

#1

A Bill to Require CPR Certification in High Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All high school students in the United States must complete a certified Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training course as part of their graduation requirements.

SECTION 2. "Certified CPR training" refers to programs accredited by the American Heart Association or Red Cross.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education will oversee enforcement, requiring schools to submit annual certification compliance reports. Schools failing to implement this program will lose 5% of federal education funding.

SECTION 4. Implementation will begin with the graduating class of 2028.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Alliance High School

#2

A Bill to Improve Access to Mental Health Care and Reduce Disparities

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- Section 1 Require private insurers and Medicaid/Medicare to cover mental health services at the same level as physical health services, including therapy, counseling, and psychiatric services.
- Section 2 Allocate \$5 billion annually to Department of Health and Human Services to:
- a) Expand access to services, via community-based mental health services, allowing individuals in remote or rural areas to access care more easily.
 - b) Fund nationwide educational campaigns to reduce stigma around mental health and promote awareness of available resources.
- Section 3 Congress shall conduct an annual audit of the implementation and effectiveness of this bill. The audit will assess:
- a) The impact of the expanded mental health services on public health.
 - b) The adequacy of funding and its distribution across communities.
- Section 4 Based on the findings of the annual audit, Congress reserves the right to:
- a) Modify any bill section, including adjustments to funding levels, program eligibility, or service requirements.
 - b) Repeal the entire bill or any specific provisions found ineffective or unnecessarily burdensome.
- Section 5 This legislation shall take effect on January 1st, 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fairview High School

#3

**A BILL TO PROHIBIT PRIVATE EXPLORATION OF THE TITANIC WRECKAGE TO
ENSURE PRESERVATION AND SAFETY**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Private exploration of the RMS Titanic wreckage will be prohibited to protect the site as a cultural and historical artifact and to prioritize safety measures in deep-sea exploration.

SECTION 2. For the purposes of this bill, "Private exploration" shall be defined as any non-governmental or for-profit expeditions involving physical access to or interference with the Titanic wreckage. The RMS Titanic wreckage refers to the remains of the ship located approximately 12,500 feet beneath the North Atlantic Ocean.

SECTION 3. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will oversee enforcement of this policy by regulating permits and monitoring activity within the wreckage's coordinates.

A. Satellite and sonar surveillance will be employed to identify unauthorized expeditions.

B. Any violators will face penalties including fines of up to \$10 million and suspension of maritime licenses.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Hampton High School

#4

A Bill to Save the Appalachians

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall henceforth prohibit the practice of mountaintop removal mining. The Government shall also:
- A. Expropriate all land currently held by mining companies for the purpose of mountaintop removal mining within the Appalachian Mountains and transfer it to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).
 - B. Reimburse mining companies and other impacted landowners at fair market value for lost land and physical mining infrastructure.
 - C. Direct the BLM, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and National Park Service (NPS) to identify adjacent lands at risk of future mining or other environmental harm, federalize them, and ensure their protection.
 - D. Allocate \$2 billion to the states of WV, KY, VA, and TN for the purpose of providing job retraining, financial aid, and other services for former miners and employees of associated industries.
 - E. Allocate to those states an additional \$10 billion over 10 years for direct economic investment into those communities impacted by the loss of traditional industries.
- SECTION 2.** Mountaintop removal mining shall be defined as the hazardous removal of mountaintops to collect natural resources such as coal.
- SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Parks Service (NPS), and Department of Energy (DoE), along with state and local agencies, will oversee the implementation of this bill.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect on Jan. 1, 2026.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Louisville High School

#5

A Bill to Provide Mortgage Relief to Homeowners Affected by Natural Disasters

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Homeowners in federally declared disaster areas shall be eligible for a
2 six-month mortgage forbearance, with an optional six-month extension
3 upon proof of continued hardship.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** “Federally declared disaster areas” shall be defined as regions designated
5 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) following natural
6 disasters. “Mortgage forbearance” shall be defined as the temporary
7 suspension of required mortgage payments without penalty or additional
8 interest.
- 9 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) and the Department of
10 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) shall oversee implementation.
- 11 A. All federally backed mortgage lenders must provide forbearance to
12 eligible homeowners.
- 13 B. A verification system will be established to ensure homeowners are
14 using the relief to repair or return to their property.
- 15 C. Homeowners who sell or abandon the home without repairs will be
16 required to repay deferred mortgage amounts through sale proceeds or
17 other structured means.
- 18 D. Funding for this program shall be allocated from existing FEMA disaster
19 relief funds and HUD emergency housing assistance programs.
- 20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in FY 2027. All laws in conflict with this
21 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by North Allegheny.

#6

A Bill to Implement a Nationwide Soda Tax

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1.

The United States shall implement a tax of 2 cents per ounce of sugary beverage sold by industrial food companies.

SECTION 2.

A. A sugary beverage shall be defined as a liquid containing more than 50 grams of added sugars per liter, which is generally meant to be drank recreationally.

B. Added sugars shall be defined as sugars that are added during the processing of foods (including, but not limited to, sucrose or dextrose), foods packaged as sweeteners (including, but not limited to, table sugar), sugars from syrups and honey, and sugars from concentrated fruit or vegetable juices. This does not include naturally occurring sugars that are found in milk, fruits, and vegetables.

C. Industrial food companies shall be defined as companies who distribute food products produced by processing companies using high-scale, highly mechanized assembly lines.

SECTION 3.

A. The Food and Drug Administration shall be responsible for carrying out this legislation.

B. All revenue collected from this tax will go to the Department of Health and Human Services to support initiatives to improve public health and help consumers make conscientious choices about their diet.

SECTION 4.

This legislation shall take effect January 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Reservoir High School

#7

A Bill to Implement Surveillance Systems to Protect Medical Patients

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All US hospitals and medical facilities must install video cameras in their
2 procedure rooms. Video footage shall be taken during any interactions with
3 patients. However, a patient or a relative may formally request that their
4 interaction is not filmed, and the hospital must comply. Doctors may refuse
5 for certain reasons if the filming risks the patient's safety. The recorded
6 footage can be viewed for criminal investigations, prosecutions, trials,
7 medical disputes, or mediation.
- 8 **SECTION 2.** "Medical facilities" shall be defined as any location where medical service
9 is provided.
10 A "Video camera" shall be defined as a closed-circuit television camera
11 that transmits a signal to a specific place on a limited set of monitors.
12 "procedure room" shall be defined as any room specially equipped to
13 provide medical service or procedure to a patient.
- 14 **SECTION 3.** A 2023 John Hopkins study found that more than 250,000 deaths each year
15 are due to medical malpractice. Furthermore, it is the third leading cause
16 of death in the United States.
- 17 **SECTION 4.** The implementation and enforcement of this bill shall be overseen by the
18 Department of Health and Human Services.
19 A. Funding for this bill shall come from government provisions sourced
20 from the Office of Management and Budget
2 B. Any person in violation of this bill shall have their medical license
27 revoked and be charged a fine of \$10,000
- 28 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect in FY 2027. All laws in conflict with this
legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Wheeling Park High School.

#8

A Bill to Promote the Construction of Ring Routes in Public Transit Systems

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Over the course of the next decade, Congress shall apportion an additional
2 \$10 billion to the Department of Transportation for the express purpose of
3 supporting the nation’s urban areas in adding ring routes to their public
4 transit systems.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** A ring route is defined as a line of urban rail transit that connects
6 non-central neighborhoods of a city without traversing the city center.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation shall be sourced from a 0.5% tax increase on the
8 annual revenue of the fossil fuel industry.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Transportation shall be tasked with implementation of
10 this legislation, including setting up a process by which local public transit
11 systems may apply for and receive these funds. The Internal Revenue
12 Service shall oversee the implementation of Section 3.
- 13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year. All laws
14 in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
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16

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Cavalier Invitational (Adapted from the National Speech and Debate Association)

#9

A Bill to Ban Animal Testing for Cosmetics

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The use of live animals for testing cosmetic products and their ingredients is hereby prohibited in the United States.

SECTION 2. "Animal testing" refers to any procedure where live animals are exposed to cosmetic products to test for safety or efficacy.

"Cosmetics" include but are not limited to skincare products, makeup, perfumes, and hair care products.

SECTION 3. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall oversee enforcement. Violations will result in fines of \$500,000 per incident, with repeat offenses subject to a five-year ban on the company selling cosmetics in the United States.

A. Exceptions may be granted only if no scientifically viable alternatives exist and testing is required by law for public health.

SECTION 4. This law shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Alliance High School

#10

A Bill to Federally Fund the US Olympic & Paralympic Teams

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 Article 1: The US Government will fund the United States Olympic and Paralympic
2 teams instead of the team relying on private funding by increasing the
3 Gambling Income Tax by 2% to 26%.

4 Article 2: The United States Olympic and Paralympic teams shall be defined as the
5 teams supervised and run by the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

6 Article 3: This legislation shall go into effect 1 month upon passage.

7 Article 4: This legislation shall be enforced by the US Treasury Department.

8 a.) All funds made from the 2% increase in the Gambling Income
9 Tax will go to US Olympic and Paralympic Teams.

10 b.) The US Olympic & Paralympic Team Committee and its teams
11 are still permitted to seek donations as they have been doing.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Fairview High School

#11

A Bill to Advance Nuclear Energy

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Nuclear Energy shall become the primary source of U.S
2 energy by 2045. By 2045, 50% of fossil fuel-powered energy plants shall be
3 closed.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** A 'fossil fuel-powered energy plant' shall be defined as any
5 power plant within the United States that uses a natural fuel such as coal
6 or gas, formed in the geological past from the remains of living organisms.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy (DOE) shall be in charge of the
8 funding and implementation of this legislation.
- 9 A. \$200 billion shall be allocated to the Department of Energy, all of which
10 shall be used for the construction of new nuclear power plants.
- 11 B. \$50 billion shall be allocated towards research on how to make nuclear
12 energy more efficient, more safe, and quicker to produce.
- 13 C. \$5 billion shall be allocated towards the training and hiring of
14 employees.
- 15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws in
 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pennsbury High School.

#12

A Bill to Ban Red Dye No. 3 as a Food Additive

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1.

The United States shall prohibit the manufacturing, distribution, and sale of products containing Red Dye No.3 (erythrosine) as a food additive.

SECTION 2.

Food additives shall be defined as substances added to substances intended or designed to be ingested in order to enhance their flavor or appearance or for preservation.

SECTION 3.

This legislation shall be enforced by the Food and Drug Administration.

A. All persons or entities found to be in violation of this legislation will be fined \$5000 for each separate product sold containing erythrosine, as well as an additional fine of 50% of the total revenue collected from the sales of such products.

B. The funds collected from such fines shall go to the Food and Drug Administration with the intent of funding the implementation of this legislation.

SECTION 4.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Reservoir High School

#13

A Bill to Ban the Sale of Vapes

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The sale of flavored e-cigarettes (vapes) shall be prohibited nationwide.

SECTION 2. "Flavored e-cigarettes" include any product with flavoring additives other than tobacco.

SECTION 3. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall enforce this ban.

A. Any and all penalties shall be determined by the FDA if stores continue to allow the sale of such.

SECTION 4. This law shall go into effect on January 1, 2026..

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Alliance High School

#14

A Bill to Establish Universal Basic Income

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1** The United States shall implement Universal Basic Income (UBI),
2 providing every legal resident aged 18 and older a fixed monthly income of \$1,000,
3 regardless of employment status, income level or wealth. The Federal Minimum
4 Wage shall also be raised from \$7.25 per hour to \$12.50 per hour.

5 **SECTION 2** ‘Universal Basic Income’ shall be defined as financial support
6 provided by a government in the form of standard, recurring payments to
7 individuals without the need for pre-qualification.

8 **SECTION 3** In order to fund this legislation, tax reforms will be put in place. A
9 progressive Value-Added Tax (VAT) shall be placed on luxury goods. In addition,
10 Companies that produce over \$1,000,000,000 in yearly revenue shall now be taxed
11 a 35% corporate tax. Funds from redundant welfare programs shall be transferred
12 to this legislation. Whether or whether not a welfare program is redundant is to be
13 at the discretion of the U.S congress.

14 **SECTION 4** The U.S. Department of Treasury shall oversee the the funding and implementation
15 of this legislation through the following measures:

- 16 A. Establishing a secure digital payment system to distribute funds
17 efficiently.
18 B. Conducting regular audits to ensure compliance and prevent fraud.
19 C. Partnering with state governments to address regional economic
20 disparities.

21 **SECTION 5** This legislation will take effect in FY 2026. All laws in conflict with
22 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pennsbury High School

#15

A Bill to Fund Scientific Research and Development in the Arctic

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.**

- 3 A. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will
4 partner with private agencies to conduct research in the arctic.
5 B. A total of 100 million dollars each year will be granted at NOAA's
6 discretion to eligible private agencies in order to fund Arctic climate
7 research.
8 C. A total of 10 billion dollars will be granted to the United States Navy to
9 increase climate research in and with respect to the Arctic. Part of this
10 funding shall be designated for use in
11 a. Increasing the United States' icebreaker fleet by 3 icebreakers, and
12 b. Building a drifting ice station in the Arctic.

10 **SECTION 2.**

- 11 A. The arctic shall be defined as the regions around the North Pole, within the
12 Arctic Circle, which lies at or north of 66°30' North of the Equator.
13 B. Climate research shall be defined as studies including but not limited to
14 observing sea-ice thickness, the size of animal populations, and other
15 natural factors used to track climate change and to explore its global
16 impacts.
17 C. Eligible private agencies are defined as individuals or entities who, in
18 NOAA's judgement,
19 a. Conduct and continue to conduct Arctic climate research,
20 b. Are willing to partner with NOAA to conduct this research,
21 c. Have no history of falsifying scientific and/or field data, and
22 d. Apply for funding.

20 **SECTION 3.**

21 This legislation shall be enforced by the Department of Defense and
22 NOAA.

22 **SECTION 4.**

23 This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with
24 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
25

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Reservoir High School.

#16



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE: FEBRUARY 2025 LEGISLATION DOCKET

A Bill to End Federal Recognition of Presidents' Day

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Washington's Birthday, commonly known as Presidents' Day and celebrated on the third
- 3 Monday of February, shall no longer be recognized or observed as a federal holiday.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** On the third Monday in February, all federal government offices shall remain open, stock
- 5 market trading shall continue as normal, and federal government employees shall not be
- 6 eligible for any special leave.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** State and local governments and private businesses may choose to continue recognizing
- 8 and observing Presidents' Day/Washington's Birthday if they see fit, but they are
- 9 discouraged from doing so.
- 10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026.
- 11 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.