

**2024 Grey Matter Invitational
Speech and Debate Tournament
At Cary Academy**



Preliminary and Finals Legislation

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A Bill to Create a Basic Income for Stay-At-Home Parents

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** In recognition of the vital work they perform to keep American society
3 functioning, a basic income shall be created for stay-at-home parents. This income shall
4 be available on an application basis.

5 **SECTION 2.** “Basic Income” shall be defined as a monthly payment of \$1,000, which
6 will be paid directly to stay-at-home parents. “Stay-at-home parents” shall be defined as
7 any parent who is unemployed but primarily raises and supervises one or more children.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service shall be authorized to collect a 2% annual tax
9 on the net worth of households and trusts above \$50 million, which shall be used to fund
10 the basic income.

11 A. The United States Social Security Administration shall be responsible for verifying
12 applicant’s eligibility to receive the basic income and for distributing the basic income to
13 eligible applicants.

14 B. The Department of Justice shall be given the authority to prosecute fraudulent
15 applicants. Fraudulent applications shall carry a fine of no less than \$1,000 per
16 application.

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

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A Bill to Provide Equitable Public School Funding

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** This bill aims to create an equal distribution of public school
2 funding by reforming the current property tax-based funding model, which
3 disproportionately favors wealthier communities.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** High-poverty school districts will be defined as school districts
5 where 50% or more of the students have free or reduced-price lunch
6 programs. Wealthier school districts will be defined as school districts in
7 which fewer than 20% of the students have free or reduced-price lunch
8 programs.
- 9 A. The total property tax revenue collected from all school districts
10 within each state will be joined in a central state fund for public
11 education.
- 12 B. The distribution of funding is as follows:
- 13 a. Base funding: All school districts will receive a base fund per
14 student, which is equal across the state
- 15 b. Additional funding: High-poverty school districts will receive
16 an additional percentage of the base funding to meet the
17 specific needs of the students. This can also apply to wealthier
18 school districts, but the percentage will be lower.
- 19 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will oversee this bill
- 20 A. Transparency and regular reports will be required to ensure that the
21 funding improves education and is fair to the students in need.
- 22 B. States that fail to comply will be subject to a reduction in federal
23 education funding. The DOE can hold up to 10% of a state's federal
24 education funding until they comply.
- 25 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect for the start of the 2025-2026
 school year.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lake Highland Prep.

A Bill to Create Universal Pre-K

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Education shall provide block grants to
3 each state to offer every child residing within the United States of
4 America and its territories a publicly funded and administered education
5 beginning at three years of age.

6 **SECTION 2.** “Administered” shall not be construed to mean a school voucher
7 program. Instead, the programs will be publicly funded and under direct
8 public oversight through expanding existing public school districts.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will oversee the allocation of funds and any
10 future necessary national regulations. Individual states will implement
11 the new universal Pre-K system, consistent with current public schooling
12 and the above administration requirements.

13 A. States that do not implement a universal Pre-K program consistent
14 with the above shall have all Federal education funding withheld.

15 B. Twenty-five (25) billion dollars will be allocated annually to the
16 Department of Education for apportionment as block grants. The
17 annual funding commitment will continue until FY 2030, when this
18 program shall be due for reauthorization. States are encouraged to
19 supplement this funding.

20 C. The 125 billion dollars will be reappropriated from the Department
21 of Defense’s budget.

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

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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Minnesota Debate Teachers Association.



SECTION 1. This bill aims to reform civil asset forfeiture laws to better protect the rights of citizens.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

B. The Department of Justice will provide Due Process Protections through

C. The Department of Justice will ensure fair Asset Disposition by creating a Civil Forfeiture task force focused on allocating forfeited assets to community projects and training, not for personal gain and ensure transparent reporting of fund allocation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by William P. Clements High School.



Item 30 - A Bill to Eliminate the Defense of Qualified Immunity in Civil Actions for Individual Rights

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government shall eliminate the doctrine of qualified
2 immunity as a response to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 in civil lawsuits to warrant against
3 justified police misconduct and the deprivation of individual rights.

4 **SECTION 2.** Defendants under Section 1 will no longer be able to use qualified immunity as
5 justification for not being held liable for constitutional violations, including if:

6 A. The defendant was acting in good faith or believed that his or her conduct was
7 lawful at the time it was committed;

8 B. The immunity secured under the constitution was not clearly established at
9 the time of their deprivation; or

10 C. The state of the law was such that the defendant could not have reasonably
11 been expected to know whether his or her conduct was lawful.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will oversee the implementation of this bill and
13 ensure fair and impartial decisions in such jurisdictions.

14 A. Any government individuals found in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983 will be
15 subject to civil penalties not exceeding \$10,000 for first convictions.

16 B. Subsequent violations will be subject to civil penalties not exceeding \$50,000
17 with possible discharge from government positions.

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

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by London High School.

A Bill to Abolish Federal Plea Bargaining

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The practice of plea bargaining in federal criminal cases is hereby
3 abolished.

4 **SECTION 2.** Plea bargaining is an arrangement between a prosecutor and a defendant
5 whereby the defendant pleads guilty to a lesser charge in the expectation
6 of leniency.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice shall oversee this bill.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Minnesota Debate Teachers Association.



Item 3 - A Resolution to Advocate for Elimination of Conditional Lending by the International Monetary Fund to Promote Economic Stability and Social Welfare

- 1 **WHEREAS,** When a country borrows from the International Monetary Fund, the loan is
2 conditional on the government adjusting its economic policies to overcome the
3 problems that led it to seek financial assistance in the first place; and
4 **WHEREAS,** The conditional lending policies placed by the IMF on borrowing nations, often
5 result in implementation of economic policies that harm the disadvantaged,
6 exacerbate inequality and jeopardize social change; and
7 **WHEREAS,** IMF conditionality is particularly harmful to developing nations, reducing public
8 investment, and stalling plans for improving key public sectors like
9 infrastructure, education, and healthcare; and
10 **WHEREAS,** The inability of governments in developing nations to bring change breeds
11 political dissatisfaction, decreasing political and economic stability; and
12 **WHEREAS,** The United States is a dominant force in the governance of the IMF, placing it in
13 a unique position to influence IMF policy changes; now, therefore, be it
14 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled that the United States should advocate for
15 elimination of conditional lending practices by the IMF.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jack C. Hays High School

A Resolution to Suspend Russia from the UN Security Council

WHEREAS, Russia's recent actions have been dangerous and inappropriate; and

WHEREAS, Russia is impeding global peace and security; and

WHEREAS, Russia is blocking key work due to membership on the security council;
and

WHEREAS, Member nations can vote to suspend nations from the UN under article
18; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the congress here assembled that the United States shall urge other
UN Member nations to use article 18 to suspend Russia from the Security
Council; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the United States will suspend the 20% of the UN budget that is
voluntarily contributed if this action is not taken by 2025.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Landon Jacobs from Davis High School

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A Bill to Provide Aid to Refugee Crisis in Jordan

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** This legislation will provide humanitarian aid, to aid the refugee crisis in
2 Jordan.

3 **SECTION 2.**

4 A. Jordan hosts one of the largest numbers of registered refugees per capita
5 in the world: 1 out of every 15 people is a refugee in Jordan. Since the
6 beginning of the crisis in Syria, Jordan has shouldered the primary
7 responsibility for hosting Syrian refugees. The presence of refugees has
8 put pressure on basic infrastructure and services, affecting both Syrians
9 and vulnerable Jordanians.

10 B. Without assistance or aid, Jordan will have to turn down the entrance of
11 refugees into Jordan, leading to an international crisis.

12 **SECTION 3.** Jordan will receive \$15 billion in humanitarian aid in the form of cash,
13 supplies, building materials, food, and anything else this congress deems appropriate.

14 C. The US Agency for International Development will send aid in
15 increments as seen fit, over the course of 2 years. This will be to prevent
16 any possibility of negative impacts to the economy of Jordan.

17 D. The US Agency for International Development will promote the
18 building of businesses through this humanitarian aid, to assist in
19 building a more sustainable economy in Jordan.

20 **SECTION 4.** The United States Agency for International Development's Bureau for
21 Humanitarian Assistance will oversee the implementation of this legislation, and an extra
22 \$15 billion will be allocated to the annual budget of the United States Agency for
23 International Development by Congress.

24 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect immediately following the passing of this
25 legislation.

26 **SECTION 6.** This legislation will go into effect in January 2025.

27 **SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and
28 void.

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30 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pennsbury High School*