

A Bill to amend the US constitution to lower the legal voting age to 16 in federal elections

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Amendment 28 to the United States Constitution will be added. During federal elections, the United States or any state may not deny the right to vote to any person of sixteen years or older on the grounds of age.

Congress will oversee the addition of the 28th amendment to the United States Constitution.

Effective no later than the 2024 Presidential Election.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hood River Valley High School

A Bill to Decriminalize Border Crossings to End the Incarceration of Immigrants

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. Repeal Section 1325 of US Code Title 8 which criminalizes the illegal entry of immigrants into the United States and makes it a criminal offense. Crossing the border illegally will still result in a civil offense. Immigrants will still receive a criminal background check and have the opportunity to apply for a Green Card. Immigrants cannot be separated from their families.

Section 2. Section 1325 of US Code Title 8 claims that anyone who crosses the border through a place that is not represented by immigration officers, or does not receive examination by immigration officials, or enters the United States through false or misleading information can be fined and/or imprisoned for a misdemeanor under US Code Title 8 Section 1325.

Section 3. The Department of Homeland Security will oversee and enforce this bill.

SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect immediately after being passed.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Anais Larios-Maldonado from Hood River Valley High School.

A Bill to Place Checks on Psychosomatic Drug Prescriptions

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

2 **SECTION 1.** "Psychosomatic drugs" are defined as drugs that treat symptoms for
3 psychological disorders. Examples of psychosomatic drugs include
4 antidepressants and stress reducers.

5 **SECTION 2.** Before a psychosomatic drug can be prescribed, a psychiatrist must
6 evaluate the patient who would receive the prescription, and the
7 psychiatrist must determine that the psychosomatic drug would be
8 beneficial to this patient.

9 **SECTION 3.** Patients taking psychosomatic drugs are required to go to at least one
10 session with a psychiatrist every two-month period.

11 **SECTION 4.** Any patient who does not meet these requirements will be unable to fill a
12 prescription for a psychosomatic drug.

13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2021.

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

Introduced by Springfield High School.

A Bill to Provide Pregnancy-Related Services at Prisons with Female Inmates

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In light of the fact that the approximately 150 prisons in the U.S. housing
3 female inmates presently lack adequate staff and resources for prenatal,
4 neonatal and postnatal care, each prison housing female inmates will
5 receive \$800,000 per fiscal year (indexed to rise with inflation) in order to
6 pay for staff and equipment in maternity wards, prenatal clinics, and
7 other programs that directly assist expectant or new mothers.

8 **SECTION 2.** Each facility will be required to have a doctor on-site who specializes in
9 maternal-fetal medicine (MFM), and federal funds separate from the
10 funding identified in section 1 will be available to subsidize the hiring and
11 compensation of these MFM doctors.

12 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will oversee the
13 implementation of this legislation.

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

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

Introduced by Springfield High School.

A Resolution to Suspend U.S. Aid to Aggressive Countries

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

2 **WHEREAS,** The recent Turkish invasion of Syria illustrates that recipients of U.S.
3 foreign aid sometimes engage in aggressive military action; now,
4 therefore, be it

5 **RESOLVED,** By this Congress, that the U.S. should suspend foreign aid to Turkey and
6 to other aggressive countries; and, be it

7 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That instead of providing aid to aggressive countries, the U.S. will
8 divert this aid to support democratic forces that are resisting outside
9 aggression in countries such as the Ukraine and Syria.

Introduced by Springfield High School.



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

DECEMBER 2019
LEGISLATION DOCKET



December 2019 Legislation

- 1 A Resolution to Protect the Kurdish People
- 2 The Refugee Placement Act of 2019
- 3 The Spirit of Compromise Act
- 4 The Tenant Protection Act of 2019
- 5 The Political Transparency Act of 2019
- 6 The Volunteer Army Act of 2019
- 7 The American Workers Promotion Act of 2019
- 8 The Education Fulfillment Act of 2019
- 9 The African Prosperity Act
- 10 The Biodegradable Materials Act of 2019

A Resolution to Protect the Kurdish People

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;
13 and
- 14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the United States hereby recognizes the Kurdish
15 people as a nation distinct from the PKK; and
- 16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the President of the United States is hereby
17 empowered and encouraged to use military force to defend the Kurdish
18 people when their safety is threatened by outside forces.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Refugee Placement Act of 2019

The Refugee Placement Act of 2019

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Executive Branch of the United States shall have the authority to
3 place accepted refugees in any location under the jurisdiction of the
4 United States.

5 **SECTION 2.** No state or local government shall have the authority to reject or protest
6 refugees placed within their jurisdictions as a result of this Act.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security shall be tasked with ensuring that
8 all accepted refugees are properly vetted.

9 **SECTION 4.** This Act shall be enforced by the Department of Justice, which shall have
10 the authority to determine and assign penalties for violations.

11 **SECTION 5.** This Act will take effect immediately upon passage.

12 **SECTION 6.** All laws and executive acts in conflict with this legislation are hereby
13 declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Spirit of Compromise Act

The Spirit of Compromise Act

- 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 National Speech & Debate Association

The Tenant Protection Act of 2019

The Tenant Protection Act of 2019

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 National Speech & Debate Association

The Political Transparency Act of 2019

The Political Transparency Act of 2019

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 National Speech & Debate Association

The Volunteer Army Act of 2019

The Volunteer Army Act of 2019

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Selective Service System (SSS) is hereby abolished.

3 **SECTION 2.** No military draft of any kind may be implemented by the United States
4 Federal Government.

5 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The American Workers Promotion Act of 2019

The American Workers Promotion Act of 2019

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall cease awarding contracts to
3 American businesses classified as “Outsourcing Companies” based on
4 Section 2 of this legislation.

5 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this legislation, U.S. companies that either
6 manufacture over 50% of their products or provide over 50% of their
7 services outside the jurisdiction of the United States shall be defined as
8 an “Outsourcing Company.”

9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Education Fulfillment Act of 2019

The Education Fulfillment Act of 2019

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Starting at the beginning of their next applicable school year, all states
3 must increase the salaries of all public school teachers by 5%.

4 **SECTION 2.** The United States Department of the Treasury shall provide grants to
5 each state equal to the funds necessary to fund the mandate listed in
6 Section 1.

7 **A.** States will be responsible for distributing the appropriate grant funds
8 in Section 2 to their respective school districts.

9 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation will be derived from the U.S. Department of
10 Education's budget for the Fiscal Year 2021.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect starting in the Fiscal Year 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Biodegradable Materials Act of 2019

The Biodegradable Materials Act of 2019

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, 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

JANUARY 2020

LEGISLATION DOCKET



January 2020 Legislation

- 1 The Tariff Power Reclamation Act of 2020
- 2 A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Regard Solitary Confinement as Cruel and Unusual Punishment
- 3 The Congressional 2030 Decade Challenge
- 4 The Agricultural Free Trade Act of 2020
- 5 The Universal Pre-K Act of 2020
- 6 The Animal Compassion Act of 2020
- 7 The Disclosure Act of 2020
- 8 The Healthcare Security Act of 2020
- 9 A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Allow Line Item Vetoes
- 10 The Russian Rebuke Resolution

The Tariff Power Reclamation Act of 2020

The Tariff Power Reclamation Act of 2020

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** No tariffs may be imposed by the United States without approval from
3 both houses of Congress.

4 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this legislation, “tariffs” shall be defined as any taxes
5 imposed on goods imported from outside the United States that are not
6 imposed on similar goods from within the United States.

7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall go into effect immediately.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Regard Solitary Confinement as Cruel and Unusual Punishment

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Regard Solitary Confinement as Cruel and Unusual Punishment

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article
3 is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States,
4 which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution
5 when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states
6 within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

7 **ARTICLE 28**

8 **SECTION 1.** No inmate in any prison or jail within the jurisdiction of the United States
9 shall be confined alone in a cell without the opportunity to see or speak
10 to other persons for more than fourteen (14) hours in one day.

11 **SECTION 2.** Any violation of Section 1 of this article shall be considered an act of
12 Cruel and Unusual Punishment under the 8th article of amendment to the
13 United States Constitution.

14 **SECTION 3.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate
15 legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Congressional 2030 Decade Challenge

The Congressional 2030 Decade Challenge

WHEREAS, man-made climate change is one of the biggest and most pressing crises facing the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the United States to set goals for the next decade; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Congress here assembled that by January 1st, 2030, the United States shall:

- (A) Fully eliminate carbon emissions.
- (B) Meet 100 percent of the domestic power demand through clean, renewable, and zero-emission energy sources.
- (C) Spearhead a new international agreement to aggressively combat the effects and causes of climate change.
- (D) Begin mitigating and managing the long-term adverse health, economic, and other effects of pollution and climate change.
- (E) Substantially reduce federal subsidies to meat manufacturers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a new federal agency, the Department of Environmental Security, shall be established to facilitate the United States' pursuit of these goals.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Agricultural Free Trade Act of 2020

The Agricultural Free Trade Act of 2020

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall cease providing monetary
3 subsidies to agricultural producers within the United States.

4 **SECTION 2.** The United States shall cease engaging in any and all trade activities with
5 any foreign countries who provide monetary subsidies to agricultural
6 producers within their borders.

7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall go into effect on April 8th, 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Universal Pre-K Act of 2020

The Universal Pre-K Act of 2020

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall provide grants to all states
3 for the implementation of a Universal Preschool program.

4 **SECTION 2.** States will be responsible for the distribution of grants and the
5 implementation of the Universal Preschool programs.

6 **SECTION 3.** States shall retain the right to refuse the grant funding in Section 1 of this
7 legislation and the right to not establish a Universal Preschool program.

8 **SECTION 4.** Funding for the grants mandated by Section 1 of this legislation shall be
9 derived from the Department of Education's Fiscal Year 2021 budget.

10 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall be implemented by the Department of Education.

11 **SECTION 6.** This legislation shall go into effect on October 1st, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Animal Compassion Act of 2020

The Animal Compassion Act of 2020

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** It shall be unlawful for a pet store operator to sell a live dog, cat, or rabbit
3 in a pet store unless the dog, cat, or rabbit was obtained from a public
4 animal control agency or shelter, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to
5 Animals shelter, Humane Society shelter, or rescue group that is in a
6 cooperative agreement with at least one private or public shelter.

7 **SECTION 2.** For purposes of this legislation, a “rescue group” is an organization that is
8 tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and
9 that does not obtain animals from breeders or brokers for compensation.

10 **SECTION 3.** A pet store operator who violates this section shall be subject to a civil
11 penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500). Each animal offered for sale in
12 violation of this section shall constitute a separate violation.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be implemented by the Department of Agriculture.

14 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall go into effect on April 16th, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Disclosure Act of 2020

The Disclosure Act of 2020

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All pre-existing Nondisclosure Agreements related to sexual harassment
3 cases are hereby declared null and void.

4 **SECTION 2.** No new Nondisclosure Agreements related to sexual harassment cases
5 may take effect within the jurisdiction of the United States.

6 **SECTION 3.** For the purposes of this legislation, "Nondisclosure Agreement" shall be
7 defined as any legally binding agreement that prohibits disclosure of
8 certain confidential information.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect immediately.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Healthcare Security Act of 2020

The Healthcare Security Act of 2020

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** No employer, public or private, may require a waiting period after the
3 beginning of employment for any health insurance benefits to become
4 effective.

5 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this legislation, “health insurance benefits” shall be
6 defined as any employee compensation benefits consisting of medical
7 care (provided directly, through insurance or reimbursement, or
8 otherwise and including items and services paid for as medical care)
9 under any hospital or medical service policy or certificate, hospital or
10 medical service plan contract, or health maintenance organization
11 contract offered by a health insurance issuer.

12 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall go into effect on July 3rd, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Allow Line Item Vetoes

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Allow Line Item Vetoes

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article
3 is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States,
4 which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution
5 when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states
6 within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

7 **ARTICLE 28**

8 **SECTION 1.** The Congress shall have the power to empower the President to sign only
9 a portion of bills sent to them for approval.

10 **SECTION 2.** The President may only exercise this power when explicitly granted the
11 authority to do so by an act of Congress.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate
13 legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association

The Russian Rebuke Resolution

The Russian Rebuke Resolution

- WHEREAS,** the Central Intelligence Agency, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Security Agency, Department of Justice, Department of Homeland Security, and both the House and Senate Intelligence Committees have all concluded that the Russian Federation intentionally interfered in the 2016 United States Presidential Election; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States holding secure and independent elections is vital to both our democracy and the international community; and
- WHEREAS,** Russian interference has called the security and independence of United States elections into question throughout the world; and
- WHEREAS,** the Russian Federation has refused to acknowledge that the interference took place; and
- WHEREAS,** all signs point to the conclusion that Russians will interfere in the 2020 Presidential Election; now, therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** by the Congress here assembled that we do hereby forcefully condemn the Russian Federation for their role in interfering in the 2016 United States Presidential Election.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association