

#1

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE: OCTOBER 2024 LEGISLATION DOCKET

A Bill to Legalize Election Betting

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** The placing of bets on the outcomes of elections shall no longer be banned within the
- 3 United States.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Like all forms of gambling, election betting must be conducted by an authorized, certified,
- 5 and regulated agency.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** Revenue earned from election betting shall be taxed at a rate of 20%, with funds raised
- 7 through this tax to be turned over to the Federal Election Commission (FEC).
- 8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.
- 9 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.
- 10 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

#2

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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.

#3

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A Resolution to Discourage Celebrity Political Endorsements

- 1 **WHEREAS** A celebrity political endorsement is a textbook example of the “appeal to celebrity” logical
2 fallacy; and
- 3 **WHEREAS** The very nature of a representative democracy is founded on a recognition that political
4 decision making is a time-consuming and complex process necessitating years of study and
5 experience as well as total occupational devotion; and
- 6 **WHEREAS** Most celebrities lack the time and expertise to weigh in ethically on such matters; and
- 7 **WHEREAS** Endorsements made by celebrities can therefore be harmful to the best interests of a
8 republic; now, therefore be it
- 9 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that celebrities, including but not limited to actors,
10 musicians, and social media personalities, are strongly discouraged from making political
11 endorsements or otherwise weighing in on political matters; and be it
- 12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress similarly encourages celebrities who wish to express their support
13 for any specific politicians or political causes through donations to do so anonymously.



Item 4 - A Bill to Ban the Use of Harmful Chemicals in the Preservation of Produced, Packaged, and Processed Foods

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States will remove and regulate the use of harmful chemical
2 preservatives from foods, imported and locally sourced, to help prevent
3 death and diseases that may be caused by ingesting these chemicals.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** The list of chemical preservatives to be banned in commercially produced,
5 packaged, and processed food includes, but is not limited to, butylated
6 hydroxytoluene, potassium bromate, sodium nitrates, and some parabens.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) will oversee the
8 enforcement of this bill.
- 9 A. No more than 2% of taxpayer dollars will go into the manufacturing of
10 testing labs to help create safer food preservatives.
- 11 B. Foods produced before the passing of this bill will still be sold or given to
12 community food banks to help prevent food waste.
- 13 C. All foods produced, packaged, and processed within the United States will
14 be required to meet these guidelines before being sold commercially.
- 15 D. All foods produced, packaged, or processed as imports outside of the
16 United States will be required to meet these guidelines in order to be sold
17 commercially.
- 18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2025. All laws in conflict with
19 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by West Plains High School

#5



**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

#6

**Item 8 - The Assault Weapons Ban Act of 2024**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The manufacture, sale, transfer, possession, and importation of assault weapons
2 in the United States is hereby prohibited.

3 **SECTION 2.** A. "Assault Weapons" are defined as weapons who have specific characteristics
4 such as semi-automatic action, detachable magazines, and military-style
5 features.

6 B. Individuals currently in possession of assault weapons will be required to
7 relinquish them to law enforcement agencies or participate in buyback programs
8 to remove them from circulation.

9 C. Prohibits the manufacture and sale of assault weapons by firearms
10 manufacturers and licensed dealers.

11 D. Certain exceptions may apply for law enforcement agencies, military
12 personnel, and licensed manufacturers for specific purposes such as government
13 contracts.

14 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) along with the
15 Department of Justice (DOJ) will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

16 A. The above organizations will have jurisdiction to decide on appropriate
17 punishment and/or fines on a per-case basis.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage. All laws in conflict
19 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by A&M Consolidated High School

#7



Item 27 - A Bill to Ban Political Action Committees (PACs)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** To strengthen the United States' governmental institutions and reduce corporate
- 2 spending in federal management, the United States Congress shall:
- 3 A. Ban all variations of Political Action Committees, including, but not limited to,
- 4 Corporate PACs, Leadership PACs, Super PACs, and Hybrid PACs.
- 5 B. Legislatively overrule *Citizens United v. FEC* to eliminate corporate and non-profit
- 6 money expenditures that directly advocate for the election or defeat of candidates.
- 7 **SECTION 2.** A. The term "Political Action Committee" or "PAC" shall be defined as a
- 8 tax-exempt organization under IRS Section 527 that receives campaign contributions
- 9 from its members to provide campaign funding for or against
- 10 candidates, ballot initiatives, or legislation.
- 11 B. *Citizens United v. FEC* refers to a 2010 Supreme Court case that overturned *Austin v.*
- 12 *Michigan State Chamber of Commerce*, which prohibited independent expenditures by
- 13 corporations.
- 14 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission (FEC) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) shall be
- 15 responsible for the enforcement and implementation of this legislation.
- 16 A. The FEC shall be responsible for investigating violations and imposing civil penalties,
- 17 among other measures on a case-by-case basis, to ensure compliance with the ban.
- 18 B. The IRS shall be responsible for revoking the tax-exempt status and deregistering all
- 19 PACs.
- 20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage. All laws in conflict with this
- 21 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Village School.

#8

**Item 25 - A Bill to End Seed Patent Protections**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The US federal government will end the practice of granting intellectual property
2 rights protections, including patents, trademarks, and copyrights, for seeds, seed
3 DNA strands, transgenic seed organisms, and seed biomes.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** The US Department of Agriculture, along with the Office of the US Trade
5 Representative, will oversee the following provisions.
- 6 A. Existing patent protections will be allowed to expire at the end of the patent
7 period with the following exceptions:
- 8 1. Farmers will be allowed to germinate seeds for replanting from existing
9 crops without paying patent holders fees for those seeds.
- 10 2. Natural cross-pollination of DNA in crops will no longer be considered
11 patent violations.
- 12 B. Any seed patents issued between the passage of this legislation and its
13 implementation date will be limited to 10 years.
- 14 C. The Office of the US Trade Representative will lobby the World Trade
15 Organization to remove seed patent protections from the TRIPS (Trade-Related
16 Aspects of International Property Rights) Agreement.
- 17 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with this
18 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by James E. Taylor High School (Katy)