

Welcome Preface

Thank you for choosing to attend the 2023 Cal Invitational. We are excited that you are taking part in Student Congress at one of the largest high school forensics competitions in the country. We are also excited to finally host you in-person at the University of California, Berkeley for the first time since 2020!

I thank both Jega Vigneshwaran from UC Berkeley and Aleisha Readye from Dougherty Valley High School for their work last year on drafting these rules for online competition. The rules we are using this year will largely mirror the rules they have written for the Tournament last year.

The following rules are designed to promote consistent parliamentary procedure among the chambers and a high standard of Congressional Debate. Please note, these regulations cannot be altered or ignored by the chamber using a motion to suspend the rules.

Each school is required to provide one judge per every five Congressional Debaters who must be available on both Sunday and Monday. Depending on judge experience, we may be using Parliamentarians in preliminary chambers. Judges are obligated for both days' rounds, regardless of whether any of their students made it to the elimination round(s) on Monday.

The Rules of Order reflect the virtual tournament that will be taking place this year. Please review them prior to the tournament and direct any questions you have to the Congress Tabroom Director below.

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GO BEARS!



Rules of Order

Please read through the rules carefully. Rules not explicitly enumerated here will be governed by the most recent edition of the National Speech and Debate Association's (NSDA) High School Unified Manual. *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12th edition*, shall prevail when the NSDA rules are silent. Please do not hesitate to contact the tournament directors if you have any further questions regarding the rules. Again, good luck and we hope you have a great time!

1. **Recency & Priority:** Before precedence is established, the presiding officer should recognize speakers fairly and consistently; the PO should explain their process to the chamber at the beginning of each session. They may not link recognition of speakers to previous recognition of students asking questions, moving motions, or longest standing (standing time). During any session, precedence/recency should not reset, to ensure that all students in the chamber have an equal opportunity to speak and receive evaluation from scorers. When a new session begins, precedence/recency will be reset. Priority for speaker recognition will be governed by the following principles as set by the NSDA:
 1. Primary Principle: students who have not spoken during the session
 2. Secondary Principle: students who have spoken fewer times
 3. Tertiary Principle: students who spoke earlier (least recently)
2. **Debate at the Will of the Chamber:** This tournament does not restrict multiple consecutive speeches on the same side (i.e., two or more consecutive Affirmative or Negative speeches). However, Presiding Officers are strongly encouraged to chastise the chamber should speakers be unprepared to speak on legislation and judges may take this lack of preparation into account when ranking students. Students are also reminded that “dividing the house” as a survey of who wishes to speak on the affirmative and negative is a misuse of the motion, and that there are no minimum “cycles” of debate (all motions are welcome between all speeches). In the unlikely absence of a first affirmative speech, debate may not begin on a new piece of legislation with a negative speech.
3. **Voting by Unanimous Consent:** When a motion is unlikely to be contested, it is appropriate for a Representative to ask the Chair to proceed with unanimous consent. A Representative should state this motion as follows: “I ask unanimous consent that...”, followed by the motion. The Chair shall then ask for unanimous consent by asking, “are there any objections” before executing the motion. Members may then respond by announcing “I object” to the chamber. This is not an automatic recognition to explain the substance of that objection. Proper expression of your objection is to then vote “Nay” in the subsequent division of the chamber (this prohibition includes explaining that you have a speech you still wish to deliver; the chamber is aware that you’ve been standing thus far and is not obliged to allow every member to deliver every speech they may desire). Presiding Officers will not allow objections to be explained ad nauseam.

4. **Personal Privileges:** Suspension of the rules for the purposes of an open chamber, where members may freely enter and exit between speeches, is **not** permitted for this tournament. Members are reminded that the proper exchange to ask for permission to leave or re-enter the chamber occurs as follows:

Member: "Mr./Mme./Mx. President/Speaker, I rise to a point of personal privilege."

Chair: "State privilege."

Member: "Enter/Exit chambers."

Chair: "Granted." or "Denied (with brief explanation)."

5. **Proper Phrasing of Motions:** Members of Congress are reminded to avoid the amateurish practice of "making a motion" and using the word "motioning." Instead, please utilize the verb correctly and state: "I move." This of course should not result in the phrase "I move to make a motion" but rather should lead to statements such as "I move to the previous question" or "I move to amend."
6. **Decorum:** This tournament strives to hold its competitors to the highest standards of decorum among attending students. Debate modeling the work of the United States Congress should be enjoyable but also taken seriously. The Presiding Officer is responsible for enforcing proper decorum.
7. **Legislative Day and Speaker Recognition:** As per NSDA rules, each preliminary session constitutes of a new legislative day, meaning that speaking priority resets at the beginning of each round. Semifinals and finals shall each constitute a new legislative day respectively. The priority system outlined in Rule 1 is the required method for recognizing speakers at this tournament.
8. **Questioning:** A mandatory two-minute direct questioning period follows all first affirmative and first negative speeches. A mandatory one-minute direct questioning period follows all other speeches. Once recognized, Representatives may ask an unlimited number of questions within their respective period of cross-examination. The Presiding Officer recognizes legislators who wish to ask a question of a speaker; the speaker may not perform this function themselves, nor may a questioner recognize themselves. **The rules may not be suspended to abolish cross-examination or to allow for an extension of the cross-examination period.** The Presiding Officer has an obligation to rule that misleading or irrelevant questions are out-of-order. Representatives are reminded to keep their questions and question prefaces concise. Should a cross-examination period not be claimed by any questioner, the Presiding Officer may absorb the remaining time and proceed to call up the next speech in a cycle.
9. **Agenda Order:** Each preliminary chamber sets its own agenda order for the legislation designated for that preliminary session. The proposed agenda order must receive approval by a simple majority vote of the chamber before the beginning of each session. No chamber may debate legislation at any time other than during its designated session(s). Legislation marked for "Prelims" may only be debated in the Preliminary Rounds.

Legislation marked for “Semis” may only be debated in the Semifinal Round. Legislation marked for “Finals” may only be debated in the Final Round. Speakers should be prepared to debate on all pieces of legislation and should be prepared to debate on both sides of such legislation.

10. **Amendments:** Legislators may submit amendments to the Presiding Officer in writing. A motion to amend is necessary to consider the written amendment; such a motion is in order any time after the first affirmative speech. Once the motion is made, the Presiding Officer decides if the amendment is germane. If the amendment is deemed not to be germane, the chair rules it out-of-order and the amendment process stops. If the chair rules the amendment germane, they should read the contents of the amendment to the chamber. A 1/3 second of the members present in the chamber is required to debate the amendment. If at least a third of the chamber seconds the motion to debate the amendment, debate on the amendment commences immediately. Legislators may make a motion to table or call the previous question on the amendment at any time. The first speech on the amendment is a sponsorship speech. The chair determines speaker recognition for the sponsorship speech based on priority; **the author of the amendment is not guaranteed the sponsorship speech.** The sponsor accepts responsibility for the mechanics of the amendment and yields to two minutes of questioning. All amendment speeches receive a score and count towards priority. A majority vote is necessary for the chamber to adopt the amendment (this of course after a 2/3 vote has been achieved to call previous question on the amendment).
11. **Authorship Speeches:** If a member of the school that authored the legislation being debated is in the chamber, they may (but are not required to) have the first affirmative speech. The speech should be 3 minutes in length, but the cross-examination period will be extended to 2 minutes. If there are multiple members from the school that authored the legislation, only one member may give the authorship speech, while other members will be chosen to speak based on the priority system described in Rule 1.
12. **Overtime Speeches:** The time limit for speeches in all rounds of this tournament is 3 minutes. Any regular floor speech that extends more than ten (10) seconds beyond the maximum speaking time of three minutes may be gavelled down by the Presiding Officer. **The Presiding Officer is required to keep accurate time of each speech and report it to the judges when the speaker has finished.** The judges shall heavily penalize a Presiding Officer for inaccurate timing and/or reporting.
13. **Electronic Device Use:** The use of laptops and electronic devices, including tablets and phones, in chambers is permitted, though it is strongly recommended that students avoid reading notes from laptops when delivering speeches in front of the chamber. Students shall be allowed to use tablet devices when delivering speeches and under no circumstances shall students be penalized for electronic device usage in accordance with these rules. Please be advised that limited power supplies will exist in the classrooms at UC Berkeley and the tournament accepts no responsibility for providing Congressional

debaters with a power source or WiFi at any tournament site. This tournament will adopt the NSDA's "CURRENT GUIDELINES for Use of Internet-Enabled Devices in Congressional Debate" and the NSDA's "Current Guidelines for Use of Internet-Enabled Devices in Debate Events." At no point may a student use the Internet for purposes of gaining help from coaches, other students, or other persons. Failure to follow the rules governing electronic devices may result in disqualification from the Tournament.

14. **Selection of Presiding Officers:** A single presiding officer will serve for each session. A legislator is allowed to serve as Presiding Officer for more than one session, though he or she must be re-elected for each session served. Members of each chamber are encouraged to hold an informal, brief "business meeting" in their chamber before the beginning of each Session to elect a Presiding Officer for the session. A Presiding Officer must always be elected before debate on legislation commences and must also be elected at the beginning of each session. A presiding officer must serve for the entire 90 – 120-minute session and may not deliver a speech during the session. **There is no such thing as "presiding officer privilege" for speech recognition in future sessions.**
15. **Time Signals:** Presiding Officers should disclose to their chamber and to the judges at the start of every Session how they will be signaling to speakers (i.e., gavel taps, hand gestures, etc.) when their time has concluded and how much time has elapsed in each speaker's speech.
16. **Clarification of Voting Standards:** "[Fractional] motions such as previous question, seconding an amendment, or suspending the rules reflect the will of the entire body. Presiding Officers should calculate these numbers upon first taking the Chair. For these votes, 'No' votes are not even required because the number needed is either reached or it's not. However, in all votes requiring a majority, the Presiding Officer needs to take 'Yes' votes, 'No' votes, and 'Abstentions.' Abstentions do not count as a 'No.' In order for such a motion to pass (including the main bill or resolution), the 'Yes' votes must simply outnumber the 'No' votes. Abstentions are not counted, except as a courtesy to those members who wish to register their desire to avoid voting or those who are undecided on the issue. In theory, all majority votes could be decided by 3 people (2-1) with everyone else abstaining."¹ The Presiding Officer determines the method of voting on each question that comes before the chamber. All simple majority votes are based upon the number of legislators present and voting in the chamber; consequently, the Presiding Officer does not need to call for or count abstentions. For all votes requiring a fraction of the chamber to agree to a motion or question (2/3, 1/3, or 1/5), the chair determines whether the chamber agrees with the motion/question using the number of legislators present in the chamber at the time of the vote. Because of this system, the Presiding Officer must always track the number of legislators in the chamber. By custom, the Presiding Officer is not included in the count of legislators present and does not vote.
Notes on voting:

¹ Peters, Tammy. *Most Commonly Misunderstood Points of Parliamentary Procedure*. The Rostrum. February 1997.

- Final votes on legislation, amendments, and motions to appeal the chair require a counted vote.
 - Voice voting is acceptable for all other votes, but a counted vote must be taken if any one legislator calls for a division of the chamber by asking for the Yeas and Nays.
17. **Length of Each Session:** Under no circumstances whatsoever may the round be extended past the end time set at the beginning of each session. Please keep this in mind when choosing which side of the legislation on which to speak, as you may be “shut out” of the round if you are unable to give a speech in the allotted time. The Congressional Debate Tabroom will alert judges when the “hard stop time” is for each Round. The “hard stop time” will be approximately 2.5 – 3.25 hours from the start of the first affirmative speech.
 18. **Guaranteed Speeches:** No speaker at this tournament is guaranteed a speech during any round. Please be cognizant of the time and realize that if you wish to speak on the same side as the majority of the students in the chamber, you risk the chance of getting “shut out,” or not being able to speak in a round, which almost always results in a rank of 9. The chamber is not responsible for making sure each speaker is able to deliver a speech during a round. Nonetheless, chambers are allowed to break cycle numerous times within a session, though this practice is strongly discouraged.
 19. **Parliamentarians:** Parliamentarians may be used in all rounds. Should Parliamentarians be used, the Congress Tournament Director reserves the right to panel speakers from schools with more entries than total panels in all but one chamber to ensure their Parliamentarian can be used for the Tournament. Schools should designate one judge as a parliamentarian who will remain in his or her assigned chamber for each preliminary session. The parliamentarian must rank each student in the chamber, without ties. If Parliamentarians are not being used, an odd number of judges will be rotated per chamber.
 20. **Judges:** The judging commitment for Congressional Debate is one judge for every 5 entries. All judges are committed for ALL Congressional Debate Rounds, regardless of if their student made it to the Semifinal or Final Rounds.
 21. **Recording:** Recording of any individual within or outside a round is prohibited. Violators of this rule will be removed from the Tournament and their affiliated institution will be fined. Repeat offenders will not be allowed to enter the Tournament.
 22. **Online:** We do not anticipate that this Tournament be moved online or to a hybrid format. Speakers unable to join us for in person competition for whatever reason (i.e., illness, time conflicts, etc.) will be dropped from the Tournament. No special accommodation via NSDA Campus will be granted.

The Congress Tournament Director reserves the right to issue any additional special rules for the University of California, Berkeley National Congress as warranted.

Tabulation Rules

1. **Scoring:** In the preliminary sessions, each judge will score every speech on a scale of 1 – 6 points (6 is the best). In addition, at the end of each preliminary session, the judges will independently rank the top eight students who advanced the debate most effectively (1st is best). All unranked students will receive a rank of 9. The Presiding Officer may be ranked in the top eight and should be if they provide outstanding service to the chamber. All judges will be instructed that they must consider the Presiding Officer. These rankings will be included in their entirety (no tie at ninth) in the calculation of which legislators advance from each chamber.
2. **Advancing to the Semifinal Round:** Final placement in the preliminary rounds will be determined by summing the ranks and determining the order based upon the lowest cumulative rank, truncating ranks 10 or greater to a 9. Depending on the size of each chamber and number of chambers sectioned, the top legislators from each preliminary chamber will advance to the semifinal round. We will be advancing an equal number of competitors per chamber. Ties will be broken in the following priorities:
 1. Judges' preference
 2. Reciprocals, truncated to 9
 3. Cumulative rank total, truncated to 9, dropping the best and worst ranks
 4. Reciprocals of cumulative rank total, truncated to 9, dropping the best and worst ranks
 5. Rank by the parliamentarian (should there be one)
 - If used, the parliamentarian will rank the speakers in each chamber from 1 to N, where N is the number of speakers in the chamber. If used, the parliamentarian's rank is summed with the judges' ranks from each round to determine which speakers advance to the semifinal round. For initial tabulation, the Parliamentarian's rank shall be truncated to 9. Should tiebreakers warrant, the Parliamentarian's rank shall not be truncated for this last tiebreaker.
 - If there is an unbreakable tie, all tied competitors shall advance.
3. **Advancing to the Final Round:** The top legislators in each semifinal chamber will advance to the final round using the same methodology described above. We will be advancing an equal number of competitors per chamber. The parliamentarian will also rank the speakers in each chamber from 1 to N, where N is the number of speakers in the chamber. The parliamentarian's rank is summed with the judges' ranks from the semifinal round to determine which speakers advance to the final round. The parliamentarian's rank will be summed with the judge ranks to determine the final placement of speakers after the final round. The Parliamentarian's rank in both rounds will be truncated to 9 for initial tabulation. Should tiebreakers warrant, the Parliamentarian's rank shall not be truncated for the last tiebreaker. If there is an unbreakable tie, all tied competitors shall advance.
4. **Awards:** Elimination Round competitors will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony on Monday.

Legislative Agenda

Preliminary Round Legislation:

1. A Bill to Limit Domestic Small Arms Manufacturing (Bellarmine College Preparatory)
2. A Resolution to End US Sanctions on Venezuela (Monte Vista High School)
3. A Bill to Ban the Chemical PFAS in All Industries and Commerce (Young Genius, Bay Area)
4. A Bill to Decriminalize Sex Work (Corner Canyon High School)
5. A Bill to Extend Section 230 to Website Recommendations via Algorithm (Leland High School)
6. A Bill to Harmonize Our Highways (Flintridge Preparatory)
7. A Bill to Permanently Abolish the Debt Ceiling (Archbishop Mitty High School)
8. A Bill to Ban Energy Drinks for Minors (Western Hills High School)
9. A Bill to Regulate Fast Fashion to Decrease Inhumane Working Conditions and Pollution (Northland Christian High School)

Preliminary Round Legislation are listed in no particular order and may be debated in Rounds 1 – 3 only. Each chamber shall set their dockets prior to Round 1. Students should be prepared to speak on all pieces of legislation and on both sides of each legislation.

Semifinal Round Legislation:

1. A Bill to Transition America Towards Stakeholder Capitalism (Northland Christian High School)
2. A Resolution to Sanction Azerbaijan (Bellevue High School)
3. A Bill to Ban Gas-Powered Vehicles (Los Gatos High School)

Semifinal Round Legislation may only be debated in the Semifinal Round, should enough entries warrant one.

Final Round Legislation:

1. H. R. 307 – Public Housing Emergency Response Act
 - a. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/307/text?r=139&s=3>
2. H. R. 304 – SERVE Our Communities Act
 - a. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/304/text?r=142&s=3>
3. H. R. 231 – Terminate TikTok on Campus Act of 2023
 - a. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/231/text?r=215&s=1>
4. H. R. 278 – Cyber Defense National Guard Act
 - a. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/278/text?r=4&s=10>

A Bill to Limit Domestic Small Arms Manufacturing

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The U.S. Federal Government shall limit small arms manufacturing by
3 U.S. companies to 50% of their 2021 output. Any companies in violation
4 of the terms of this legislation shall be fined twice the amount of their
5 revenue obtained by illegal sales.

6 **SECTION 2.** Small arms are defined as any firearm that can be carried and operated
7 by a single person, including but not limited to pistols, rifles, and
8 shotguns.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives shall oversee
10 the implementation and enforcement of this legislation

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage.

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

13 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bellarmine College Preparatory*

A Bill to Ban the Chemical PFAS in All Industries and Commerce

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All uses of the chemical PFAS in all industries are banned and will no
3 longer be allowed to be used in the manufacturing, production, and
4 selling of goods.

5 **SECTION 2.** **A.** PFAS, meaning perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, which
6 are linked to cancer, thyroid disruption, reduced kidney function, and
7 more.

8 **B.** All industries, meaning any industry that uses PFAS in its production of
9 goods and services.

10 **C.** A ban, meaning that PFAS is legally prohibited and is not allowed to be
11 used in any goods or services produced.

12 **SECTION 3.** The enforcement of this legislation will be overseen by the Food and Drug
13 Administration.

14 **A.** If a company is found in violation of this ban, the business will be
15 charged 5% of its annual gross profits

16 **B.** If a business is in repeated violation of this ban, the owner or
17 equivalent (e.g., CEO, board members, etc.) will be at risk of facing
18 federal charges alongside an additional 5% charge of the business'
19 annual gross profits.

20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on October 1, 2024. All laws in conflict
21 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Young Genius, Bay Area Speech and Debate Academy.

A Resolution to End US Sanctions on Venezuela

1 **WHEREAS,** Since 2017 the United States has put high amounts of
2 sanctions on the Venezuelan economy, banning the sale of the majority of
3 goods to Venezuela to force a regime change; and

4 **WHEREAS,** The excessive amounts of US sanctions have cost the
5 Venezuelan government over \$30 billion in revenue, crippling the
6 Venezuelan economy; and

7 **WHEREAS,** Millions of Venezuelans have suffered in high amounts of
8 poverty and hyperinflation due to our sanctions on their country; and

9 **WHEREAS,** These sanctions have repeatedly failed to reach their goal of
10 forcing a regime change; now, therefore, be it

11 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled shall resolve to end all
12 United States sanctions on the country of Venezuela.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Monte Vista High School.

A Bill to Decriminalize Sex Workers

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall decriminalize all sex workers in all 50
2 U.S. states and U.S. territories.

3 **SECTION 2.** (1) Sex workers are defined as adults who receive money or
4 goods in exchange for consensual sexual services or erotic performances.

5 (2) Decriminalized will be defined as the stopping of treating
6 sex work as illegal or as a criminal offense.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services will oversee
8 the implementation of this legislation.

9 **A.** 15 billion dollars shall be redirected from the Department
10 of Defense budget to fund this legislation.

11 **B.** If the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services finds
12 that more money is needed after two years, the request will be considered
13 by an ad hoc Congressional Committee.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Corner Canyon High School

A Bill to Extend Section 230 to Website Recommendations via Algorithm

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. Subsection (c) of Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code shall be
3 extended to videos, images, messages, and other forms of content
4 suggested by a website's algorithm on large media platforms, thereby
5 making the content not an endorsement by the platform.

6 SECTION 2. Large media platforms are defined by any media platform with over 1
7 million monthly users, including but not limited to: Youtube, Twitter,
8 Reddit, Tiktok, Facebook, Instagram. Algorithms are defined as as
9 computer programs that implement machine learning to learn from user
10 preferences, trending, and other factors to recommend content to
11 consumers.

12 SECTION 3. The Federal Communications Commission will enforce the passage of this
13 legislation.

14 SECTION 4. This legislation will be enacted immediately.

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

Introduced for Debate by Leland High School

A Bill to Harmonize our Highways

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** All speed limits on the United States Highway System and
2 the Interstate Highway system are hereby abolished, to be replaced by
3 fines for driving significantly above or below the average speed as
4 determined by radar.

5 **SECTION 2.** Speed limits shall be defined as the maximum speed at
6 which a vehicle may legally travel on a particular stretch of road.

7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of
8 Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration, in cooperation
9 with state governments responsible for maintaining the interstate highway
10 system.

11 A. In order to ensure that the transition to a highway system without
12 speed limits is safe and harmonious and that the aforementioned
13 agencies are capable of properly enforcing this legislation, both the
14 Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration
15 shall see an increase in their annual budget for the next three years.

16 B. The Department of Transportation shall be allocated an additional \$10
17 billion per year over the next three fiscal years, and the Federal
 Highway Administration shall be allocated an additional \$5 billion per
 year over the next three fiscal years.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in
conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Flintridge Preparatory School.

A Bill to Permanently Abolish the Debt Ceiling

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The current debt ceiling shall hereby be abolished.
- 2 **SECTION 2.** The United States Congress shall prohibit the establishment of any federal
3 debt ceiling in perpetuity.
- 4 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Treasury shall be tasked with the enforcement of this
5 bill.
- 6 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately. All laws in conflict with this
7 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Arushi Goyal of Archbishop Mitty High School.

A Bill to Ban Energy Drinks for Minors

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The practice of selling energy drinks to minors (people under the age of
3 18) shall be banned.

4 **SECTION 2.** A. Energy drink is defined as a drink that contains the equivalent of at least
5 100 milligrams of caffeine in a 12 ounce drink.

6 B. Minor is defined as a person under the age of 18.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Food and Drug Association (FDA) will oversee the implementation of
8 this bill.

9 For those companies who are not in compliance with this bill, they shall be
10 fined \$500 for each person to whom they sell an energy drink.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in FY 2024.

12 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this bill shall be null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Western Hills High School.

A Bill to Regulate Fast Fashion to Decrease Inhumane Working Conditions and Pollution

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will place a ban on orders more than \$250 from
3 unethical or fast fashion companies.

4 **SECTION 2.** Unethical/fast fashion companies are defined as corporations that have
5 inhumane working conditions, unsafe chemicals in clothing, or harm the
6 environment (i.e., Forever 21, SHEIN, H&M, Zara, etc.).

7 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission will work in conjunction with the
8 Environmental Protection Agency to oversee the proper enforcement of
9 this bill.

10 A. Any companies found not in compliance with this bill shall be fined
11 \$10,000 per violation.

12 B. The Environmental Protection Agency will provide insight on
13 practices executed by corporations.

14 C. The Federal Trade Commission will begin monitoring companies
15 found in direct violations within their environmental practices.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2024. All laws in conflict
17 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.

A Resolution to Sanction Azerbaijan

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The Azerbaijani military has engaged in ethnic cleansing against
2 Armenians within the Nagorno-Karabakh region during its ongoing
3 military conflicts with Armenia in the area; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** The UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in August
5 2022 noted severe and grave human rights violations committed by the
6 Azerbaijani military forces against prisoners of war and other protected
7 persons of Armenian ethnic or national origin; including extrajudicial
8 killings, torture, and other ill-treatment and arbitrary detention as well as
9 the destruction of houses, schools, and other civilian facilities; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** A 2020 report by the U.S. State Department accused Azerbaijan of a wide
11 variety of human rights abuses, including “unlawful or arbitrary killing”,
12 “heavy restrictions on free expression, the press, and the internet”, and
13 “the worst forms of child labor”; and
- 14 **WHEREAS,** The international community has demonstrated minimal care about such
15 activities done by Azerbaijan, and has actively enabled such behavior;
16 now, therefore, be it
- 17 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled recommends the State Department to
18 create and implement appropriate sanctions on the Republic of
19 Azerbaijan.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bellevue High School.

A Bill to Transition America Towards Stakeholder Capitalism

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1. A.** No qualifying corporation shall engage in interstate commerce unless:
3 (1) such corporation is governed by fiduciary duties that require
4 managers to account in their decisions the impact on all stakeholders;
5 including on the social and natural systems that a just future depends
6 upon (2) such corporation's shareholders are entitled to bring legal action
7 for injunctive relief to enforce the fiduciary duties described in section
8 1A.

9 **B.** Every large business shall file annually with the Securities and
10 Exchange Commission (SEC) information about its impact on its
11 employees and other workers whose labor it contracts, other
12 stakeholders, the environment, and other matters of common interest to
13 citizens and relevant to the social and natural systems on which a just
14 and prosperous future depends upon.

15 **SECTION 2. A.** "Qualifying corporation" is any business entity engaged in interstate
16 commerce in the United States.

17 **B.** "Manager" is any person with the discretion to make decisions on
18 behalf of a qualifying corporation, including directors, officers, and
19 managers.

20 **C.** "Shareholder" is any holder of an equity security.

21 **D.** "Large business" is any business entity that (1) engages in interstate
22 commerce and (2) in a taxable year has more than 1 billion dollars in
23 gross receipts.

24 **SECTION 3.** The SEC shall promulgate rules to ensure compliance with Section 1.A as
25 well as separate guidelines for Section 1.B, with consultation provided by
26 the Department of Labor, the Department of Commerce, and the
27 Environmental Protection Agency

28 **SECTION 4. A.** Section 1.A and 1.B shall be enacted 3 years after passage of this
29 legislation.

30 **B.** 2 years after the enactment of this legislation, the SEC shall set forth
31 the procedures to ensure compliance with Section 1.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.

A Bill to Ban Gas-Powered Vehicles

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The manufacturing and sale of all new gas-powered cars and passenger
2 trucks shall hereby be banned in the United States.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Transportation and the Department of Commerce shall
4 jointly oversee the implementation and regulation of this legislation.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** Any company found violating this law shall be fined \$10,000 per vehicle
6 illegally manufactured and/or sold.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2035. All laws in conflict with
8 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Los Gatos High School.

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 231

To prohibit Federal funds from being provided to an institution of higher education unless the institution has banned use of TikTok on electronic devices, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 10, 2023

Mr. BABIN (for himself, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, and Mr. SANTOS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To prohibit Federal funds from being provided to an institution of higher education unless the institution has banned use of TikTok on electronic devices, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Terminate TikTok on
5 Campus Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON FEDERAL FUNDS FOR ANY INSTI-**
2 **TUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION NOT BAN-**
3 **NING USE OF TIKTOK ON ELECTRONIC DE-**
4 **VICES.**

5 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Following the 90-day period be-
6 ginning on the date of enactment of this Act, no Federal
7 funds may be provided to an institution of higher edu-
8 cation unless the institution of higher education has devel-
9 oped and implemented standards and guidelines—

10 (1) prohibiting the use of TikTok on electronic
11 devices owned or issued by the institution; and

12 (2) requiring the removal of TikTok from elec-
13 tronic devices owned or issued by the institution.

14 (b) **RESEARCH EXCEPTION.**—The requirements in
15 subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to research
16 that—

17 (1) is conducted by, supervised by, or author-
18 ized by faculty of an institution of higher education;
19 and

20 (2) pertains to national security, law enforce-
21 ment, telecommunications, or cybersecurity.

22 (c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

23 (1) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The
24 term “institution of higher education” has the
25 meaning given that term in section 102 of the High-
26 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

1 (2) ELECTRONIC DEVICE.—The term “elec-
2 tronic device”—

3 (A) means a device capable of accessing
4 the internet (either directly or by connecting to
5 another device or system); and

6 (B) includes a computer, a tablet, a
7 streaming device, a smartphone, a smartwatch,
8 and any other smart device.

9 (3) TIKTOK.—The term “TikTok”—

10 (A) means the social networking service
11 TikTok; and

12 (B) includes any successor application or
13 service developed or provided by ByteDance
14 Limited or an entity owned by ByteDance Lim-
15 ited.

○

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 307

To authorize additional monies to the Public Housing Capital Fund of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 11, 2023

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. MENG, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BOWMAN, and Ms. CLARKE of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To authorize additional monies to the Public Housing Capital Fund of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Public Housing Emer-
5 gency Response Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Housing is a foundational determinant of
2 health and has been recognized as such since the
3 early days of public health.

4 (2) Poor housing conditions contribute to a
5 broad range of infectious diseases, chronic diseases,
6 injuries, childhood development complications, nutri-
7 tion issues, and mental health challenges.

8 (3) The United States Housing Act of 1937
9 (Public Law 75–412) charges the Department of
10 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) with pro-
11 viding residents with a decent, safe, and affordable
12 place to live, including those that live in public hous-
13 ing.

14 (4) While public housing is a federally created
15 program overseen by HUD, the properties are owned
16 and managed at the local level by quasi-govern-
17 mental public housing authorities under contract
18 with the Federal Government.

19 (5) Thus, the public housing program is gov-
20 erned in part by Federal rules and regulations and
21 in part by policies enacted at the local level.

22 (6) Passage of the United States Housing Act
23 of 1937 sought to address the needs of low-income
24 people through public housing. At the time of pas-
25 sage of such Act, the Nation’s housing stock was of

1 very poor quality. Public housing was a significant
2 improvement for those who had access to it.

3 (7) However, over the years the living condi-
4 tions in public housing began to deteriorate as the
5 operational needs of the units and costs necessary to
6 remedy major capital deficiencies began to outpace
7 the level of funding provided by the Federal Govern-
8 ment and the residents' rent contributions.

9 (8) By 1990, no significant investment in hous-
10 ing affordable to the lowest-income individuals had
11 been made by the Federal Government in more than
12 30 years.

13 (9) In 1998, the enactment of the Quality
14 Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (title
15 V of Public Law 105–276) prohibited public housing
16 authorities from using any Federal capital funding
17 or operating funding to develop net new housing.

18 (10) More than a decade after the enactment of
19 the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of
20 1998, the number of public housing units nationally
21 began to steadily decline, as more units were torn
22 down than rebuilt.

23 (11) With the exception of an infusion of fund-
24 ing from the economic stimulus legislation in 2009—
25 the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Pub-

1 lic Law 111–5)—Federal capital funding has re-
2 mained relatively level for more than a decade, de-
3 spite an increasing backlog in unmet capital needs.

4 (12) Today, there are approximately 1.2 million
5 units of public housing across the country receiving
6 Federal funding. The Nation’s largest public housing
7 authority, the New York City Public Housing Au-
8 thority, houses approximately 362,000 residents in
9 302 developments across New York City.

10 (13) The Public Housing Capital Fund of the
11 Department of Housing and Urban Development re-
12 mains the primary source of funding public housing
13 authorities rely on to address necessary infrastruc-
14 ture upgrades and repairs.

15 (14) As of October 2019, the national public
16 housing capital repairs backlog was estimated to
17 stand at more than \$70 billion.

18 (15) Federal disinvestment in public housing
19 has forced many residents to live in accelerating sub-
20 standard living. For example, the New York City
21 Housing Authority has a capital repair backlog cur-
22 rently estimated at more than \$40 billion. New York
23 City Housing Authority residents suffer from a con-
24 sistent lack of hot water, insufficient heat during the
25 winter months, rodent and insect infestations, bro-

1 ken elevators, and widespread and recurring lead
2 and mold problems.

3 (16) Substandard housing conditions, such as
4 poor ventilation, pest infestations, and water leaks,
5 are directly associated with the development and ex-
6 acerbation of respiratory diseases like asthma.

7 (17) The Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
8 vention has made clear that no level of lead poi-
9 soning is safe. Lead poisoning can result in irrevers-
10 ible brain damage and affects every major bodily
11 system. At high levels, lead poisoning can cause ane-
12 mia, multi-organ damage, seizures, coma, and death
13 in children. Even with the lowest levels of lead expo-
14 sure, children experience physical, cognitive, and
15 neurobehavioral impairment as well as lower IQ lev-
16 els, lower class standing in high school, greater ab-
17 senteeism, lower vocabulary and grammatical-rea-
18 soning scores, and poorer hand-eye coordination rel-
19 ative to other children.

20 (18) Exposure to cold indoor temperatures is
21 associated with increased risk of cardiovascular dis-
22 ease.

23 (19) Due to its aging infrastructure, the living
24 conditions in public housing are causing severe
25 health consequences for public housing residents

1 throughout the Nation, including asthma, res-
2 piratory illness, and elevated blood lead levels.

3 (20) For example, one leading study found that
4 children living in public housing have higher odds of
5 asthma than children living in all types of private
6 housing, even after adjusting for individual risk fac-
7 tors such as minority ethnicity and race, living in a
8 low-income household, and living in a low-income
9 community.

10 (21) The rise of the COVID–19 pandemic has
11 introduced a new level of risk into our society.

12 (22) Poor housing conditions have been linked
13 with worse health outcomes and infectious disease
14 spread. One leading study found that counties with
15 a higher percentage of households with poor housing
16 had a higher incidence of, and mortality associated
17 with, COVID–19 and recommended targeted health
18 policies to support individuals living in poor housing
19 conditions in order to mitigate adverse outcomes as-
20 sociated with COVID–19.

21 (23) This is a fixable public health crisis. Fed-
22 eral disinvestment in public housing has con-
23 sequences and aging infrastructure is, in many
24 cases, the root cause of many of these health issues
25 for residents.

1 (24) Therefore, it is necessary to reinvest in
2 public housing, provide the money needed to fulfill
3 outstanding capital needs, and to again ensure that
4 all Americans have a decent home and suitable living
5 environment, as is HUD's charge.

6 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 There is authorized to be appropriated for assistance
8 from the Public Housing Capital Fund under section 9(d)
9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
10 1437g(d)) \$70,000,000,000, which amount shall remain
11 available until expended and, notwithstanding subsections
12 (c)(1) and (d)(2) of such section 9, shall be allocated to
13 public housing agencies based upon the extent of such
14 agencies' capital need, as determined according to the
15 agencies' most recent Physical Needs Assessment.

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118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 304

To authorize grants for States, and units of local government that take efforts to stop enabling repeat violence, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 11, 2023

Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. SANTOS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize grants for States, and units of local government that take efforts to stop enabling repeat violence, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Stop Enabling Repeat
5 Violence and Endangering Our Communities Act” or the
6 “SERVE Our Communities Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SERVE OUR COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Attorney General, acting
3 through the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance,
4 is authorized to make grants to eligible States and units
5 of local government for the purposes described in sub-
6 section (c).

7 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to be eligible for a grant
8 under this section, a State or unit of local government—

9 (1) shall allow a State court or magistrate to
10 consider the danger an individual poses to the com-
11 munity when determining bail or pretrial release
12 conditions; and

13 (2) shall have taken steps during the previous
14 calendar year to prevent repeat offenses by violent
15 offenders, including—

16 (A) enacting a law that allows a State
17 court or magistrate to consider the danger an
18 individual poses to the community when deter-
19 mining bail or pretrial release conditions;

20 (B) expanding efforts of that jurisdiction
21 to hire and retain law enforcement officers and
22 prosecutorial staff; or

23 (C) administering a public education pro-
24 gram to combat anti-police sentiment and im-
25 prove community-police relations.

1 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—A State or unit of local govern-
2 ment that receives a grant under this section may use such
3 funds for the purposes described in section 211(b) of the
4 Second Chance Act of 2007 (34 U.S.C. 60531(b)).

5 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
6 authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for each of fis-
7 cal years 2024 through 2029 to carry out this section.

8 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms “State”
9 and “unit of local government” have the meanings given
10 such terms in section 901 of the Omnibus Crime Control
11 and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10251).

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118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 278

To require the Director of National Intelligence to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing a Cyber Defense National Guard.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 11, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

A BILL

To require the Director of National Intelligence to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing a Cyber Defense National Guard.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Cyber Defense Na-
5 tional Guard Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON ESTABLISHMENT OF CYBER DEFENSE**
7 **NATIONAL GUARD.**

8 (a) STUDY.—The Director of National Intelligence,
9 in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Sec-
10 retary of Homeland Security, shall conduct a study on the

1 feasibility of establishing a Cyber Defense National
2 Guard.

3 (b) CONTENTS.—The study required under sub-
4 section (a) shall include an analysis of—

5 (1) the cost of creating a Cyber Defense Na-
6 tional Guard;

7 (2) the number of persons who would be needed
8 to defend the critical infrastructure of the United
9 States from a cyber attack or manmade intentional
10 or unintentional catastrophic incident;

11 (3) the sources of potential members of a Cyber
12 Defense National Guard, including industry, aca-
13 demic institutions, research facilities, and Federal
14 contractors;

15 (4) which elements of the Federal Government
16 would be best equipped to recruit, train, and manage
17 a Cyber Defense National Guard;

18 (5) the criteria required for persons to serve in
19 a Cyber Defense National Guard;

20 (6) if an incident disrupts communications in a
21 region or area, what resources can be pre-positioned
22 and training instilled to assure the effectiveness and
23 responsiveness of a Cyber Defense National Guard;

1 (7) the minimum requirements for consider-
2 ation for inclusion in a Cyber Defense National
3 Guard;

4 (8) the impact of the effectiveness of a Cyber
5 Defense National Guard of the possibility that the
6 population of potential recruits may be dominated by
7 men and women without military, intelligence, law
8 enforcement, or government work experience;

9 (9) the recruitment and vetting costs for a
10 Cyber Defense National Guard;

11 (10) the frequency of cyber defense and unit co-
12 hesion training;

13 (11) how well military discipline is able to be
14 adapted for use for creating command and control
15 systems and protocols for a Cyber Defense National
16 Guard;

17 (12) the logistics of allowing governors to use
18 the Cyber Defense National Guard in States during
19 times of cyber emergency;

20 (13) the advantages and disadvantages of cre-
21 ating a Cyber Defense National Guard on the cyber
22 security of the United States; and

23 (14) whether a force trained to defend the net-
24 works of the United States in the event of a major
25 attack or natural or manmade disaster will benefit

1 overall efforts to defend the interests of the United
2 States.

3 (c) REPORT.—

4 (1) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 240 days
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Di-
6 rector of National Intelligence, in consultation with
7 the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of
8 Homeland Security, shall submit to the Committee
9 on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Se-
10 curity, the Permanent Select Committee on Intel-
11 ligence, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the
12 House of Representatives and the Committee on
13 Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Secu-
14 rity and Governmental Affairs, the Select Committee
15 on Intelligence, and the Committee on the Judiciary
16 of the Senate a report containing the results of the
17 study required under subsection (a).

18 (2) FORM.—The report required under para-
19 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form,
20 but may include a classified annex.

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