

HARVARD

Debate Council



HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT
Middle School Division

Congressional Debate

2025 Middle School

Legislative Docket

Visit congressionaldebate.org/harvard-tournament/general-information for detailed and late breaking information before and during the tournament.

Items for this docket include bills and resolutions submitted by middle schools (Prelim items 1-2), supplemented by items selected from the junior varsity docket. These were voted on by competitors prior to release of the docket.

NOTE: If there are 36 or fewer contestants, instead of holding a semifinal round, all contestants will participate in a fourth preliminary round, but will debate the three items designated for semifinals.

MIDDLE SCHOOL Legislation Docket

Harvard Congressional Debate 2025

Round	School	Page	Title	Category
Prelim 1	QC	1	A Bill to Set an Age Limit on the Purchase of Energy Drinks	Middle School
		2	The Advance Cyber Command Empowerment and Strategic Safeguards (A.C.C.E.S.S.) Act	Middle School
Prelim 2	OE	3	A Bill to Implement a 4 Day School Week	Middle School
		4	A Bill to Distribute and Revive Subsidies of Energy Under Substantial Spending (D.R. S.E.U.S.S Act)	Middle School
Prelim 3		5	A Resolution to Reinstate Japanese Army to Defend itself Against the Republic of China	Middle School
		6	A Bill to Allow Voting by Phone in State and Federal Elections	Middle School
Semi		7	A Bill to Invest in Nuclear Energy	Middle School
		8	A Bill to Amend the Nomination of Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States	Middle School
Final		9	A Bill to Restrict Medicinal Pharmaceutical Fentanyl to Reduce Drug Overdose	Middle School
		10	A Bill to Ban Unpaid Internships	Middle School

A Bill to Set an Age Limit on the Purchase of Energy Drinks

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The sale of energy drinks to any persons under the age of 18
2 is hereby banned.

3 **SECTION 2.** Energy drinks are defined as any beverage containing more
4 than 150 milligrams of caffeine per liter.

5 **SECTION 3.** All states and territories as well as the Federal District are
6 instructed to levy the same criminal penalties on violators of this law as
7 would be applied for the sale of alcohol to minors in that jurisdiction. Any
8 jurisdiction that fails to comply with this directive shall lose 50% of federal
9 highway funding until such time as compliance is reached.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Food and Drug
11 Administration.

12 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

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

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

(Commerce)

The Advance Cyber Command Empowerment and Strategic Safeguards (A.C.C.E.S.S.) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall allocate an additional \$15 billion annually to the U.S.
3 Air Force's 16th Air Force and an additional \$300 million annually to the U.S.
4 Space Force's Delta 6 Space Command until FY 2028 with the expressed
5 purpose of bolstering cyber security and cyberwarfare capabilities in the
6 interests of safeguarding the American cyber realm from foreign adversaries.

7 **SECTION 2.** A. The U.S. Air Force's 16th Airforce shall be strictly defined as a component of
8 the U.S. Cyber Command, operating out of Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland,
9 Texas.

10 B. Delta 6 shall be strictly defined as a component of the U.S. Space Force,
11 operating across the Satellite Control Network.

12 C. Cybersecurity shall be defined as the protection of computer systems,
13 applications, devices, data, financial assets, and people against malware,
14 phishing scams, data theft, and other cyber threats.

15 D. Cyber Warfare shall refer to actions by a nation-state to penetrate another
16 nation's computers or networks for the purpose of causing damage or
17 disruption.

18 E. Foreign Adversaries shall be defined as including China, Cuba, North Korea,
19 Russia, and the Maduro Regime, as according to Title 15 of the Code of
20 Federal Regulations, Subtitle A, Part 7, Subpart A § 7.2.

21 **SECTION 3.** The US Air Force, the US Space Force, the Department of Defense(DOD) and
22 the House Armed Services Committee(HASC) shall oversee the enforcement of
23 this bill.

24 A. The Department of Defense shall ensure the responsible and efficient
25 allocation of necessary funds.

26 B. The US Air Force and the US Space Force shall submit a semiannual
27 report to the HASC, who shall apply any adjustments it finds necessary
28 to its policy.

29 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2026. All laws in conflict with this
30 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Implement a 4 Day School Week

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The 5 day school week is hereby dismantled for all federally funded schools
- 2 and replaced with a 4 day school week.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** 4 day school weeks must consist of at least 890 hours per school year.
- 4 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Education and local school boards will oversee the
- 5 enforcement of 4-day school weeks and the dismantling of 5-day school
- 6 weeks
- 7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the start of the 2027 school year.
- 8 A. All schools that do not comply with this legislation will have their
- 9 funding revoked by the federal government until they make the
- 10 necessary changes.
- 11 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Distribute and Revive Subsidies of Energy Under Substantial Spending (D.R. S.E.U.S.S Act)

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall divert all federal subsidies to the fossil fuel
3 industry to renewable energy initiatives.

4 A. 20% of the original amount allocated to fossil fuel companies each
5 year will incrementally decrease.

6 **SECTION 2.** A. Federal subsidies shall be defined as financial assistance that is paid by
7 the US government in order to help an industry or business, or to pay for
8 a public service.

9 B. Fossil fuel industry shall be defined as any company involved in the
10 extraction, manufacturing, or sale of non-renewable energy. This
11 includes, but is not limited to, coal, oil, natural gas, and petroleum.

12 C. Renewable energy is defined as energy harnessed naturally without
13 depleting energy sources.

14 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Energy (D.O.E) and Environmental Protection
15 Agency (E.P.A) shall be responsible for the implementation of this
16 legislation.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the start of FY 2025. All laws in conflict
18 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Energy, Environment, and Scientific Development.

A Resolution to Reinstate Japanese Army to Defend itself Against the Republic of China

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Tensions between the Chinese Republic and Japan have risen tremendously.
- 2 **WHEREAS,** China poses a great strategic challenge to the Pacific forefront and Japan
- 3 outlines plans to develop a counterstrike capability funded by record defense
- 4 spending. Incapable since the 1947 Constitution of Article 9, Japan has been
- 5 unable to establish a sufficient army force that is capable of defending itself
- 6 in-case of regional/international warfare. Reinterpretation of this article has
- 7 evolved due to security challenges.
- 8 **WHEREAS,** By Chinese forces growing military presence in the East China Sea and South
- 9 China Sea, such as frequent incursions into Japanese territorial waters
- 10 around the Senkaku Islands pose significant threats to Japan's sovereignty.
- 11 Japanese reinstating will both provide a defensive and offensive
- 12 improvement of maintaining peace and stability.
- 13 **WHEREAS,** Now, by providing Japan *10 billion dollars* to reinstate its army for its
- defending and offensive capabilities after proving themselves of sustaining a
- fair, pacifist, and democratic society. A third of funding will go towards
- military infrastructure and training personnel. 10% will go towards research
- and development. Regular audits will be conducted biannually to review
- expenditures and ensure compliance within the budget.

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled allow the Japanese nation to sustain an army with defensive arms.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the USAID (*United States Agency for International Development*) will oversee this legislation and make sure that distribution, usage, and assistance is given to the nation of Japan. They will do so by providing humanitarian assistance, capacity building, and conflict prevention.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Matthew Mendez from Elizabeth High School (Foreign Relations and Aid)

A Bill to Allow Voting by Phone in State and Federal Elections

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Mobile voting (voting by phone) shall hereby be permitted and available
3 in state and federal elections for all registered voters.

4 **SECTION 2.** The voting technology being utilized is End-to-End Verifiability (E2E-V).
5 This provides cryptography evidence, including audits of vote casting. The
6 voters can also check themselves if their vote is tabulated correctly.

7 A. In collaboration with experts employed by the organization leading
8 this legislation, state and federal election officials will implement and
9 oversee the system.

10 B. This option will be available for every registered voter, especially
11 voters who face barriers to traditional voting options, including voters
12 with disabilities, military and overseas voters, voters on tribal lands,
13 hospitalized voters, and voters experiencing natural disasters or other
14 emergencies.

15 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Elections Commission will oversee the enforcement of this
16 legislation.

17 C. Tusk Philanthropies, in cooperation with its partners, including the
18 National Cybersecurity Center and the National Federation of the
19 Blind, will oversee the implementation and funding of mobile voting
20 and monetary compensation for state and federal election officials.

21 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in FY 2026. All laws in conflict with this
legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Invest in Nuclear Energy

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall substantially increase investment into U.S. nuclear power plants and infrastructure to decrease reliance on foreign energy supplies. The U.S. shall increase the affordability of nuclear energy options by subsidizing consumer costs.

SECTION 2. A. Nuclear power plants are nuclear power reactors that generate electricity for a power grid.

B. Substantially increasing investment is investing enough money to build 25 more nuclear plants over the next 10 years. This funding will also cover the costs associated with maintaining existing nuclear plants.

C. Subsidizing consumer costs will be defined as keeping costs low enough to stay competitive with solar, wind, and other renewable energies.

SECTION 3. The U.S. Department of Energy will be responsible for implementing this legislation.

A. The Department of Energy will submit an annual report on the progress made.

B. If logistical or other challenges should arise, the Department of Energy will allocate as much funding as necessary to stay on schedule.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect January 1, 2026.

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

TECHNOLOGY

A Bill to Amend the Nomination of Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 SECTION 1. The process in which the nomination of justices of the U.S. Supreme Court
2 is henceforth amended in the following manner:

3 SECTION 2. 2 nominees are to be selected by the sitting President, both to be
approved

4 by a $\frac{2}{3}$ portion of both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

5 SECTION 3. Decisions of both judicial nominees shall be put to a election in the same
6 manner as the presidential election. Elections are decided through the
7 usage of the Electoral College of the United States rather than the
8 popular vote of each state.

9 SECTION 4. Said candidate who receives at least 270 votes shall be
10 declared the new justice. Although, a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of both the House of
11 Representatives and the Senate can call to overturn the election,
12 in which the previously-winning candidate is re-nominated
13 and replaced with a new nominee from the President, re-starting
14 the electoral process.

15 SECTION 5. Any resignation, removal, or permanent absence from the office of a sitting
16 Supreme Court justice shall trigger the election process,
17 amounting to 90 days in total (without the congressional veto).

18 SECTION 6. This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage. Any and all
19 laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Restrict Medicinal Pharmaceutical Fentanyl to Reduce Drug Overdose

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Private pharmaceutical companies are now restricted and may provide no
2 more than 1.8 milligrams of medicinal fentanyl at a time per customer. In
3 addition, all private pharmaceutical companies now need to file a report to
4 the CDC and the FDA after every dose of medicinal fentanyl is given.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** “Medicinal fentanyl” shall be defined as fentanyl prescribed by a doctor
6 and distributed by a pharmaceutical company to treat the pain of the
7 patient.
- 8 **SECTION 3.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease
9 Control and Prevention (CDC) shall be responsible for overseeing the
10 implementation of this bill. Any pharmaceutical company found in violation
11 of this bill shall have 2% of their monthly income taken and reinvested into
12 drug abuse centers until the company has submitted 100 reports of the
13 accurate dosage of medicinal fentanyl in compliance with this legislation.
- 14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on September 1, 2025.
- 15 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
- 16

A Bill to Ban Unpaid Internships

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Fair Labor Standards Act (29 USC 201-209) shall be amended by
2 adding the following to section 206 part (b)(i), "...which includes all labor,
3 regardless of primary beneficiary status."
- 4 **SECTION 2.** All definitions shall be as listed in 29 USC 203, with the addition of the
5 verbiage, "Primary beneficiary status shall be defined as the party by which
6 the employment benefits greatest."
- 7 **SECTION 3.** Any and all agencies tasked with the original implementation of the Fair
8 Labor Standards Act will be tasked with the continued implementation of
9 this legislation.
- 10 A) This includes the U.S. Department of Labor and its other relevant offices.
- 11 B) All agencies with oversight over the legislation shall be authorized to
12 penalize any and all employers in violation of this law in accordance with
13 any relevant parts of 29 USC 206.
- 14 C) Organizations that are found in violation with 29 USC 206 (b)(i) will be
15 subject to involuntary dissolution.
- 16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with
17 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Topic Area: Commerce