

Central Minnesota NSDA District Congress

November 22-23, 2024

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Robbinsdale Cooper High School

Tournament Legislation



**CENTRAL
MINNESOTA
DISTRICT**

NATIONAL SPEECH & DEBATE ASSOCIATION

Finals Legislation

- 1 - A Bill to Remove Tax-Exempt Status from Religious Organizations
- 2 - Internet Accountability Act of 2024

Semifinals Legislation

- 3 - Inclusive Special Education Reform Act
- 4 - A Bill to Incentive Organ Donation

Preliminary Legislation

- 5 - A Resolution to Create Diplomatic Relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 6 - Fracking Moratorium Act of 2024
- 7 - A Resolution to Prohibit Carbon Taxes
- 8 - A Bill to Establish Term Limits for Federal Lawmakers
- 9 - A Bill to Repeal the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act
- 10 - A Bill to Support Democracy in Myanmar

A Note About Legislation

Finals Legislation is reserved for the final round of the House and the final round of the Senate (if held). Semifinals Legislation is reserved for the semifinal round of the House (if held).

The tournament structure (elimination round sessions) is based on the number of entries in each event and will be announced at least five days prior to the start of the tournament. If the Senate does not have a final round, all legislation may be debated in any of the three preliminary sessions of that chamber. If the House does not have semifinals, all semifinals and finals legislation is reserved for the final round of that chamber.

The docket in each chamber is not set by the tournament and will be determined within each chamber in accordance with the rules explained above.



A Bill to Remove Tax-Exempt Status from Religious Organizations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All religious institutions that have current federal tax exemption pay both
3 proportional income and property tax.

4 **SECTION 2.** Religious institutions are defined as churches, temples, mosques and
5 other places of worship and institutions that exist to support and manage
6 the practice of a specific set of religious beliefs. Federal income tax will
7 be paid in proportion with the institution's income and property tax in
8 proportion with the amount of property held by the institution.

9 **SECTION 3.** The IRS will oversee and enforce this legislation.

10 A. If religious institutions engage in philanthropic work, they will be eligible for
11 some tax reduction proportional to both the institution's income and the amount
12 of charitable contribution but will not be eligible for complete exemption.

13 B. This legislation only affects federal taxes.

14 C. Religious institutions will be taxed as for-profit businesses

15 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented on October 1st 2025

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Eastview High School.

Internet Accountability Act of 2024

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act of 1996 (47 U.S.C. § 230)
2 is hereby repealed, thereby holding online platforms accountable for
3 content published on their platforms and addressing the modern
4 responsibilities of internet service providers in regulating harmful and
5 unlawful content.
6

7 **SECTION 2.** Online platforms, internet service providers, and social media companies
8 will no longer be granted blanket immunity from liability for third-party
9 content on their platforms and will be subject to federal and state laws
10 governing defamation, privacy, intellectual property infringement, and
11 other harms related to user-generated content, similar to traditional
12 publishers.
13

14 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Department of Justice of
15 Justice (DOJ) shall oversee the implementation and enforcement of this
16 Act. The FTC, in collaboration with the Department of Justice, shall conduct
17 a study on the impact of this Act on the digital economy, small businesses,
18 and user protections. This study shall be completed within two years of
19 enactment and presented to Congress.

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

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School.

Inclusive Special Education Reform Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Beginning in the Fiscal Year of 2026, the Federal government shall
2 incrementally increase funding for the Individuals with Disabilities
3 Education Act (IDEA) to meet 40% of the average per-student expenditure
4 for all eligible students with disabilities within five years of enactment, as
5 initially authorized in the IDEA.
6
7
8 **SECTION 2.** In addition, the Secretary of Education shall establish grants for Local
9 Education Agencies (LEAs) to hire and retain specialized staff and offer
10 competitive salaries and benefits to reduce turnover among specialized
11 staff.
12
13 **SECTION 3.** The funding for this Act shall come from repealing the following two fossil
14 fuel subsidies: the Intangible Drilling Costs (IDC), codified under IRC §
15 263(c), and the Percentage Depletion Allowance (PDA), codified under IRC
16 § 613 and § 613A. Repealing these two subsidies will generate \$1 billion
17 annually or \$13 billion over 10 years.
18
19
 SECTION 4. If the Secretary of Education finds more funding necessary after one year,
 Congress must eliminate more fossil fuel subsidies to provide the financing
 needed for this bill.

 SECTION 5. This legislation will take effect on October 1, 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School.



A Bill To Incentivize Organ Donation

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Monetary incentives will be established to encourage individuals to opt-in to voluntary organ donation programs.

SECTION 2. Organ Donation is defined as the act of donating one or multiple organs after one has deceased.

SECTION 3. Individuals will receive a 3% tax deduction for enrolling in the Organ Donation Program, and current individuals in the program will receive the same benefits.

SECTION 4. The Department of Health and Human Services will oversee the enforcement and allocation of resources for this legislation.

SECTION 5. The bill will be implemented in fiscal year 2025.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Eastview High School.

A Resolution to Create Diplomatic Relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

1 **WHEREAS,** In the status quo, relations with the DPRK are non-existent with a harsh
2 embargo and travel ban. This only increases the tensions in the Asia-Pacific
3 region, and;

5 **WHEREAS,** Engaging the DPRK diplomatically would help reach lasting peace in the
6 region, and;

8 **WHEREAS,** Diplomatic engagement will help steer the DPRKs recent gravitation toward
9 Russia by giving them a better alternative, and;

11 **WHEREAS,** We urge the executive branch to lift all sanctions, officially recognize the
12 DPRK and lift any and all travel bans; therefore let it be

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled creates diplomatic relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eastview High School.

Fracking Moratorium Act of 2024

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** A five-year moratorium on issuing new permits for hydraulic fracturing
2 operations nationwide. Well operators currently engaged in fracking are
3 prohibited from expanding existing operations or increasing production
4 capacity during the moratorium period.
5
- 6 **SECTION 2.** For purposes of this Act, hydraulic fracturing (fracking) is defined as the
7 process of injecting liquid at high pressure into underground rock
8 formations to extract oil or gas; and a well operator is defined as any
9 person, company, or entity responsible for drilling, fracking, or maintaining
10 a well.
11
- 12
- 13 **SECTION 3.** The moratorium exempts critical energy projects essential for national
14 security, as determined by the Department of Energy and Congress, and
15 fracking for scientific research conducted with the Environmental
16 Protection Agency (EPA), provided findings are publicly available.
17
- 18 **SECTION 4.** During the moratorium, the Department of Energy and EPA will study the
19 environmental and health impacts of fracking. Three months before its
20 expiration, a final report with recommendations on extending, modifying,
21 or lifting the moratorium will be submitted to Congress.
22
- 23
- 24 **SECTION 5.** Any well operator conducting unauthorized hydraulic fracturing operations
 violating this Act shall be subject to fines of up to \$250,000 per incident.
 Further, any violation of this moratorium may result in the revocation of
 existing operational permits held by the offending party, with a five-year
 ban on reapplication.
- SECTION 6.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon enactment. All laws in
 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School.

A Resolution to Prohibit Carbon Taxes

- 1 **WHEREAS,** A carbon tax is a Federal tax on carbon released from fossil fuels; and
2
3 **WHEREAS,** According to the Energy Information Administration, the share of energy
4 consumption during 2023 in the United States derived from fossil fuels was
5 approximately 80 percent; and
6
7 **WHEREAS,** American families will be harmed the most by a carbon tax.
8 **WHEREAS,** A carbon tax will impose disproportionate burdens on specific industries,
9 jobs, States, and geographic regions and would further restrict the global
10 competitiveness of the United States; and
11
12 **WHEREAS,** A carbon tax would reduce America's international competitiveness and
13 would encourage development abroad in countries that do not impose this
14 exorbitant tax burden; and
15
16 **WHEREAS,** The Congress and the President should focus on pro-growth solutions that
 encourage increased development of domestic resources; now, therefore,
 be it

 RESOLVED, That a carbon tax would be detrimental to American families and businesses
 and is not in the best interest of the United States.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School.

A Bill to Establish Term Limits for Federal Lawmakers

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Federal lawmakers in the United States will now be subject to term limits.
2 Members of the House of Representatives will have a term limit of six
3 two-year terms, while members of the Senate will have a term limit of two
4 six-year terms.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** Federal lawmakers are hereby defined as members of the U.S. House of
6 Representatives and the U.S. Senate.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission in conjunction with the U.S. Department
8 of Justice will oversee the implementation of this legislation.
- 9 A. If a lawmaker has already reached the term limit at the time of the
10 passage of this bill, they will be permitted one final additional term
11 before leaving their office.
- 12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on November 3, 2026. All laws in conflict
 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eastview High School.

A Bill to Repeal the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act is hereby repealed. The Department Of
2 Treasury will allot \$500 Million to aid programs that assist those suffering
3 from gambling addictions.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act regulates the conduct of gaming on
5 Indian lands and established the National Indian Gaming Commision.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of the Interior is responsible for the implementation of
7 this legislation and the Department of the Treasury will fund this
8 legislation.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately. All laws in conflict with this
10 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eastview High School.

A Bill to Support Democracy in Myanmar

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States will allocate \$600 million in humanitarian aid to the
2 citizens of Myanmar. This aid will be given through Myanmar's maritime
3 border with Indonesia. U.S. troops will deliver the aid to the Myanmar
4 border and hand it over to Non-governmental agencies (NGOs) and
5 Myanmar opposition forces.
6

7 **SECTION 2.** "Humanitarian aid" is defined as agricultural materials and fertilizer,
8 housing shelters, safe bottled water, medicine, food, vaccines, and first
9 aid equipment. NGOs are non-governmental agencies delivering services
10 to the Burmese people. "Opposition forces" are the military and political
11 groups opposing the current military junta.
12

13 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of State (DoS) and USAID will jointly carry
14 out and oversee the enforcement of this legislation. The DoS will carry
15 out semi-annual audits to ensure the NGOs and opposition forces
16 receiving aid are not corrupt.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School.