

# **PENNSBURY FALCON INVITATIONAL**

## **2021 Congress Legislation Packet Preliminary Sessions**

The PFI Steering Committee has set the order of debate for each of the three preliminary sessions. Legislation is labeled with its Session number and order; thus, S1-1 is the first piece of legislation to be debated in Session 1, followed by S1-2. This order may not be changed.

Debate will proceed on each piece of legislation in the established order for a minimum of one speech and a maximum of 45 minutes. If time remains in any session after consideration of the three assigned pieces of legislation, the Supplemental legislation may be debated. This is the only time a motion to amend the agenda shall be ruled in order. Supplemental legislation may be considered in any order.

There are no side balance requirements or mandatory moves to previous question other than the 45-minute maximum time. No legislation may carryover from one session to another or be considered more than once.

**S1-1: A BILL TO FURTHER REGULATE CAMPAIGN FINANCE TO PROTECT AMERICAN  
DEMOCRACY FROM CORRUPTION**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** All SuperPACs shall be subject to the same campaign finance limits that PACs are. To supplement for the possible funding reduction, citizens shall receive a \$50 voucher to help fund the candidate of their choice.

**SECTION 2.** SuperPACS shall be defined as independent expenditure-only political committees that may receive unlimited contributions from individuals, corporations, labor unions, and other political action committees for the purpose of financing independent expenditures and other independent political activity. PACs shall be defined as a political committee organized for the purpose of raising money for the purpose of electing and defeating a candidate. Vouchers shall be defined as a form given to voters where they signify which candidate within their jurisdiction they will use the government supplied funds on.

**SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission (FEC) will oversee the implementation of this legislation. All money needed to fund this bill will be reallocated from the U.S. Department of Defense Budget.

**A.** The campaign contribution limits that SuperPACS will now be subject to include but are not limited to:

I. A full disclosure of all entities that fund the organization to the FEC.

II. Must register with the FEC within 10 days of formation.

III. A \$5,000 limit for how much any corporation, individual or other organization can spend funding the SuperPAC.

IV. A \$5,00 limit on how much SuperPACs can spend supporting a particular candidate, and a \$15,000 limit for supporting a particular party.

**B.** As long as the organization is supporting and/or attacking a particular candidate and/or party, they are subject to these laws regardless of if they had any direct relations with the candidate.

**C.** The distribution and collection of vouchers will be handled in the same way as mail-in ballots.

**D.** Vouchers will have an option to not donate to any candidate. In that case, the money that would have been used will stay in the U.S. Department of Defense budget.

**E.** Vouchers will only be distributed to registered voters.

**F.** Vouchers will be sent 6 months before the election date, but must be returned at least 90 days prior to the election date.

**G.** Vouchers will be used in addition to the current political donation system, and will not replace it.

**SECTION 4.** This law will go into effect on January 1, 2022.

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

*Respectfully submitted,  
Council Rock High School North*

**S1-2: A BILL TO TRANSFER RENEWABLE ENERGY SUBSIDIES TO CLEAN COAL  
SUBSIDIES TO ADVANCE THE CLEAN ENERGY INDUSTRY**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** \$4 billion shall be taken annually from the Department of Energy's  
3 renewable energy subsidies budget and reallocated to subsidize clean coal  
4 technologies.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. "Subsidies" shall be defined as federal financial aid through grants, tax  
6 credits, exemptions, loans, etc. aimed at promoting economic or social  
7 policies.

8 B. "Clean coal technologies" shall be defined as any process used to  
9 reduce and/or contain the emission of coal in order to reduce their harmful  
10 environmental effects.

11 C. "Renewable energy" shall be defined as energy from sources that are  
12 not depleted when used. (e.g. solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal,  
13 biomass, etc.)

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

16 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect at the beginning of the U.S. fiscal year 2022.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Southern Lehigh High School*

**S1-3: A BILL TO BAN FOR-PROFIT IMMIGRATION DETENTION FACILITIES**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Future for-profit immigration detention facilities contracts are banned.

3 Current contracts must be terminated within the next twelve months.

4 **SECTION 2.** For-profit immigration detention facilities are defined as privately owned,  
5 federally contracted holding facilities for immigrants suspected of visa  
6 violations or unauthorized entry and serve as a holding center for those  
7 awaiting trial.

8 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Justice shall oversee the enforcement of this bill.

9 A. Violent offenders will be moved to existing federal detention  
10 centers to await trial.

11 B. Non-violent offenders will be released and monitored while  
12 pending trial.

13 C. The funding for relocating detainees will be taken directly from  
14 ICE's current funds allocated for detention center operations.

15 **SECTION 4.** This bill is effective immediately upon passage.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Battle Ground Academy*

**S2-1: A BILL TO END THE PRACTICE OF FORCED ARBITRATION TO  
PROTECT CONSUMERS AND EMPLOYEES**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The passage of this legislation shall constitute the passage of H. R. 1423 –  
3 “Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act.”

4 **SECTION 2.** H. R. 1423 – “Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act” shall be defined as  
5 the bill introduced by Rep. Henry C. Johnson on February 28, 2019 that  
6 prohibits predispute arbitration agreements that force arbitration of future  
7 employment, consumer, antitrust, or civil rights disputes.

8 **SECTION 3.** Federal Courts shall dismiss all arbitration confirmation suits in conflict  
9 with this legislation and shall enjoin all arbitration proceedings in conflict  
10 with this legislation.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on the date of its enactment and shall  
12 apply with respect to any dispute that arises or accrues on or after such  
13 date.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Strath Haven High School*

**S2-2: A RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND THE SENATE TO  
RATIFY UNCLOS TO JUSTIFY CLAIMS TO ECONOMIC EXCLUSION ZONES**

- 1   **WHEREAS,** The United States has not ratified the United Nations Convention on the  
2                                   Law of the Seas (UNCLOS), and as a result, does not have any  
3                                   international recognized Economic Exclusion Zones; and  
4   **WHEREAS,** Relying on existing laws and treaties have proved to be woefully  
5                                   insufficient to assert American claims, and due to this fact Foreign Nations  
6                                   to not respect United States Economic Exclusion Zones; and  
7   **WHEREAS,** This has presented a major threat to United States sovereign rights and  
8                                   interests and prevented the resolution of strategic challenges that the  
9                                   United States faces in the Asia-Pacific region; now, therefore, be it  
10 **RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled make the following  
11                                   recommendation for the Senate to ratify the United Nations Convention on  
12                                   the Law of the Seas; and, be it  
13 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States Government should, upon ratification,  
14                                   oversee diplomatic and military efforts to enforce these economic claims.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Thomas Jefferson High School*

**S2-3: A BILL TO BAN PREDICTIVE POLICING**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall ensure that the practice of “predictive policing” is no  
3 longer used in federal, state, or local police departments.

4 **SECTION 2.** “Predictive Policing” shall be defined as the application of analytical  
5 techniques—particularly quantitative techniques—to identify likely targets  
6 for police intervention and prevent crime or solve past crimes by making  
7 statistical predictions.

8 **SECTION 3.** A. The FBI, Department of Justice, and local police forces will cooperate  
9 on the enforcement of this legislation. The FBI will report back to the  
10 Department of Justice when local or state police continue or stop  
11 practicing predictive policing.

12 B. If federal, state, or local police departments are found to be practicing  
13 “predictive policing”, they will receive a 30% cut to their city budget.

14 C. Funds will be re-allocated once they have observed correct procedures  
15 for 6 months.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect 90 days after passage.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Xaverian High School*

**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:

**SECTION 1:** Each Supreme Court Justice shall have a tenure of no more than 18 years, at which point they will be replaced by a nominee appointed by the President of the United States. Each replacement shall be staggered by at least two years.

**SECTION 2:** Current justices shall continue to serve until they have served for 18 years, at which point they will be replaced. If two or more justices have served for more than 18 years, they will be replaced in the order that they were appointed, with each replacement staggered by at least two years.

*Thomas Jefferson High School*



**S3-2: A BILL TO MOOVE THE NEEDLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall impose sanctions a 5% tax on all cow related  
3 products produced and sold in the United States.

4 **SECTION 2.** Cow related products shall be defined as any products made from the  
5 resources produced by cows. This is included but not limited to the meat,  
6 dairy, leather, and other beef byproducts such as wax.

7 **SECTION 3.** The IRS will be responsible for implementing and enforcing this  
8 legislation. All funds generated by this legislation shall be directed to the  
9 Environmental Protection Agency to research and develop renewable  
10 technology.

11 **SECTION 4.** This bill is effective immediately upon passage.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*The Bronx High School of Science*

**S3-3: A BILL TO ENSURE THE BOOMERS ARE OKAY**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** An education grant of \$4,000 per semester will be offered to future care  
3 workers on the condition that they work 5 years in states that are classified  
4 as super-aged.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. Care workers will be defined as paid helpers such as nurses, social  
6 workers, and doctors who regularly look after the elderly.

7 B. Elderly people shall be defined as people who have reached the  
8 retirement age of 66 years.

9 C. Super-aged states shall be defined as states where more than one fifth  
10 of their population is older than 65 based on the most recent  
11 Population Estimates Program data.

12 **SECTION 3.** A. The Department of Education will oversee the grant application,  
13 approval and distribution process.

14 B. The Department of Health and Human Services will conduct  
15 evaluation of states to determine if they qualify as super-aged.

16 C. If an individual fails to move to a super-aged state within 2 years of  
17 the reception of their degree, the grant will become a subsidized  
18 federal student loans.

19 D. Funding for the grants will come from the Department of Education's  
20 Federal Direct Student Loan Program.

21 **SECTION 4.** This piece of legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Lincoln East High School*

**SUPP A: A BILL TO INCREASE USE OF SOLAR PANELS BY INCREASING TAX CREDIT  
RECEIVED**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** This bill will increase the tax credit compensation received from  
3 purchasing solar panels to 50% of the cost. The maximum tax credit  
4 received can be up to \$10,000 per family. This bill will replace the  
5 residential ITC program.

6 **SECTION 2.** A. “Tax credit” will be defined as credits earned that are subtracted from  
7 the total amount of money due to pay taxes.

8 B. “Residential ITC program” will be defined as the government program  
9 that deals with the percentage of tax credit received from solar panels for  
10 residential purposes.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy and the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) shall  
12 implement this bill.

13 **SECTION 4.** The legislation will be in effect starting from January 1st, 2025.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Dallastown Area High School*

**SUPP B: A BILL TO ABOLISH ICE AND TO ESTABLISH A HUMANE  
IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** ICE will hereby be abolished. All proceedings and tasks will be assumed  
3 by a Commission created and appointed by Congress.

4 **SECTION 2.** “ICE” is the abbreviation of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement.  
5 The “Commission” will study ICE’s procedures for 3 months before  
6 assuming their roles.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security will oversee the implementation of  
8 this legislation.

9 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect no later than one year after its passing.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Phillipsburg High School*

**SUPP C: A BILL TO GUARANTEE MEDICARE**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Medicare will now be available in the health insurance exchanges to every  
3 U.S. citizen, regardless of age or income.

4 **SECTION 2.** “Medicare” shall be defined as the national health insurance program  
5 available to those above the age of 65 and to anyone with disability status.

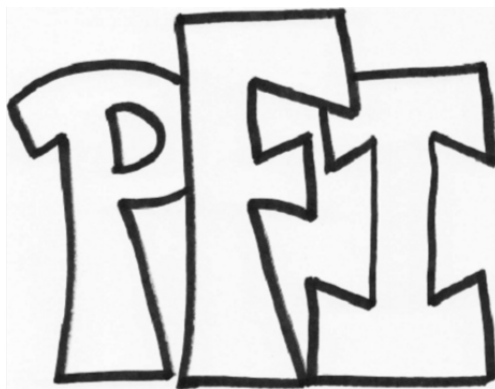
6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services will oversee the funding  
7 and implementation of this legislation.

8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect March 1, 2021

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School*



**PENNSBURY FALCON INVITATIONAL**  
**2021 Congressional Debate**  
**Tournament Rules and Procedures**

## PENNSBURY FALCON INVITATIONAL CONGRESS RULES for PARLIAMENTARIANS

1. **Agenda.** The Preliminary Session agenda is determined by the tournament to vary topics and the region of sponsorship. The order of debate CANNOT be changed and legislation may not be tabled. Supplemental legislation may be considered, in any order, if time remains after the three pieces of legislation assigned to a session have been debated and voted upon. A motion to amend the agenda is valid only in such a situation.
2. **Limitations on debate.** Debate on any individual legislation has a minimum length of one speech and a maximum length of 45 minutes of session time. There are no side balance requirements or mandatory moves to previous question other than the 45-minute maximum time. No legislation may carryover from one session to another or be considered more than once.
3. **Authorships.** When a new piece of legislation comes to the floor, a student from the submitting school should be granted the first affirmative speech as an authorship. If no author is present, any member of the house may speak as a sponsor of the legislation.
4. **Questioning.** There is a mandatory questioning period of one minute for each speech – two minutes for the first affirmative and negative speech on each bill. In the Preliminary Sessions, questioning will follow the standard one question per questioner format, recognized by the Presiding Officer in turn. Ignore any remaining speech time; do not add it to time available for questioning. Motions to extend questioning periods are NOT allowed.

In Finals *only*, questioning will follow a direct questioning format in which questioners selected by the Presiding Officer will be allotted 30 seconds to question the speaker on the floor.

5. **Precedence/Recency.** Precedence should reset to a clean slate at the beginning of each session. President Officers should be discouraged from using “activity” or questions to determine recency. ONLY recency should be used to determine who can speak and when; before recency is determined, speakers should be chosen randomly.
6. **Scoring.** Judges may not score speeches by students from their schools; the Parliamentarian should score those speeches. A judge or Parliamentarian may rank a student from their school, but may not score the speeches. All judges will score the Presiding Officer. There is no requirement to rank the Presiding Officer; s/he may be ranked as each scorer sees fit.
7. **Ranking.** Judges will rank the top 8 contestants at the end of each session; the Parliamentarian completes one ranking sheet at the end of all sessions, ranking ALL students.
8. **Voting.** Approximately 5 minutes before the scheduled end of the final session, a representative from the tab room will arrive to collect judges’ ranking sheets and begin the student voting process. Please ensure that the chamber is prepared to complete the session at this time.

**Please refer to NSDA rules for any issues not specified by PFI rules. Refer to Congress Tab with any questions or needs that may arise during the session.**

## **PENNSBURY FALCON INVITATIONAL**

### **INFORMATION FOR CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE JUDGES**

#### **BALLOTS**

Please fill out a ballot for each speech in the round and give comments and a score (from 0-6) to the speaker. Note that you **MUST** record a score for each speech before submitting your ranks on tabroom. You can then edit your comments after the session, but **ONLY** if you have entered a score for each speech.

#### **RANKINGS**

Please rank the **top 8** competitors in this session via your online ballot, and submit it as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session. Rankings should reflect the overall impact of each legislator on the course of debate and the session as a whole.

Rankings should take into account both quantity and quality of speeches, as well as other participation in the session (questions, motions, decorum, etc). The tournament frowns upon repetitive debate, and on the abuse of parliamentary procedure to change the agenda or rules excessively. You may make note of these issues on the back of a speech ballot for individual competitors.

#### **SPEECHES**

Congress is a **DEBATE** event! Speeches, whether constructives, rebuttals, or crystallizations, are all equally valuable. Please reward students who advance debate and engage with prior speakers, and students who move the chamber forward to the next legislation rather than giving a repetitive speech filled with "rehash." Students do not possess the right to speak on every legislation, and students should not be penalized for moving the previous question to end debate on an exhausted topic.

#### **QUESTIONING**

In preliminary rounds, each speech will have a mandatory one-minute questioning period (except the first affirmative or negative speech on each piece of legislation, which will have two minutes). In Finals, we will utilize a direct questioning format where questioners will be selected for 30 seconds of back and forth with the speaker.

You should not score questioners, but should consider the quality of their questions and participation in questioning when ranking contestants at the end of the session. As part of the effort to turn the event into Congressional *Debate*, speakers are expected to be able to defend their arguments during questioning. How a speaker handles questioning should be part of the score for their speech, as well as part of their overall ranking. Keep in mind that although the questioner holds the floor, an overly aggressive or hostile posture should be discouraged.

#### **PRESIDING OFFICERS**

The Presiding Officer is an essential role in a Congressional Debate round. Students serving as the PO are sacrificing their opportunity to speak to serve the community. This is a leadership position. Accordingly, consider the PO when completing your rankings; rankings are a search for the Best Legislator, not the Best Speaker. It is not required that you rank the PO, but it is encouraged if they are able to run the chamber in a fair and efficient manner and contribute positively to the quality and quantity of debate.



## **Advancement Procedures – 2021**

As of 1/19/21, we expect to hold 7 preliminary chambers. The following will be adjusted if the number of chambers changes.

There will be two judges in each of the three preliminary sessions. Judges will rank the top 8 competitors. The six judges ranks, plus the parliamentarian's ranking at the end of the preliminary sessions, will create a rank score for each student. The three students with the lowest combined ranks (with all ranks beyond 8 counting as a 9) will advance to the Final session.

There will be three judges in the Final session. Judges will rank the top 8 competitors. Additionally, competitors will rank all participants in the Final round. Using ranked choice voting, the top 8 from the collective student vote will count as a 4th judge score. Final round placement will be determined by the lowest combined score of the four ranks, with all unranked competitors receiving a score of 9. All ties will be broken by the Parliamentarian's ballot (which is only used to break ties).