



2021 Duke Invitational
Congressional Debate
Legislation Packet



2021 Duke Invitational – Congressional Debate Rules

General Notes

This year, the Duke Invitational will use NSDA Campus and Tabroom.com to run the Congressional Debate division of the tournament. All competitors and judges must be linked to a Tabroom account in order to access the competition space. All competitors and judges should be signed up for “Live Updates.” Judges will utilize electronic balloting throughout the tournament.

Legislation

Each Session (Preliminary, Semifinal, and Final) will be themed. Three pieces of legislation will be available for each session. Only the legislation for that session may be debated. The chamber may order the bills however they choose. No new legislation may be brought to the floor. No authorships exist on the legislation; instead, only sponsorships will be heard on legislation. Debate on each piece of legislation can only last 1 hour in accordance with the NSDA Pilot Rules.

Procedures

The number of preliminary chambers will be based on the total number of entrants. Preliminary chambers will be released the Saturday AM of the tournament. Each chamber will have a maximum of 12 students within it. Each preliminary session will be evaluated by 2 scorers. One Parliamentarian will stay throughout the entirety of the preliminary session. Each student will have a cumulative rank of 7 scores.

There will be three Semifinal chambers. Each chamber will be evaluated by 2 scorers. The Top 4 students (based on cumulative ranks) will clear to the Final.

There will be one Final chamber of 12 students. Finals will be evaluated by 3 scorers.

Every chamber must utilize direct questioning. Parliamentarians will be advised that all motions to suspend the rules will be ruled out of order by the Chair.

Chambers will have a maximum of 15 minutes of recess time per session. Chambers must therefore only finish two and a half hours to two and $\frac{3}{4}$ hours from the start of the round. Parliamentarians will enforce this.

Schedule

Saturday, October 2nd, 2021

9:25	AM	<i>Tech Check for Preliminary Session 1</i>
9:45	AM	Preliminary Session 1
12:50	PM	<i>Tech Check for Preliminary Session 2</i>
1:10	PM	Preliminary Session 2
5:10	PM	<i>Tech Check for Preliminary Session 3</i>
5:30	PM	Preliminary Session 3

Sunday, October 3rd, 2021

9:00	AM	<i>Tech Check for Semifinal Session</i>
9:30	AM	Semifinal Session
1:30	PM	<i>Tech Check for Final Session</i>
2:00	PM	Final Session



2021 Duke Invitational – Congressional Debate Docket

Preliminary Session

- Preliminary Session One – Pandemic Response
- Preliminary Session Two – International Relations
- Preliminary Session Three – Marginalized Groups

Seminal Session

- Semifinal Session – The Environment

Final Session

- Final Session – Banking & Finance



2021 Duke Invitational
Congressional Debate
Preliminary Legislation
Session One – Pandemic Response

A Resolution to Address Concerns with COVAX

1 **WHEREAS,** COVAX has distributed fewer than 200 million doses worldwide at the time of the
2 writing of this resolution, far short of its goal of 640 million doses; and

3 **WHEREAS,** some supplies of COVAX vaccines have expired prior to distribution in countries lacking
4 infrastructure for cold storage, delivery and distribution; and

5 **WHEREAS,** all nations, both wealthy and non-wealthy alike, are affected by uncontrolled spread of
6 COVID variants; and

7 **WHEREAS,** the needs for each country vary in terms of the assistance needed and the specific type of
8 vaccines required to address the most prominent variants of COVID affecting their
9 region; and

10 **WHEREAS,** some nations have a surplus of vaccines while others wait for months to gain access to
11 life-saving vaccinations; now, therefore be it

12 **RESOLVED,** by the Congress here assembled that COVAX concerns must be addressed by the governing
13 officers, partners, and nations which contribute to its success. The United States is
14 prepared to offer additional resources and personnel to the success of COVAX as these
15 concerns are addressed. These concerns include, but are not limited to 1) ensuring
16 sufficient supplies and protection of vaccines; 2) ensuring cold storage chains; 3) training
17 of health professionals to administer the shots; 4) ensuring appropriate methods of
18 deployment from delivery to distribution; 5) mobilizing people to attend vaccination
19 centers, when vaccines are available; 6) combat social media disinformation and
20 misinformation campaigns; 7) work with the World Health Organization to create a
21 roadmap for rapid, yet realistic, vaccination efforts worldwide.

22 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*

A Bill for Worldwide Vaccine Distribution

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will share 25% of its surplus vaccine stock through
3 direct donations and share another 25% of its surplus vaccine stock
4 through COVAX's multi-lateral pool.

5 **SECTION 2.** Surplus stock consists of vaccine supplies that are above-and-beyond that
6 needed to fully vaccinate the United States' population with one or two
7 shots, based upon the vaccine's dosage for full vaccination. Stock for a
8 third booster shot may not be pulled from the portion of the surplus
9 designated for donation.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State and the Department of Health and Human
11 Services will oversee the distribution of vaccine surpluses.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately.

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

14 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*

An Amendment to the American Rescue Plan

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Permit the use of the American Rescue Plan funding for debt relief by
3 states and cities.

4 **SECTION 2.** This action overturns the temporary ban on spending on debt relief by
5 Secretary Janet Yellen and makes Congressional intent clear.

6 **SECTION 3.** The original rescue plan provides \$350 billion in aid to state and local
7 governments. This amendment allows states and local governments to
8 maintain autonomy to determine how those funds are appropriated.

9 **SECTION 4.** The Department of the Treasury will honor and oversee the enforcement
10 of this legislation.

11 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will go into effect immediately. For those state and local
12 governments that have already issued determinations on how their funds
13 will be spent, they may amend their appropriations to allow for debt
14 repayment within two months of the passage of this bill.

15 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

16 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*



2021 Duke Invitational
Congressional Debate
Preliminary Legislation
Session Two – International Relations

A Resolution to Impose Sanctions on Ethiopia

1 **WHEREAS,** the United States currently provides the Federal Democratic Republic of
2 Ethiopia with approximately \$900 billion in aid per year; and

3 **WHEREAS,** Ethiopia has been embroiled in the conflict in the northern Tigray state
4 over the past several months; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has accelerated the conflict in
6 Tigray from its inception; and

7 **WHEREAS,** the aforementioned conflict has grave humanitarian costs, with over 4.5
8 million Ethiopians in urgent need of humanitarian assistance; and

9 **WHEREAS,** Prime Minister Ahmed's military has been credibly accused of torturing
10 and killing hundreds upon thousands of Tigray militants and civilians; and

11 **WHEREAS,** the refugee crisis resulting from the war has spilled over into the
12 neighboring nations of Sudan and Somalia; and

13 **WHEREAS,** various other nations and supranational organizations including the
14 European Union have threatened to impose sanctions on the Ahmed
15 regime; now, therefore be it

16 **RESOLVED,** by the Congress here assembled that the United States impose economic
17 sanctions on the state of Ethiopia for its role in the exacerbation of the
18 ongoing humanitarian crisis in the Tigray region.

19 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*

A Resolution to Support the Middle East

1 **WHEREAS**, President's Biden recent actions in Afghanistan have contributed to
2 political, social, and economic turmoil in the Middle East; and
3 **WHEREAS**, members of Congress from diverse political perspectives have expressed
4 concern and regret over the methods and timing of withdrawal of
5 remaining United States' forces and its allies in Afghanistan; and
6 **WHEREAS**, the Taliban were unable to secure Kabul's airport resulting in casualties
7 to United States' military personnel and our allies; and
8 **WHEREAS**, Middle East political, social, and economic stability is essential to the
9 interests of the United States and its allies; and
10 **WHEREAS**, United States' efforts to combat terrorism remain long after our
11 withdrawal from Afghanistan; and
12 **WHEREAS**, the United States has troops stationed throughout the Middle East; and
13 **WHEREAS**, there are United States' citizens, allies, and vulnerable populations who
14 remain long after August 31st; now, therefore be it
15 **RESOLVED**, by the Congress here assembled that we implore the Commander-in-Chief
16 of the United States to increase personnel and equipment from our allies in
17 the Middle East, including but not limited to troop deployment on or near
18 Afghan borders, and to provide a check against other states, including
19 Syria and Iran, that consider our departure from Afghanistan as a signal
20 that we are abandoning our allies in the Middle East.

A Bill to Terminate Security Aid to Azerbaijan

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall terminate all current security aid being sent to
3 Azerbaijan as well as ban the future deployment of security aid to the
4 country.

5 **SECTION 2.** Security aid shall include but not be limited to surveillance tools, defense
6 systems, naval resources, and any other counterterrorism tool.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense will work in conjunction with the Department
8 of state to enforce this bill as well as reposition the US' foreign policy
9 strategy with Azerbaijan.

10 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

12 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*



2021 Duke Invitational
Congressional Debate
Preliminary Legislation
Session Three – Marginalized Groups

A Bill to Amend Hate Crime Laws

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** 28 U.S.C. § 994 Sec. 280003 is hereby amended to read “when a
3 perpetrator acts based upon a bias towards the victim or their property,
4 based on race, color, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender
5 identity, and disability.”

6 **SECTION 2.** Any person who harms or endangers another person on the bias of hate
7 will be persecuted under 28 U.S.C. § 994 Sec. 280003.

8 **SECTION 3.** The FBI will oversee the enforcement of this amendment and shall submit
9 a report to the President by January 1 each year.

10 **A.** Every state in the U.S. and any other territory owned by the U.S. shall
11 be subject to this change.

12 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2022.

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

14 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*

A Bill to Require Classrooms to be Supportive of Neurodiversity

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All classrooms (Grades K-12) will be required to have accommodations to
3 better suit their neurodivergent students.

4 **SECTION 2.** Neurodiversity shall be defined as differing in mental or neurological
5 function from what is considered typical.

6 **A.** This includes but is not limited to conditions like Attention Deficit
7 Hyperactivity Disorder, Autism, Dyslexia, Tourette's Syndrome,
8 Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, and Dissociative Identity Disorder.

9 **B.** Accommodations may include but are not limited to: access to STIM
10 devices, access to nonverbal communication, accessibility to a quiet
11 environment, and accessibility to text alternatives.

12 **SECTION 3.** The implementation of this bill will be overseen by the Department of
13 Education.

14 **A.** \$50,000 will be allocated to each K-12 public school in the US,
15 amounting to approximately \$5 billion.

16 **B.** This money will be taken from the current budget of the Department of
17 Education.

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

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

20 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*

**A Bill to Introduce Nonvoting Members
to Represent Indigenous Tribes in Congress**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** For each federally recognized tribe with greater than 25,000 members
3 according to the most recent U.S. Census, one non-voting member shall be
4 added to the United States House of Representatives.

5 **SECTION 2.** A non-voting member shall be defined as a Resident Commissioner, who
6 has the power to participate in committees, introduce legislation, and
7 speak on the House floor, but cannot vote for both Committee and
8 legislation decisions. They will serve four year terms, and decisions on
9 how representation is chosen will be left to the discretion of each tribe.

10 **SECTION 3.** This shall be overseen by the Clerk of the House and the Federal Election
11 Commission.

12 **A.** If the tribe leaders do so request, up to \$50,000 may be allocated by
13 federal funds for election security and costs of operations.

14 **SECTION 4.** These members will be seated starting in the 118th U.S. Congress.

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

16 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*



2021 Duke Invitational
Congressional Debate
Semifinal Legislation
The Environment

A Bill to Provide Wildfire Aid

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Aid will be provided to Algeria, Greece, Turkey to combat wildfires.

3 **SECTION 2.** \$10 billion in aid may be in the form of direct payments, firefighting
4 supplies and equipment, personnel, or some combination thereof.

5 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State will oversee the distribution of funds and
6 enforcement of this legislation.

7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately.

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

9 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*

1

**A Bill to Phase Out Government Subsidies and
Financial Incentives to Meat & Dairy Industries**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Congress shall hereby cease all subsidies and financial
3 incentives to all meat and dairy manufacturers and their associated
4 organizations (including but not limited to public relations campaigns and
5 advertising). All funding currently allocated by Congress to meat and
6 dairy industries shall be redirected to subsidize fruit and vegetable
7 agriculture and public health education initiatives.

8 **SECTION 2.** Subsidies shall be defined as any direct or indirect payment on behalf of
9 the government to private individuals or corporations. Meat refers to food
10 that is composed of the flesh of an animal (including poultry and fish).

11 **SECTION 3.** The implementation of this bill shall be overseen by the United States
12 Department of Agriculture and the United States Food and Drug
13 Administration.

14 **SECTION 4.** Upon passage of this bill Congress shall phase out 10% or more per year
15 of funding for present subsidy levels for meat and dairy industries and
16 redirect those funds to fruit and vegetable agriculture and public health
17 education initiatives. All federal subsidies for meat and dairy industries
18 shall end no later than ten years following the passage of this bill.

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

20 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*

A Bill to Support Climate-Vulnerable Island Nations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Create an Island Nation Fund of \$100 billion for climate-vulnerable
3 independent coastal states to take active measures to repair damage and
4 protect states from climate change disasters.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and its 39 member states will
6 submit funding and action proposals to an Island Nation Congressional
7 Committee

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State will oversee enforcement and distribution of
9 funds.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately.

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

12 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*



2021 Duke Invitational
Congressional Debate
Final Legislation
Banking & Finance

A Bill to Provide Recurring Stimulus Payments

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** United States taxpayers will receive recurring stimulus checks until
3 Congress has determined that COVID-19 is sufficiently under control to
4 warrant tapering or complete elimination of recurring payments.

5 **SECTION 2.** United States taxpayers and their families who were eligible for earlier
6 coronavirus stimulus checks will be eligible for recurring stimulus
7 payments as determined by the Internal Revenue Service.

8 **SECTION 3.** All eligible U.S. adult citizens will receive \$1000 stimulus checks each
9 month and each eligible child of U.S. adult citizens will receive \$500
10 stimulus checks each month.

11 **SECTION 4.** The Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service shall
12 oversee implementation of the legislation.

13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation takes effect immediately.

14 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

15 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*

A Bill to Reform Banking to Eliminate Conflicts of Interests

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States dissolve any financial institution that engages in both
3 commercial and investment banking into two separate entities.

4 **SECTION 2.** Financial institutions shall be defined as institutions that provide financial
5 services to clients or act as intermediaries for clients entering the market.

6 **A.** Businesses will be forced to separate their investment banking
7 divisions from their commercial banking activities.

8 **B.** Companies listed on the New York Stock Exchange will be allowed a
9 stock split in order to replenish capital for their commercial or
10 investment banking activity.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Securities Exchange
12 Commission (SEC) shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

13 **A.** The SEC will oversee the implementation of section 2A.

14 **B.** The FTC will ensure that the liquidation of investments from the
15 investment banking division is returned to clients.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect fiscal year 2022.

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

18 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*

**A Resolution to Abolish Corporate Tax Cuts
to Help Underfunded Federal Programs**

1 **WHEREAS**, corporations operating the United States are avoiding paying federal taxes;

2 and

3 **WHEREAS**, 157 companies received \$73.9 billion in tax cuts; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in 2020, 55 of America's largest corporations paid no taxes on billions of

5 dollars in profits; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Federal Programs including the National Flood Insurance Program, are

7 grossly underfunded, rendering them inefficient and ineffective; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the American people deserve a government that is fully funded to provide

9 promised services to those who need them; and

10 **WHEREAS**, American businesses benefit from open markets, lower tax rates, and

11 limited government regulations; now, therefore, be it

12 **RESOLVED**, by the Congress here assembled that tax cuts for corporations with a net

13 worth of \$50 million or more end in fiscal year 2025; and be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED**, the monies collected from these corporate taxes be earmarked

15 for currently underfunded federal programs.

16 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Duke Invitational*