

Legislation Packet for The Villiger Tournament November 23-24, 2024

The legislation items offered for debate within this packet constitute the docket for Congressional Debate at the Villiger Tournament on November 23-24, 2024.

The docket specifies legislation available in each session; participants will vote on the order of debate (the agenda) at the start of the legislative day.

Debate will continue until the allotted time for the session has run out. This means there will be no “base” agreements of any kind. As judges will be instructed to reward quality over quantity, any attempt to deny competitors who are prepared to speak the chance to do so by adjourning early or revising the agenda is inappropriate. Judges will be instructed to penalize any student participating in parliamentary brinksmanship or other manipulative tactics.

To facilitate the creation of an open, inclusive, and transparent agenda-setting process, please use the [agenda discussion document here](#). We hope this will allow all competitors to participate in setting the agenda, but fully-inclusive discussions in the chamber should outweigh any pre-made agenda decisions, even those made in this open forum.

The tournament will use NSDA rules for Congressional Debate.

Session 1 Legislation

A Bill to Strengthen Safety Regulations for Gun Ownership to Protect Public Safety

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The federal government shall implement stricter safety regulations for gun ownership, including mandatory federal background checks, yearly safety inspections for all firearms, and a renewable safety license required for possession.

SECTION 2. A. A "Federal Background Check" shall be defined as a review of criminal, mental health, and other relevant records to determine eligibility for firearm possession.

B. A "Safety Inspection" shall be defined as an annual examination conducted by a certified firearm specialist to ensure safe operation and compliance with federal standards.

C. A "Safety License" shall be defined as a certification that the firearm owner has met all legal, safety, and training requirements to possess a firearm, renewed every five years.

SECTION 3. A. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) shall oversee the enforcement of this legislation. An extra 6 billion dollars a year will be allocated from the government.

B. State-level law enforcement agencies will assist in performing background checks, firearm safety inspections, and managing the issuance and renewal of safety licenses.

C. Firearm owners found to be non-compliant with this legislation will face fines or revocation of firearm privileges.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by La Salle College High School

A Bill to Diplomatically Recognize Taiwanese Sovereignty

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby diplomatically recognize Taiwan as an
2 independent and sovereign state
- 3 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions are applicable:
- 4 a. “Independent state” shall be defined by the Department of State definition as
5 a people politically organized into a sovereign state with a definite territory
6 recognized as independent by the US.
- 7 b. “Diplomatic recognition” is defined as a declarative political act of a state
8 that acknowledges an act or status of another state or government in control
9 of a state.
- 10 **SECTION 3.** Recognition will be declared and upheld by the U.S. Department of State.
- 11 a. Subsequent recognition of Taiwan would include recommendation before the
12 United Nations Security Council for Taiwanese membership to the UN.
- 13 **SECTION 4.** Upon passage, this legislation will take effect on July 1, 2025.
- 14 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,
Truman High School

A Bill to Restrict Usage of Sea Orcas in Entertainment Capacities

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Sea orcas are hereby prohibited from being held captive and used for
2 entertainment due to several incidents with animal safety and human
3 safety.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** “Sea orcas” are defined as members of the species *Orcinus orca*, also
5 known as the killer whale.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** “Captivity” is defined as an extended period of time where orcas are held
7 by humans and are unable to escape.
- 8 **SECTION 4.** Beginning upon passage of this bill, companies are prohibited from
9 creating exhibition shows of orcas. “Exhibition shows” are defined as
10 events featuring captive orcas performed for audiences. Failure for a
11 business to comply with this restriction will result in a \$500,000 dollar fine
12 per performance. This funding will go towards the United States
13 Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Inspection Service.
- 14 **SECTION 5.** Beginning in FY2027, Companies who break this violation will be charged
15 \$5 million dollars per orca per year held captive, starting at a base of \$5
16 million dollars per orca. This funding will go towards the United States
17 Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Inspection Service.
- 18 **SECTION 6.** For the first three years of this bill’s passage, USDA ASPIS will help with the
19 release of currently captive orcas. For all groups currently holding orcas,
20 the USDA will provide a \$5 million dollar grant per orca in order to
21 rehabilitate them in supervised recreational areas. This grant will be
22 awarded when a plan of release, and a case manager will be assigned to
23 make sure progress is being kept up.
- 24 **SECTION 7.** This bill will go into effect immediately upon passage. All laws in conflict
 with this legislation are declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Max Scott of Needham High School

Ultra-Millionaire Tax Act of 2024

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to impose a wealth tax.
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- 3 **SECTION 2.** A tax is hereby imposed on the net value of all taxable assets of the
4 taxpayer on the last day of the calendar year. The amount of the tax is:
5
- 6 **A.** No tax on on the net worth of households and trusts lower than \$50 million
7 **B.** A 2% annual tax on the net worth of households and trusts between \$50 million
8 and \$1 billion
9 **C.** A 1% annual surtax (3% tax overall) on the net worth of households and trusts
10 above \$1 billion
11 **D.** For purposes of this section, individuals who are married shall be treated as one
12 taxpayer.
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- 14 **SECTION 3.** “Net Value of all taxable assets” means the value of all property of the
15 taxpayer reduced by any debts owed by the taxpayer.
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- 17 **SECTION 4.** EXCLUSION FOR CERTAIN ASSETS.—Property of the taxpayer shall not be
18 taken into account if such property has a value of less than \$50,000.
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- 20 **SECTION 4.** ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary shall annually audit not less than 30
21 percent of taxpayers required to pay the tax imposed under this chapter.
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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Uncommon Collegiate Charter.

A Bill to Repeal the Pink Tax on Consumer Goods to Eliminate Gender-Based Price Discrimination

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The **Pink Tax**, referring to the practice of charging higher prices for products marketed towards women compared to similar products marketed towards men, is hereby repealed. No consumer goods or services shall be subject to gender-based pricing differences.

SECTION 2. Definition: For the purposes of this Act: “Pink Tax” means the price difference between goods and services marketed to women compared to identical or similar goods and services marketed to men; “Penalties” would be 15% intake of all profit from businesses that engage in gender-based pricing discrimination.

SECTION 3. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) shall be responsible for overseeing the enforcement of this Act. The FTC will:

- A. UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE ACT OR PRACTICE.— shall be treated as a violation of a rule of the Federal Trade Commission Act defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice in or affecting interstate commerce.
- B. Conduct investigations into pricing practices of consumer goods and services.
- C. Enforce penalties against businesses that engage in gender-based pricing discrimination.
- D. Provide guidance and support to businesses to comply with this Act’s provisions.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws and regulations in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dream Charter High School.

Session 2 Legislation

A Bill to Place a Moratorium on Large Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

1 **SECTION 1.** The term “large concentrated animal feeding operation” or “large CAFO”
2 means a facility in which a large number of animals are confined and fed.
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4 **SECTION 2.** An animal feeding operation is a large CAFO if it has—

- 5 (a) 700 mature dairy cows;
- 6 (b) 1,000 veal calves;
- 7 (c) 1,000 cattle other than mature dairy cows or veal calves;
- 8 (d) 10,000 swine
- 9 (e) 500 horses;
- 10 (f) 10,000 sheep or lambs;
- 11 (g) 55,000 turkeys;
- 12 (h) 125,000 chickens;
- 13 (i) 30,000 ducks.

14
15 **SECTION 3.** Moratorium on large concentrated animal feeding operations.

16 (a) No large CAFO may commence or expand operations on or after the date of
17 enactment of this Act.

18 (b) Cessation of operations.—No large CAFO may continue to operate as a large CAFO
19 after January 1, 2040.

20 (c) Penalties.—Any person that violates subsection (a) or (b) may be assessed a civil
21 penalty of up to \$10,000 per violation, per day, in addition to any other applicable
22 statutory civil penalty or monetary damages assessed pursuant to any State common law
23 judgment.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Coney Island Prep.

A Bill To End Police Chokeholds Nationwide

SECTION 1. The U.S Federal Government should outright ban the use of chokeholds for police officers through all 50 states in the United States

SECTION 2. “Chokehold” is defined as a restraining hold in which one person encircles the neck of another in a viselike grip with the arm, usually approaching from behind.

SECTION 3. Police have implemented different strategies to do a proper chokehold, such as a carotid restraint and chokehold, however these strategies are frowned upon.

SECTION 4. The US Department of Justice will oversee the implementation and oversight of this bill.

A. The DOJ will work with Internal Affairs departments in all 50 states to make sure this bill is upheld.

B. Failure to comply with this bill will result in a 25% reduction in state funding.

SECTION 5. This bill will become effective January of 2026.

SECTION 6. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void 23

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pace High School.

A BILL TO REMOVE PROFIT FROM HOSPICE CARE FACILITIES

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Should any hospice care facility report a live discharge rate higher than
3 that determined by the national average, the facility is subject to
4 governmental review. Additionally, hospice licenses must be reviewed
5 after 24 months as well as inspected every 24 months to ensure quality of
6 care.

7 **SECTION 2.** A 'live discharge rate' shall be defined as the number of patients who are
8 discharged alive from hospice care. 'Governmental review' shall be
9 defined as inspections performed by state departments of public health.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services and Centers for Medicare
11 & Medicaid Services will oversee the implementation of this bill.

12 A. CMS will inspect hospice facilities under governmental review on a
13 bi-monthly basis.

14 B. CMS will institute a system of fines for any quality issues, levied until
15 compliance is reached.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Strath Haven

A Bill for Puerto Rican Statehood

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Puerto Rico shall be granted full statehood.

3 **SECTION 2.** Initial representation in Congress will consist of two senators and one

4 representative, with proportional representation to be determined by census results.

5 **SECTION 3..** This shall take effect on the 1st of January next year.

6 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully Submitted by Senator Connie Liu, Saint Dominic Academy

Session 3 Legislation

A Bill to Grant Citizenship to DACA Students to Provide Pathways to Permanent Residency

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1.

3 All individuals who qualify under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
4 program shall be granted U.S. citizenship after completing a five-year permanent
5 residency period, contingent upon meeting background checks and other requirements
6 established by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

7 SECTION 2.

8 A. DACA Students shall be defined as individuals currently enrolled or previously enrolled
9 in the DACA program.

10 B. Permanent residency shall be defined as lawful status allowing an individual to reside
11 and work in the United States for an extended period while maintaining a path toward
12 citizenship.

13 SECTION 3.

14 The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall oversee the implementation of this act,
15 conducting background checks, eligibility reviews, and issuing citizenship status.

16 1. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) shall process all applications under
17 this bill.

18 2. Applicants must complete background checks and fulfill educational or employment
19 requirements during the permanent residency period.

20 SECTION 4.

21 This legislation will take effect in January 2026. All laws in conflict with this legislation are
22 hereby declared null and void.
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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pace High School.

Shift to Nuclear Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All coal-powered plants in the United States will be closed by 2035 and
2 replaced with nuclear energy.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Department of Energy
4 (DOE) shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.
- 5 A. The DOE will be responsible for distributing \$150 billion toward the
6 construction of nuclear power plants. \$10 billion will be distributed
7 annually toward research on nuclear fusion. \$20 billion will be allocated
8 annually toward the NRC for the training and hiring of additional
9 employees.
- 10 B. All of the funding needed in Section 2A will be redistributed from fossil
11 fuel subsidies.
- 12 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will take effect upon its passage.
- 13 **SECTION 4.** 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 Establish Humane Standards for Animal Euthanasia

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1:

This bill establishes humane standards for animal euthanasia across the U.S. to minimize suffering and ensure ethical practices.

SECTION 2:

- A. "Euthanasia" refers to the humane ending of an animal's life to relieve suffering.
- B. "Animals" include pets, livestock, and animals in shelters, research, and zoos.
- C. "Humane standards" involve painless methods, trained personnel, and euthanasia only when justified.

SECTION 3: Implementation and Regulation

- A. AVMA guidelines will serve as the standard.
- B. All euthanasia facilities must follow these guidelines.
- C. Prohibited practices include painful methods, untrained personnel, and euthanasia in front of other animals (except in emergencies).

SECTION 4: Enforcement

- A. The USDA will oversee enforcement and require annual inspections.
- B. Penalties include fines up to \$25,000 and license revocation for violations.

SECTION 5: Exceptions

Euthanasia is permitted for terminal illness, severe injury, human safety threats, or shelter overpopulation when rehoming fails.

SECTION 6: Education and Training

All euthanasia providers must complete certified training in humane techniques and ethics.

SECTION 7: Reporting

Facilities must report euthanasia cases and submit annual reports to the USDA.

SECTION 8: Funding

A \$50 million federal fund will support shelters and facilities in meeting standards.

SECTION 9: Effective January 1, 2026, with one year for compliance.

SECTION 10: Conflicting laws are nullified.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dream Charter High School.

A Bill to Establish Mental Health Programs in Schools

1 **SECTION 1.** All middle and high schools are now required to have a mental health
2 program that adequately addresses and treats the mental illnesses of their
3 students.
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5 **SECTION 2.** Middle and high schools that receive federal government funding are subject
6 under this legislation. Mental illnesses include, but are not limited to,
7 anxiety, behavioral, eating, mood, and personality disorders.
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9 **SECTION 3.** A school is considered to have fulfilled the requirement of Section 1 when
10 they provide treatment to at least 70% of its student body that requests
11 the program's services each year and report positive personal satisfaction
12 regarding their experience.
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14 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Education and the National Institute of Mental Health
15 will oversee this piece of legislation.
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17 **A.** If a school so chooses, they may receive help in the form of resources or
18 programs from community organizations that have a focus on mental
19 health.
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21 **SECTION 4.** This bill will become effective in the Fall semester of 2025.
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23 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void
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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Coney Island Prep.

Final Session Legislation

A Bill to Provide Tuition-Free College Education

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The US Federal Government will guarantee access to tuition-free college
2 education for citizens with a family income of less than \$100,000/year.
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- 4 **SECTION 2.** “Tuition-free” will include tuition, institution fees, course fees, and textbooks
5 required for the completion of each college course.
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- 7 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Education will oversee the implementation and
8 oversight of this bill.
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- 10 **A.** Colleges included in the tuition-free program will be publicly funded 2-year and
11 4-year public colleges and universities, community colleges, technical colleges, and
12 minority-serving institutions.
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- 14 **B.** Each institute of high learning receiving federal funds will submit a biennial plan
15 detailing its efforts at tuition cost containment for approval.
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- 17 **C.** Following the initial year of enrollment, students must make satisfactory progress
18 toward graduation each to continue in the program. Funds will be available for a
19 maximum of 5 years or the completion of a 4-year degree, whichever comes first.
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- 21 **SECTION 4.** This bill will become effective in the Fall semester of 2026.
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- 23 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Uncommon Collegiate Charter.

A Bill to Increase Offshore Windfarms to Preserve Land

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The government will sponsor the construction of new offshore
3 windfarms.

4 **SECTION 2.** An offshore wind farm is a group of wind turbines built floating on the
5 ocean which produce much more energy than traditional wind turbines.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy will redirect 4 billion from funds meant for
7 renewables towards this endeavor.

8 A. This bill is meant to combat the large amount of land traditional
9 renewables use.

10 B. The department shall build 500 offshore wind turbines, but this
11 number can change based off of availability of area and prices.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by La Salle College Highschool.

A Bill to Encourage Competition in the Food Industry

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Grocery chains are hereby prohibited from having a share of 20% or more
2 of grocery sales in the national market, whether independently or through
3 consolidation.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** A grocery chain shall be defined as a chain of grocery retail stores that are
5 primarily engaged in retailing a general range of food products.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) shall oversee implementation of this
7 legislation.
- 8 A. If a grocery chain reports a share of more than 20% in national sales,
9 the FTC shall review the markets where they are selling and determine
10 an appropriate number of stores to be sold off.
- 11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect immediately. All laws in conflict with this
12 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Potomac School.

A Bill to Implement Unmanned Aerial Systems to Improve Border Management

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) will be implemented along the
2 southern border to improve border management. Additionally, a
3 detachment of the National Security Agency (NSA) will be formed to assist
4 the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and local police in
5 processing new information found by UAS and limiting activities along the
6 border such as smuggling, human trafficking, and drug trafficking.
- 7 **SECTION 2.** UAS is defined as remotely piloted aircraft systems (autonomous or human
8 assisted) that enables computers to perform a variety of advanced
9 functions including visual detection, facial recognition,
10 understanding/translating spoken and written language, and data analysis.
11 The southern border is defined as the border between the United Mexican
12 States and the US states of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.
- 13 **SECTION 3.** The NSA and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall oversee the
14 implementation of this bill.
- 15 A. The U.S. Technology Modernization Fund (TMF) will allocate \$500
16 million to fund the implementation of this bill.
- 17 B. Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman will oversee the construction
18 of the UAS.
- 19 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2025. All laws in conflict with
20 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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