

Hugh Downs School of Human Communication Invitational 2021

Congressional Debate Docket – Preliminary Sessions v2.0

ASU COVID-19 Mitigation strategies – All participants (competitors, judges, etc.)

- 1. We STRONGLY recommend that you bring only fully vaccinated students, coaches, and judges to the tournament.
- 2. ALL participants must wear face coverings indoors at all times. Yes, this includes during presenting/performing.
- 3. There will be no large gatherings. We will not host an awards ceremony of any kind, we will not host a large student lounge. Speech finals will not be large, viewable events.
- 4. Congress will be held in large lecture halls, as usual.
- 5. No judges lounge. All judges must be reachable via phone/email as standby judges.

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:

- 1. Each session will begin with the election of the presiding officer for that session. Each session will follow NSDA definitions for a change of session.
- 2. The agenda for the Preliminary sessions will be set by a caucus in chambers at the beginning of session one. Prelim sessions will feature traditional (single question/answer) questioning.
- 3. 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.
- 4. Preliminary chamber assignments will be provided an hour prior to the start of session one.
- 5. 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.
- 6. Advancing students will be selected by judge ranks, using NSDA tiebreakers where applicable.

1 - The E.Q.U.A.L.I.T.Y. (The Ensuring Quality Universally in Academics to Limit Inequalities in Teaching for Youth) Act

1	DE IT ENIACTED	DVTLE	CONCDECC HEDE	ASSEMBLED THAT:
	BE II FNACIFI)	BYIHE	CONGRESS HERE	ASSEMBLED IMAL:

2	SECTION 1.	The following measures shall be implemented to improve education in primary,
3		middle, and secondary schools in the United States:
4		A. Schools whose per-student funding levels fall below the fiftieth percentile in
5		their respective states shall receive targeted federal grants. These grants will
6		raise the school's per-student funding level to that of the fiftieth percentile.
7		B. Fifty percent of yearly funding for the COPS Hiring Program and STOP
8		School Violence Act Program shall be reappropriated towards federal school
9		counseling programs. The remaining funding shall be placed under the
10		discretion of the Department of Education.
11		C. All funds in Section 1B shall be withheld from states until annual teacher
12		salaries are increased by 15%.
13	SECTION 2.	Per-student funding level is the mean amount of money a school spends per
14		pupil. The COPS and STOP School Violence Act Program are initiatives that fund
15		school security resources.
16	SECTION 3.	Funding for per-student targeted federal grants shall be allocated during the
17		creation of the yearly discretionary budget. The Department of Education shall
18		oversee all funds addressed in Section 1.
19	SECTION 4.	This legislation shall take effect in Fiscal Year 2023.
20	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Desert Vista

2 - The C.A.R.B.O.N. (Capping American Radiations to Benefit Our Nation) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2	SECTION 1.	The United States shall implement a cap-and-trade policy for all companies or
3		corporations located in the United States to limit carbon dioxide emissions. A
4		company's carbon cap shall be set at its emissions level in metric tons for 2020,
5		which shall be lowered by ten percent every 5 years.
6		A. Companies that exceed their carbon cap shall be fined five percent of their
7		annual revenue.
8		B. Ten percent of the revenue generated by the cap-and-trade policy shall be
9		allocated in block grants annually to state governments for the purpose of
10		building clean public transportation. At least fifty percent of the funding must
11		be used in low-income and urban areas.
12	SECTION 2.	A cap-and-trade policy is defined as an upper limit on industrial carbon
13		emissions. Companies that fall below their emission cap may sell excess metric
14		tonnage of carbon dioxide to other companies. Clean public transportation is
15		defined as a transit system for group travel that utilizes renewable energy.
16	SECTION 3.	The Environmental Protection Agency shall oversee the creation of carbon caps,
17		adherence to those caps, and the trade of carbon dioxide metric tonnage
18		between companies. The Internal Revenue Service shall oversee the taxation of
19		companies that fail to meet their caps.
20	SECTION 4.	This legislation shall take effect in Fiscal Year 2023.
21	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Desert Vista

3 - A Resolution to Enact the Green New Deal

1	WHEREAS,	Climate Change represents the number one national security, economic,
2		environmental, and existential threat to the United States and all life on
3		earth; and
4	WHEREAS,	Rapid transfers to renewable energy and carbon neutrality must be made
5		in order to prevent catastrophic disruptions to food supplies and
6		infrastrustructures, mass migrations, global and domestic conflicts,
7		extreme weather patterns, devastating cuts to GDP and employment,
8		etc.; and
9	WHEREAS,	Achieving carbon neutrality through a fair and just transition for all
10		communities and workers will create millions of high-wage jobs and
11		ensure economic security for all people of the United States; and
12	WHEREAS,	Investing in the infrastructure and industry of the United States will
13		sustainably meet the challenges of the 21st century and secure clean air
14		and water, climate and community resiliency, healthy food, access to
15		nature, and a sustainable environment for generations to come; and
16	WHEREAS,	Promoting environmental justice and equity will stop current, prevent
17		future, and repair historic oppression of frontline and vulnerable
18		communities (indigenous peoples, communities of color, migrant
19		communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural
20		communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the
21		unhoused, people with disabilities, and youth); now, therefore, be it
22	RESOLVED,	By the Congress here assembled that the United States Federal
23		Government begin immediate implementation of the Green New Deal.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Durango High School

4 - A Bill to Allow National Open Carry

1	BE IT ENACTED	BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2	SECTION 1.	Citizens of the United States with a gun permit shall have the freedom to
3		carry a firearm on their person with limited regulations.
4	SECTION 2.	Any individual over the age of 18 and not prohibited from firearm
5		ownership shall be allowed to carry legally-owned firearms in all places,
6		excluding areas where weapons are legally banned.
7	SECTION 3.	Firearm permits shall be allotted by United States law enforcement officials
8		and be generalized federally under this law.
9		A. This bill will not allow the carrying of firearms into any legally
10		recognized firearm-free zones.
11		B. This law shall universalize the carrying of firearms in all states and
12		territories of the United States of America.
13	SECTION 4.	This legislation will take effect immediately. All laws in conflict with this
14		legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Durango High School

5 - A Bill to Create a Federal Election Holiday

1	DE IT ENIACTED DV	THE CONGRESS HERE	ACCENIDIED THAT
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2	SECTION 1.	Federal Election Day shall be declared a national holiday. Businesses, if able,
3		shall close to allow employees to be able to vote. If not, they must give workers
4		adequate time during the work day to vote. If these guidelines aren't followed,
5		companies will be fined 10% of their taxable income.
6	SECTION 2.	Taxable income shall be defined as the income of the business minus any
7		government-approved deductions.
8	SECTION 3.	The Federal Election Commission shall oversee this legislation. Any funds
9		required to implement this legislation shall be allocated from the Department of
10		Justice.
11	SECTION 4.	This bill shall go into effect on November 5th, 2024.
12	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eagan High School

6 - A Bill to Establish a System for National Initiatives and Referendums

DE LI LIVACTEL	, 13	ERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1. This Congress formally authorizes citizens to create initiatives and/or
 referendums. These initiatives and referendums shall have the same
- 4 power as legislation passed by Congress.
- 5 **SECTION 2**. The definitions shall be as follows:
- A. An initiative shall be defined as a measure proposed and written by a
 citizen or group of citizens.
- B. A referendum shall be defined as a measure proposing an adaptation of
 legislation previously presented in Congress.
- C. For an initiative or referendum to reach the national ballots, verified signatures of approval from at least 5 million registered voters shall be required.
- 13 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission shall oversee this legislation.
- 14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.
- 15 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Brophy College Preparatory

7 - A Bill to Mandate Driver License Renewals

1	BE IT ENACTED	BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2	SECTION 1.	A. Drivers will be mandated to retake the driving test every 10 years at
3		the state's local Department for Motor Vehicles (DMV), if they fail to pass
4		the test then they will not be permitted to drive until they are able to
5		pass the Drivers Test.
6		B. The Driver License renewal will have a \$10 fee to help support the
7		increase of DMV uses.
8	SECTION 2.	A. The drivers test that will be taken will fall under each state's
9		requirements.
10		B. A 2 month grace period will be allocated to properly allow constituents
11		the time to renew their license.
12	SECTION 3.	The Department of Transportation will oversee the enforcement of this
13		bill to ensure the proper process is followed.
14	SECTION 4.	This Bill will be implemented March 1st of 2022
15	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
	Introduced fo	r Congressional Debate by Desert Ridge High School

8 - A Bill to Implement a Universal Basic Income (UBI)

1	BE IT ENACTE	D BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2	SECTION 1.	All U.S citizens over the age of 18 years shall receive a guaranteed
3		monthly income, with no conditions set related to the use of the income.
4	SECTION 2.	Guaranteed monthly income shall be defined as monthly payments of
5		\$1,000 to every U.S citizen over the age of 18.
6	SECTION 3.	The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Internal
7		Revenue Service (IRS) shall oversee the implementation of this
8		legislation.
9		A. Funding shall come from a 10% Value-Added Tax (VAT). Products such
10		as groceries and clothing shall not be subject to the VAT.
11	SECTION 4.	This legislation will take effect at the end of the fiscal year of 2022. All
12		laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
	Introduced for	Congressional Debate by Timpanogos High School

9 - A Resolution to Restore Peace in the Horn of Africa

1	WHEREAS,	Since November of 2020, there has been an ongoing civil war in Ethiopia
2		between the Ethiopian Central Government and the T.P.L.F.; and
3	WHEREAS,	This war has led to what the United States considers to be an "ethnic
4		cleansing" campaign in the Tigray region; and
5	WHEREAS,	According to a warning from the UN and other groups in June of 2021,
6		the war had resulted in 350,000 people being affected by famine; and
7	WHEREAS,	Conflict has displaced thousands of people in the Tigray region, of whom
8		many have fled to neighboring countries such as Sudan; and
9	WHEREAS,	The war threatens to uproot stability throughout the Horn of Africa; now,
10		therefore, be it
11	RESOLVED,	That the Congress here assembled shall label the current violence in the
12		Tigray region a "genocide", provide aid to civilians and refugees affected
13		by the war, and use its military to conduct peacekeeping initiatives in
14		Ethiopia, specifically in the Tigray region.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Timpanogos High School

10 - A Resolution to Save Ukraine

1	WHEREAS,	Ukraine when becoming an independent state voluntarily gave up the
2		soviet era nuclear arsenal within its borders in exchange for protection by
3		the international community; and
4	WHEREAS,	Russia has massed a large and unusual concentration of forces in the
5		region, including tanks, artillery, armored units, drones, and electronic
6		warfare systems, as well as 94,000 combat-ready troops; and
7	WHEREAS,	Comments by Putin and other top Russian officials about Ukraine have
8		sharpened in recent months, such as "Ukraine does not now and has
9		never had a right to exist as a sovereign state, there is no such thing as
10		the Ukrainian people."; and
11	WHEREAS,	Andrew S. Weiss, a Russia analyst at the Carnegie Endowment for
12		International Peace, said "restoring Ukraine to the Kremlin's sphere of
13		influence as the single most important piece of unfinished business for
14		Russia's security and Putin's own legacy"; therefore be it
15	RESOLVED,	That the Congress here assembled believes it is in the United State's and
16		the world's best interest to provide immediate weapon systems as
17		military aid to Ukraine; therefore be it
18	FURTHER RES	SOLVED , That the Congress here assembled strongly encourage NATO to
19		amass 100,000 combat-ready troops in Poland in order to save Ukraine
20		from the clear and present danger of Russian aggression.
	Introduced fo	r Congressional Dehate by Loveland High School

11 - Hatch Update of 2021 Act

1	BE IT ENACTE	ED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2	SECTION 1.	The Hatch act of 1939 allowed the U.S. government to work for all
3		citizens regardless of party. This update is to close recently exploited
4		loopholes in the act.
5	SECTION 2.	The following definitions apply:
6		A. Political Appointee - Any employee who is appointed by the President
7		the Vice President, or agency head.
8		B. Hatch Act is a United States federal law. Its main provision prohibits
9		civil service employees in the executive branch of the federal
10		government, except the president and vice president, from engaging in
11		some forms of political activity.
12	SECTION 3.	The Office of Special Counsel will enforce this legislation.
13		A. The OSC has jurisdiction over political appointees. If a political
14		appointee is found in violation of the Hatch act provisions, they will be
15		fined \$100,000 per infraction.
16		B. The President of the United States must provide in writing rationale
17		why they are not disciplining a political appointee under the Hatch Act.
18		C. An independent complaint about a potential violation is no longer
19		required. The OSC may initiate investigations of potential violations.
20	SECTION 4.	This legislation will take effect within three months of passage.
21	SECTION 5	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void
	Introduced for	Congressional Debate by Loveland High School

12 - A Bill to Require Automatic Registration to Decrease Voter Suppression

1	BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:		
2	SECTION 1.	Section 8(A)(1) of the National Voter Registration Act will be amended to	
3		read, "ensure that any eligible resident is registered to vote in an	
4		election" Any section outlining an application or filling in order to obtain	
5		a registration will be struck.	
6	SECTION 2.	Eligible resident will mean any person who is over 18 years old, retains	
7		citizenship in the United States and respective state, and is not actively	
8		incarcerated, or is not actively subject to any pains and penalties that	
9		result from criminal liability per the findings of a Court.	
10	SECTION 3.	This legislation will be enforced by the Federal Election Commission in	
11		conjunction with State and Local election authorities.	
12		A. If any State, agency or official fails to comply or enforce this legislation,	
13		the Attorney General of the United States may bring civil action in a	
14		respective district court for declaratory or injunctive relief necessary to	
15		comply with this Act.	
16	SECTION 4.	This legislation will go into effect January 1, 2023	
17	SECTION 5	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.	

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jupiter High School

13 - A Bill to Create a State-Based Visa Program

1	RF II	LENACTED	RY THE	CONGRESS	HERE	ASSEMBLED THAT:	

2	SECTION 1.	SECTION 1. A state-based visa system shall be created where each State is
3		allowed to issue a maximum of 15,000 visas each year. States will have
4		the authority to set criteria for migrants and regulate the operation of
5		their visas.
6	SECTION 2.	States shall base the regulation and issuance of their visas on the
7		following criteria:
8		A. The need for labor in niche markets or industries not already, or
9		insufficiently, supplied by current Federal visa programs
10		B. The need to combat population decline, aging, or shortages
11		C. The need to diversify demographics
12	SECTION 3.	The United States Customs and Immigration Services shall be responsible
13		for enforcing federal immigration law. States that remain in compliance
14		with the provisions of federal immigration law and the contents of this
15		legislation will be allowed to increase their cap on visas by 6% of the
16		originally allocated number of visas for each year of compliance. State
17		governments will be responsible for enacting their own regulatory
18		process to oversee the issuance and maintenance of State visas.
19	SECTION 4.	This legislation shall go into effect in the fiscal year 2024.
20	SECTION 5	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jupiter High School



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.

S1 - A Bill to Protect the Rights of Commercial Airline Passengers

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT: When a passenger books a flight with a commercial airline to attend one 2 SECTION 1. or more specific events, the airline shall be required to do whatever is 3 4 reasonably possible to ensure the passenger is able to attend said 5 event(s) regardless of any flight delays or cancellations. SECTION 2. Passengers will be given the option of declaring such events during the 6 7 booking process and may edit, add, or delete events up until 48 hours 8 prior to the scheduled departure time of the first flight on the itinerary. 9 Events may occur at any time between portions of a round trip or 10 multiple destination itinerary or within 48 hours of the scheduled arrival time of the final flight of the itinerary. Passengers who fail to declare any 11 event are not protected by this legislation. 12 13 SECTION 3. To ensure a passenger is able to attend a declared event, airlines must do whichever of the following will be least expensive while still allowing the 14 passenger to arrive at the location of the event at least two hours prior to 15 its start time: rebooking to another flight on the same airline, rebooking 16 to and paying for another flight on a different airline, securing and paying 17 for ground transportation to or from a different airport if rebookings shift 18 19 the itinerary to make this necessary, and booking and paying for a rental 20 car if necessary for the same reason or for use in completing the trip in its 21 entirety. If none of these options will allow the passenger to arrive at the 22 location of the event at least two hours prior to its start time, the 23 passenger may opt to accept an arrangement that leads to a later arrival or to receive a full refund of the original ticket price. 24 25 SECTION 4. If these changes require the passenger to wait for eight or more hours from the time of rebooking until the time of departure from the airport 26 27 (whether by plane or otherwise) and six or more of those hours fall 28 between 8 PM and 8 AM local time, the airline must also pay for lodging at a local hotel and provide transportation between that hotel and the 29 30 31 **SECTION 5.** Passengers reserve the right to refuse a new itinerary created under the provisions of this legislation and are then entitled to a full refund of the 32 33 original ticket price. 34 SECTION 6. Any airlines found to be in violation of this legislation shall be fined 35 \$20,000 per passenger per offense and shall be liable to civil action from the affected passenger. 36 37 **SECTION 7.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Aviation Administration 38 (FAA). 39 **SECTION 8.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2022. 40 **SECTION 9.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

S2 - A Bill to Require Demolition and Remediation of Defunct Power Plants

1	BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:		
2	SECTION 1.	Any corporation that owns a coal, petroleum, natural gas, or nuclear	
3		power plant and is planning to cease operations of that plant must	
4		provide for the demolition of that plant and the remediation of the area	
5		where it is situated.	
6	SECTION 2.	The corporation in question shall submit a demolition and remediation	
7		plan to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at least one year prior	
8		to the planned date of closing. The EPA will work with the company to	
9		ensure the plan is satisfactory and then that it is carried out.	
10	SECTION 3.	Any corporation owning a power plant of any of the aforementioned	
11		types, and which has already been closed will have one year from the	
12		date of passage to begin the process detailed in Section 2.	
13	SECTION 4.	Any eligible corporation that fails to meet these requirements within the	
14		stated timeframes will be fined \$10 million and cede ownership of the	
15		plant and the property on which it is situated to the federal government,	
16		at which point the EPA shall proceed with demolition and remediation	
17		independently. The EPA will also commence demolition and remediation	
18		of any eligible power plants currently under the ownership of the federal	
19		government, to be completed within five years of the date of passage.	
20	SECTION 5.	This legislation shall be overseen by the EPA.	

This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

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SECTION 6.

SECTION 7.

S3 - A Bill to Promote Safety on Film Sets

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 **SECTION 1**. Functioning firearms and live ammunition, whether blanks or bullets, are
- 3 prohibited on any film set that requires a license or a permit.
- 4 **SECTION 2**. Any violation of this legislation shall be treated as reckless endangerment
- and prosecuted accordingly based on the relevant portions of the penal
- 6 code in the jurisdiction where the crime occurs. Either the entire film
- 7 company or one or more specific individuals may be held culpable,
- 8 depending on the circumstances.
- 9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by local law enforcement and the
- 10 Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).
- 11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2022.
- 12 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

F1 - A Bill to Declassify Area 51 Documents

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2	SECTION 1.	The Secretary of Defense is hereby ordered to declassify all documents
3		related to Homey Airport (XTA/KXTA), popularly known as Area 51, with
4		the exception of any documents the Secretary deems a material and
5		immediate threat to the security of the United States if declassified,
6		though any exceptions must be approved unanimously by the President,
7		the Vice President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
8		President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
9	SECTION 2.	The Secretary will have six months from the passage of this bill to satisfy
10		its mandate, up to and including a full public release of these documents
11		Should the Secretary fail to meet this deadline, Congress shall begin
12		impeachment proceedings against him and the duty to declassify will fall
13		to the Speaker of the House.
14	SECTION 3.	This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.
15	SECTION 4.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

F2 - A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Guarantee a Right to Food

1	RESOLVED,	By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article
2		is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States,
3		which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution
4		when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states
5		within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:
6		ARTICLE
7	SECTION 1.	"All individuals have a natural, inherent and unalienable right to grow,
8		raise, harvest, produce and consume the food of their own choosing for
9		their own nourishment, sustenance, bodily health and well-being" and
10		this right shall not be infringed.
11	SECTION 2.	The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate
12		legislation.

F3 - A Bill to End International Arms Sales

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 **SECTION 1**. No corporation or individual shall engage in the sale of weapons or
- 3 military technology to any foreign government, corporation, individual, or
- 4 other entity.
- 5 **SECTION 2**. Any violation of this legislation shall be prosecuted as treason in a federal
- 6 court.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the International Trade
- 8 Administration and the Department of Justice.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2023.
- 10 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.