2021 Florida Blue Key Congressional Debate

Round Robin Legislation Packet
Congratulations on being selected to participate in this year’s Florida Blue Key Speech and Debate Tournament Congressional Debate Round Robin!

This packet will go over key instructions for the Round Robin. Additionally, the first two pieces of legislation that you will debate on October 28 are included.

Location: Cloud.Classroom
Schedule: (subject to change based on delays) Preliminary Judge Call and Blast: 9:30 AM
Preliminary Session 1: 10 AM to 1 PM
Lunch: 1 PM to 2 PM
Round of 6: 2 PM to 3 PM
Round of 5: 3:30 PM to 4 PM
Round of 4: 4:30 PM to 5 PM
Round of 3: 5:30 PM to 6 PM
Final Round: 6:30 PM to 7 PM
Speaker: 7 PM to 8 PM
*Breaks will be announced in chamber 5 minutes prior to the start of each round

Format:
The Round Robin will include 12 of the top competitors in the country. The docket will be predetermined by the Round Robin staff and will be released in order of rounds. The first 2 pieces of legislation will be included at the end of this packet.

1. Preliminary Session: The preliminary round will include all 12 competitors. During the first half of the round, competitors will give a “Morning Hour” speech on a topic of their choice. The second half will resume with debate on “Bill 1.”
   a. Morning Hour: During the preliminary session, competitors will spend the first hour delivering “Morning Hour” speeches. The morning hour speech should communicate an issue that competitors feel passionately about and convey it as a specifically pressing issue in our society. In this speech competitors should: introduce the issue, offer solutions, explain why it is important. Competitors will be judged based on the following criteria for the morning hour:
      i) Argumentation- how well the competitor constructed the main argument and described how the solution solves the issue
      ii) Idea/Topic- how well the competitor introduced the topic and made it easy to understand
      iii) Impact- how well the competitor explained the importance of the issue and how their solution is the best solution

   b. Bill 1
      1. Round-of-6: After the preliminary round, the top 6 competitors will advance to the Round of 6. In this, round competitors will debate “Bill 2.”
         a. Bill 2
      1. Round-of-5: The top 5 competitors will advance to the Round of 5. In this, round competitors will debate “Bill 3.”
         a. Bill 3
      1. Round-of-4: The top 4 competitors will advance to the Round of 4. In this, round competitors will debate “Bill 4.”
         a. Bill 4
      1. Round-of-3: The top 3 competitors will advance to the Round of 3. In this, round competitors will debate “Bill 5.”
         a. Bill 5
      1. Round-of-2: The top 2 competitors will advance to the Round of 6. In this, round competitors will debate “Bill 6.” In this round, there will be one affirmative speaker and one negative speaker. Since this is the final round, the format will be as follows:
a. Bill 6
   1. AFF speech (3 min), followed by 2 minutes of questioning
   2. NEG speech (3 min), followed by 2 minutes of questioning
   3. 5-minute recess for competitors to prepare rebuttal speeches
   4. AFF rebuttal (3 min), followed by 2 minutes of questioning
   5. NEG rebuttal (3 min), followed by 2 minutes of questioning

Rules:
Internet: Internet access is permitted only for the purposes of accessing the round and connecting to the online platform during the competition. Any competitor found to have accessed the Internet during a session for research or prep purposes will immediately be disqualified. Students may only access downloaded material during a session to avoid internet browsing. Cell phones, smartwatches, and any other devices capable of internet access during a session must remain in the student’s bag and should not be taken out at any point.

Presiding Officer/Speaking Order: A member of FBK Congressional Debate staff will be the presiding officer for the entirety of the Round Robin. This means that competitors will only be judged on their speeches. The PO will randomly select competitors to determine recency in each session and will not consider previous activity, geography, or fastest standing. We strongly recommend competitors utilize placards to be recognized by the PO during the online session. Recency will reset after each session, but it only matters in the preliminary session as that is the only round competitors will speak on two different topics. Each competitor will have a chance to speak twice in the preliminary session and Round-of-2 and once in every other session. All other procedures will follow standard National Speech and Debate Association guidelines.

Questioning: All questioning periods will be direct examination. Each questioner will have 30 seconds of direct questioning before the PO moves onto the next questioner. In every round, the questioning periods for the first affirmative and negative speech will be 2 minutes. Every subsequent questioning period will be 1 minute long. During the Morning Hour, every questioning period will be 1 minute long. For the Round-of-2, questioning will be 2 minutes long.

Legislation: Attached below is “Bill 1” and “Bill 2.” The rest of the bills will be released by October 23. In the meantime, competitors should prepare their “Morning Hour” speeches as well as the two bills provided.
The Fair and Free Election Act (Bill 1)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A. United States House elections shall transition into multi-member districts.

B. Independent Redistricting Commissions (IRC) shall oversee redrawing Congressional districts to better reflect these multi-member districts.

C. Ranked-choice voting shall be instituted for Congressional elections along with Presidential primaries. This ranked choice voting system will be enacted across all 50 states during the 2024 federal election.

SECTION 2. A. Multi-member district shall be defined as a district having two or more representatives for each legislative district.

B. IRCs shall be defined as a body, other than the usual state legislative bodies, established to draw electoral district boundaries. States shall determine how these IRC’s will be established.

C. Ranked-Choice voting shall be defined as a method of achieving proportional representation where voters rank their choices rather than just voting for one candidate. A minimum quota of votes needed to win a seat shall be set, based on the number of seats up for election.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Committee shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introducted for Congressional Debate by Florida Blue Key Congressional Debate Staff
A Bill to Impose Sanctions on Ethiopia to Block Duty-free Imports (Bill 2)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The U.S. shall suspend Ethiopia from the African Growth and Opportunity Act’s (AGOA) trade partnership in response to alleged violations of internationally recognized human rights amid the ongoing conflict and humanitarian crisis with the political leadership of the Tigray ethnic minority in northern Ethiopia.

SECTION 2. The AGOA trade program provides sub-Saharan African nations duty-free access to the U.S. on the condition they meet certain eligibility requirements.

SECTION 3. The Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) will oversee the enforcement of sanctions.

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

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Florida Blue Key Congressional Debate Staff
A Bill to Invest in Carbon Capture Technologies (Bill 3)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A. The United States shall hereby allocate $100 million towards the research and development of carbon capture technologies.

B. The U.S. Department of Energy will have full jurisdiction over how research and development programs will be carried out.

B. The Secretary of Energy must submit to Congress a report on advancements within Carbon Capture Technologies no more than 1 year after the date of enactment of this legislation.

SECTION 2. A. Carbon capture shall be defined as the trapping of carbon dioxide at its emission source, transporting it to a storage location, and isolating it.

B. Research and development shall be defined as, but not limited to, the discovery of novel materials, chemistries, and processes for the extraction of carbon dioxide from the air and combined experimental and computational studies on carbon dioxide capture for sequestration or reuse.

SECTION 3. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) shall be responsible for overseeing this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect at the start of Fiscal Year 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Florida Blue Key Congressional Debate Staff
A Bill to Aid the Syrian Kurds (Bill 4)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. $1 billion of military aid will be given to the Syrian Kurds for the purpose of defending against Turkish Aggression. In conjunction, a no-fly zone will be established over the Kurdish enclave in Syria.

SECTION 2. “Military aid” shall be defined as money intended for weapons and military infrastructure. A “no-fly zone” shall be defined as an area where aircrafts cannot fly. The “Kurdish enclave in Syria” shall be defined and drawn by the Department of State.

SECTION 3. The Departments of Defense and State along with USAID will oversee the enforcement of this bill.

A. The Departments of Defense and State will advise Kurdish leaders on how to use the aid.

B. The no-fly zone will be in place for at least 3 years. Each year after that, the Department of Defense will review whether to keep it in place.

SECTION 4. This legislation will 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 Florida Blue Key Congressional Debate Staff
The Equal Investment Act (Bill 5)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Stock brokerages shall not limit anyone’s ability to trade any certain stock because of the performance of that stock, unless permitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

SECTION 2. A stock brokerage is defined as a firm that arranges the trade of stock, including but not limited to companies such as Robinhood Markets, The Charles Schwab Corporation, and Fidelity Investments.

SECTION 3. The SEC shall be responsible for the enforcement of this legislation.

A. Any individual found personally responsible for the violation of this law shall face a minimum 10-year prison sentence.

B. Any stock brokerage found guilty of violating this law must pay dividends to individual shareholders equal to the highest value of that shareholder’s stake during the illegal trading prohibition.

SECTION 4. This bill shall 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 Florida Blue Key Congressional Debate Staff*
The Final Decision Act of 2021 (Bill 6)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Supreme Court now can declare any court case ruling, that has been heard by the United States Supreme Court, final. Declaring a decision final means that the ruling of that supreme court case cannot be overturned by any subsequent cases that come after (where the ruling would rebuke the decision made in the former case). Additionally, this ability is retroactive. The process for declaring a ruling as final is as follows:

A. A member of the US Supreme Court who wishes to make the ruling on a case final must submit a written statement to the senate President and Speaker of the House addressing this sentiment and giving a detailed explanation as to why.

B. Then, three special sessions of Congress must be called within three months of submission of the statement to debate the decision and take a vote. The vote must be held in the third special session.

C. The Supreme Court Justice who submitted the statement is required make a speech to both the Senate and House in the first special session regarding why this ruling needs to be final.

D. To pass, ⅔ of the House and most of the Senate is required.

SECTION 2. “Detailed explanation” shall be defined as any necessary documentation and
reasoning to prove the necessity of the ruling to be final, additionally a copy
of the court’s ruling on the case in mention.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice (DOJ) will be responsible for the enforcement of
this bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage. All laws in
conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.