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2023

CONGRESS LEGISLATIVE PACKET



# PRELIMINARY PACKET



# A Bill to Increase Security in the Middle East

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The U.S. Military will construct a military base in the Republic of Cyprus.
- 2 **SECTION 2.** A. A military base is a facility directly owned and operated by or for the U.S.  
3 military that shelters military equipment and personnel, and facilitates  
4 training and operations.  
5 B. The base will be built in the area of the island presently unoccupied by  
6 Turkish forces.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense (DoD) will be responsible for funding and  
8 facilitating the base's construction. The budget for the base's construction  
9 will be \$100 million. The DoD will have discretion for the funding and  
10 resources allocated to the base after its construction.
- 11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately. The base's construction will be  
12 completed by October 31, 2024.
- 13 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Bronx High School of Science.*

# A Bill to Mandate Businesses to Provide Childcare

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1   **SECTION 1.**   Employers with revenues exceeding \$10 million shall establish and  
2                   maintain an Employer-Provided Child Care Assistance Program (EPCCAP) to  
3                   assist employees with child care expenses.
- 4   **SECTION 2.**   The program shall include, but is not limited to:  
5                   A. Financial assistance or subsidies for eligible employees' child care  
6                   expenses, flexible work arrangements to accommodate employees'  
7                   child care needs, counseling and resources related to child care options  
8                   and services, etc.  
9                   B. Employees with children below the age of 6 will qualify for the  
10                  program.
- 11   **SECTION 3.**   An Employer-Provided Child Care Credit will be expanded nationwide to all  
12                   businesses providing these services.
- 13   **SECTION 4.**   The Department of Labor shall conduct periodic compliance reviews to  
14                   ensure that employers subject to this Act are in compliance with the  
15                   EPCCAP requirement and are providing the intended benefits to their  
16                   employees.
- 17   **SECTION 4.**   This legislation will take effect 12 months after passage.
- 18   **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.  
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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Bronx High School of Science.*

# A Bill to Remove Sanctions on North Korea

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1   **SECTION 1.**   The United States shall remove all current economic sanctions imposed on  
2                               North Korea.

3   **SECTION 2.**   Economic sanctions shall be defined as sanctions that prevent the buying  
4                               of goods from North Korea and the selling of goods to North Korea.

5   **SECTION 3.**   The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) will enforce the removal of  
6                               sanctions.

7                               A. Failure to lift sanctions will result in a \$1 million deduction of the Office  
8                               of Foreign Assets Control budget.

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

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Durham Academy.*

## A Bill to Increase Aid to Haiti

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2           **SECTION 1.**     \$2 billion will be allocated to Haiti to improve the people's  
3           access to necessities and to stabilize the economy .

4           A. \$720 million will be allocated to foreign aid through Christian Health  
5           Services Corps (CHSC) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to  
6           implement the Humanitarian Response Plan for Haiti.

7           B. \$1.28 billion will be allocated to foreign direct investment through  
8           United States businesses.

9           **SECTION 2.**     Foreign aid shall be defined as money and commodities  
10          that the United States provides to other countries. Foreign direct  
11          investment shall be defined as investment involving a long-term  
12          relationship and reflecting a lasting interest.

13          **SECTION 3.**     The Department of State will oversee the implementation  
14          of the legislation.

15          A. The Department of State will conduct semiannual investigations to  
16          ensure that the funding is properly used and will revoke aid if not  
17          properly used.

18          B. Funding will be taken from the Department of Defense's discretionary  
19          budget.

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

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ahisha Ravi from Millburn High School.*

## A Bill to Require Firearm Liability Insurance

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All gun owners residing in the United States shall carry liability insurance no  
3 lower than \$250,000 US Dollars. The insurance shall be used in event of  
4 theft, accidental firing, or committing a crime with said firearm.

5 **SECTION 2.** Gun owners shall be defined as an individual, group of private citizens or  
6 private businesses who own and or manage at least one firearm. Firearms  
7 shall be defined by the ATF as any weapon (including a starter gun) designed  
8 to or readily convertible to expel a projectile by explosive action; The frame  
9 or receiver of such a weapon; or any firearm muffler, firearm silencer, or  
10 destructive device.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms shall be given final authority  
12 over the registration and enforcement of this law, as well as any state  
13 agencies the ATF deems necessary to aid.

14 **SECTION 4.** This law will take effect January 31, 2024. All laws in conflict with this  
15 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hawken School.*

# A Bill to Make the Fashion Industry Greener

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Clothing sold in the United States must be made from environmentally  
3 friendly, durable, and recyclable material.

4 **SECTION 2.** Clothing is defined as items that are worn to cover the body. Environmentally  
5 friendly materials are defined as materials that, throughout all stages of  
6 production, have lower carbon emissions and fewer environmental harms  
7 than relevant reference materials. Durable materials are defined as lasting  
8 through numerous wash/wear cycles, over the span of at least one year.  
9 Recyclable materials are defined as those which can be broken down and  
10 reused to make a new product.

11 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be enforced by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

12 A. The FTC shall work with nonprofit organizations such as Textile Exchange  
13 to generate a list of eligible materials for each fiscal year.

14 B. Companies in violation of this legislation shall face fines of 10% of their  
15 annual gross profit in the previous fiscal year.

16 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with  
17 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hawken School.*



## A RESOLUTION ELIMINATE THE MORTGAGE INTEREST DEDUCTION

**WHEREAS,** The Mortgage Interest Deduction (MID) allows homeowners to deduct from their income the interest paid on their mortgages when filing tax returns; and

**WHEREAS,** This section of the tax code is regressive, as it is a boon which typically is only available to those with a high income; and

**WHEREAS,** The MID leads to higher housing prices, as well as larger and more wasteful new housing construction; and

**WHEREAS**, Economists generally conclude that the MID does not in fact serve to encourage home ownership; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Student Congress here assembled shall seek to phase out the Mortgage Interest Deduction for new mortgages.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Xavier High School*

# The S.A.D Resolution: Saudi Arabian Defense Resolution

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1   **WHEREAS,**       Saudi Arabia has been aided in the murder of Yemeni people by the United
- 2                       States congress,
- 3   **WHEREAS,**       Congress has sold arms to Saudi Arabia in exchange for oil and other
- 4                       commodities,
- 5   **Whereas,**       These weapons have been used in the murder of Yemeni citizens,
- 6   **Resolved,**       This congress shall halt any funding towards arms sales to Saudi Arabia and
- 7                       shall call for an end to the United States military alliance with Saudi Arabia.

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1     **WHEREAS,** The two-party system breeds partisanship and “Us vs. Them” thinking;  
2                         and  
3     **WHEREAS,** Voters are reluctant to vote for candidates who are seen to have no chance,  
4                         and third-party candidates have no chance in the pure “first past the post”  
5                         system within the Electoral College; and  
6     **WHEREAS,** To break out of this trap, viable third party candidates must be plausibly  
7                         relevant in presidential elections; and now, therefore, be it  
8     **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is  
9                         proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which  
10                         shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when  
11                         ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within  
12                         twenty years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

14                    SECTION 1: Presidential electors shall use ranked-choice voting to  
15                    select the President and Vice President. They shall vote by  
16                    ranking their top five choices. If no candidate has a  
17                    majority of first-place votes, the candidate(s) with the  
18                    fewest such votes will be disqualified, and their electors’  
19                    votes awarded to their second-ranked candidates — and so  
20                    on in this fashion until a candidate obtains a majority.

SECTION 3: This Amendment shall be considered null & void if not  
ratified by three-fourths of the states within twenty years of  
passage.

*Respectfully submitted for debate by Theo Bennett, Xavier High School*

# The Learn Act (Liberate the Educational Achievement Recovery Now)

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Initiating a nationwide investigation by the Department of Justice and Department of Education of American public schools and the effects of the COVID-19 lockdowns on student growth.

- A. These departments shall publish an exhaustive report on the status of the learning recovery by April 28, 2024;
- B. Following the publication of the report, the 52 chief officers of each state's education department, plus the District of Columbia and the Office of Indian Education, shall be assembled before the US Secretary of Education;
- C. On June 2, 2024, this assembly will vote by simple majority on requiring every American student to repeat their grade level in the 2024-25 year.
- D. If the assembly votes yes, providing unemployment spending for 18-year-olds in their senior year of high school in 2024-25;

**SECTION 2.** Instituting a 4.5% value added tax, with 4% of funds raised placed into mandatory annual Department of Education spending.

- A. Any excess funds from this mandatory spending not put towards any of the programs outlined in the LEARN Act shall be placed in an endowment to increase teacher pay;
- B. This endowment's yearly distribution shall be determined by a joint committee on teacher pay formed by state-level officials.

**SECTION 3.** Redirecting \$15 billion from the federal military budget towards a mathematics and English tutoring program for the most underfunded American public schools.

- A. "Most underfunded" shall be defined as the 20% of American public schools with the lowest funding per student;
- B. Said tutoring program will seek 80% penetration of the student populations of these schools within one school year;
- C. Said program will require tutors to meet with students under their care for at least two 30 minute sessions per week;
- D. Which schools qualify for the program will be reassessed by the Department of Education every four school years.

**SECTION 4.** No public school shall allow possession of a cellular device during school hours by any student between kindergarten and grade eight.

**SECTION 5.** Mandating the creation by each state of a free educational summer program servicing all public elementary school students for between five and ten days over summer holiday; states complying with all LEARN Act guidelines will be compensated in full by the Department of Education.

**SECTION 6.** The Department of Education (DOE) and The Department of Justice (DOJ) will oversee the implementation of this legislation and certification of state and local compliance.

**SECTION 7.** Every elementary public school shall have an end of year exam which will determine each student's progression to the next grade. If the exam is failed, the student must redo that year of school, no matter the opinions/efforts of parents, student, teachers etc.

- A. Students who failed, will have the opportunity to attend summer school to reach the standards of their grade in order to advance.

**SECTION 8.** This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage.

**SECTION 9.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Milton Academy.*