



2020 Independence Winter Classic Congressional Debate Docket

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Legislation Per Session

Rules:

Each 2-hour Session has 4 bills assigned to it. Bills may be debated in whatever order the chamber deems fit.

Sessions need not debate all four bills but should take special note to avoid repetitive debate. Bills 1-7 were submitted by competing schools. Those schools have priority for the first authorship speech that comes BEFORE precedence but does COUNT towards future precedence. Legislation 8-20 were selected from a variety of recent national circuit tournaments and/or written by the tournament staff. Legislation was placed in sessions using random number generator.

By Name of Bill

Session 1: Guantanamo Bay, USPERA, South Korea, Mental Health

Session 2: Mexico, Investigative Office, PMCs, Corporate Leadership

Session 3: West Africa, Domestic Violence, Columbia, Term Limits

Semi-Final Session: Hong Kong, Police Reform, ICC, Foster Care

Final Session: College Athletes, Immigration Justice, T-Visas, COVID Vaccine

By Bill Number

Session 1: 17, 4, 3, 6

Session 2: 19, 5, 7, 18

Session 3: 1, 8, 2, 20

Semi-Final Session: 9, 15, 13, 11

Final Session: 12, 10, 16, 14



1. A Bill to Increase Military Support to Combat Increasing Terrorism in West Africa

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The US shall provide enhanced military support to West African nations threatened by the increasing spread of terrorist outfits.

SECTION 2. “Enhanced military support” shall be defined as further intelligence sharing, tanks, and 1,500 additional ground troops dedicated to train-and-assist programs.

- A. “West African nations” shall be defined as Benin, Togo, Ghana, Côte d’Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali.
- B. “Terrorist outfits” shall be defined as Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGS) and Jama’at Nasr al-Islam wal Muslimin (JNIM).

SECTION 3. The implementation of this bill shall be overseen by the Department of Defense.

- A. The Department of Defense shall release a report on the effectiveness of these efforts every six months.

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect on 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, Irvine.



2. A Bill to Promote Peace in Colombia

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall provide aid to help halt the actions of the rebel group The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and promote a peaceful future for Colombia by providing military and infrastructure aid.

SECTION 2. The following definitions shall apply:

- A. "Military aid" shall be defined as increasing U.S. military troop deployment into Colombia by 100,000 troops to provide support against rebel group FARC,
- B. "Infrastructure aid" shall be defined as providing \$1 billion to support Colombia's National Development Plan for infrastructure.

SECTION 3. The Department of Defense and the Department of State will oversee the enforcement of the bill.

A. USAID will oversee governmental operations regarding the reunification of the nation of Colombia and the distribution of infrastructure aid.

B. The Department of Defense will implement governmental operations regarding the deployment of troops

I. U.S. troops deployment and financial aid will cease if the Secretary of State determines that the government of Colombia or ex-FARC rebels are not adhering to the peace accord including supporting the transitional justice tribunal

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect immediately after its passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Beckman High School.



3. A Resolution to Withdraw from the 1953 Mutual Defense Treaty to Denuclearize North Korea

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

WHEREAS, The United States has attempted to negotiate the denuclearization of North Korea or two decades and no result; and

WHEREAS, The US's 1953 Mutual Defense Treaty has kept greater US presence in the Korean Peninsula thus incentivized greater nuclear development efforts in North Korea; and

WHEREAS, The United States currently has over 20,000 troops stationed within South Korea under our alliance; and

WHEREAS, North Korea has expressed their denuclearization as an option, only if the US withdraws from Korean Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, North Korean denuclearization and US troop withdrawal would leave neither side vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, The Declaration of North Korea would significantly strengthen US national security efforts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled that the United States withdraw from the 1953 Mutual Defense Treaty in the following year; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The United States withdraws all troops stationed in South Korea over a four year period.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Beckman High School.



4. A Bill to Create the United States Pandemic Employment Relief Administration to Alleviate Economic Disruption caused by COVID-19

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Pandemic Employment Relief Administration (herein referred to as USPERA) is established.

SECTION 2. The administration's chief charge shall be to employ American residents who experienced unemployment as a result of economic disruptions brought about by the pandemic in projects focused on the public good, including but not limited to infrastructure, education, and the arts.

SECTION 3. The implementation of this bill shall be overseen by the Department of Defense.

A. At least \$1.5 trillion must be allocated to wage-paying of employees.

I. All those employed by USPERA shall earn \$15 per hour, for a maximum of 40 hours per week and a minimum of 35 hours per week, in order to ensure all USPERA employees are earning wages above the federal poverty level for a family.

II. One individual per household of up to 5 persons is eligible for USPERA employment. Households of 6 or more may have two individuals employed by USPERA.

B. The remaining \$3.5 trillion shall be allocated to individual projects/subdivisions of USPERA by its chair and their team.

C. Congress can approve future funds for USPERA at its discretion.

D. The chair of USPERA shall be appointed by the President and confirmed with a simple majority vote of the Senate.

E. USPERA funds may not be used to provide stimulus packages or bailouts to any corporate entity, federal agency, state government or their agencies, or local government or their agencies.

F. Non-citizens residing in the United States legally are eligible for USPERA employment.

G. USPERA shall be disbanded after US unemployment reaches 4%, at which point no new projects will begin and all in-progress projects will be brought to their conclusion as quickly and safely as possible.

SECTION 4. This bill shall be carried out by November 1st, 2020, to allow time for fund allocation and chair confirmation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by University High School, Irvine.



5. A Bill to Establish the Congressional Investigative Office

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Congress will establish a new federal investigative agency called the Congressional Investigative Office (CIO).

SECTION 2. A “federal investigative agency” will be defined as a government organization set up for the purpose of information collection.

SECTION 3. Congress will enforce this legislation.

- A. The CIO will enforce congressional subpoenas, federal appointments, and will gather information for hearings, impeachments, and other congressional activities.
- B. Directors will be appointed by the House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security, brought before the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and then confirmed by the Senate.
- C. Congress cannot bring any legislation to debate until the Director position is filled.
- D. The budget will begin at 300 million USD per year, and adjustments to the funding will be under full discretion of Congress.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect July 3, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Luke Beck, Little Rock Central High School.



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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All current and future government employees must complete an annual government approved mental health first aid program.

SECTION 2. Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour course that teaches you how to help someone who is experiencing a mental health crisis.

- A. Mental Health Crisis should be defined as any situation in which a person's behavior puts them at risk of hurting themselves or others and/or prevents them from being able to care for themselves or function effectively in the community.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Health will oversee the implementation and enforcement of this bill.

- A. This covers all government employees in the public sector.
- B. Any company found in violation of this bill will be fined \$250,000 per violation.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect at the beginning of the FY 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Truman High School.



7. A Bill to End the Usage of Private Military Contractors in Latin America

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Private Military Contractors (PMCs) in Latin America will no longer be utilized by the Department of Defense.

SECTION 2. The following definitions will apply:

A. Private Military Contractors (PMCs) will be defined as companies that engage in armed security services. These armed security services include, but are not limited to: combat missions, provision of protective services, security advice and planning, prison administration, interrogation, and intelligence.

B. Latin America will be defined as the countries in Central and South America.

SECTION 3. The Congressional Armed Services Committee shall oversee the implementation of this bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect in the FY 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Truman High School



8. A Bill to Mandate that All Domestic Violence Shelters Receiving Federal Funding Admit Victims without Regard to Gender Identity

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Domestic violence shelters receiving federal funding may not discriminate on the basis of gender identity.

SECTION 2. Gender Identity: the personal sense of one's own gender. It may correlate with a person's assigned sex at birth or can differ from it.

SECTION 3. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will implement this legislation.

- A. Shelters found in violation of this law will lose all federal funding until such time as they are able to demonstrate consistent compliance for at least two consecutive years.
- B. Shelters shall be held liable for refusal of services based on gender which result in serious bodily injury and/or death to one or more victims of domestic violence

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect by January of 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.



9. A Resolution to Encourage the UN to Recognize Hong Kong as an Independent City State

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

WHEREAS, Hong Kong, during its ownership by the United Kingdom, established itself as a significant economic center; and

WHEREAS, after the return of Hong Kong to China on July 1, 1997 there has been a significant reduction in human rights to the citizens of Hong Kong and foreigners in its borders, as well as a significant reduction in Hong Kong's economic standing; and

WHEREAS, the Vatican City, though on Italian soil, is recognized as an independent city state by Italy and the world community; and

WHEREAS, China will not recognize Hong Kong as an independent city state without overwhelming influence from the world community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the United States encourage the United Nations and its members to recognize Hong Kong as an independent city state.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.



10. The Immigration Justice Overhaul Act of 2020

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States immigration judiciary will make a series of reforms.

- A. The Executive Office for Immigration Review will become an independent Article 1 court separate from the Department of Justice.
- B. The Department of Homeland Security shall receive \$800 million to create 200 temporary immigration courts across the country and reassign cases.
- C. The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) shall suspend its Speaking Engagement Policy issued on September 1, 2017.

SECTION 2. The following definitions will apply:

- A. “Temporary immigration courts” shall be defined as courts responsible for hearing immigration cases until the case backlog is clear.
- B. The Executive Office for Immigration Review is the organization that oversees Immigration Courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals.
- C. An Article 1 court, also referred to as a legislative court, is a court set up by Congress to review agency decisions.

SECTION 3. The DHS, DOJ, and EOIR will be tasked with implementing sections 1A, 1B, and 1C respectively.

- A. The Attorney General remains responsible for appointing immigration judges, but all temporary appointments will be subject to approval by the bipartisan House Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take 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 Independence Winter Classic.



11. The Foster Care Availability Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Additional funding in the amount of \$50 million shall be distributed among the appropriate agencies which oversee foster care in each state.

A. This funding shall be dedicated to streamline the licensing process and purchase advertising intended to increase numbers of foster care family applicants.

B. As a requirement to receive funding, the state shall adopt a system where foster parent licenses are granted or denied within two months of initial application.

SECTION 2. “Advertising” shall be defined as televised commercials, radio segments, or billboards directed at encouraging the public to apply to foster a child.

SECTION 3. The Department of Health and Human Services will oversee funding and shall monitor compliance by each states’ appropriate agency.

SECTION 4. This shall take effect at the start of fiscal year 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.



12. A Resolution to Hold Violent College Athletes Accountable

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

WHEREAS, Sexual assault and domestic violence continue to plague college campuses across the country; and

WHEREAS, Recent research indicates that college athletes are three times more likely than their non-athletic counterparts to engage in these violent behaviors; and

WHEREAS, College athletes often receive preferential treatment and protection when accused of sexual assault or domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, The NCAA's response has been only to require college athletic programs to educate students on sexual assault and domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, The NCAA turns a blind eye on this violence by allowing athletes who are expelled or facing pending charges to simply transfer to another school and continue their college athletic careers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that federal law should ban NCAA teams from accepting the transfer of any athlete with a documented history of sexual or domestic violence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Any college athlete charged with these offenses, either by college authorities or local law enforcement, should be suspended from all collegiate activities until any pending charges are resolved.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.



13. A Resolution to Ratify US Membership in the International Criminal Court

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

WHEREAS, The United States is one of only 7 nations that are not a member of the International Criminal Court (ICC); and

WHEREAS, The ICC operates as the only global entity currently existing to hold individuals responsible for heinous crimes against humanity, genocide, war crimes, and other crimes of aggression; and

WHEREAS, The ICC is only able to indict individuals found guilty in its proceedings if the individual's country of origin is willing to cooperate; and

WHEREAS, The ICC has begun an investigation into alleged war crimes committed by US Officials and the CIA in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, The lack of US cooperation on is pushing the ICC to instead pursue lesser atrocities with greater potential for successful prosecution; and

WHEREAS, The US will lose international credibility because of their lack of cooperation with the ICC's probe into the war crimes in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, The US has an obligation to defend International Humanitarian Law, and the UN Declaration of Human Rights; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled the United States should ratify its membership in the ICC.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.



14. A Bill to Mandate the COVID-19 Vaccine Once Available

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All naturally born or naturalized citizens must receive the COVID-19 vaccination once it is made available to the public.

SECTION 2. The following definitions shall apply:

- A. “Mandatory” should be defined as required for all citizens with an exception of those who can provide a reasonable religious objection.

SECTION 3. The Department of Health and Human Services in conjunction with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention will oversee the promulgation of appropriate regulations for implementation.

- A. Sufficient block grants shall be distributed to state agencies to carry out the requirements of the mandatory vaccination programs.
- B. The United States Federal Government will withhold funding from States who choose not to implement or enforce this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Independence Winter Classic.



15. A Bill to Enact Comprehensive Police Reform

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government will eliminate the 1033 Program for transferring surplus military arms to civilian law enforcement agencies and reform the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

SECTION 2. Reforms to the JAG Program shall include:

- A. Any state, tribal, or local government receiving JAG funds must create an independent civilian review board to investigate complaints of police misconduct.
- B. Funding will be conditioned on ongoing compliance and non-interference with both federal and civilian review board investigations into police misconduct.
- C. Governments or organizations receiving JAG funds must implement a law requiring body camera usage by all law enforcement agencies under their jurisdiction.

SECTION 3. The Department of Defense and Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs shall oversee the implementation of this bill.

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 the Independence Winter Classic.



16. A Bill to Require Change to T Visa Eligibility

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The requirement for T Visa applicants to prove removal from the United States would cause “unusual or severe harm” upon return to their home country shall be eliminated from the T-1 Visa application process.

SECTION 2. A T Visa is one of two visas that can be utilized to keep a non-immigrant legally in the United States as protection from human trafficking. A T-1 Visa is specifically used for an applicant who is a victim of human trafficking. Unusual or severe harm indicates the applicant would not be able to achieve a stable livelihood if returned to their home country.

SECTION 3. The U.S. State Department will oversee the enforcement of this bill.

- A. All rejected T-1 applications submitted a year prior to the effective date may be resubmitted and reviewed on a case by case basis.

SECTION 4. This shall take effect on January 8, 2021

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.



17. A Bill to Close Guantanamo Bay

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The detention center at Guantanamo holding individuals the Federal government has deemed to be enemies of the State will be immediately closed.

SECTION 2. The following considerations will apply:

- A. Guantanamo Bay, located in southeast Cuba, serves as the site of an American naval base used as a detainment camp for suspected al-Qaeda and Taliban affiliates.
- B. A board will be established to organize the transportation of prisoners back to the United States where they will be granted due process and a full legal trial.

SECTION 3. The Department of Defense will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

- A. The Department of Defense will be in charge of the transfer of prisoners and the closure of the detention center.
- B. The Department of Defense will allocate \$3 million of their budget toward the organization of expedient trials.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.



18. A Bill to Bolster Corporate Leadership

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1.

- A. All publicly held domestic corporations are hereby required to have an equal ratio of female to male sitting board members.
- B. Corporations may increase the number of directors on its board in order to comply with the aforementioned mandate.

Section 2.

- A. “Female” is an individual who self - identifies her gender as a woman, without regard to the individual’s designated sex at birth.
- B. “Publicly held domestic corporation” is a corporation with outstanding shares listed on a major United States stock exchange.

Section 3. The Secretary of State shall oversee this legislation by adopting and enforcing the following regulations:

- A. Corporations that fail to adhere to section 1 by the next fiscal year (2020) shall be fined \$100,000.
- B. Corporations that fail to adhere to section 1 by the subsequent fiscal year (2021, 2022, 2023, etc.) shall be fined in equivalent measures (\$200,000; \$300,000; \$400,000, etc).

Section 4. This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.



19. **A Bill to Remove United States Military from the US-Mexico Border**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All none required United States military personal shall be removed from the U.S.-Mexico border.

SECTION 2. Required military personal refers to the military presence needed to maintain boarder security.

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

A. All none required troops must be stationed in a new assignment within 30 days of removal from the boarder.

B. No new military personal can be added to the United States border patrol for at least three years after this legislation passes.

SECTION 4. This policy will go into effect at the start of the 2020 fiscal year.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.



20. A Bill to Establish Congressional Term Limits

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All members of both the House and Senate shall have their opportunity of re-election restricted by congressional term limits.

SECTION 2. All members of the House shall serve a maximum of six terms. All 5 members of the Senate shall serve a maximum of two terms.

A. These terms may be served consecutively or individually; however, the maximum number of terms will be six and two for the House and Senate, respectively.

B. Terms served in one body of Congress do not impede an individual's ability to serve in another. For instance, if an individual wanted to serve six terms in the House and two in the Senate, they would have the ability to do so.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This bill shall be implemented by the fiscal year 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Independence Winter Classic.