

Massachusetts Speech and Debate League

2024 Revere Fall Festival

Legislation Docket

Document Updated 2024-10-28: Added Needham legislation (TPP).

Welcome to the 2024 Revere Fall Festival! Enclosed, please find the following legislation.

- ◇ [A Bill to End Corporate Control of Single-Family Homes](#) (Sen. Lightfoot, Catholic Memorial)
- ◇ [A Bill to Invest in Seabed Warfare](#) (Sen. Kim, ABRHS)
- ◇ [Raising of the Federal Minimum Wage Act of 2024](#) (Sen. Marjani, Xaverian Brothers HS)
- ◇ [A Bill to Decrease Identification Requirements in Elections \(DIRE\)](#) (Sen. Ismahili, Revere HS)
- ◇ [A Bill to Combat the Maduro Regime in Venezuela](#) (Sen. He, Shrewsbury HS)
- ◇ [A Resolution to Compel the Executive Branch to Rejoin the Trans-Pacific Partnership](#) (Sen. Pressman, Needham HS)
- ◇ **Super Session:** [A Bill to Require Labeling of Foods Containing Seed Oils](#) (MSDL)

Welcome to your first “regular season” tournament of the 2024-2025 MSDL competitive season! Please note that, if you debated last year, there is a new rule this year regarding the sponsorship of legislation. Whoever sponsors the legislation – whether it be the author, someone from the author’s school, or the first affirmative speaker, shall have the right (but not the requirement) to deliver a 90-second Closing Appeal. The speech is “free” in the sense that it doesn’t count for precedence or recency, but it is to be scored. There is no questioning period. The relevant rule is 3.2.3.3.3:

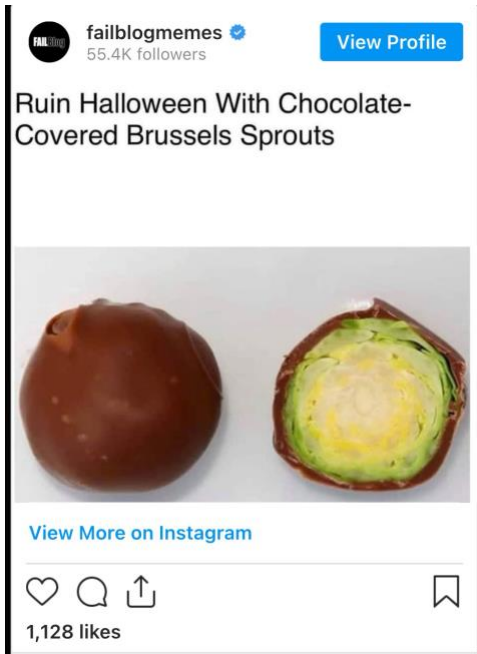
The first affirmative speech, sometimes called the “authorship” or “sponsorship” speech, shall have additional privileges associated therewith. The competitor who delivers the sponsorship speech on a piece of legislation shall have the right to deliver an optional Closing Appeal not to exceed 90 seconds once the chamber has moved the Previous Question, with no questioning period to follow. This speech shall be scored, but it shall not count in precedence and recency. After this speech, the Presiding Officer shall immediately take a vote on the legislation, with no motion required.

I look forward to seeing all of you at Revere HS!

Best regards,

Joe Bowden
MSDL Chair of Congress

Pumpkin-Spiced Memes



When your costume is on point but your mom makes you wear a jacket



I don't know what they're learning but they're trying their best



A Bill to End Corporate Control of Single-Family Homes

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, and real estate
3 investment trusts (REITs) shall be prohibited from purchasing single-family
4 homes. Corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, and real
5 estate investment trusts (REITs) that currently own single-family homes must
6 divest themselves of these properties by January 1st, 2040.

7 **SECTION 2.** Single family homes shall be defined as detached, single-unit homes used as
8 a residence. Corporations shall be defined as any for-profit entity, including
9 partnerships, limited liability companies, real estate investment trusts
10 (REITs), or other similar entities. Financial institutions shall be defined as a
11 bank or credit union that is licensed to accept deposits and provide loans,
12 including mortgage financing.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), in coordination
14 with the Treasury Department, shall develop a system for monitoring and
15 enforcing this prohibition.

16 A. Corporations that fail to divest their holdings by the January 1st, 2040,
17 deadline will be subject to an annual fine equal to 5% of the value of any
18 non-compliant properties

19 B. Corporations that purchase single family homes shall be subjected to fines
20 equal to 200% of the purchase price of any property purchased in
21 violation of this bill.

22 C. Financial institutions that foreclose on a property shall be exempt from
23 any penalties associated with this bill, particular to the foreclosed
24 property, for a period of 12 months after the foreclosure.

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

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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Will Lightfoot.

A Bill to Invest in Seabed Warfare

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall appropriate \$3 Billion to the
2 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration(NOAA) for the research
3 and exploration of deep-sea areas, \$16 Billion to the US Navy for the
4 research and development of deep-sea submarines and deep-submergence
5 vehicles, and \$3 Billion to the US Cyber Command for the development of
6 defensive hydroacoustic and magnetic anomaly detection systems in
7 deep-sea areas.
- 8 **SECTION 2.** The deep sea shall be defined as 200 meters below sea level.
- 9 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Treasury(USDT) shall oversee the transfer of funds
10 under this legislation.
- 11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY2025. All laws in conflict with this
12 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Senator Kim of Acton-Boxborough Regional High School.

“Raising of the Federal Minimum Wage Act of 2024”

SECTION 1.

- a. The federal minimum wage will increase from \$7.25/hour to \$12.00/hour. Any state that refuses to abide by this law will be subject to 35% cuts in federal funding.
- b. Ensures all minimum wage workers in the United States shall earn a minimum \$12.00/hour.

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SECTION 2.

- a. The Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Division shall be responsible for the implementation of this bill.

SECTION 3.

- a. On January 1, 2025, this legislation shall take effect. Any and all laws conflicting with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

James Marjani, Junior (Xaverian Brothers HS)

A Bill to Decrease Identification Requirements in Elections (DIRE)

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to add,
3 “No person shall be required to produce identification of U.S. citizenship
4 during federal elections for the purpose of determining voter eligibility
5 based on citizenship status, unless they are registering by mail. States
6 that wish to require voter I.D. must provide free identification
7 documentation.”

8 **SECTION 2.** A) “Identification of U.S. citizenship” shall be defined as
9 federal identification, such as U.S. passports or REAL ID.

10 B) “Free identification documents” includes creating a free
11 Voter ID that confirms citizenship status.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice shall oversee the
13 implementation of this bill to bring civil actions against those in violation
14 of this act. The Federal Election Commission (FEC) shall oversee state
15 guidance on implementing a change in requirements.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on September 16, 2025. All
 laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Erta Ismahili, Revere High School.

A Bill to Combat the Maduro Regime in Venezuela

BE IT ENACTED BY CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall take action against the Maduro regime of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela through diplomatic approaches and humanitarian aid.

SECTION 2. The following definitions shall be applied:

- A. The "Maduro regime" is defined as the illegal presidency of Nicolás Maduro in Venezuela
- B. "Diplomatic approaches" is defined as negotiating multilateral compromises.
- C. "Humanitarian aid" is defined as assets sent for the purpose of relieving human suffering during a state of crisis, and include, but are not limited to, food supplies, clean drinking water, medical supplies, and supplies for construction of infrastructure.

SECTION 3. An annual sum of \$1.5 billion, distributed on the first day of the fiscal year, shall be allocated to the implementation of this bill. The Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development (abbreviated USAID) shall be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this bill

- A. The Department of State shall be allocated 50% of this annual sum (\$750 million) to fund future diplomatic endeavors in Venezuela.
- B. The remaining 50% of this annual sum (\$750 million) shall be allocated to USAID to fund humanitarian aid efforts within Venezuela. Of this allocation, at least 50% of the money allocated to USAID must be allocated to non-governmental organizations to provide humanitarian aid in Venezuela. These non-governmental organizations shall be chosen by USAID and shall be approved and audited semi-annually by the Department of State

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect in FY2026

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Amy He, Shrewsbury High School

A Resolution to compel The Executive Branch to Rejoin the Trans-Pacific Partnership

1 **WHEREAS,** the United States of America withdrew from the Trans-
2 Pacific Partnership (TPP) in 2017, and since that time, significant reforms
3 have been made by the trade organization to address major concerns
4 raised by the U.S. and

5 **WHEREAS,** the withdrawal from the TPP has resulted in lost economic
6 opportunities for American businesses and workers, as the remaining TPP
7 member nations have moved forward with trade agreements that
8 exclude the U.S. and

9 **WHEREAS,** the lack of U.S. participation has weakened the country's
10 influence in setting trade rules in the Asia-Pacific region, allowing other
11 countries, notably China, to fill the leadership vacuum and

12 **WHEREAS,** rejoining the TPP would strengthen U.S. economic and
13 geopolitical standing in the region by fostering closer economic ties with
14 key allies and partners, promoting fair trade, and addressing critical
15 concerns such as labor rights and environmental standards; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled urges the Executive
18 Branch to take all necessary steps to negotiate the re-entry of the United
19 States into the Trans-Pacific Partnership under terms that protect U.S.
20 interests.

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A Bill to Require Labeling of Foods Containing Seed Oils

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Food and Drug Administration shall require labeling of all food items containing seed oils sold at retail in the United States manufactured on or after the effective date of this legislation. Any item containing seed oils shall require a distinct marking, labeling, or symbol to be placed in proximity to the ingredient listing of the item in compliance with regulation authorized by this legislation. Any manufacturer out of compliance with this regulation shall be fined not more than twenty thousand dollars per noncompliant occurrence.

SECTION 2. “Seed oils” are defined as the substances described in 13 USC 61 (a)(1).

SECTION 3. The Food and Drug Administration shall be responsible for the enforcement of this legislation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Massachusetts Speech and Debate League. This legislation is for educational and competitive purposes only and does not necessarily constitute the endorsement of a policy position by the Board of Directors of the MSDL.