

**CONGRESS:** Presiding officers will be elected. Please indicate students who wish to run for PO on the entry. WE WILL USE DIRECT QUESTIONING IN ALL ROUNDS. Congress legislation can be found in the Congress section on the TFA website at [www.txfa.org](http://www.txfa.org). Congress legislation will be debated as follows:

**Prelims:** 21-25

**Semis:** 5, 14, 15

**Finals:** 26-30



PRELIMS

21

## A Bill to Increase Homeless Shelters to Rehabilitate the Homeless

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States Government will work to increase the amount of homeless shelters in cities with homeless populations greater than 10,000 people.

**SECTION 2.** Homeless shelters shall be defined as temporary residencies for homeless individuals and families. Homelessness shall be defined as lacking housing or lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

**SECTION 3.** The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) will work in conjunction with state governments to implement this legislation.

A. An additional 75 million dollars will be allocated annually to the budget of the USICH for a span of 5 years.

B. The additional funding will be attained through diverting funds from the Department of Defense (DoD).

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect by January 1st 2022.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Spring Woods High School*



PRELIMS

## 22 A Resolution to Condemn Israeli Encroachments on the Palestinian Border

- WHEREAS,** The United Nations recognizes Palestine as a sovereign state; and
- WHEREAS,** Israel's government has promoted encroachment on their border; and
- WHEREAS,** Encroachment propagates further conflict and radicalization; and
- WHEREAS,** Is a clear violation of human rights as well as Palestinian sovereignty; and
- WHEREAS,** Our government provides billions of dollars in aid to Israel; and
- WHEREAS,** We have a moral duty to prevent human rights violations; now,  
therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that Israeli encroachments are a  
violation of human rights, Palestinian sovereignty and morality.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Westwood High School*



PRELIMS

23 **Pandemic Response and Control Act of 2021**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** It is the sense of Congress that rapid response to future pandemics requires quick public action, reliable contact tracing, the ability to distance from infected individuals, and increased public knowledge, and therefore authorizes the following:
- SECTION 2.** Upon the designation of a Public Health Emergency by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (hereinafter "Secretary") under 42 U.S.C. § 247d(a)(2), the Secretary may authorize the limitation of protections on individually identifiable health information in 45 CFR §§ 160, 162, and 164. Previously protected individually identifiable information may be released by the Secretary to the Centers for Disease Control, and the governing state health agency for each U.S. State and territory.
- SECTION 2.** "Individually identifiable health information" will be defined according to 45 CFR § 160.103.
- SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will be in charge of enforcing this bill.
- A. Previously protected individually identifiable information approved for release shall be limited to the name and the address of any individual infected with the disease which is the subject of the 42 U.S.C. § 247d(a)(2) declaration.
- B. The Secretary shall renew or rescind the order authorizing release of protected individually identifiable information every 90 days.
- SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect 180 days after passage.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School*



PRELIMS

24

## A Bill to Permanently Reinstate the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall permanently reinstate the Fixing America's Surface  
3 Transportation (FAST) Act and increase the Department of Transportation  
4 budget to provide for the maintenance of transportation infrastructure and  
5 public transit options across America.

6 **SECTION 2.** Transportation Infrastructure is composed of fixed installations such as  
7 railroads, roads, and airways. Public transit options include but shall not be  
8 limited to subways, busses, and other modes of mass transit which reduce fuel  
9 consumption, exhaust emissions, and automobile pollution.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Transportation will implement and oversee the program.

11 A. Congress will increase the Department of Transportation budget by \$88  
12 billion.

13 B. \$35 Billion of the increased funding may be used by the Department of  
14 Transportation to plan new transportation projects that will enhance public  
15 transit options.

16 C. \$53 billion of the increased funding may be used by the States and  
17 municipalities through the FAST Act federal grant program.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect at the beginning of fiscal year 2023.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hereford High School*



PRELIMS

25 **A Bill to Enact a Ban on Trans-Exclusive Sports Policies to Increase Transgender Equality**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** All K-12 public school sports teams that receive federal funding will not  
2 be allowed to deny eligibility into sports based on biological gender and  
3 must allow anyone to participate on a team with the gender they identify  
4 as.

5 **SECTION 2.** a. A K-12 public school sports team shall be defined as any sport team  
6 such as volleyball, basketball, football etc. in any public or state-owned  
7 grade school.

8 b. The gender(s) of identity shall be defined as this may be their  
9 biological, or non-biological sex. In this circumstance gender identity will  
10 be defined as a person identifying as a gender outside of their biologically  
11 assigned one.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will enforce this bill by stripping all federal  
13 education money from schools found to be in non-compliance.

14 **SECTION 4.** This item will take effect on August 1st, 2022.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by R.C. Clark High School*



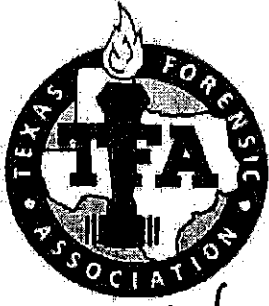
Semis

5

## **A Resolution to Join the CPTPP**

- WHEREAS,** The United States left the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) in 2017; and
- WHEREAS,** China has increased its dominance in trade across Asia with Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and other trade initiatives; and
- WHEREAS,** Rising Chinese dominance has resulted into Debt-Trap Diplomacy and coerces nations to be reliant on China; and
- WHEREAS,** The US no longer competes en masse with this growing political and economic threat; and
- WHEREAS,** The TPP provided for trading partners and opportunities across the globe for the US; and
- WHEREAS,** The newly-formed Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) - the TPP's replacement - is now ineffective without the United States' presence; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the US begins to engage in diplomatic negotiations with members of the CPTPP for the US to renegotiate and sign the multilateral trade agreement.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Village High School*



Semis

14

## A Bill to Abolish Plea Bargains

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government will eliminate the usage of plea  
3 bargains within the criminal justice system.

4 **SECTION 2.** A "plea bargain" shall be defined as a pre-discussed arrangement  
5 between the prosecution and the defendant in which the defendant  
6 pleads guilty in exchange for a reduced or alternative sentence. "Plea  
7 bargains" shall encompass offers made by both the prosecution and the  
8 defense.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will oversee the implementation and oversight  
10 of this bill.

11 A. The defendant will still have the right to plead guilty, but the  
12 prosecution may not provide any alternate sentencing if the  
13 defendant chooses to do so. The trial will continue in the status quo.

14 B. All sentencing remains under the jurisdiction of the judge if a  
15 defendant chooses to plead guilty.

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

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jasper High School.*





Semis

## 15 A Bill to Support the Ukrainian Military

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States Army and Marine Corps shall develop a comprehensive program to train and equip Ukrainian soldiers to aid the Ukraine in military conflict with Russian-backed separatist forces fighting against the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- SECTION 2.** The United States government shall provide the Armed Forces of Ukraine with modern military technology, tactics, and equipment to ensure military success.
- SECTION 3.** The US Department of Defense shall oversee this program.
- SECTION 4.** This program shall take effect at the start of Fiscal Year 2022 or immediately upon any clear showing of Russian military aggression toward or invasion of the Ukraine.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jordan High School in Fulshear, Texas*



Finals

26

## A Bill to Amend Hate Crime Laws

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** 28 U.S.C. § 994 Sec. 280003 is hereby amended to read "when a perpetrator acts based upon a bias towards the victim or their property, based on race, color, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and disability."
- SECTION 2.** Any person who harms or endangers another person on the bias of hate will be prosecuted under 28 U.S.C. § 994 Sec. 280003.
- SECTION 3.** The FBI will oversee the enforcement of this amendment and shall submit a report to the president by January 1 each year.
- A. Every state in the U.S. and any other territory owned by the U.S. shall be subject to this change.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2022.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Granbury High School*



## Finals

### 27 A Bill to End Forced Labor in Solar Energy Production

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The US will ban the import of all solar panels and components manufactured in the Xinjiang region of China,
- A. All third-party imports of solar panels and/or components must demonstrate that products are produced from a clean supply chain, certified as slave labor free.
  - B. This ban will be repealed on the condition that China allows independent, regular and unannounced inspections of its Xinjiang manufacturing facilities to ensure they are in compliance with international standards prohibiting the use of forced labor.
- SECTION 2.** Congress will allocate \$300 million for the purpose of
- A. Loan guarantees and tax incentives to encourage domestic research and manufacturing of solar panels and components.
  - B. Investment tax credits of 30% for residential and commercial installation of solar technology.
- SECTION 3.** The US Department of Commerce will oversee the implementation and enforcement of this bill.
- SECTION 4.** This law will take effect within 6 months of passage.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Katy Taylor High School*



Finals

28

## A Resolution to Impose Sanctions on Ethiopia

- WHEREAS,** The United States currently provides the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia with approximately \$900 billion in aid per year; and
- WHEREAS,** Ethiopia has been embroiled in the conflict in the northern Tigray state over the past several months; and
- WHEREAS,** Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has accelerated the conflict in Tigray from its inception; and
- WHEREAS,** The aforementioned conflict has grave humanitarian costs, with over 4.5 million Ethiopians in urgent need of humanitarian assistance; and
- WHEREAS,** Prime Minister Ahmed's military has been credibly accused of torturing and killing hundreds upon thousands of Tigray militants and civilians; and
- WHEREAS,** The refugee crisis resulting from the war has spilled over into the neighboring nations of Sudan and Somalia; and
- WHEREAS,** Various other nations and supranational organizations including the European Union have threatened to impose sanctions on the Ahmed regime; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States impose economic sanctions on the state of Ethiopia for its role in the exacerbation of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the Tigray region.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Seven Lakes High School*



Finals

29

## The Consumer Bankruptcy Reform Act of 2021

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The US Federal Government will hereby end the Chapter 13 Bankruptcy filing program, and remove credit counseling programs as a requirement in bankruptcy filing procedures.
- SECTION 2.** The following definitions apply:
- A. "Chapter 13 Bankruptcy" will be defined as a bankruptcy filing program as outlined in the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.
  - B. "credit counseling programs" will be defined as done by the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act (BAPCPA) of 2005.
- SECTION 3.** The United State Bankruptcy Court will be responsible for the enactment of this legislation:
- A. The Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure will be altered to no longer have Chapter 13 Bankruptcy as an option for filing.
  - B. The maximum disposable income eligibility ceiling of \$136 per month to file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy will be abolished.
  - C. Section 106(a) of the BAPCPA shall hereby be repealed to remove credit counseling programs as a necessity for bankruptcy filings.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will be implemented FY 2023.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Village High School*



Finals

30

## Bereavement Healing and Hope Act of 2021

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** A. Eligible employers must provide a total of 30 days leave, with 10 of those days being paid leave, for eligible employees who experience a qualifying bereavement event.
- B. Eligible employees who experience a qualifying bereavement event will qualify for an increase of \$10,000 to the standard income tax deduction to pay for bereavement counseling.
- SECTION 2.** "Eligible employer" will be defined according to 29 U.S. Code § 2611(4). "Eligible employee" will be defined according to 29 U.S. Code § 2611(2). "Qualifying bereavement event" includes the death of an individual's spouse, child, parent, step-child, the still-birth of a child, or the miscarriage of a fetus after the 16<sup>th</sup> week of pregnancy.
- SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Labor will be in charge of enforcing Section 1(A) of this bill.
- A. Employers found in violation of Section 1(A) will be fine \$25,000 for the first violation.
- B. Employers found in violation of Section 1(A) will be fined \$40,000 for each subsequent violation.
- C. The Internal Revenue Service shall develop guidelines for reporting an increase to the standard deduction for the use of counseling services outlined in Section 1(B) of this Bill.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2023.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School*