



Arizona State University

## Hugh Downs School of Human Communication Invitational 2021

### Congressional Debate Docket – Preliminary Sessions

The tournament will be contested by NSDA rules, except where indicated below. Please be sure that your students are familiar with NSDA policies and parliamentary procedures:

Each session will begin with the election of the presiding officer for that round. Each session will follow NSDA definitions for a change of session, with the exception of seating charts, which are impossible in a virtual competition.

The agenda for the Preliminary sessions will be set by a caucus in chambers at the beginning of session one. Speaking precedence will be determined by the Presiding Officer, using NSDA guidelines for choosing speakers and questioners.

All sessions will use Direct Examination with each questioner receiving a 30 second period. The presiding officer will keep a separate recency chart to determine questioners.

The number of preliminary chambers, and the number who advance from each, will be determined based on total entries at the start of the competition.

Preliminary chamber assignments will be provided one hour prior to the start of debate.

If a school has more competitors than chambers, they will be sectioned in chambers so that one chamber is opened for their judges to participate. One or two scorers and a parliamentarian will be assigned to each preliminary session, depending on the availability of the judge pool. Scorers will rotate; the parliamentarian will stay the same throughout the prelims.

Advancing students will be selected by judge ranks, using NSDA tiebreakers where applicable.

# 1 - A Resolution to Fund the Offshore Wind Industry to Create Clean Energy

1   **WHEREAS,**   The United States has a large offshore wind energy resource that is ready  
2                   to be utilized; and

3   **WHEREAS,**   U.S. shores currently possess a power potential of over 2000 gigawatts or  
4                   nearly double the nation’s current electricity usage and will be able to  
5                   generate electricity for more than 115 million U.S. households; and

6   **WHEREAS,**   Offshore Wind Energy has the potential to deliver large amounts of clean  
7                   reliable energy and reduce pollution oil spills; and

8   **WHEREAS,**   Funding this industry will result in more than 200,000 jobs being created  
9                   which is about twice the number of jobs being created by other sources  
10                  of energy such as offshore drilling; and

11   **WHEREAS,**   Offshore Wind Energy will also help create more jobs in the shipbuilding  
12                  and manufacturing industry further fueling the U.S. economy; and

13   **WHEREAS,**   Wildlife and marine ecosystems are positively impacted by offshore wind  
14                  farms due to the fact that they act as effective marine reserves; and

15   **WHEREAS,**   Wind farms can act as artificial reefs and protection from fishing  
16                  pressures creating extremely positive effects; now, therefore, be it

17   **RESOLVED,**   That the Congress here assembled that the United States shall fund the  
18                  Offshore Wind Industry to create clean energy.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.*

## 2 - A Bill to Invest in Nuclear Power

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The U.S. government will allocate \$10 Billion for research and  
3 development for nuclear power and nuclear power plants.

4 **SECTION 2.** Nuclear power will be defined as the use of nuclear reactions that release  
5 nuclear energy to generate heat to produce electricity in power plants.  
6 Nuclear power plants will be defined as a thermal power station that  
7 heats water to produce steam.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency  
9 (EPA) will be responsible for oversight of this legislation.

10 A. Annual audits will be carried out to ensure that funds are being  
11 utilized effectively and that research and development is making  
12 progress.

13 B. If companies that have nuclear power plants have more emissions,  
14 their funding will be retracted.

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the start of FY 2023.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.*

### 3 - A Resolution to Ban Voter ID Laws

- 1   **WHEREAS,**   Thirty-five states have increased voter requirements through voter  
2                   identification laws; and
- 3   **WHEREAS,**   These laws require voters to show an appropriate ID at the voting booth;  
4                   and
- 5   **WHEREAS,**   This is justified under the false pretense of enhancing election security;  
6                   and
- 7   **WHEREAS,**   Such cumbersome requirements deter voting and target minority groups  
8                   including African Americans, Latinx, and Native Americans; now,  
9                   therefore, be it
- 10   **RESOLVED,**   By the Congress here assembled that all voter ID laws instituted by states  
11                   should not apply to federal or local elections; and, be it
- 12   **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That If states continue to require voter ID laws for federal or local  
13                   elections, this congress shall take additional legal recourse.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Phoenix Country Day School.*

## **4 - A Resolution to Recognize the Rights and Existence of Palestine**

**WHEREAS**, there is no current Palestinian state; and

**WHEREAS**, Palestinians remain fragmented between the West Bank and Gaza Strip; and

**WHEREAS**, Israel has made known its plans to annex Palestinian land in the West Bank, directly contrary to international law; and

**WHEREAS**, Many unlawful settlements have been established on Palestinian ground; and

**WHEREAS**, Numerous human rights abuses have been committed against the Palestinian people; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, By the Congress here assembled that the United States grant recognition to the rights and existence of Palestine as a sovereign and rightful nation belonging to the Palestinian people; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a United States shall establish an embassy in Palestine, recognizing its capital at East Jerusalem.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Timpanogos High School*

## 5 - The Higher Education Reform Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**Section 1.** In past decades, college tuition, fees, and student debt have all greatly increased. To help ensure that all U.S Citizens have access to higher education, and the economic freedom it provides, all public colleges, universities, HBCU's, and Minority Serving Institutions shall be made both tuition and debt free. In addition, all current student loan debt will be cancelled.

**Section 2.** HBCU's shall be defined as colleges and universities primarily founded to serve African American students.

**Section 3.** This legislation shall be implemented by the Department of Education and IRS.

A. Funding will come from a Wall Street speculation tax; 0.5% on stock trades, 0.1% on bond trades, and 0.005% on derivative trades.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will 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 Timpanogos High School*

## 6 - A Resolution to Rejoin the CPTPP

- 1   **WHEREAS,**   The United States withdrew from the Comprehensive and Progressive  
2                    Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership on January 23, 2017; and  
3   **WHEREAS,**   This withdrawal costs the United States billions of dollars and access to  
4                    several international markets; and  
5   **WHEREAS,**   The United States has an obligation to protect its farmers', business-  
6                    owners', and producers' economic interests; and  
7   **WHEREAS,**   the CPTPP fosters free trade; now, therefore, be it  
8   **RESOLVED,**   That the Congress here assembled recommend that the United States  
9                    join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific  
10                  Partnership

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lake Oswego High School*

## 7 - A Bill to Increase Campaign Finance Transparency

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** This bill aims to increase the financial transparency of campaigns for political candidates, legislation, and measures, both on a federal and local level.
- A.** Candidates running for any government office must publish an in-depth report of all cumulative contributions over \$1,000.00 made to their campaign from a single actor during that election cycle. This information shall be released prior to voting in said election.
- B.** PACs and Super PACs must publicly disclose the names of donors who cumulatively contribute more than \$1,000.00 US dollars during a given election cycle, along with all funded projects and campaigns for an election or measure, prior to when voting begins.
- C.** Any organization listed as 527s, 501(c)(4)s, 501(c)(5)s, or 501(c)(6) under the US tax code that is involved in any format with state or federal elections must publicly disclose donor information of any cumulative donations that exceed \$1,000.00 US dollars prior to when voting begins in said election.
- SECTION 2.** PACs: a type of independent political action committee which may raise unlimited sums of money from corporations, unions, and individuals to advocate and campaign for or against a particular candidate, ballot measure, or legislation.
- SECTION 3.** Government agencies involved with the implementation of this bill include:
- C.** The FEC will continue to monitor and collect information on all candidates, parties, PACs, and Super PACs, ensuring that they are following suit with the requirements established in this bill.
- D.** The IRS will collect expenditure and donor reports from all 527s, 501(c)(4)s, 501(c)(5)s, 501(c)(6)s, and publish necessary findings to the public. They will work with both federal and state governments to ensure that all candidates running for office comply with the campaign finance requirements established in this bill.
- SECTION 4.** This bill shall officially go into effect on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lake Oswego*



## **8 - A Bill to Reform Arms Export Control**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**Section 1.** The International Traffic in Arms Regulations and the 2018 Conventional Arms Transfer Policy shall be voided upon passage. The Arms Export Control Act of 1976 shall henceforth operate as the sole federal arms export control list.

**Section 2.** A federal arms export control list is defined as the set of guidelines to determine which countries can and can not receive arms from the United States.

**Section 3.** Implementation will be overseen by the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, the Department of State, and the Department of Defense.

**A.** Every sale of United States arms must be considered and approved by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation shall 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 Brophy College Preparatory*

## **9 - A Bill to Promote Geothermal Energy**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States government shall enact an additional 15% corporate income tax on all companies that use hydraulic fracturing to extract natural gas or petroleum. All funds collected from the tax will be invested in geothermal energy through supporting private energy companies.

**SECTION 2.** A. Hydraulic fracturing is defined as a technique in which water is mixed with sand and chemicals, and the mixture is injected at high pressure into a wellbore to create fractures, along which natural gas and petroleum may migrate to the well for extraction.  
B. Private energy companies are defined as companies that devote at least 60% of their investments toward geothermal energy production.

**SECTION 3.** A. The U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of the Treasury shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.  
B. The House Ways and Means Committee shall be given the task to allocate funding to private energy companies.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately on passage

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Brophy College Preparatory*

## **10 - A Resolution to Negotiate a Free Trade Agreement Between the United States and the United Kingdom**

**WHEREAS,** The US and UK are long term allies

**WHEREAS,** Brexit means that the UK would have to renegotiate all trade deals

**WHEREAS,** the UK wants to formulate an FTA with the US

**WHEREAS,** Tariffs hinder economic growth and removing them would improve trade relations and bolster trade between both countries

**WHEREAS,** the US and the UK have similar standards in regulations, and a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) would grant both the US and the UK the opportunity to match raised standards for agriculture and other products.

**WHEREAS,** An FTA would be benefit both the US and UK, especially economically; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** By this Congress here assembled that the US and the UK should negotiate and henceforth implement a Free Trade Agreement that benefits both countries.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Presentation High School.*



Arizona State University

## Hugh Downs School of Human Communication Invitational 2021

### Congressional Debate Docket – Semifinals and Finals

**Rules and Guidelines:** Semifinals and Finals will each last three hours. Each session will begin with the election of the presiding officer. The agenda will be set by a caucus in chambers.

The Semifinals and Finals will feature direct examination with each questioner receiving a 30 second period. The presiding officer will keep a separate recency chart to determine questioners.

For the Semifinal and Final rounds, competitors will be considered Senators. Semifinal legislation is taken from the NSDA monthly dockets. The Final legislation is a reaction to the recent SolarWinds cyber attack.

## **S1 - A Resolution to Encourage Integration of Individuals Formerly Convicted of Crimes into the Workforce**

1   **WHEREAS,**     If the purpose of the correctional system is to rehabilitate individuals convicted  
2                   of crimes, the high rate of unemployment of formerly incarcerated individuals  
3                   prevents their productive integration into the American workforce and  
4                   compounds problems of recidivism; and

5   **WHEREAS,**     Systemic racism within the criminal justice system has contributed to deep racial  
6                   disparities in hiring practices; now, therefore, be it

7   **RESOLVED,**     That the Congress here assembled urge states to implement legislation  
8                   applicable for public and private sector employers to prevent questions  
9                   pertaining to conviction history in initial employment applications, as well as  
10                  guidance for expungement and record-sealing, and be it

11   **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That states are urged to encourage facilitation of peer-to-peer networks  
12                   to help employers devise, share, and implement best practices of fair chance  
13                   hiring to better integrate citizens into the workforce following conviction and/or  
14                   incarceration; and be it

15   **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That Congress establish a joint oversight committee to audit the Equal  
16                   Employment Opportunity Commission's enforcement of Title VII of the Civil  
17                   Rights Act, particular to race in hiring practices.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association*

## S2 – A Bill to Raise Taxes on Gasoline to Combat the Impacts of Climate Change

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Federal government will implement higher taxes on all gas sold in the  
3 United States for individual consumption with the goal of disincentivizing  
4 citizens from gas usage.

5 **SECTION 2.** The tax will be 10.5 cents-per-gallon (CPG). The cents-per-gallon (CPG)  
6 flat tax will be annually adjusted for changes in the Consumer Price Index  
7 (CPI).

8 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will oversee the enforcement of this  
9 legislation.

10 **A.** The IRS will work with independent corporations to invest the capital  
11 accrued from the tax into the development of alternative energy  
12 sources, including but not limited to wind, solar, hydro-electric,  
13 thermal, and nuclear power.

14 **B.** The IRS will work with an independent researching agency to analyze  
15 the implication of the increased taxation on various socio-economic  
16 classes.

17 **SECTION 4.** This shall take effect upon passage, with all laws in conflict with this  
18 legislation declared null and void.

## S3 – Amend the OSH Act of 1970

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Federal government increases penalties contained in the OSH Act of 1970 for willful  
3 and repeated violations of COVID-19 protocols established to protect essential workers.

4 **SECTION 2.** Penalties under the OSH Act of 1970 will be increased as follows:

5 **A.** Section 17(a), increase penalties to a maximum of \$259,000 per violation and not  
6 less than \$100,000 per willful violation.

7 **B.** Section 17(b), increase penalties to a maximum of \$250,000 per violation.

8 **C.** Section 17(c), increase penalties to a maximum of \$250,000 per violation.

9 **D.** Section 17(d), increase penalties to a maximum of \$25,000 per violation, per day.

10 **E.** Section 17(e), increase penalties to a maximum of \$5 million and imprisonment of  
11 not more than 5 years per employee death, or by both, and upon repeat conviction,  
12 a maximum of \$10 million and imprisonment of not more than 10 years per  
13 employee death, or by both.

14 **F.** Section 17(f), increase penalties to a maximum of \$25,000 per violation, and  
15 imprisonment of not more than one year, or by both.

16 **G.** Section 17(g), increase penalties to a maximum of \$25,000 per violation, and  
17 imprisonment of not more than one year, or by both.

18 **H.** Section 17(i), increase penalties to a maximum of \$25,000 per violation

19 **SECTION 3.** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Department of Labor will  
20 oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

21 **SECTION 4.** This shall take effect upon passage, with all laws in conflict with this legislation declared  
22 null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association*

# F1 – A Bill to Deter Future Russian Cyber Attacks

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall identify individuals and financial institutions  
3 which are currently assisting Russia with electronic attacks.

4 **SECTION 2.** The United States shall implement a freeze order on all assets held by the  
5 parties in Section 1 of this legislation.

6 **SECTION 3.** Funding for the identification process in Section 1 of this legislation shall  
7 come from the Department of State.

8 **A.** The Department of State shall designate Russia as a State Sponsor of  
9 Terrorism until such time as the Secretary of State shall determine  
10 Russia has ceased all cyber-attacks.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect immediately after passage.

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



## F2 – Password Strength Act of 2021

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Any password for an internet-based account connected to a United  
3 States Federal Government server, which deals with USFG data, or is used  
4 by a government employee or contractor, must follow the criteria  
5 outlined in Section 2.

6 **SECTION 2.** All passwords must:

- 7 **A.** Contain a minimum of twelve characters in length;
- 8 **B.** Contain non-numeric symbols, numerals, capital letters, and  
9 lowercase letters;
- 10 **C.** Not contain any recognizable word or letter combination;
- 11 **D.** Be changed every thirty days;
- 12 **E.** Not be an iteration of any previous password;
- 13 **F.** Not be stored in an internet browser in such a way as they would  
14 automatically populate when needed;
- 15 **G.** Be secured through a third-party password manager.

16 **SECTION 3.** The Office of Personnel Management will oversee the implementation of  
17 these requirements. Any violation which results in a network being  
18 illegally accessed shall result in a fine of no less than \$100,000 and six  
19 years in prison.

20 **SECTION 4.** This shall take effect immediately after passage.

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

## **F3 – A Bill to Increase Funding for US Cyber Command**

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

2 **SECTION 1.** A sum of fifty billion dollars will be redirected from the general  
3 Department of Defense budget specifically to United States Cyber  
4 Command, for the express purpose of defending against foreign cyber-  
5 attacks.

6 **SECTION 2.** USCYBERCOM shall assume authority for all governmental and civilian  
7 cyber defenses.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense shall oversee the redirection of funding.

9 **SECTION 4.** This shall occur immediately upon passage.

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