

Congressional Debate Docket – Groves Falcon Invitational 2024

The docket for the 35th Annual Groves Falcon Invitational is included below. We have 12 bills included, so that we can use 4 bills in each session.

Please take a moment to vote on which bills you would like in Session 1, Session 2, and the Super Session. You can vote at the following link: <https://forms.gle/ZJNdARs7y2SjzDBm7>

Please complete all voting by Thursday, October 31, 2024.

Thank you!

Legislation Included

1. A Bill to Provide Over the Counter Birth Control in all Stores
2. A Bill to Ban the Use of Aspartame
3. A Bill to ban American food industries from using red 40 food dye in their products for human consumption.
4. A Bill to Prohibit All Paid Political Advertisements
5. A Bill to Require Major Corporations to Donate Returns and Unsold Products to Shelters
6. A Bill to Block AI in Schools
7. A Bill to Exempt Tips from Taxation
8. The Oceania Unity and Statehood Act (The O.U.S.A.)
9. A Bill to Legalize Hitchhiking on Interstates
10. A Bill to Pursue Half-Hour Time Zone Offsets
11. A Bill to Legalize Election Betting
12. A Bill to Expand the Protections of the Animal Welfare Act

A Bill to Provide Over the Counter Birth Control in all Stores

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Upon passage of this bill, birth control will be able to be sold as an over-the-counter medication to anyone above the age of 18, no longer requiring a prescription to be acquired.

4 **SECTION 2.** Birth control will be defined as any medication whose primary goal is to
5 prevent the conception of a child. Over-the-counter shall be defined as
6 medication sold without requiring a prescription from a doctor.

7 **SECTION 3.** Relevant law enforcement and The Department of Food and Drug
8 Administration (FDA) will oversee this bill.
9 A. Upon sale to a minor, the offender will be charged with the same
10 offense as selling a controlled substance to minors.

11 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be enacted exactly 6 months after passage.

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

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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senators T. Tylk & L. Roberts from Wayland Union High School.

A Bill to Ban the Use of Aspartame

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The removal of all products containing aspartame from stores due to
3 health risks such as changes in metabolism and possible cancer.

4 **SECTION 2.** Aspartame refers to the artificial sweetener used in diet drinks and diet
5 food with the chemical composition of $C_{14}H_{18}N_2O_5$. Products including
6 aspartame include but are not limited to Diet Coca-Cola, sugar-free gums
7 like Trident Gum, and Sugar-free Jell-O.

8 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Food and Drug Administration
9 (FDA)

10 A. Any corporations not abiding by this bill shall have their products
11 containing aspartame taken off shelves and given a fine of
12 \$2,000,000.

13 B. If the corporation not abiding by this bill cannot pay the
14 \$2,000,000 fine without going bankrupt, the fine shall be reduced
15 to \$250,000.

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 by Mark Shaow and Oliver Sieb of the Utica Academy of International Studies

A Bill to ban American food industries from using red 40 food dye in their products for human consumption.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Ban the American food industry from using red 40 food dye in products
3 used for human consumption.

4 **SECTION 2.** Red Dye 40 is a synthetic food dye common in popular foods such as,
5 snack foods, cereal, condiments, sweets, beverages, etc., that adds
6 appeal to the product with color. Red dye 40 does not add any nutritional
7 value to the product.

8 Human consumption is defined as the act of eating, using, or drinking by
9 humans.

10 The American food industry is a complex network of farmers, scientists,
11 retailers, and diverse businesses that together supply much of the food
12 consumed in the United States.

13 Food products are foods that have been prepared and packaged for sale
14 for American consumption.

15 **SECTION 3.** The FDA (Food and Drug Administration) will oversee and enforce the ban
16 of red 40 food dye. If the FDA discovers a food product is not compliant
17 of the ban, the first warning will be a fine to the company based on 40%
18 of sales for the specific product that year. After the first warning,
19 subsequent warnings will include, but not limited to, suspension of sales
20 for that product for up to six months. If there are preexisting products on
21 the shelves that include red 40 food dye, then the stores/companies are
22 required to recall and discard them following any guidelines set by the
23 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by January 1st, 2027. Companies
24 can apply for compensation for the recall from the FDA, which will be
25 funded by the product fines.

26 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2027, all laws in conflict with
27 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Utica High School.

A Bill to Prohibit All Paid Political Advertisements

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby pass into law the prohibition of all paid
3 political advertisements during election campaigns.

4 **SECTION 2.** “Paid political advertisements” shall be defined as any promotional
5 material in support of a political candidate which has been exchanged for
6 payment.

7 **SECTION 3.** This bill shall be enforced by the Federal Communications Commission
8 (FCC) and the Federal Election Commission (FEC).

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Utica Academy for International Studies.

A Bill to Require Major Corporations to Donate Returns and Unsold Products to Shelters

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Returned and unsold items to be destroyed that meet health and safety
2 standards shall henceforth be required to be donated to a shelter to
3 prevent unnecessary waste of products.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Products shall be defined as any item manufactured and/or refined for sale.
5 Health and safety standards are defined as the regulations set by the
6 Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), along with the Food and
7 Drug Administration (FDA).
8 Major corporations shall be defined as large companies or groups of
9 companies that are controlled as one.
10 Unsold products shall constitute any article of clothing, canned goods, or
11 sealed items that are no longer up for purchase.
12 A shelter shall be defined as any free government-funded permanent or
13 temporary home for anyone seeking asylum, such as a homeless or
14 women's shelter.
- 15 **SECTION 3.** The CPSC and the FDA will oversee the enforcement of this bill.
16 A. Major corporations will be required to fund the entirety of the donation
17 process including transportation, storage, etc.
18 B. Failure to comply shall result in a \$10,000 fine to each corporation per
19 violation.
- 20 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2026.
- 21 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Oosterhouse and Senator Haan from Wayland Union High School.

A Bill to Block AI in Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. All schools and universities throughout the United States are ordered to enact firewalls blocking student access to websites and applications that enable users to leverage artificial intelligence (AI) in any way that could potentially facilitate academic dishonesty.

SECTION 2. Any school or university found to be in violation of this legislation shall lose access to federal funding until such time as compliance is reached.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Education and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). In addition to monitoring and enforcing implementation, these agencies shall be responsible for producing a list of websites and applications that must be banned, publishing and proliferating that list at least 30 days prior to the date of implementation, and maintaining that list regularly and transparently.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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

A Bill to Exempt Tips from Taxation

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Income earned as tips is no longer taxable, though it must still be reported to the Internal
3 Revenue Service (IRS).

4 **SECTION 2.** Tips are defined by the IRS as “discretionary (optional or extra) payments, determined by a
5 customer, that employees receive from customers.”

6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the IRS.

7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

The Oceania Unity and Statehood Act (The O.U.S.A.)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. The territories of Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands are hereby joined with the State of Hawaii. Together, these shall become a new state to be named American Oceania, replacing Hawaii as the fiftieth state and standing on an equal footing with the other states in all respects.

SECTION 2. The governments of these entities are instructed to collaborate to compose and ratify a state constitution no later than one year from the passage of this bill and shall continue to enforce those laws that currently exist until this has been achieved.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

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

A Bill to Legalize Hitchhiking on Interstates

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Hitchhiking is hereby legalized along all entrance ramps of at least 1000 feet in length throughout the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, so long as hitchhikers keep at least 1000 feet from the ramp's junction with the highway when seeking a ride. Hitchhikers may henceforth seek rides at designated rest areas as well.

SECTION 2. Barring an emergency, motorists are prohibited from dropping off hitchhikers anywhere along the Interstate Highway System with the exception of designated rest areas. Motorists may also exit the interstate and release a hitchhiker on any other nearby road.

SECTION 3. A hitchhiker under sixteen years of age must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Highway Administration.

SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

A Bill to Pursue Half-Hour Time Zone Offsets

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Congress directs the Department of Transportation to establish a committee to examine and redesign the nation's time zones, as well as to create additional time zones using half-hour offsets. This committee is directed to take into account population and transportation trends, but also to give careful consideration to the detrimental impacts poorly designed time zones can have on the health and safety of those who reside and work within them.

SECTION 2. The committee shall have one year from the date of implementation of this legislation to present its findings and recommendations, at which point Congress shall consider enacting them.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Transportation.

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

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

A Bill to Legalize Election Betting

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. The placing of bets on the outcomes of elections shall no longer be banned within the United States.

SECTION 2. Like all forms of gambling, election betting must be conducted by an authorized, certified, and regulated agency.

SECTION 3. Revenue earned from election betting shall be taxed at a rate of 20%, with funds raised through this tax to be turned over to the Federal Election Commission (FEC).

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be overseen by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

A Bill to Expand the Protections of the Animal Welfare Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, Pub. L. 89–544, is hereby amended to
3 eliminate the law’s exclusion of cold-blooded animals from its protections.

4 **SECTION 2.** Birds, rats of the genus *Rattus*, mice of the genus *Mus*, and farm animals shall remain
5 excluded.

6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Department of Agriculture and the Animal
7 and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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