

# Massachusetts Speech and Debate League

## 2022 Newton South Online Winter Festival

### Legislation Docket

Welcome to the 2022 Newton South Online Winter Festival! Enclosed, please find the following legislation.

- **Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee:** A Bill to Repeal the No Child Left Behind Act to Improve American Education (Sen. Cooper, Needham HS)
- **Judiciary Committee:** A Bill to Establish English as the Official Language of the United States (Sen. Gonser, Catholic Memorial School)
- **Select Committee on Ethics:** A Bill to Deter Abuse of Power for Personal Economic Reward – DAPPER Act (Sen. Ismahili, Revere HS)
- **Foreign Relations Committee:** A Bill to Reject Chinese Influence in the Middle East (Sen. Gagliardi, Natick HS)
- **Finance Committee:** A Bill to Establish a Negative Income Tax to Aid Lower-Income Individuals (Sen. Josephy, Newton South HS)
- **SUPER SESSION – Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee:** A Bill to Mandate Price Transparency in Medicine (MSDL)

I've seen a lot of progress this season. Speeches now are more structured and easier to follow than they were at the start of the year. We have a lot to be proud of as a League.

One area where we can improve is source citations. Please remember that a citation is only valid if it contains, at a minimum, the **year** and the **publication or author**. Review the [NSDA's evidence rules](#) (Page 39, Section 7.1.B) for more information.

The more specific you can be with your source citations, the better. (For example, a “*New York Times* in 2021” source citation about gas prices, while proper, doesn't tell us much – there was a big difference between January and December!)

Happy prepping!

Best regards,

Joe Bowden  
MSDL Chair of Congress

# **A Bill to Repeal the No Child Left Behind Act to Improve American Education**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1                   **SECTION 1.**    The Every Student Succeeds Act is hereby repealed.
- 2                   **SECTION 2.**    The repealing of the Every Student Succeeds Act in no way
- 3                   reinstates the No Child Left Behind Act.
- 4                   **SECTION 3.**    The Department of Education shall be responsible for the
- 5                   enforcement of this legislation.
- 6                   **SECTION 4.**    This legislation will take effect on August 1st, 2024. All laws
- 7                   in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
- 8
- 9
- 10

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Kevin Cooper of Needham High School.*

# **A Bill to Establish English as the Official Language of the United States**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States adopt English as its official language.

**SECTION 2.** An official language shall be defined as the language used for government business and function.

**SECTION 3.** This bill shall be enforced by the Federal Election Commission.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on November 9, 2022. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Samuel Gonser, Catholic Memorial.*

## **A Bill to Deter Abuse of Power for Personal Economic Reward**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1    **SECTION 1.**    Amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1987 (5 U.S.C. App.) to add a Title II
- 2                      clearly stating that “members of Congress, executive level cabinet
- 3                      members and the Supreme Court, along with their families, are barred
- 4                      from investing in individual securities and trusts, with the exception of
- 5                      blind trusts”.
- 6    **SECTION 2.**    A) “Families” shall be defined as immediate family members, spouses and
- 7                      dependents of public officials.
- 8    **SECTION 3.**    Congress shall oversee the implementation of this bill and appropriately
- 9                      amend/clarify 5 U.S.C. App.
- 10 **SECTION 4.**    This legislation will take effect on May 1, 2022. All laws in conflict with this
- 11                      legislation are hereby declared null and void.
- 12

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Erta Ismahili, Revere High School.*

# A Bill to Reject Chinese Influence in the Middle East

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States shall reaffirm our position in the Middle East.

A. The United States shall commit to collaborating with our Gulf Partners by promoting arms sales. Future arms sales shall be contingent on the basis that Gulf Partners reject Chinese Arms Sales.

B. The Pentagon shall be tasked with creating a detailed, annual, written and unclassified report detailing Sino-Iranian military training, exercises and weapons development. The Pentagon shall release its first report by September 30th, 2022, continuing annually thereafter.

**SECTION 2.**

A. "Gulf Partners" shall be hereby defined as member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council

**SECTION 3.**

A. The Department of Defense shall oversee the implementation of Section 1.

B. The House Armed Service Committee in collaboration with the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations shall oversee the implementation of Section 1 Part B.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Christopher Gagliardi, Natick High School.*

# A Bill to Implement a Negative Income Tax to Aid Lower-Income Individuals

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** A negative income tax (NIT), affecting all families collectively earning \$25,000 annually or below and all individuals earning \$12,000 annually or below shall be established. All families and individuals affected will no longer be required to pay income taxes, and will instead be supplemented 50% of the difference between their yearly income and the threshold.

- A. Once an individual or family earns above the threshold they will no longer be eligible for the benefits of the NIT and will be required to pay income taxes.
- B. The sum of two hundred billion dollars is hereby removed from the budget of the Social Security Administration and appropriated to fund the implementation of this legislation.

## **SECTION 2.**

- A. "Individual" is hereby defined as any and all persons filing their income taxes as either a single individual, married couple filing separately,
- B. "Family" is hereby defined as any and all persons filing their income taxes as a married couple filing jointly, head of household, or qualifying widow(er) with a dependent child.

**SECTION 3.** The US Department of Labor and the Internal Revenue Service shall oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect at the beginning of FY2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

# **A Bill to Mandate Price Transparency in Medicine**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Facilities receiving federal Medicare and Medicaid funds shall be required to publish and maintain a single price list for all procedures, services, and medications provided therein. Prices shall be firm at the time the patient presents for service at the facility and until the patient is discharged. No price increase shall take effect upon a patient prior to discharge from the facility. Patients shall have the right to secure binding price quotes in advance of service that shall be valid for a minimum of thirty (30) days from the quote date. Price discrimination based on a patient's insurance status or preferred method of payment is prohibited. Discounts for cash payment in advance of goods or services rendered shall be exempted from this prohibition.

**SECTION 2.** "Publish" means to make publicly available, either in person or in paper or electronic format without the requirement to provide credentials. "Maintain" means to publish the most up-to-date version of the price list. A "binding price quote" shall include a list of the goods and services expected to be rendered, along with the prices to be charged.

**SECTION 3.** The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services shall enforce this legislation. Any violations of Section 1 shall be punished by a criminal fine not to exceed \$100,000 per violation. Patients shall have the right to seek treble damages in civil court for violations of Section 1.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on June 1, 2022. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Massachusetts Speech and Debate League. This legislation is for educational and competitive purposes only and does not necessarily constitute the endorsement of a policy position by the Board of Directors of the MSDL.*