

Louisiana High School Speech League Congressional Debate

January - February 2020
Legislative Docket

Includes:

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This publication is a suggested docket of all legislation that can be considered during sessions of Congressional Debate hosted by tournaments sanctioned by the Louisiana High School Speech League (LHSSL). Each chamber will set its own agenda at the beginning of the preliminary and final sessions. Legislation is submitted by member schools of the LHSSL. Those schools are notated on the pieces of legislations to allow for proper authorship speeches. Also, submissions from affiliate and out-of-state schools will be added in and notated for tournaments hosting these competitors. Finally, this docket has been supplemented with bills and resolutions selected by the LHSSL Clerk of Congress. No authorship speeches exist for these bills; instead, sponsorship speeches will be given based off of the precedence and recency in the individual chambers.

Please see the LHSSL website for full packet of Congressional Debate Guidelines. This document includes the following details, which are critical to proper participation in Louisiana High School Speech League Congressional Debate:

- Rules and procedures
- Code of ethics
- Oath of office
- Table of parliamentary motions

If you have any questions regarding the LHSSL Congressional Debate Docket, please contact the LA Clerk of Congress.

Packet Updates: Please note that any additional legislation being added to the LHSSL docket from month to month will be highlighted in yellow in the Table of Contents. Otherwise, the docket will remain largely unchanged to bring continuity to debate. Please note these pieces of legislation so that correct numbering is used and the most current docket legislation is ready for debate each month.



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B1. A Bill to Make Voting Compulsory

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Voting on Election Day shall be compulsory for all citizens over the age of 18

3 **SECTION 2.** Voting shall be defined as casting a ballot. The citizen may vote for
4 no candidate in a specific race, but the citizen must cast a ballot.

5 **SECTION 3.** Patients in hospitals shall be exempt.

6 **SECTION 4.** Failure to vote will result in a \$500 fee for the first failure to vote. Fines
7 will be increased by \$500 for each subsequent failure.

8 **SECTION 5.** This law shall be enforced by the Department of Justice.

9 **SECTION 6.** This law shall take effect on January 1, 2020.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Baton Rouge Magnet High School



B2. A Bill to Ban Animal Testing for Commerical and Scientific Use

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

2 **SECTION 1.** All animal testing will cease immediately and test animals will be
3 relocated to nature institutes.

4 **SECTION 2.** Animal Testing may be defined as any scientific experiment or test in
5 which a live animal is forced to undergo something that can cause them
6 pain, suffering, distress, or lasting harm.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Public Health Service will oversee the implementation of this bill.

8 A. The FDA and CDC operate underneath the Public Health Service.

9 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be enacted and carried out by the end of 2020.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Teurlings Catholic High School



B3. A Bill to Phase Out the Federal Use of Private Prisons

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States federal government will phase out the use of private prisons and/or for-profit prisons.

SECTION 2. A private prison or for-profit prison shall be defined as a place in which individuals are physically confined or incarcerated by a third party that is contracted by a government agency. Phase out shall be defined as the act of discontinuing a process or project.

SECTION 3. Immediately from passage, every year the United States will reduce the number of prisoners in private prisons by 20% from the number at the time of passage. Therefore in five years, the use of private prisons shall be completely phased out

A. All contracts with private prison corporations shall be terminated and no new contracts shall be implemented.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect immediately.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Baton Rouge Magnet High School.



B4. A Bill to Prevent the Banning of Books in Public Libraries

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All books that are currently banned in public libraries will become
3 available to the public.

4 **SECTION 2.** Banned books shall be defined as any books that have been placed on
5 the banned book list by the American Library Association.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will be responsible for identifying the
7 public libraries not in compliance with this bill.

8 A. The Office of Finance and Operations will oversee punishments
9 for any public libraries violating this bill.

10 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect immediately of passage and all books must be
11 taken off the list within six months of this bill's passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Teurlings Catholic High School



B5. A Bill to Release All Individuals Detained at the U.S.-Mexico Border

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States must release all non-threatening individuals who are
3 currently detained at the U.S.-Mexico border.

4 **SECTION 2.** Non-threatening individuals refers to any individual not held at the
5 border for violent or drug related reasons.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Homeland Security Department and the Department of Defense will
7 oversee the enforcement of the bill.

8 A. All released individuals shall be sent back to their country of
9 origin within 30 days of the passing of this legislation.

10 **SECTION 4.** This policy shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B6. A Bill to Require Mental Health Training for Government Employees

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All current and future government employees must complete a

3 government approved mental health first aid program every three years.

4 **SECTION 2.** Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour course that teaches you how to help

5 someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing

6 a mental health crisis.

7 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Health will oversee the enforcement of

8 the bill.

9 A. This covers all governmental employees in the public sector.

10 B. Any company violating this bill will be fined \$250,000 per violation.

11 **SECTION 4.** This policy will go into effect at the start of the 2021 fiscal year.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B7. A Bill to Forgive All Student Loan Debt after Five Years

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All current and future student loan debt held by individuals after five
3 years of qualifying payments shall be forgiven.

4 **SECTION 2.** Student loan debt refers to debt from loans for higher education,
5 qualifying payments refer to timely payments made toward paying off
6 student loans, forgiven means that the remaining money owed will be
7 the burden of the lender to cover.

8 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Education and the United States
9 Treasury will oversee the enforcement of the bill to ensure no violations
10 occur by lenders and that all qualifying payments are processed.

11 A. Any lenders found to still be collecting payments after the five years
12 of qualifying payments will be fined \$1 million per incidence.

13 B. All money collected from fines will be used to fund materials for
14 public schools in the United States.

15 **SECTION 4.** This policy will go into effect at the start of the 2021 fiscal year.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B8. A Bill to Prohibit Discriminatory Data Practices to Protect Americans

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States government shall prohibit platforms, including but not limited to
3 Facebook and Google, from serving targeted ads that discriminate against groups
4 by race, gender, and/or income.

5 **SECTION 2.** Discrimination shall be defined as the prejudicial treatment of different categories of
6 people. Platforms shall be defined as web-based technology that enables the
7 development, deployment and management of services including social media
8 solutions.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) shall implement regulations prohibiting platforms
10 from discriminating against consumers and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) shall
11 levy a tax on companies that do not follow regulations.

12 A. The FTC will ensure that platforms comply with regulations by requiring
13 platforms to disclose their data-sharing practices to the FTC for evaluation.

14 B. The FTC shall work with the IRS to report platforms that continue to engage
15 in discrimination. A tax of 13% shall be levied on companies that fail to comply
16 With FTC regulations.

17 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented by January 1, 2020.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B9: A Bill to Limit Vaccine Exemptions to Reinforce Herd Immunity

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The USFG shall hereby require that for a child to be exempt from the CDC vaccination

3 schedule, the child's parents must provide written authorization from a doctor,
4 based

5 on health risks posed to the child.

6 **SECTION 2.** The mandated vaccines are HepB, DTaP, HiB, PCV, IPV, MMR, Varicella, and HepA.

7 Parents failing to have their child vaccinated for any reason other than medical

8 exemption, will not be allowed to attend public school at any level. Herd immunity is

9 defined as a communal resistance to the spread of a contagious disease within a

10 population that results from 90% to 95% of individuals being vaccinated.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health & Human Services and the Department of Education will

12 work in conjunction to prevent unvaccinated children from attending school.

13 A. The Department of Education will share all vaccine information with the

14 Department of Health & Human Services.

15 B. Schools failing to meet the previously mentioned criteria, will be denied

16 Federal education funding.

17 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect by August 2020.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B10: A Bill to Ban Solitary Confinement

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Solitary confinement shall be prohibited at all Federal Prisons across the United

3. States.

4 **SECTION 2.** Solitary confinement is defined as a prisoner who is kept away from other prisoners as

5. a form of punishment.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) shall oversee the enforcement of this bill.

7. A. The Federal Bureau of Prisons shall receive \$1 billion to overhaul the
system.

8. B. Yearly audits shall be mandated across all businesses to ensure this bill is

9. being implemented properly.

10 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be enacted immediately upon passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B11: A Bill to Terminate the Environmental Protection Agency

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall be terminated and all of its

3. duties shall be distributed among agencies that hold jurisdiction over said duties.

4 **SECTION 2.** "Environmental Protection Agency" is defined as an agency of the Federal government

5. of the United States which was created for the purpose of protecting human
health

6. and the environment

7. **SECTION 3.** The United States Congress shall oversee implementation of this bill and the

8. redistribution of the EPA's former duties.

9. **SECTION 4.** The bill shall be implemented on January 1st, 2020.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



B12: A Bill to Withdraw Federal Funding from Cities that Violate Federal Laws and Regulations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All cities in the United States that fail to abide by federal laws and regulations

3. shall lose all federal funding to that city from the United States Federal Government.

4 **SECTION 2.** "Federal funding" shall be defined as any monetary gains provided from the

5. federal government to actors outside of the federal government.

6.**SECTION 3.** The Office of Management and Budget shall oversee the implementation of this bill

7. **SECTION 4.** Implementation of this bill is immediate upon passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



B13: A Bill to Audit the Federal Reserve

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States government shall complete an audit of the Federal Reserve

3. Board and Federal Reserve banks within twelve months. This shall be an audit of
4 international financial transactions, actions on monetary policy matters, and
5 discussions or communications among Federal Reserve officers and employees
6 regarding these matters.

7 **SECTION 2.** "Audit" is defined as an official examination and verification of accounts and
8 records, especially of financial accounts.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Government Accountability Office shall be charged with overseeing and
10 executing the audit.

11 **SECTION 4.** Implementation of this bill is immediate upon passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



B14: A Bill to Reopen the DACA Program

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** DACA applications and the DACA program will be reopened to current or former

3. undocumented minors and those who were previously enrolled in DACA fitting the

4 following criteria:

5. 1. Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012,

6. 2. Came to the United States before reaching their 18th birthday,

7. 3. Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007,

8. 4. Were physically present in the United States at the time of making their

9 request for consideration of deferred action,

10 5. Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion

11 from high school, have obtained a general education development (GED)

12 certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or

13 Armed Forces of the United States; and

14 6. Have not been convicted of a felony significant misdemeanor, or three or more

15 other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or

16 public safety.

17 **SECTION 2.** A minor shall be defined as a person under the age of 18. Proof can include but is not

18 limited to school enrollment papers, medical documentation, or lease or purchase of an

19 apartment or house. Tax records of legal guardians may also be used.

20 **SECTION 3** This bill will be enforced by the Department of Homeland Security and the U.S.

21 Citizenship and Immigration Service.

22 **SECTION 4.** This legalization will take effect at the beginning of the 2021 fiscal year.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Baton Rouge Magnet High School



B15: A Bill to Increase Cash Assistance for Needy Families

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** States will spend a minimum of 50% of federal funding received

3. through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grants on cash

4 assistance for needy families.

5. **SECTION 2.** TANF block grants refers to states' fixed funding through the federal

6. assistance program established by the Personal Responsibility and Work

7. Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. Cash assistance refers to monthly cash

8. benefits. Needy families refers to families who meet a given state's eligibility

9. standards for benefits.

10. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for the enforcement of

11. this legislation

12. **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented at the start of the 2021 fiscal year.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Chalmette High School



B16: A Bill to Eliminate Foreign Military Financing to Enemies of a Free Press

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** US Foreign Military Aid to countries who score above a 50 on the World

3. Press Freedom Index (WPFI) will be eliminated until.

4 **SECTION 2. A.** The World Press Freedom Index is compiled by Reporters Without

5. Borders and “is a snapshot of the media freedom situation based on an

6. evaluation of pluralism, independence of the media, quality of legislative

7. framework, and safety of the journalists in each country” (RSF.org)

8. **B.** US Foreign Military Aid includes all aid labeled as “Foreign Military

9. Financing” (FMF) in the Congressional Budget Justification.

10. **SECTION 3. A.** The State Department will modify all aid budget requests to comply with

11. this legislation

12. **B.** Congress may not authorize budget allocation for Foreign Military Aid

13. to any country which has scored a 50 or higher on the WPFI in the year

14. preceding the budgetary allocation

15. **C.** Any existing deals for Military Financing for countries scoring higher

16. than 50 on the WPFI will be immediately nullified.

17. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect for the budget in Fiscal Year 2022.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B17: A Bill to Prohibit Non-Biodegradable Products

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The sale of non-biodegradable products that have a known

3 biodegradable alternative is hereby prohibited in the United States.

4 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be implemented by the Environmental Protection

5 Agency (EPA).

6 A. The EPA shall independently define the terms “Biodegradable” and

7 “Non-biodegradable” as it relates to this legislation.

8 B. The EPA shall independently determine which products have a

9 biodegradable alternative.

10 **SECTION 3.** Companies or individuals found in violation of this legislation shall be

11 issued a penalty of \$20,000 for the first offense, \$100,000 for the second

12 offense, and \$500,000 for each offense thereafter.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect on January 1, 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B18: A Bill to Increase Political Transparency

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All public corporations shall be required to publicly disclose all financial
3 contributions to political causes.

4 **SECTION 2.** "Public corporations" are defined as any issuers of securities registered
5 on national securities exchanges.

6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be implemented by the Securities Exchange
7 Commission.

8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect on October 1, 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B19: A Bill to Prohibit No-Cause Eviction

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** No-Cause Evictions are hereby prohibited in the United States.

3 **SECTION 2.** A "No-Cause Eviction" is defined as when a property owner orders a

4 tenant to vacate the rental unit prior to the conclusion of the rental

5 agreement without evidence that the tenant has violated the terms of

6 the rental agreement.

7 **SECTION 3.** Property owners shall retain the right to evict tenants with cause as

8 defined by their state.

9 **SECTION 4.** Property owners shall retain the right, without cause, to not renew rental

10 agreements at their conclusion.

11 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall be enforced by the Department of Housing and

12 Urban Development.

13 **SECTION 6.** This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R1. A Resolution to Allow Me to Protect Myself

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Many criminal offenses are committed on college campuses; and
- 2 **WHEREAS,** There is little or no security in many areas of campuses; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** People on college campuses have no way to protect themselves from
- 4 constant reoccurring crimes such as: sex offenses, robbery, aggravated
- 5 assault, burglary, and motor vehicle theft; now, therefore, be it
- 6 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that anyone who has a concealed
- 7 handgun license (CHL) for the state in which they will be attending
- 8 college will be allowed to carry a handgun for protective purposes while
- 9 on the campus.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Baton Rouge Magnet High School



R2. A Resolution to Promote Thorium Nuclear Power Plants

1 **WHEREAS,** The EPA has stated that energy production accounts for 25% of global
2 greenhouse gas emissions; and

3 **WHEREAS,** The UN has expressed concern for greenhouse gas emissions in terms of
4 global climate change; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Nuclear energy production has no gas emissive byproducts; and

6 **WHEREAS,** Nuclear energy is more cost effective than alternative fossil fuel energy
7 sources; and

8 **WHEREAS,** Thorium is more useful for nuclear power generation in its naturally
9 occurring form than Uranium; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Thorium is more naturally abundant than Uranium; and

11 **WHEREAS,** Thorium requires less energy input to produce electrical power than
12 Uranium; and

13 **WHEREAS,** Thorium-based nuclear power plants produce far less nuclear waste as a
14 byproduct; now, therefore, be it

15 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the US Government ought to
16 promote Thorium-based nuclear power plants.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Teurlings Catholic High School



R3. A Resolution to Allow Felons Who Have Completed Their Sentence The Right to Vote

1 **WHEREAS,** An estimated 6.1 million people with a felony conviction are barred from
2 voting in elections - a condition known as disenfranchisement. Each
3 state has its own laws on disenfranchisement. While Vermont and Maine
4 allow felons to vote while in prison, ten other states permanently
5 restrict certain felons from voting, and

6 **WHEREAS,** Felons who have completed their sentences should have all their rights
7 and privileges restored, and

8 **WHEREAS,** Not allowing felons to vote does not deter anyone from committing a
9 crime nor does it encourage individual rehabilitation, and

10 **WHEREAS,** Felon disenfranchisement laws violate the tenets of criminal law theory,
11 and undermine citizenship for the individual ex - felon, by taking away
12 their right to vote; now, therefore, be it

13 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that felons who have completed their
14 sentence (incarceration, probation, and parole) regain the right to vote.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Teurlings Catholic High School



R4. A Resolution to Remove Protections for Honeybees and Instead Protect Wild Bee Species

- 1 **WHEREAS,** the US Federally considers the honeybee a protected species; and
- 2 **WHEREAS,** the Western honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) is an invasive species; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** honeybees were brought from Europe as a livestock animal that
- 4 competes with other wild species for land upon release; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** cultivation of foreign honeybees risks spreading foreign plant diseases
- 6 worldwide, thus harming the American native ecosystem; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** 50% of Native Midwestern bee species have disappeared due to
- 8 other invasive species of bee in the past 100 years; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** four of the main American native bumblebee species have decreased by
- 10 96% due to loss of habitat taken by invasive species; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** bumblebees and other wild species are generalist pollinators that can
- 12 pollinate any type of flower; and
- 13 **WHEREAS,** most wild species of bee are more effective pollinators than honeybees; and
- 14 **WHEREAS,** the natural American ecosystem relies more heavily on the Native wild species
- 15 of bee rather than invasive species such as the honeybee; and
- 16 **WHEREAS,** honeybees circulate less pollen back into the ecosystem, thus degrading the
- 17 growth of natural plants; therefore be it
- 18 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the US ought to remove protections for
19. honeybees and focus protections on wild bee species.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Teurlings Catholic High School



R5. A Resolution to Raise the Poverty Line

1 **WHEREAS,** The current poverty line for a family of four in the continental United
2 States is \$25,750, +/- \$4,420 for addition or fewer family members; and
3 **WHEREAS,** The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is only available to those
4 who earn 130% of the federal poverty level. Households must also have
5 less than \$3,500 in assets with an elderly or disabled person, or \$2,250 or
6 less in households without an elderly or disabled member.; and
7 **WHEREAS,** Medicaid is only available to families whose income is 138% of the
8 poverty level; and
9 **WHEREAS,** The Affordable Care Act provides insurance subsidies for households
10 between 138% and 400% of the poverty level; and
11 **WHEREAS,** The poverty guidelines are the same across the nation, except for Hawaii
12 and Alaska. They ignore the wide difference in the cost of living between
13 states; and
14 **WHEREAS,** As a result, benefits buy more in rural areas, but the opportunities to find
15 a good job and escape poverty are in more urban areas; now, therefore, be it
16 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the current poverty line rates be
17 increased by 25% (5% each year) by July 1st 18 , 2024.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R6. A Resolution to Limit Congressional Service

1 **WHEREAS,** To be a member of the House of Representatives one must be 25-years
2 old, be a U.S. citizen for at least 7 years, and be a resident of a particular
3 state at the time of election; and

4 **WHEREAS,** To be a member of the U.S. Senate one must be 30-years old, be a U.S.
5 citizen for at least 9 years, and be a resident of a particular state at the
6 time of election; and

7 **WHEREAS,** Members of the House of Representatives serve two-year terms and are
8 considered for reelection every even year; and

9 **WHEREAS,** Senators however, serve six-year terms and elections to the Senate are
10 staggered over even years so that only about 1/3 of the Senate is up for
11 reelection during any election; and

12 **WHEREAS,** There are currently no limits on length of service, which has led to the
13 continuation of "career politicians"; and

14 **WHEREAS,** This flaw in the system limits political growth and discourse; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that no individual can serve more than a
17 collective total of 20 years between the U.S. House and U.S. Senate
18 starting in the next voting cycle.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R7. A Resolution to Extend Asylum to Syrian Refugees

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Since March of 2019 roughly 5.7 million Syrians have fled the country and
2 6.1 million have been displaced internally; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Countries like Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan extended asylum to the most refugees in
4 the fiscal year 2018; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** Refugees that are currently being displaced have been denied asylum trapped into a
6 cycle of poverty; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The United States is a highly developed country with an abundance of resources; and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** The United States' influential role on the global stage will promote other countries
9 passing similar policies; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** The United States only permitted 22,491 refugees into the U.S in 2018; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** The current administration is slowly closing our doors to asylum seekers; now,
12 therefore, be it
- 13 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States shall extend asylum to
14 refugees at a higher rate.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R8. A Resolution to Close Guantanamo Bay

1 **WHEREAS,** spending on Guantanamo Bay has reached over 6 billion dollars since its opening,
2 each inmate kept there costing the US 10 million dollars a year; and
3 **WHEREAS,** Guantanamo Bay has long been considered an “island outside of the law”
4 where torture runs rampant without restraint indefinitely; and
5 **WHEREAS,** the vast majority of detainees have never been formally charged,
6 Including half of the 41 detainees currently still there; and
7 **WHEREAS,** the prison has become a recruiting tool for many terrorist groups to promote
8 anti-American sentiment; and
9 **WHEREAS,** several international actors have condemned Guantanamo Bay, and refuse to
10 extradite terrorist suspects and share intelligence which threatens US national
11 security; now, therefore, be it
12 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that Guantanamo Bay cease operations and be
13 closed.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R9: Resolution to Relieve Steel and Aluminum Tariffs to Promote U.S. Involvement in TTIP

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The Trump administration has prioritized efforts to pursue its “America First”
2 doctrine, investing in short-term American jobs while shunning viable long-term
3 jobs stemming from investment in foreign industries; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** Tariffs have been imposed on Europe, impacting Germany’s prominent automobile
5 industry, creating economic tensions, while halting the Transatlantic Trade and
6 Investment Partnership; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The U.S. currently trades an estimated \$1 trillion with E.U., its largest trading partner;
8 and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** Economic growth in China has continued to boom, predicted to surpass that of
10 the U.S.; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** U.S. relief of steel and aluminum tariffs on the E.U. may spur joint involvement
12 in the TTIP so as to relieve major industries, promote economic relations, potentially
13 surpass Chinese economic growth, and make the TTIP the world’s largest trade
14 agreement; now, therefore be it
- 15 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States should cease all tariffs on
16 steel and aluminum against the E.U.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R10: A Resolution to Institute Student Mental Health Days in Every State

- 1 **WHEREAS,** According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, one in five children
2. and adolescents experience a mental health problem during their school years; and
3. **WHEREAS,** Examples of common mental health problems include stress, anxiety, bullying, family
4. problems, depression, a learning disability, and alcohol and substance abuse.; and
5. **WHEREAS,** Good mental health is critical to children's success in school and life; and
6. **WHEREAS,** Recent legislation in Oregon will allow students five excusable mental health days in a
7. three-month period; now, therefore, be it
8. **RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled should recommend that all states
- adopt
9. similar legislation to assist students with mental health needs.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Southside High School



R11: A Resolution to Mitigate Environmental Racism

1 **WHEREAS,** minorities, indigenous peoples, and poor communities are affected the most by
2 pollution and environmental hazards, and are put at a greater risk for disease and
3 health deficiencies due to toxic waste disposal near their area of residence, and
4 **WHEREAS,** more than half of the people who live within 1.86 miles of toxic waste facilities in the
5 United States are people of color in low-income communities, and
6 **WHEREAS,** a federal tax on companies who produce toxins would deter the hazardous disposal of
7 such chemicals, promoting environment efficiency and Justice; therefore be it
8 **RESOLVED,** by the Congress here assembled that the United States of America expand the
1994

Executive Order on Environmental Justice by directly taxing companies who dispose of
toxic waste in these communities.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by John Paul the Great Academy



R12: A Resolution to Ban Congressional Lobbyists to End the Revolving Door Phenomenon

1 **WHEREAS**, The FEC only bans Congress members from becoming lobbyists within a
2 year of the end of their final term; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Congressional representatives and senators are able to legally obtain a lobbyist
4 position before they leave office including Senate majority leaders and Ex- House
5 Speakers; and

6 **WHEREAS**, The relationships created by being a congress member creates lame duck sessions and
7 fosters political polarity; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the lobbyist industry based on Supreme Court ruling in Citizens United v. FEC has
9 limitless power of funding; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Administration members and Cabinet members are already banned from lobbying for
11 foreign governments; now, therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation to the FEC
13 for the solution of a life-time ban on Congress members becoming lobbyists; and, be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That funding for the FEC increase to ensure proper oversight to end
15 shadow lobbying.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R13: A Resolution to Promote a Spirit of Compromise in Congress

1 **WHEREAS**, the United States Senate is intended to be the more deliberative house of
2 Congress with a higher emphasis on compromise; and
3 **WHEREAS**, partisan polarization in recent decades has relegated such an identity for
4 the Senate to a mere pipe dream; and
5 **WHEREAS**, a simple majority requirement for federal judicial confirmations only
6 encourages further polarization and party-line votes; and
7 **WHEREAS**, the previous requirement of a two-thirds majority necessitated more
8 thorough vetting of nominees and robust debate; and
9 **WHEREAS**, the latest available Gallup poll reports a national approval rating for
10 Congress at 25%; and
11 **WHEREAS**, striving for more compromise in Congress is a worthy strategy for
12 regaining the public's trust; now, therefore, be it
13 **RESOLVED**, by the Congress here assembled that all federal judicial nominees will
14 require a two-thirds vote from the Senate in order to be confirmed.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R14: A Resolution to Protect the Kurdish People

1 **WHEREAS**, the Kurdish people have historically served as valuable allies to the
2 United States; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Kurdish people have historically been the victims of oppression; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the United States has a moral obligation to protect its allies; and

5 **WHEREAS**, countries have a legitimate right to use force to quell terrorist activity;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) has consistently acted in a manner
8 becoming of a terrorist organization; and

9 **WHEREAS**, it is inaccurate and immoral to conflate the Kurdish people with the PKK;
10 now, therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled that the United States hereby recognizes
12 the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization; and

13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States hereby recognizes the Kurdish
14 people as a nation distinct from the PKK; and

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President of the United States is hereby
16 empowered and encouraged to use military force to defend the Kurdish
17 people when their safety is threatened by outside forces.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress