



Raise Every Voice Invitational
2024 Congress Legislation

A Bill to Repeal the Uniform Time Act of 1966 and End Daylight Savings Observances

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States will repeal all legislation creating a national standard relating to Daylight Savings Time. Furthermore, all observances of Daylight Savings Time will be ceased.
- SECTION 2.** Daylight Savings Time is defined as the period of time from the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November where all clocks are shifted forward 1 hour.
- SECTION 3.** The US Department of Transportation will oversee this change, seeing as how they are currently responsible for overseeing Daylight Savings Time as well as the time zones of the United States.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on March 10, 2025. On this date, the clocks will NOT shift forward 1 hour . All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Paul Laurence Dunbar High School.

A Bill to Discontinue the Penny to Simplify Economic Processes

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States will discontinue the penny from all future circulation in the economy.

SECTION 2. Facilitated economic processes include processes from the consumer side, like any form of transaction, and processes from the governmental side, emphasizing the expenditure of the physical minting of the coins.

SECTION 3. The Department of the Treasury will be tasked with the implementation of this legislature.

SECTION 4. The Department of the Treasury must cease all production of the penny by January 1st, 2025. Removing the penny from circulation must be completed by January 1st, 2035. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Paul Laurence Dunbar High School.

A Bill to Establish a Maximum Rent Raise to Prevent Exacerbation of the Housing Crisis

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall impose a ceiling on landlords' ability to raise property rent values.

SECTION 2. The ceiling will be a percentage representing how much every rent value is allowed to increase annually.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development will be responsible for overseeing the appointment of a council tasked with determining the maximum percentage. They will also be responsible for the implementation of this legislation.

A. The percentage will be determined by economic indicators like inflation, unemployment, and other economic indicators deemed necessary by the council.

B. Landlords in violation of this legislation will be penalized with fines determined annually by the council, with more severe consequences like land repossession for repeat offenders.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Paul Laurence Dunbar High School.

A Bill to Include Sales Tax on Items to Allow for Better Spending

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. All businesses must include sales tax in the price of merchandise according to the sales tax of the state they selling in.

Section 2. Merchandise is defined as goods or services bought and sold by a business.

Business will be defined as a person, group, or company which sell goods or services

Section 3. The IRS will oversee the enforcement of this bill. Violation of Section 1 of this bill will result in a \$250 fine per day, until a business is in compliance.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Molly Kate Decker.

A Resolution to Assist in Controlling Drug Addiction and Assist in Recovery

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 WHEREAS, Overdoses from heroin, prescription drugs, and opioid pain relievers last year
3 surpassed car accidents as the leading cause of injury-related death in America,
4 according to the Centers for Disease Control; and

5 WHEREAS, Deaths have reached their highest levels of the 21st century in 2014, the most
6 recent year for which data is available, according to the National Institute on
7 Drug Abuse.; and

8 WHEREAS, Heroin overdoses have more than tripled in the last five years; now, therefore,
9 be it

10 RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that (1) The United States shall improve
11 prescription drug monitoring programs to help states monitor and track
12 prescription drug diversion and to help at-risk individuals access services,
13 because inefficiencies and loopholes. (2) The United States shall improve
14 prescription drug monitoring programs to help states monitor and track
15 prescription drug diversion and to help at-risk individuals access services,
16 because inefficiencies and loopholes. (3) Shift resources towards identifying and
17 treating incarcerated people who are suffering from addiction, rather than just
18 punishment as is often the case currently. (4) Prohibit the Department of
19 Education from including questions about the conviction of an applicant for the
20 possession or sale of illegal drugs on the Free Application for Federal Student
21 Aid (FAFSA) financial aid form.

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A Bill to Remove the Confederacy From the US Military

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All properties of the US Departments of Defense and Education named
3 after confederate officers must change their name to a non-confederate
4 person or place. All to whom this law applies that don't comply with the
5 change shall lose their federal funding.

6 **SECTION 2.** All properties of the US Departments of Defense and Education refers to
7 all military and academy dorms, military bases, warships, and forts, and
8 all public universities and dorm buildings.

9 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Education and the US Department of Defense shall
10 oversee the implementation of this legislation.

11 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

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A Resolution to Oppose Oppressive Voter ID Laws

1 WHEREAS, Voter ID Laws are used in many states to restrict the right to vote “to
2 those who can show appropriate picture identification;” and
3 WHEREAS, This identification can often be difficult or expensive to obtain; and
4 WHEREAS, Those impacted by these laws are disproportionately people of color; and
5 WHEREAS, These laws limit the ability of all people to participate in the democratic
6 process; and
7 WHEREAS, A democracy is supposed to be a government for, by, and of the people;
8 and
9 WHEREAS, Representation cannot effectively occur if individuals are unjustly
10 silenced; now, therefore, be it resolved
11 RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that we reject all oppressive voter
12 identification laws in the United States.

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A Bill to Provide Funding for Puerto Rico

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Puerto Rico shall be granted full statehood.

3 **SECTION 2.** Initial representation in Congress will consist of two senators and one
4 representative, with proportional representation to be determined by
5 census results.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Treasury shall immediately discharge Puerto Rican
7 debt related to pension liabilities and bonds. Additionally, the Federal
8 Emergency Management Agency shall make \$100 billion available for
9 rebuilding infrastructure and utilities. **SECTION 4.** This shall take effect on
10 the 1st of January next year.

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

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A Bill to Ease Gentrification

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Long-Term Home Ownership Tax Credit is hereby established. Any US
3 citizen who is a racial or ethnic minority who has lived in their home for
4 more than five consecutive years will be eligible to apply. This tax credit
5 will cover 100% of costs for increases in local, state, and federal taxes on
6 their home compared to the tax cost from five years after purchasing or
7 mortgaging the home, scaled for inflation. This tax credit will be a write
8 off for income tax, but will be equal in value to the increase in property
9 taxes scaled for inflation.

10 **SECTION 2.** A racial or ethnic minority shall be defined as a culturally, ethnically, or
11 racially distinct group from the majority, which currently in the U.S. is
12 Caucasian. Additionally, people who have inherited the home shall inherit
13 the tax credit as long as the person who passed it down to them qualified
14 for it.

15 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service and US Department of Housing and Urban
16 Development shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be taken into effect starting in the current or
18 upcoming year.

A Bill to Ban Campaigning for Federal Office

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Any individual seeking election to federal office is hereby prohibited from campaigning or
3 affiliating with an organization that pays others to campaign on their behalf.

4 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this legislation, an individual can be said to be seeking election to
5 federal office if they have begun collecting signatures in any state or district to gain ballot
6 access for election to a federal office. Campaigning shall be defined as engaging in any
7 activity that has the primary goal of increasing enthusiasm and support for a specific
8 election bid, including but not limited to holding and speaking at rallies, canvassing,
9 advertising, and appearing on media in the form of interviews, town halls, or debates.

10 **SECTION 3.** States, territories, and the Federal District are encouraged to enact similar legislation
11 governing elections over which they have jurisdiction.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Election Commission (FEC).

13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

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

A Bill to Legalize Hitchhiking on Interstates

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

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

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

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

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

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

14 **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.

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.

A Bill to Block AI in Schools

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** All schools and universities throughout the United States are ordered to enact firewalls
- 3 blocking student access to websites and applications that enable users to leverage artificial
- 4 intelligence (AI) in any way that could potentially facilitate academic dishonesty.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** Any school or university found to be in violation of this legislation shall lose access to
- 6 federal funding until such time as compliance is reached.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Education and the Federal
- 8 Communications Commission (FCC). In addition to monitoring and enforcing
- 9 implementation, these agencies shall be responsible for producing a list of websites and
- 10 applications that must be banned, publishing and proliferating that list at least 30 days
- 11 prior to the date of implementation, and maintaining that list regularly and transparently.
- 12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2025.
- 13 **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.