

# The 46<sup>th</sup> University of Pennsylvania Tournament Congressional Debate Legislation



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# Rules and Procedures 1.0

This tournament shall follow standard NSDA procedures for Congressional debate, which can be found here: <https://www.speechanddebate.org/congress-printable-guide/>.

There shall be three preliminary rounds. Within each round, the order in which the bills are debated shall be decided by a vote from the chamber. There are two elimination rounds, one semifinal round and one final round, the latter of which is split into two sessions. The top 6 competitors will receive a bid to the Tournament of Champions (TOC).

*NOTE: This page may be updated with additional info as we approach the tournament, as may the Live Doc when it is released.*

# Round 1 Legislation



## A Resolution to End Qualified Immunity

- 1   **WHEREAS,**   Qualified immunity is a legal doctrine that protects law enforcement officers  
2                   from being sued in their personal capacity or being held personally liable for  
3                   violations of the Constitution; and
- 4   **WHEREAS,**   Qualified immunity permits government officials and law enforcement to  
5                   violate people’s constitutional rights and deprive people of their civil rights with  
6                   little to no legal recourse; and
- 7   **WHEREAS,**   Qualified immunity makes it nearly impossible for victims of abuse or civil  
8                   rights violations performed by law enforcement to prosecute the officer in a  
9                   court of law; and
- 10   **WHEREAS,**   Qualified immunity is often used to dismiss police brutality cases, particularly  
11                   against people of color; now, therefore, be it
- 12   **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States pass the Ending Qualified  
13                   Immunity Act in order to provide for accountability when public officials  
14                   violate Americans' constitutional rights.

*Introduced to Congressional Debate by Council Rock High School North*

# A Bill to Fund NASA to Maintain the ISS and Expand Space Exploration

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** \$10 billion will be reallocated to the budget of the National Aeronautics and  
3 Space Administration from the budget of the Department of Defense.

4 **SECTION 2.** 50% of the funding (\$5 billion) will be directed towards maintenance of the  
5 International Space Station (ISS). 25% of the funding (\$2.5 billion) will be  
6 used to conduct research and missions that will take the United States to Mars.  
7 25% of the funding (\$2.5 billion) will be at the discretion of the National  
8 Aeronautics and Space Administration.

9 **SECTION 3.** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of  
10 Defense will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect on the fourth of May 2021.

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

*Introduced to Congressional Debate by Bridgewater-Raritan*

## **A Bill to Provide Emergency Funding to Support the Roll-out and Distribution of COVID-19 Vaccines**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The US Government shall provide \$25 billion dollars in emergency funding to support the distribution, and administration of COVID-19 vaccines.

**SECTION 2.** “COVID-19 vaccines” shall be defined as any vaccine approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research External (CBER) for treatment of the novel 2019 coronavirus.

**SECTION 3.**

A. \$25 billion dollars shall be allocated to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the purpose of enhancing and expanding the immunization infrastructure nationwide.

B. The allocated money shall also be used to recruit, train, and fund the workforce needed to distribute and administer the vaccines, further fund the Section 317 program, further fund the immunization information systems (IIS), and to buy ancillary supplies needed to administer the vaccine.

C. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shall distribute the vaccines and ancillary supplies to both public and private healthcare entities who have the capabilities of supplying the vaccine to the general public.

D. The CDC will work alongside state and local governments to improve vaccination infrastructure.

E. The implementation of this bill shall be overseen by the Department of Health and Human Services

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

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

*Introduced to Congressional Debate by Xaverian High School*

# Round 2 Legislation



# A Resolution to Modify the UN Security Council Veto Process

1     **WHEREAS,**     The system which currently governs vetoes within the United Nations Security  
2                     Council (UNSC) is undemocratic; and  
3     **WHEREAS,**     One member state out of 15 voting member states can destroy a solution for  
4                     peace by exercising an insurmountable veto; and  
5     **WHEREAS,**     Many permanent member states of the UNSC are operating from a purely self-  
6                     interested position and, in turn, often fail to work for global progress; now,  
7                     therefore, be it  
8     **RESOLVED** That the United States urges the United Nations to revise the Security Council veto  
9                     process to ensure a two-thirds majority vote can override any veto within the  
10                    UNSC.

*Introduced to Congressional Debate by Millard North High School*

## **A BILL TO HALT THE MILITARIZATION OF POLICE**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** Section 1033 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 1997 shall be stricken  
3 from the text of the Act and the program -- commonly referred to as the “1033  
4 Program” -- shall cease.

5 **SECTION 2.** The “1033 Program” shall be defined as the program permitted under Section  
6 1033 of H.R. 3230 that allows the Department of Defense to dispose of excess  
7 military equipment by passing it off to local law enforcement.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense shall be responsible for the oversight and  
9 implementation of this legislation.

10 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect six months from the date of passage.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Xavier High School*

# The Federal Fair Pay to Play Act of 2021

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Postsecondary educational institutions, and athletic organizations with authority over intercollegiate athletics, are prohibited from providing a student athlete with compensation in relation to the athlete's name, image, or likeness, or preventing a student participating in intercollegiate athletics from earning compensation as a result of the use of the student's name, image, or likeness or obtaining professional representation relating to the student's participation in intercollegiate athletics. These groups are also prohibited from revoking a student's scholarship as a result of earning compensation or obtaining legal representation as authorized under these provisions.

**SECTION 2.** "Postsecondary educational institution" is any four-year college or university. "Student athlete" is defined as a participant in competitive sports sponsored by the educational institution in which the student is enrolled.

**SECTION 3.** The National Labor Relations Board shall be responsible for implementation and enforcement of this legislation.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will be implemented January 1, 2022.

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

*Introduced to Congressional Debate by Wellington High School*

# Round 3 Legislation



## **A BILL REGARDING DRUG PRICE NEGOTIATIONS**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall henceforth have the power to  
3 represent said agency in the negotiation of drug prices for Medicare and Medicaid  
4 with companies that manufacture and/or distribute pharmaceuticals.

5 **SECTION 2.** This piece of legislation will override §(6)(b) of Section 222 of the Medicare  
6 Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act, which prohibits the  
7 Secretary the DHHS from negotiating drugs prices. Both brand name and generic  
8 drug manufacturers and/or distributors must offer Medicaid, Medicare, and VA  
9 marketplaces lower prices, if the price of a given product rises in excess of double  
10 the national inflation rate.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall oversee the implementation  
12 of this legislation.

13 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect at the start of the 2022 fiscal year.

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

*Respectfully submitted for debate by Xavier High School*

# A Bill to End Subsidies to Fossil Fuels to Promote Clean Energy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Subsidies to the fossil fuel industry shall be ended. The money from fossil fuel  
3 subsidies shall instead be used to subsidize clean energy.

4 **SECTION 2.** Subsidies shall be defined as money given by government to a particular  
5 industry to keep prices competitive. Clean energy shall be defined as energy  
6 sources that do not emit greenhouse gases, some of which are carbon dioxide  
7 or methane. Such energy sources include hydroelectric power, wind power,  
8 solar power, and fusion power

9 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency shall be responsible for enforcing this  
10 legislation.

11 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect 1 year after passage.

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

*Introduced to Congressional Debate by Union Catholic High School*

## **A Bill to Enforce Transparency in Capital Police Operations to Guarantee Citizen Safety**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Security information held by the United States Capitol Police must be released  
3 to another entity, including an individual, in a manner pursuant to the  
4 Freedom of Information Act (5 USC §552).

5 **SECTION 2.** Security Information will be defined as in 2 U.S. Code § 1979: “information  
6 that is sensitive with respect to the policing, protection, physical security,  
7 intelligence, counterterrorism actions, or emergency preparedness and  
8 response relating to Congress, any statutory protectee of the Capitol Police,  
9 and the Capitol buildings and grounds; and is obtained by, on behalf of, or  
10 concerning the Capitol Police Board, the Capitol Police, or any incident  
11 command relating to emergency response.”

12 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice and Capitol Police Board will oversee the  
13 enforcement of this legislation.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation goes into effect immediately upon passage.

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

*Introduced to Congressional Debate by Pennsbury High School*

# Semifinals Legislation



# **A Resolution to Reform the U.S. Postal Service to Lessen the Burden of the Pension & Retiree Benefit System**

- 1   **WHEREAS,**   The United States Postal Service (USPS) is unable to continue pre-funding  
2                   retiree health benefits required by the “Postal Service Retiree Health Benefit  
3                   Fund” (PSRHBFB) established in the “Postal Accountability and Enhancement  
4                   Act (2006)”;
- 5   **WHEREAS,**   USPS has lost nearly \$3 billion USD each year since the implementation of the  
6                   “Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (2006)” and has unfunded pension  
7                   liabilities for The Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and Federal  
8                   Employees Retirement System (FERS) valued at over \$50 billion USD; and
- 9   **WHEREAS,**   The funding collected for the PSRHBFB is currently being diverted to assist in  
10                  national debt payment rather than serving its intended purpose; and
- 11   **WHEREAS,**   The PSRHBFB accounts for a majority of USPS losses; now, therefore, be it  
12   **RESOLVED,**   By the Congress here assembled to make the following recommendation to  
13                   repeal Subsection (d) of Section 8909a “Postal Service Retiree Health Benefit  
14                   Fund” Title 5, United States Code.

*Introduced to Congressional Debate by Perkiomen Valley High School*

## A Resolution to End the Use of Military Drone Strikes

- 1   **WHEREAS,**   Drone strikes can occur with little rationale in a largely secretive process and  
2                   harm US influence in international regions; and
- 3   **WHEREAS,**   Hundreds of civilians are killed by US drones every year often outside war  
4                   zones and against international law; and
- 5   **WHEREAS,**   Numerous independent investigations have found that the Department of  
6                   Defense and CIA drastically underestimate the number of civilians killed by  
7                   airstrikes; and
- 8   **WHEREAS,**   The rate of civilian casualties from US drone airstrikes has been steadily  
9                   increasing under the current administration; therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled call for a complete and hasty end to the use of  
11                   drone strikes by the Department of Defense.

*Introduced to Congressional Debate by Bridgewater-Raritan*

# A Bill to Mandate Same-Day Voter Registration for Federal Elections to Improve Voter Turnout

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Same-day voter registration shall be offered at all polling locations for federal  
3 elections.

4 **SECTION 2.**

5 A. Polling locations shall be defined as any location where ballots are cast  
6 during federal elections.

7 B. Same-day voter registration shall be implemented for both primary and  
8 general elections.

9 C. To register, eligible voters shall be required to present a valid photo  
10 identification and proof of residence. Individuals shall also take an oath  
11 that confirms that they are at least 18 years old and eligible to vote.

12 D. Ballots shall include a checkbox that shall indicate whether the voter  
13 registered the same day at the polling location or ahead of time.

14 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission shall oversee the enforcement of this bill.

15 A. The voter registration status indicated on the ballot shall be used to  
16 determine whether states and polling locations are following the measures  
17 outlined in this bill.

18 B. Should a polling location fail to comply with the voter registration  
19 measures outlined in this bill, the state that the polling location was in  
20 shall be ineligible to apply for any federal government grants until the  
21 state complies.

22 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on June 1st, 2022.

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

# Finals Legislation



## A Resolution to Refocus US Attention on Surrounding NTD Programs to Offer an Opportunity to Reinforce COVID-19 Responses

- 1   **WHEREAS,**   With the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic showing no signs of  
2                   abating, resuming neglected tropical disease (NTD) activities is vital; and
- 3   **WHEREAS,**   Reassessment of country situations will be an ongoing process as COVID-19  
4                   continues to have an impact on Africa. The virus is now endemic, and  
5                   governments will need to adapt and balance public health priorities with social,  
6                   political, and economic impacts. Suspending health programs will have a  
7                   greater detrimental impact on health than COVID-19 in the long term,  
8                   particularly on children; and
- 9   **WHEREAS,**   NTDs have low mortality but high morbidity rates. More than a billion people –  
10                  one-sixth of the world’s population – are infected with one or more NTDs, and  
11                  an additional two billion are at risk; and
- 12   **WHEREAS,**   The health impact of NTDs negatively affects economic development, hampers  
13                  educational achievement and cognitive development, and reduces agricultural  
14                  productivity and food security; and
- 15   **WHEREAS,**   Failure to resume activities will not only enhance the risk of NTD transmission,  
16                  but will fail to leverage behavior change messaging on the importance of hand  
17                  and face washing and improved sanitation—a common strategy for several  
18                  NTDs that also reduces the risk of COVID-19 spread; and
- 19   **RESOLVED,**   That the Congress here assembled encourages further coordination between the  
20                  Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and USAID programs  
21                  regarding funding needs, and enforcement for NTD Programs.
- 22   **FURTHER RESOLVED,** The two organizations will work alongside each other, and utilize  
23                  NGOs to successfully deliver medical aid and support in enforcement.

# A Bill to Extend Bankruptcy to Cover Student Loans

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All student loans be they federally or privately secured will hereby be eligible  
3 for discharge through Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 bankruptcies for all persons  
4 who have legally secured these loans and otherwise qualify for bankruptcy  
5 protections in the United States.

6 **SECTION 2.** A Chapter 7 bankruptcy shall be defined as the liquidation of assets to nullify  
7 debt. A Chapter 13 bankruptcy shall be defined as the reorganization of funds  
8 to essentially create a payment plan.

9 **SECTION 3.** The United States Trustee Program under the Department of Justice will be  
10 tasked with implementing this bill.

11 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect at the start of fiscal year 2021.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Millard North High School*

## The Progression in Succession Act of 2021

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Congress will take the following steps to create more diversity in the economic and legal leadership of the nation.

- A. To choose a successor for all future Presidents of the Regional Federal Reserve Banks, all Federal Reserve Banks shall have an interview pool consisting of proportional percentages relative to gender and racial diversity.
- B. The entire U.S Legal Code shall be adjusted to include only gender-neutral terminology and all future laws passed will be subject to revision to include only gender-neutral terminology.

**SECTION 2.** Gender diversity shall be defined as an interview pool consisting of at least 50 percent of interviewees reflective of gender diversity. Racial diversity shall be defined as an interview pool of at least 25 percent of interviewees reflective of racial diversity.

**SECTION 3.** The Federal Reserve is responsible for reporting accurate demographic information with respect to the race and gender of all interviewees for the position of President to Congress for a review of compliance.

- A. The Office of Law of Revision Counsel will be responsible for designing and implementing a process to amend the U.S Legal Code and revise any future law.
- B. Congress is responsible for adjusting the racial and gender diversity requirements in Section 2A to reflect the changing demographics in the United States.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on [insert date here, formatted as “FY 2021” or “July 1, 2021” but not “July 1st”].

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Apopka High School*