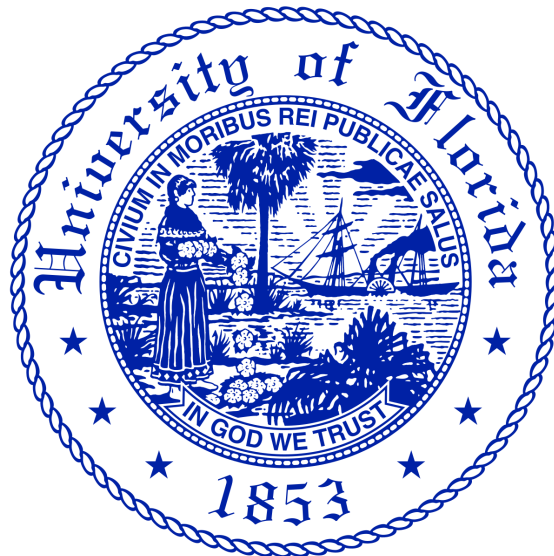


Florida Blue Key Congressional Debate

Preliminary Round Legislation Packet 2023



FLORIDA BLUE KEY



We are excited to host the Florida Blue Key Congressional Debate tournament at the beautiful University of Florida campus from October 27th to October 29th. In this packet, competitors and coaches will find the tournament schedule, round procedures, and preliminary legislation. Please review all the information in this packet carefully.

Tournament Schedule

All times listed below are in Eastern Standard Time (EST).

Friday, October 27th

Judge Check-in	4:15pm
Preliminary Session 1	5:00pm — 8:00pm
Chamber Assembly	8:00pm—8:30pm

Saturday, October 28th

Preliminary Session 2	9:00am — 12:00pm
Preliminary Session 3	1:00pm — 4:00pm
Break Announcement	4:30pm
Semifinal	5:00pm — 8:00pm
Break Announcement	8:30pm

Sunday, October 29th

Final Round Session 1	9:00am—10:30am
Lunch Break	10:30am—12:00pm
Final Round Session 2	12:00pm — 1:30pm
Awards	4:00pm

Tiebreakers

In the event competitors receive the same rankings in a round, speaker points will decide their placing. If speaker points are equal, then each competitor's parliamentary rank will decide who has a better ranking.

Technology

Internet use is permitted for competitors during rounds. Internet connection MAY NOT be used to communicate with or receive any competitive advantage from others during rounds (coaches, other students, etc.). Florida Blue Key reserves the right to check these rules are properly followed at any time.

Presiding Officer (PO)

POs may serve one preliminary session unless no one else wishes to run. Standard NSDA parliamentary procedures should be enforced by the PO. “Best PO” voting will occur at the end of the third preliminary round. Semifinals sessions will have one PO for the entire round. The Final Round will have one PO for each session, two total.

Speaking Order

At the start of each round POs will be given random predetermined recency charts for speeches and questions. Speeches and questions will have inverse recency, therefore competitors with the best recency for speeches will have the worst recency for questions and vice versa. Recency will reset and predetermination will be re-randomized after each session of preliminary rounds. Recency will not reset for the second session of Finals. All other procedures will follow standard National Speech and Debate Association guidelines.

Agendas/Dockets

Tabling legislation from one session to another is prohibited (i.e. sessions 2 and 3 must start with new legislation not previously debated in that chamber). Authors will not be guaranteed the opportunity to speak on their legislation unless it is selected for the agenda. If the author of a bill or resolution — or their teammate — is not present in the chamber, or relinquishes authorship rights, another student may sponsor the legislation. School authorship privileges DO apply to legislation on the agenda.

Questioning

All rounds will utilize direct questioning. This includes preliminary rounds. Defer to standard NSDA guidelines for conducting direct questioning throughout the course of the tournament.

Best Practices

We strongly encourage the PO to use gavels for time signaling. We also recommend that members of each chamber use placards for recognition. Spectators will be allowed in every round, as long as they remain quiet and do not distract from debate in any way. We advise spectators and competitors alike to not exit or enter a chamber during speeches or questioning.

Semifinal/Final Round Information

The top 6 competitors in each of the 10 preliminary chambers will advance to semifinals and receive a bid to the Tournament of Champions. There will be four semifinal chambers with 15 competitors each. The top 5 competitors in each semifinal chamber will advance to a 20-competitor final round.

Three semifinal bills will be released by October 20th. We recommend competitors prepare all three pieces of legislation.

After receiving feedback about the Final Round format, we have decided to continue the FBK tradition of a Final Round “Scenario.” More information will be released during the Congress Assembly on October 27th.

NSDA Rules/Guidelines

For a list of rules/guidelines not explicitly outlined in this document, please refer to the following manual published by the NSDA for the 2022-2023 school year — [High School Unified Manual](#).

If you have any questions, please contact us at congress@fbkdebate.org.

A Bill to Protect the US From Russian Aggression

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States federal government will hereby substantially increase its military
3 presence in the Arctic to protect itself from Russian aggression.

4 A. This expansion will include the construction of a nuclear bunker capable of
5 housing 15,000 personnel who the DoD and DHS deem essential to national
6 security and response to geopolitical crises.

7 B. This expansion will include at least 10 heavy-duty ice breakers and 3 carrier strike
8 groups.

9 C. This expansion will include 3 military bases in Greenland, Finland, and Canada, in
10 addition these locations must be different from the nuclear bunker stipulated in
11 Section 1A.

12 **SECTION 2.** The Arctic is hereby defined as the geographical polar area within the line that
13 circles the Earth at 66.5° north of the Equator.

14 A. Heavy-duty ice breakers are defined as military warships capable of sailing in
15 significant sea ice in either the Arctic or the Antarctic; and have ice
16 refortifications sufficient for polar ice; and possess installed power of at least
17 10,000 horsepower.

18 B. Each carrier strike group will contain roughly 7,500 personnel, an aircraft carrier,
19 one cruiser, a destroyer squadron of at least two destroyers or frigates, a carrier
20 air wing of 65 to 70 aircraft, 1 submarine, attached logistics ships and a supply
21 ship for the squadron.

22 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland
23 Security will be in charge of enforcing this act after passage.

24 A. A joint task force will be created to oversee all actions taken by the US inside the
25 Arctic.

26 B. This joint task force will be given 500 billion dollars every other fiscal year to
27 appropriate as seen fit in order to meet minimum military presence
28 requirements.

29 **SECTION 4.** Funding will be allocated to the joint task force by fiscal year 2025 and until 2035 to
30 meet minimum military presence All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby
31 declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hawken School.

Student Nutrition And Performance Act (SNAP-ACT)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The U.S. Department of Education shall make the following provisions:
- 2 A. The National School Lunch Program shall be allocated an additional 28.7
- 3 Billion U.S. Dollars per fiscal year for improving the quality of School Provided
- 4 Meals in K5-12 Education.
- 5 B. Dietary Fiber and other aids to digestion are mandatory parts of every meal
- 6 upon the passing of this legislation.
- 7 **SECTION 2.** The U.S. Department of Education shall construct beneath it the SNAP
- 8 program with its own organic funding.
- 9 A. SNAP shall mandate the modification of Grade 9-12 Student's Schedules
- 10 nationwide, and every Public High School must incorporate an Hour of
- 11 Physical Wellbeing into the Daily Routine of Students, or more. This program
- 12 shall focus on core Cardiovascular Fitness, Calisthenics, and development of
- 13 Spirit and Self.
- 14 B. Students must be in regular attendance of the SNAP Program, or 3/4th's of
- 15 the scheduled school year to graduate High School.
- 16 C. Students who Dual-Enroll or Attend College during high-school are exempt
- 17 from the requirement.
- 18 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Education shall be responsible for this bill. The
- 19 Department of Education shall secondarily submit reports to congress on the
- 20 National Physical Health of the 9-12th Grade Student Populous for revisitation
- 21 of this topic.
- 22 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect on June 1st of 2025. All Public High Schools must
- 23 be in compliance by Fiscal Year 2027 or be withheld federal funding.
- 24 **SECTION 5.** All Laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
- 25

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Nova High School

A Bill to Limit Price Increases on Life-Saving Drugs

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Pharmaceutical companies shall be punished for compound price increases on life-saving drugs that aren't due to the cost of higher input or improve effectiveness to keep life-saving drug prices reliable and affordable.

SECTION 2. A. Compound price increases shall be defined as unnecessarily raising prices at any time when not a result of higher input costs or improved efficacy.

B. Life-saving drugs shall be defined as a drug that is life-supporting, life-sustaining, or used to prevent or treat a debilitating disease or condition, including any such drug used in emergency medical care or during surgery.

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

A. If prices of existing therapies increase arbitrarily and not as a result of higher input cost or efficacy, Medicare shall be permitted to enter direct long-term contracts, using arbitration, to limit price increases.

B. If prices continue to increase, pharmaceutical companies shall be fined 100 million USD.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1st of 2025 . All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Edina High School.

A Bill to Implement a Tax Reform

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The tax rates for different income groups shall be adjusted as
2 follows:

3 A. A 5% increase in tax rates for individuals with an annual income between
4 \$55,000 and \$89,999, and household income of \$70,000 to \$159,999.

5 B. A 10% increase in tax rates for individuals with an annual income between
6 \$90,000 and \$399,999, and household income of \$160,000 to \$799,999.

7 C. A 15% increase in tax rates for individuals with an annual income of
8 \$400,000 or more, and household income of \$800,000 or more.

9 **SECTION 2.** For the purpose of this legislation, "income" shall be defined as
10 the total taxable earnings of an individual as defined in the Internal
11 Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. § 61), and "household income" shall be defined as
12 the total gross income received by all members of a household within a
13 12-month period.

14 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) shall oversee enforcement
15 of the revised tax rates. The enforcement mechanism shall include regular
16 tax audits, electronic income reporting, and penalty for non-compliance.

17 D. The Failure to Pay Penalty shall continue to be 0.5% of the unpaid taxes for
18 each month or part of a month the tax remains unpaid. It shall not exceed
19 25% of unpaid taxes.

20 **SECTION 4.** The money collected shall be used to aid in the payment of the
national debt.

SECTION 5. 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 Lorena Lincoln, from Horizon High School.

The Defending from Existential Threats to Eastern Republics (D.E.T.E.R.) Act of 2023

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Recognizing the growing threat to Taiwan's security,

A. The United States shall hereby establish military bases in Taiwan.

B. The United States shall deploy 10,000 troops to Taiwan.

SECTION 2. A. "Military Bases" are hereby defined as permanent facilities built to house US troops and military equipment for sustained operations of at least one year.

B. This can include airfields, barracks, garrisons, navy bases, radar stations, and other infrastructure.

C. "Taiwan" for the purposes of this bill encompasses the island of Taiwan and 167 outlying islands under the control of the Republic of China (ROC).

SECTION 3. The Department of Defense will oversee the implementation of this bill.

A. The US Department of State shall draft a Status of Forces Agreement for ratification by the US Senate and the Taiwanese Legislative Yuan. If the agreement is not mutually ratified within two (2) years, no action will be taken under this bill.

B. The US Army Corps of Engineers will estimate the costs of constructing and operating new bases and shall report these costs to Congress by the beginning of FY 2025. These costs will be met through future National Defense Authorization Acts.

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 L.C. Anderson High School.

A Bill to Ban the China from Buying Land in the USA and Reclaiming Bought Land

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The government People's Republic of China as well as Chinese-controlled companies be banned from purchasing land inside the United States. Additionally, the US will reclaim all land purchased by the aforementioned entities.

SECTION 2. Chinese-controlled companies are defined in three ways: a) any Chinese state-owned company or b) any Chinese company with ties to China's military-industrial manufacturing base or c) any Chinese company shipping 50% of their US produced product to China.

SECTION 3. The Department of Commerce and the Department of the Interior will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

A. Any land reclaimed by this legislation shall be made federal land or is to be resold on the open market.

B. Any entity whose land has been reclaimed shall be compensated with an equal to two-thirds of the original price of sale for the land.

C. 2 billion dollars in funding shall be allocated for the expenses of this bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Potomac School.

A Bill to Fund Law Enforcement

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall allocate federal funding to underfunded law enforcement agencies, due to department budget cuts and high turnover rates of law enforcement officers across the country. Agencies that receive federal funding will use the funding for, but not limited to:

- A. Salaries
- B. Weaponry
- C. Training
- D. Uniform/Gear
- E. Benefits

SECTION 2. A. “Underfunded Law Enforcement Agencies” shall be defined as municipal law enforcement agencies such as city police departments, county sheriff offices, airport police departments, and state highway patrol.

B. “High Turnover Rates” shall be defined as the rate in which law enforcement officers resign from their jobs within a short time period of being hired.

SECTION 3. The Department of the Treasury (USDT), in conjunction with the Department of Justice (DOJ), will oversee the implementation of this bill.

A. The Department of the Treasury shall decide how much funding underfunded law enforcement agencies can receive.

B. The Department of Justice shall be responsible for verification of a law enforcement agency, and to decide which law enforcement agencies are underfunded in order to distribute the funding.

C. If any funding is found to be subsidized for any purposes that do not align with the purposes of this legislation, no more federal funding shall be granted from this legislation to the specific agency.

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 Jasur Talipov, Trinity Preparatory School.

A Bill to Repeal the Hyde Amendment

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A. The 1977 Hyde Amendment is hereby repealed.

B. Federal funds of 200 million shall be invested annually into Medicare and Medicaid to pay for abortion-related procedures.

SECTION 2. The Hyde Amendment refers to the legislative provision which restricts the use of federal funds to pay for abortion related procedures. Medicare and Medicaid refers to federally funded health insurance programs which aim to give health coverage to low-income individuals with limited resources.

Abortion-related procedures include those that are licensed medical providers.

These include but are not limited to: Hysterotomy abortion, abortion pills, dilation and evacuation, vacuum pumping.

SECTION 3. The Department of Health and Human Resources, specifically in the Center of Medicare and Medicaid Services, shall oversee this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect 1 month after passage. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by West Broward High School

A Bill to Aid Myanmar

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby donate and deliver \$200 million in
2 humanitarian aid to the citizens of Myanmar through Myanmar's
3 maritime border with Indonesia. US troops will be allotted as necessary to
4 deliver the aid to USAID representatives at the border.

5 **SECTION 2.** Humanitarian aid shall consist of a combination of agricultural
6 supplication, temporary housing, bottled water, and medical supplies,
7 including but not limited to; vaccines and first aid equipment.

8 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of State in conjunction with USAID will be
9 responsible for the implementation and oversight of this bill.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Western High School

A Bill to Achieve Strategic Independence

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall levy an additional 15% import tax on strategically
2 important goods imported from other countries.

3 **SECTION 2.** \$100 billion shall be made available to the Department of State to
4 distribute in grants and subsidies to companies involved in the domestic
5 production of strategically important goods.

6 **SECTION 3.** Strategically important goods shall be defined as the following:

7 A. Semiconductors;

8 B. Transistors;

9 C. Rare-earth elements;

10 D. Lithium-ion batteries

11 E. Pharmaceuticals;

12 F. Personal protective equipment (PPE);

13 G. The chemical butanetriol.

14 **SECTION 4.** The United States Department of State will oversee the implementation of
15 this bill.

16 **SECTION 5.** This bill shall take effect at the start of FY 2025.

17 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Nicholas Ostheimer from FAU High School.

A Resolution to Expand Educational Equality (EEE)

1 **WHEREAS,** millions of students attend American colleges and
2 universities each year; and
3 **WHEREAS,** the cost of higher education is rising at an unprecedented
4 rate; and
5 **WHEREAS,** students of all income levels can no longer rely on private
6 colleges and universities to provide them with affordable education
7 opportunities; and
8 **WHEREAS,** the cost of attendance for many colleges and universities,
9 both public and private, can be extremely difficult to calculate, leading to
10 poor financial decisions; and
11 **WHEREAS,** automatic merit-based scholarships for public colleges and
12 universities have been implemented in certain states, using a number of
13 objective educational standards, including but not limited to: GPA, SAT/ACT
14 scores, and community service hours; and
15 **WHEREAS,** such programs have led to an increase in positive financial
16 and educational outcomes for minority and low-income students; now,
17 therefore be it
18 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled work with the US
19 Department of Education and state governments to establish and fund
 automatic merit-based scholarships for public colleges and universities
 using state-chosen standards.
 FURTHER RESOLVED, That such increase in automatic merit-based
 scholarship funding shall not reduce spending on need-based financial aid
 programs for public colleges and universities.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Maxton Torres of Belen Jesuit Preparatory School.

A Bill to Forbid the Use of Credit Scores in Lending

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** No lender may base a decision to approve or deny a loan on an
2 individual's credit score or credit reports, nor may lenders use credit
3 scores and reports to determine interest rates or set credit limits.

4 **SECTION 2.** A credit report is defined as an account of an individual's history of
5 repaying debts. A credit score is defined as a statistical representation of
6 a credit report.

7 **SECTION 3.** Any lender found to be in violation of this legislation shall be banned
8 from engaging in lending for a period of five years and shall be liable for
9 civil action from the affected individuals. If a lender again violates this
10 legislation following the first 5-year ban, the ban shall be reinstated
11 permanently.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Consumer Financial
13 Protection Bureau.

14 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025. All laws in conflict
15 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Shawn Weissman, Palm Bay Magnet High School

A Bill to Increase the Number of Coast Guard Icebreakers to Improve Arctic Security

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Defense shall budget \$1 billion for the
3 commission of a new Coast Guard polar-class icebreaker ship.

4 **SECTION 2.** Polar-class icebreakers are heavy ships operated by the United States
5 Coast Guard. These cutters, specifically designed for icebreaking, have
6 reinforced hulls, special ice breaking bows, and a system that allows rapid
7 shifting of ballast to increase the effectiveness of their icebreaking.

8 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Defense and the United States Coast
9 Guard shall oversee implementation of this bill. Funding of this bill shall
10 be obtained from the most recent Biden administration \$24 billion
11 supplemental appropriations request for Ukraine assistance.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on approval of the Ukraine appropriations
13 request.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Anna Dlugasch, Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy.

The Agricultural Ultimatum for Reform Act (AURA) of 2025

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) shall
3 divest from pre-existing and future agricultural subsidies toward large
4 agricultural corporations and commercial farms by 50% for each
5 stipulation that goes unmet by the end of fiscal year 2027.

6 a. **STIPULATION A:** The use of pesticides shall be eradicated.

7 b. **STIPULATION B:** Regenerative agriculture will replace current
8 tilling & plowing practices.

9 All current subsidies will be redirected toward small farms if both
10 stipulations are unmet by large farms. If large farms only meet one
11 stipulation, 50% of funding will be cut.

12 **SECTION 2.** Large farms & agricultural corporations, for the purposes
13 of this legislation, will be defined as grossing \$350,000 minimum in
14 income yearly whereas small farms will be defined as grossing less than
15 \$350,000 minimum in income yearly.

16 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will
17 be tasked with the oversight & enforcement of this legislation.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect June 1, 2025. All laws in
19 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rep. Arik Karim, Dreyfoos School of the Arts.

A Bill to Solve the Climate Crisis

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** This bill will enact a \$75 per-ton carbon tax on all corporations who exceed
- 3 10 metric tons of carbon emissions per year.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** A carbon tax will be defined as a tax levied on carbon emissions. A corporation
- 5 will be defined as any company or group of people authorized to act as a
- 6 single entity and recognized as such by law.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Internal Revenue Service
- 8 (IRS) will oversee the enforcement of this legislation
- 9 A. The collected tax money will be used at the Department of Treasury's
- 10 discretion, with priorities for funding the EPA and IRS to continue the
- 11 enforcement of this bill.
- 12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on December 27th of 2024.
- 13 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ryon Jemail

A Bill to Combat Labor Union Busting

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. \$50 million shall be allocated to combat labor union busting. This money shall be allocated to the Department of Labor to create a committee charged with investigating corporations using unjust and underhanded methods to break up and/or weaken unions.

SECTION 2. A labor union is a group of two or more employees who join together to advance common interests such as wages, benefits, schedules and other employment terms and conditions. Union busting is a range of activities undertaken to disrupt or prevent the formation of trade unions or their attempts to grow their membership in a workplace.

SECTION 3. The Department of Labor shall be tasked with enforcing this bill

- A. The Department of Labor shall create a committee that will be tasked with investigating cases of illegal union busting.
- B. US employees shall be allocated a place to report employers who are union busting.

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect July 1, 2024

SECTION 5. All other laws in conflict with this new policy shall be null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Wellington Community High School