

Central Minnesota NSDA District Congress

December 11-12, 2020

Tournament Legislation

ONLINE



**CENTRAL
MINNESOTA
DISTRICT**

NATIONAL SPEECH & DEBATE ASSOCIATION

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A NOTE ABOUT LEGISLATION:

Primary Legislation is reserved for the final round of the House and the final round of the the Senate (if held).

Secondary legislation is reserved for the semifinal round of the House (if held).

If the Senate does not have a final round, all legislation may be debated in each of the three preliminary sessions. If the House only breaks to a final round, all secondary and tertiary legislation may be debated in the preliminary sessions.

The docket is NOT set by the tournament and will be determined within each chamber. The only rule is that primary and secondary legislation is reserved for final and semifinal elimination rounds, if held.

The tournament structure (whether there are final or semifinal sessions) is based on the number of entries in each event and will be announced six days prior to the start of the tournament

A Bill to Support the Shift to Sustainable Sources

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Fossil fuel companies will receive performance-based grants in order to shift away from fossil fuel energy production to renewable energy production.

SECTION 2. Fossil fuel energy shall be defined as any oil, natural gas, or coal energy. Renewable energy shall be defined as wind power, hydro power, solar power, geothermal, bioenergy, etc. Performance-based grants will be given based on the percent change of energy production from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

SECTION 3. The Department of the Interior (DOI), the Energy Information Administration (EIA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall be responsible for the implementation of this legislation.

A. The DOI and the EIA shall work together to monitor the companies' shift to renewable energy and determine the allocation of the grants. If a company uses the grants improperly, they shall be retracted and the company will not be eligible for receiving grants for one (1) year.

B. The EPA shall be responsible for ensuring that companies are engaging in best practices for shifting to renewable energy.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall come into effect 6 months upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School



ST. PAUL ACADEMY
AND SUMMIT SCHOOL

Pollinator Protection Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The use of neonicotinoids and all other chemicals that harm or may harm pollinators is banned, and mandatory pollinator habitat is implemented on all federal lands. This ban is effective on all use, not just that of the federal government.

SECTION 2. “Neonicotinoids” are defined as pesticides, chemically related to nicotine, that have negative effects on pollinators. “All other chemicals that harm or may harm pollinators” are defined as any chemicals found, by scientific study, to be or to potentially be harmful to pollinators. “Pollinators” are defined as any creature or phenomenon by which the act of pollination is achieved. “Pollinator habitat” is defined as a space composed of pollinator-friendly flowers and designed to provide pollinators with necessities they need to live.

- A. Pollinator gardens shall be a minimum of one fourth of the available green space on a federal property. “Available green space” is any space on federal property that does not house a permanent structure.

SECTION 3. The Environmental Protection Agency shall be responsible for overseeing the ban on neonicotinoids, while the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Dept. of Interior) shall oversee the implementation of pollinator habitat on federal lands.

- A. These agencies shall work with industry experts who will help the agencies refine their methods and ensure their actions are effective in saving pollinators.

SECTION 4. The ban on neonicotinoids shall take effect immediately. All pollinator habitat shall be implemented by January 1, 2024.

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

A Resolution to Formally Recognize Taiwan

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States are crucial allies; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is only currently supported in its claims for sovereignty by fifteen countries; and

WHEREAS, The People's Republic of China has become an increasingly hostile presence in the global sphere; and

WHEREAS, The People's Republic of China continues to claim control of Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, The interests of the People's Republic of China do not align with the interests of Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, The People's Republic of China's goal to regain full control of Taiwan is not feasible; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that Taiwan shall officially be recognized by the United States as its own sovereign and independent nation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eastview High School

A Bill to Mandate One Year of National Service

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1: All American citizens between the ages of 18 and 25 shall be required to serve one year of national service.

SECTION 2: "National service" shall be defined as serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Peace Corps, or AmeriCorps.

SECTION 3: Those not earning a salary during their mandated service shall be financially reimbursed for their service no more than one year after the completion of the requirement.

SECTION 4: Citizens must apply for exemptions, which shall be given based on health and religious reasons only.

SECTION 5: Congress shall allocate \$1 billion to pay for this legislation.

SECTION 6: The Department of Defense, the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the Peace Corps shall be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this legislation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eastview High School

A Bill to Lessen the Load on Lebanon

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1: The United States shall allocate a yearly payment of 500 million dollars in economic aid to Lebanon for 5 years. This money shall be divided between the Lebanese Economic Association and the Lebanese Institute for Social & Economic Development.

SECTION 2: The Lebanese Economic Association and the Lebanese Institute for Social & Economic Development shall be defined as non-profit non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Lebanon.

SECTION 3: A. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Office of the US Inspector General (OIG) will work in conjunction with the implementation of this bill.

B. USAID will allocate the funding from its budget for Fiscal Year 2021.

C. The Office of the US Inspector General will monitor the aid for misuse. If misuse is detected, aid will be retracted for the following years.

D. After the 5-year grant period, the USAID shall reevaluate the necessity for economic aid in Lebanon. If need is warranted, the yearly aid payments shall be extended another 5 years.

SECTION 4: This legislation shall go into effect immediately after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School



ST. PAUL ACADEMY
AND SUMMIT SCHOOL

A Bill to Lower the Age of Candidacy in the United States

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The age of candidacy in the United States shall be lowered to the age of eighteen for all elected officials running for federal office.

SECTION 2. Age of candidacy is defined as the minimum age at which a person can legally hold certain elected government offices as well as the age at which a person may be eligible to stand for an election or be granted ballot access.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission shall ensure that eligible candidates meet the age threshold and are not disqualified from running due to outdated age of candidacy requirements.

A. The Congress of The United States would place this bill in front of each state in order to pass a constitutional change. In order for a constitutional change to occur this bill would have to pass two-thirds of the Senate, two-thirds of the House of Representatives, and three-fourths of the states.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect for the next midterm elections in 2022 with two-thirds approval from the Senate and The House of Representatives.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by St. Paul Academy and Summit School.

A Bill to Fund Grants for Teachers from Underrepresented Racial Minority Backgrounds

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States shall fund competitive grants to higher education institutions that are teaching teachers with underrepresented racial minority backgrounds.
- SECTION 2.** Underrepresented racial minorities shall be defined as those whose percentage of the population in the teaching force is lower than their percentage of the population in the country.
- The grants shall be defined as opportunities only open to underrepresented minority groups.
- SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Education will oversee this program and provide a yearly report on the effectiveness of the program.
- A. Each of the programs at educational institutions shall receive \$2,000,000 from the Department of Education for the next four fiscal years.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect in the 2022 school year.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School

A Bill to Implement a Maximum Wage

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The federal minimum wage is currently established as \$7.25
2 an hour, but there exists no federal maximum wage. Therefore, all
3 corporations in the United States shall henceforth limit their highest-paid
4 employees' salaries to less than one-hundred times more than their
5 lowest-paid employees' salaries.

6 A. Additionally, in the case where employees of a corporation are not
7 salaried, the corporation in question shall raise the hourly wage of their
8 hourly workers by no less than 1 dollar an hour.

9 **SECTION 2.** A. "Corporation" shall be defined as a company or group of
10 people that operates in the United States, authorized to act as a single
11 entity (legally a person) and recognized as such in law.

12 B. "Salary" shall be defined as a fixed regular payment,
13 typically paid on a monthly or biweekly basis but often expressed as an
14 annual sum, made by an employer to an employee.

15 C. "Highest-paid" shall be defined as the employee or
16 employees who have the highest yearly salary throughout the entire
17 corporation.

18 D. "Lowest-paid" shall be defined as the employee or
19 employees who have the lowest yearly salary throughout the entire
20 corporation.

21 E. "Hourly worker" shall be defined as workers who do not
22 have a set salary in regards to their employment, but are paid every hour
23 they work.

24 **SECTION 3.** The Department of the Treasury in collaboration with the
25 Internal Revenue Service(IRS) shall be responsible for the implementation
26 and enforcement of this bill.

27 A. Failure to comply with this legislation will result in a \$1 billion
28 dollar fine on an individual corporation.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2022.

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

A Resolution to Censure the Kurdistan Regional Government

WHEREAS, Protests have been ongoing in Iraq's Kurdish region; and

WHEREAS, The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRI) has preemptively made arrests to prevent planned protests; and

WHEREAS, This is an act that stifles free expression; and

WHEREAS, The Kurdish regions' requirement to request permission to protest conflicts with international law's protection of the right to peaceful assembly; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the United States shall formally censure the Kurdistan Regional Government for their efforts in stifling free speech and expression.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School

A Bill to Adopt Ranked-Choice Voting to Ensure Every Vote Counts

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall require all states to implement Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV) in all federal elections. This will effectively replace the plurality system.

SECTION 2.

- A. "Ranked-Choice Voting" shall be defined as the system in which citizens rank their candidates in order of preference on the ballot, rather than being limited to one.
- B. If a candidate were to receive over a 50% majority of the first preference votes, they would win. If there is no 50% majority, the candidate who receives the fewest first preference votes will have their votes redistributed to voters' second choice.
- C. This process will be repeated until a candidate receives over a 50% majority of the ballots.
- D. The "plurality system" shall be defined as the current system in which the candidate with the highest number of votes wins.
- E.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission (FEC) in conjunction with state governments will oversee the enforcement of the bill.

- A. The FEC will assist state governments in educating citizens of the United States of the logistics of this new voting system.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect on January 1, 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate from Eastview High School

A Bill to Enact the China Compliance Program to Ensure the Safety of US Interests in the Conclusion of the Trade War

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1: In order to ensure the success of Phase 1 Trade Negotiations, the United States shall implement the China Compliance Program, which will result in the United States refraining from the removal of U.S. tariffs on Chinese products to incentivize China's compliance.

SECTION 2: "Phase 1 Trade Negotiations" shall be defined as China's agreement to increase purchases of American products and services by at least \$200 billion over the next two years. "U.S. tariffs" shall be defined as the implemented taxation on Chinese products by the United States between 2017 and present.

SECTION 3: The Office of the United States Trade Representative will be responsible for the implementation of this legislation.

SECTION 4: This bill shall take effect upon being passed

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School

A Bill To Abolish ICE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Government will take steps to disband the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.)

SECTION 2. “Disbanding” refers to removing all responsibilities of the agency, with those responsibilities being transferred to other governmental organizations with more congressional oversight.

SECTION 3. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in collaboration with the Department of Justice (DOJ), shall oversee the enforcement and implementation of this bill.

A. All funding allocated to I.C.E. will be redirected to the DHS and DOJ.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect by the 1st of January 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eastview High School

A Resolution of Support for Public Defense**A Resolution of Support for Public Defense**

1 **WHEREAS,** There are essentially two criminal justice systems in the sense that rich individuals can
2 often escape the harshest implications of retribution through paying high bails and hiring well-trained,
3 expensive lawyers, while poorer defendants rely on over-worked counsel provided to them by the state,
4 decreasing their chances of shortening or eliminating their sentences; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Estimates find that 88% of criminal defendants represented by a public defender
6 received a criminal sentence, compared to 77% of criminal defendants receiving a sentence who were
7 represented by a private attorney, and those represented by the state also have much longer wait times
8 to acquire legal counsel itself; and

9 **WHEREAS,** A criminal sentence can permanently impede an individual's ability to find work, and the
10 opportunity cost of being imprisoned is that an individual loses time to build on their own career, while
11 simultaneously undergoing the psychological harms associated with being in the prison system; and

12 **WHEREAS,** The rich will always have the incentive to use their wealth to their advantage, creating
13 an unequal playing field in the legal system, strengthening socio-economic divides;

14 **WHEREAS,** Most criminal defense trials take place at the state level;
15 now, therefore, be it

16 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled urge state legislatures to engage in criminal justice
17 reform through public defense.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Bill to Repeal Oil Subsidies**A Bill to Repeal Oil Subsidies**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (§26 USC) is amended to repeal all subsidies related
3 to fossil fuel energy industries, including:

4 A. Amortization of geological and geophysical expenditures;

5 B. Producing oil and gas from marginal wells;

6 C. Enhanced oil recovery credit;

7 D. Intangible drilling and development costs in the case of oil and gas wells;

8 E. Percentage depletion for oil and gas wells;

9 F. Deduction for tertiary injectants;

10 G. Exception to passive loss limitations for working interests in oil and gas properties;

11 H. Deduction for qualified business income not allowed with respect to oil and gas
12 activities; and

13 I. Prohibition on using last-in, first-out accounting for oil and gas companies.

14 **SECTION 2.** §26 USC, Paragraph (1) of section 4612(a) shall be amended to read: “(1) CRUDE OIL. –

15 The term ‘crude oil’ includes crude oil condensates, natural gasoline, any bitumen or
16 bituminous mixture, any oil derived from a bitumen or bituminous mixture (including oil
17 derived from tar sands), and any oil derived from kerogen-bearing sources (including oil
18 derived from oil shale).”

19 **SECTION 3.** All laws in conflict with this act are hereby declared null and void; this act shall take
20 effect upon passage.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association; inspired by H.R.8411 - End Oil and Gas Tax Subsidies Act of 2020, 116th Congress.

A Bill to Institute a Sugar Tax

A Bill to Institute a Sugar Tax

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A tax will be implemented on all beverages containing 5 or more grams of sugar per 100
3 milliliters.

4 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions will apply:

5 A. A sugar tax will be defined as \$.25 per liter of beverage containing sugar.

6 B. The revenue from the tax will be allocated to address obesity, diabetes, and related
7 health conditions.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Food and Drug Administration and the Internal Revenue Service will oversee the
9 enforcement of this legislation.

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

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Bill for Emergency Relief for Somalia

A Bill for Emergency Relief for Somalia

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress will provide \$250 million for emergency relief to Somalia.

3 **SECTION 2.** The following considerations will apply:

4 A. This emergency relief is above and beyond aid already designated to Somalia.

5 B. Relief will be directed to food insecurity and to alleviate crowding in camps due to

6 COVID-19 displacement from homes.

7 **SECTION 3.** USAID will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

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

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Bill to Grant Public Safety Workers the Right to Collective Bargaining**A Bill to Grant Public Safety Workers the Right to Collective Bargaining**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Any individual who is currently employed in the public safety sector will have increased
3 access to collective bargaining. This will include the following policies:

4 A. The ability to both create and join labor unions.

5 B. The ability to use such unions to bargain over terms of employment, wages, and hours.

6 C. Assurance that public safety employers will recognize the labor unions and will bargain
7 with the organization, resulting in a written contract.

8 D. Should there be a dispute between the labor unions and the public safety employer, a
9 method of dispute resolution, either through arbitration or mediation, will be assigned
10 to the case.

11 **SECTION 2.** A public safety employee will be defined as any law enforcement officer, member of
12 emergency medical personnel, or firefighter.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Labor Relations Authority will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

14 A. The Federal Labor Relations Authority will determine adequate labor representation
15 when supervising elections.

16 B. The Authority will conduct hearings and resolve complaints of unfair labor tactics, as
17 reported by the labor unions.

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

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Bill to Create Domestic Jobs While Ending Offshoring Expenditures**A Bill to Create Domestic Jobs While Ending Offshoring Expenditures**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Internal Revenue Code will receive the following amendments:

3 A. Individuals who hire employees who replace alternative employees who are not

4 American citizens or permanent residents who perform similar duties overseas will be

5 exempt from employment taxes for a two-year period.

6 B. There will be a denial of any tax deduction or tax credit for the cost of an American jobs

7 offshoring transaction.

8 C. Elimination of any foreign corporation deferment of income tax in connection with

9 products imported to the United States with the exception of agricultural products not

10 regionally grown in the United States.

11 **SECTION 2.** An American jobs offshoring transaction will be defined as any transaction in which a

12 taxpayer decreases, or eliminates, a corporate entity or corporate practice related to the expansion of

13 commerce outside of the United States.

14 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

15 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented by the fiscal year 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association