of entering the country and are unwilling or unable to go back to their home country due to the threat of violence. Gang violence is defined as criminal and non political acts of violence committed by a group of people who regularly engage in criminal activity against innocent people. Domestic Violence is defined as violent or aggressive behavior within the home, involving the violent abuse of a spouse or partner. Political persecution is defined as the act of a state entity controlling a citizenry by force, particularly for the purpose of restricting or preventing their ability to take part in the political life of a society.

SECTION 3. The US Customs and Border Control would oversee the implementation of this policy

SECTION 4. This law will be implemented January 1, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate Olympia HS

B

A Bill to Address Gender Stereotypes Prevalent in Advertisement

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 SECTION 1. Companies may no longer use demeaning gendered stereotypes in
2 advertisements.

3 SECTION 2. Stereotype will be defined as a standardized mental picture that is held in
4 common by members of a group and that represents an oversimplified
5 opinion, prejudiced attitude, or uncritical judgment. Demeaning will be
6 defined as damaging or lowering the character, status, or reputation of
7 someone or something. These definitions will be applied to men,
8 women and non-gendered stereotypes that have negative connotation
9 equally.

10 SECTION 3. The Federal Communications Commission in partnership with the Federal
11 Trade Commission and the U.S. Commission on Human rights to identify
12 and remove advertisements that portray the above listed criteria. In
13 addition, all companies in defiance of this bill will be fined a minimum of
14 ten thousand dollars. Funding for this legislation will be derived from
15 fiscal year budget allocations to these agencies along with all of the
16 money procured through the enforcement of this legislation.

17 SECTION 4. This bill will be enacted on January 1, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Joel E. Ferris High School.

C

A Bill to Ban Seismic Surveys for Oil

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Offshore seismic surveys for oil shall be prohibited.

SECTION 2. Offshore seismic surveys shall be defined as any practice involving the firing of sound waves into the ocean floor to determine the presence of oil or other fossil fuels.

SECTION 3. The Department of Energy will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

A. Any organization or individual continuing the practice of seismic surveys will be fined \$50,000 and revoked of all rights to obtain or distribute fossil fuels.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect January 1st 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by University High School

D

A Bill to Ban Single-Use Plastics

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Single-use plastics can no longer be produced, sold, distributed, or used.

SECTION 2. Single-use plastics are defined as any plastic items which are either designed to be used for one time before they are thrown away or recycled, or likely to be used in this way.

SECTION 3. The Environmental Protection Agency will oversee enforcement of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect on January 1, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Federal Way High School

E

A Bill to Eliminate Human Drivers on Roads

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLE THAT:

SECTION 1. As of 2035, no human will be allowed to drive or operate on public roads.

SECTION 2. Auto manufactures will be required to produce self-driving cars.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Transportation will be responsible for and oversee all technology to implement in this bill.

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

Submitted for Congressional debate by Kingston High School

F

A Bill to Enact the Castle Doctrine on a National Level to Discourage Property Crime

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Upon the passage of this legislation, any person in the United States will have the right to defend their home or ‘castle’ rather than being forced to retreat.

SECTION 2. Under the castle doctrine a person’s home, vehicle, and place of business are considered their castle.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice will be responsible for considering this new law when ruling on court cases.

A. A defendant will be protected from legal troubles if they are placed in a situation where they have to use force or deadly force to protect themselves from an intruder who poses a threat

B. The law will assume the defendant had a right to use force if anyone unlawfully enters their home or vehicle.

C. The burden of proof lies with the defendant and they must prove to a jury that any reasonable person would feel the same way (i.e. If the intruder were much larger or stronger than the defendant or had some type of weapon, the defendant would have the right to use deadly force).

SECTION 4. This bill would go into effect immediately upon its approval for all future cases.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by CDA Charter

G

A Bill to Mandate Passage of the US Citizen's Civics Test to Earn a High School Diploma

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Students wishing to graduate from a public high school shall be required to complete the civics portion of the United States Citizenship Test in order to receive their diploma.

SECTION 2. "Public high school" shall be defined as any educational institution serving grades 9-12 that is a part of the government-run system of free public education.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education shall oversee the implementation of curricula designed to prepare students for the test. The Department of Education shall also oversee the methods by which the test is distributed.

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect for all students who intend to graduate in the year 2024 and beyond.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Skyview High School

H

A Bill to Remove the Confederacy from Public Areas

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States will remove all Confederate themes from schools, military bases, and public monuments.

SECTION 2. “Confederate” and “Confederacy” refers to the 11 Confederate States of America from 1861-1865 and the Confederate Army during the Civil War.

SECTION 3. The Department of the Interior will oversee the implementation of the given funds in order to preserve all removed buildings/statues and properly honor them.

A. The Department of the Interior will hire governmental civil engineers to remove the buildings/statues

B. 50 million dollars will be allocated to The Department of the Interior to carry out this legislation

SECTION 4. Upon passing, this legislation will be implemented by January 2024

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Gig Harbor High School

I

A Bill to Remove the “Tax Exempt” Status of Churches and Religious Organizations

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will remove the “tax exempt” status of all churches and religious organizations in the United States and United States Territories.

SECTION 2. Whether or not a body will be considered as a “church” or “religious organization” will be left up to the discretion of the IRS and its parent body—the US Department of the Treasury.

SECTION 3. The U.S. Department of the Treasury will oversee enforcement of this Bill.

SECTION 4. This Bill will go into effect at the start of fiscal year 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Kingston High School

J

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Provide Legal Defense to Civil Defendants

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 --

SECTION 1: Any persons on trial for civil lawsuits shall be appointed legal defense by a public defender if they cannot provide said defense for themselves.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by University High School

K

A Resolution to Condemn Presidential Transfers of Funding from FEMA

- WHEREAS,** The Trump Administration has pulled tens of millions of dollars from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to fund other government agencies, and
- WHEREAS,** in recent years FEMA has had an increase of natural disasters in which to respond; and
- WHEREAS,** FEMA's reduction in funding has negatively affected the departments' ability to fulfill its duty; and
- WHEREAS,** Funding of government agencies is a function of Congress; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled condemns President Trump's transfer of funds from FEMA; and, be it
- FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled disapproves of any further transfer of funds from FEMA by the Executive Branch.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by University High School

L

A Bill to Suspend Congressional Salaries during a Government Shutdown

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** With The Government Ethics Reform Act of 1989 providing an automatic increase in salary each year to Congress, congressional salaries are constantly increasing. Through the passage of this bill, congressional salaries and benefits will be suspended for the entire duration of a government shutdown.
- SECTION 2.** Government shutdowns are defined as when non-essential discretionary federal programs close. It occurs when Congress fails to appropriate funds. The Government Ethics Reform Act of 1989 states in Title 1: Amends the Federal criminal code to revise provisions regarding former officers or employees of the executive branch or the District of Columbia attempting to influence the Government or the District.
- SECTION 3.** This will be overseen by the Government Accountability Office.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect immediately after a government shutdown occurs.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rainier Christian High School.

M

A Bill to End Subsidies to Dairy Farmers

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The US government will no longer subsidize American dairy farmers. This includes but is not limited to, setting a minimum milk prices, Dairy Margin Coverage, Livestock Gross Margin for Dairy Cattle, and Dairy Revenue Protection.

SECTION 2. A subsidy will be defined as a grant by a government to a private person or company to assist an enterprise deemed advantageous to the public.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Agriculture will oversee the enforcement of the bill.

SECTION 4. Once passed, this bill will have four years to go into full effect.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Newport High School

N

A Resolution to Abolish the EPA

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- WHEREAS,** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established on December 2, 1970 in order to create one government agency that conducts federal research and enforce/set standards activities to ensure environmental protection; and
- WHEREAS,** The 49th anniversary of the EPA is approaching and it is imminent to evaluate the effectiveness of the organization, and
- WHEREAS,** The EPA's unenviable record for protecting the underprivileged, as its policies tend to target the affluent, as they are the ones who can afford to be environmentally conscious and implement consequent measures
- WHEREAS,** The EPA's record exposes significant irreparable harm in lieu of any progress; as carbon emissions, pollutant levels, and other environmental destruction increase, the agencies ineptitude and over politicization has rendered it moot in its current form
- WHEREAS,** The EPA's misuse of government funds, as deputies have stolen money, others have been using money to hire public relations consultants, along with the EPA being found to be liberal in awarding grants, not supervising the usage of them, and misappropriating the ones that benefit the environment,
- RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled recommend that the Environmental Protection Agency be abolished.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Interlake High School

O

A Bill to Subsidize Local News Publications

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Grants shall be distributed to local press agencies to be used towards operation and circulation of the news. The government fund these grants by matching the amount funding currently given to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

SECTION 2. Local news shall be defined as any digital or print version of the news in which 95% of the company's circulation occurs within a 100 mile radius of the source city or town. A local newspaper owned by a parent company will only qualify for the grants if their parent company own fewer than 4 other newspapers total.

SECTION 3. The US Agency for Global Media will be responsible for overseeing enforcement of the law.

A. A new agency, The Corporation for Public Press, will be created following passage of the bill. This agency shall be given funding under this bill, and will be responsible for overseeing grants distribution.

B. Funding priority will be based on: population, location, economic resources, and number of existing news outlets.

SECTION 4. The bill goes into effect January 1st, 2021

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mount Vernon High School

P

A Bill to Increase International Aid by Investing in Water Plants and Restoration

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** Whereas the Clean Water Act establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters, and whereas it is the primary federal law in the United States, and whereas the United States' Declaration of Independence refers to ,“Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness”, implying a universal right for every human to get accessible water and food.
- SECTION 2.** Let the definition of life be a universal right to receive accessible food, water, and shelter.
- SECTION 3.** Let universal right, as mentioned in SECTION 1, refer to the fundamental purpose of a government to its people; every person deserves the necessary resources to survive and the right to life itself.
- SECTION 4.** Let the United States' Agency of International Development be in charge of overseeing this bill.
- SECTION 5.** Let the United States create an application program for countries in the following manner:
- A. A Roundtable on Financing Water will be established in the USAID.
 - B. The roundtable will approve financing proposals from countries.
- SECTION 6.** This legislation will go into effect on January 1, 2020.
- SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bellevue High School

Q

A Bill to Ban Police use of Facial Recognition Technology

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies shall no longer be allowed to utilize facial recognition technology.

SECTION 2. Facial recognition technology shall be defined as any technology capable of identifying, verifying, or storing information about a person's identity through the use of Artificial Intelligence.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice will be responsible for enforcement of the law. Law enforcement which is non-compliant will be subject to investigation, and will forfeit all federal funding currently being used towards equipment purchases.

SECTION 4. The bill goes into effect January 1st, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mt. Vernon HS.

R

A Resolution to Reform NATO Contributions

- WHEREAS,** As of 2018, the US contributes 41% of NATO monetary provisions; and
- WHEREAS,** The US provides a disproportional amount of NATO's funding, so US foreign policy heavily influences NATO's policies; and
- WHEREAS,** US control over NATO has alarmed other NATO members such as France's Prime Minister Macron, who fear that they do not have a say in NATO affairs and as a result have deteriorated relations with the United States and other NATO members; and
- WHEREAS,** All but 9 NATO members have not met their annual defense quota, which is 2% of the nation's GDP (excluding Iceland, which has no standing military). Furthermore, there is currently no penalty for doing so; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation for solution to reform NATO contributions by adjusting them so that the US accounts for no more than 33% of total NATO contributions, with other NATO members paying for the remaining 67% and, be it
- FURTHER RESOLVED,** That NATO members who do not meet their annual defense quotas shall receive less supplies and support from NATO.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Seattle Academy

AA
A Bill to Expand Pell Grants

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The maximum Pell Grant award will be increased to \$14,000.

SECTION 2. Pell grants are grants given under 20 U.S. Code § 1070a.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education will oversee enforcement of this legislation.

A. Colleges and Universities that have Pell Grant recipients make up less than 10% of total student enrollment will be required to match Pell Grant aid.

B. Colleges and Universities that have Pell Grant recipients make up more than 25% of total student enrollment will receive financial bonuses up to \$1000 per Pell Grant recipient enrolled. Bonus will be determined by the number of recipients enrolled, total cost of attendance, and historical graduation rate of Pell Grant recipients.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect at the beginning of Fiscal Year 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by WSFA

BB

A Bill to Legalize Human Germline Editing

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1: Human germline editing will now be legal in the United States, within clinical trial circumstances abiding to the Common Rule.

SECTION 2: Germline editing is genetic editing that affects the subject in such a way that the edit is inheritable. Common Rule is a rule of ethics in the United States that regulates biomedical and behavioral research involving human subjects.

SECTION 3: By the FDA, germline editing would be regulated as a gene therapy (modifying genes to improve the overall health of the subject).

SECTION 4: This bill will go into effect by January 1, 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by WSFA

CC

A Bill to Remove Zero Tolerance Policies from Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Zero tolerance policies will be removed from the public education system.

SECTION 2. A zero tolerance policy will be defined as a discipline policy where action is taken for any infraction including exclusion from school.

SECTION 3. The U.S. Department of Education will oversee the implementation of this bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect September 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by WSFA

DD

A Bill to Sponsor the Arts

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** All people in the United States will receive \$25 a month in vouchers for cultural goods and services. These vouchers can be redeemed by artists for the full dollar value from the U.S. Government.
- SECTION 2.** Cultural goods and services are any good or service that improves culture. These include but are not limited to: literature, visual arts, graphic arts, plastic arts, decorative arts, performing arts, and architecture.
- SECTION 3.** The Department of Commerce will oversee implementation of this legislation.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect on January 1, 2021.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by WSFA

EE

A Resolution to Abolish the Fighting Words Doctrine

- WHEREAS,** The Fighting Words doctrine violates the first amendment of the constitution; and
- WHEREAS,** The Fighting Words doctrine was established under Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire in the only Supreme Court case to affirm a conviction based on fighting words; and
- WHEREAS,** By banning fighting words, this doctrine allows for a legal precedent to override the Constitution; and
- WHEREAS,** In the years since Chaplinsky, the Supreme Court has not upheld a single conviction for the use of fighting words; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation to abolish the Fighting Words Doctrine.
- FURTHER RESOLVED,** That by abolishing this doctrine, Congress is upholding the intentions of our founders.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the WSFA

FF
A Bill to Decriminalize Border Crossings of a Nonviolent Nature

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Section 1325 of the US Immigration and Nationality Act is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. Section 1325 of the US Immigration and Nationality Act currently allows nonviolent border crossings to be punishable under Title 18 law via fines and or imprisonment.

SECTION 3. The Department of Homeland Security will be responsible for overseeing enforcement of the law.

A. Immigrants who commit illegal border crossings of a nonviolent nature can no longer legally be detained in prisons or detention facilities, and will instead be monitored through alternative systems.

B. Resources previously used to fund mass detention and imprisonment of immigrants will be repurposed and spent on the following programs: The Family Case Management Program, The Intensive Supervision Appearance Program, and existing community support programs for immigrants.

SECTION 4. The bill goes into effect January 1st, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by WSFA.