



2025 Laird Lewis Invitational
at Myers Park
Congressional Legislation Packet

Please read these docket and procedural rules very carefully. They will be in effect for the duration of the tournament.

1. Each session (Session 1, Session 2 and Finals) has three main pieces of legislation. That is nine total topics to research.
2. Chambers will decide among themselves by a majority vote of the chamber what order to debate the three main pieces of legislation assigned to each session.
3. No additional legislation may be considered. If a chamber debates all three pieces for that session, the session is over. All students should be prepared to speak on each topic for the session.
4. The docket agenda can be amended at any time by a 2/3 vote of the chamber, but students may only move around the three pieces of main legislation for that session. Competitors may not move legislation from other sessions.
5. Each piece of legislation must have a minimum of both one affirmative and one negative speech before calling for previous question. Students are encouraged to debate each topic thoroughly but not to the point of rehash. Chamber members should call for previous question when debate gets stale.

6. RECENCY: Each chamber will receive a randomized list of students from the Tab Room. This list shall serve as the initial precedence list for speeches. Precedence for questions shall follow the reverse order of the speech precedence list. Each chamber will receive a new precedence list for the second session.
7. PRESIDING OFFICERS:
 - Parliamentarians will conduct the election for the Presiding Officer. Students should not see or count the ballots. And students should not preside over the election.
 - There will be only one Presiding Officer per session.
8. Cross examination will use direct questioning with individual questioning periods of 30 seconds until the total cross examination time for the speaker has expired. The Presiding Officer will keep a separate recency chart for this and ensure that all competitors have an equal chance to ask questions. Initial precedence for questioning will follow the reverse order of the initial speech precedence list.

LEGISLATION DOCKET

Finals will not be held if there is only one preliminary chamber.

Session One (Chamber decides order):

1. A Bill to Establish a Free Trade Agreement with Ecuador to Focus on Bilateral Investment and Trade
2. A Bill to Make Private Schools Accountable
3. A Bill to Implement Congestion Pricing Plans in Urban Areas

Session Two (Chamber decides order):

1. A Bill to Promote the Development of Nuclear Energy to Advance Clean Energy and Economic Growth
2. A Bill to Facilitate the Renewable Extraction of Deep Sea Resources
3. A Bill to Prevent the Sale of F-35 Fighter Jets to the Republic of Türkiye

Finals [If necessary] (Chamber decides order):

1. The American Climate Infrastructure and Resiliency Act (ACIRA)
2. A Bill to Establish Independent Redistricting Commissions to Abolish Gerrymandering
3. A Bill to Ban the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides to Protect Our Pollinators

Session 1 Bill 1 - A Bill to Establish a Free Trade Agreement with Ecuador to Focus on Bilateral Investment and Trade

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. Congress shall establish a free trade agreement with Ecuador to foster economic
3 growth, mutual investment opportunities, and a diversified market for both
4 nations.

5 SECTION 2. A free trade agreement (FTA) is defined as a treaty between two or more
6 countries designed to reduce or eliminate trade barriers such as tariffs and
7 quotas, facilitating easier and cheaper trade and investment between
8 participating nations.

9 SECTION 3. A. The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) and US
10 Department of State (DOS) shall oversee the implementation of this bill.
11 B. The USTR shall work with Ecuadorian governments for negotiating the terms
12 and standards of the FTA, addressing issues like tariffs, labor standards, and
13 market access for goods and services.
14 C. The DOS Department of State shall ensure the Ecuadorian government and
15 businesses oblige to maintain human rights, environmental concerns, and
16 mitigating corruption.

17 SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Michael E. DeBakey High School.

Session 1 Bill 2 - A Bill to Make Private Schools Accountable

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. All K-12 private schools and public charter schools which receive taxpayer dollars
3 either through federal funding, state funding, block grants or vouchers will be
4 required to meet all accountability standards of their public-school counterparts.

5 SECTION 2. School accountability is the process of evaluating school performance based on
6 student performance measures.

7 SECTION 3. The US Department of Education will oversee the implementation and
8 enforcement of the following provisions.

9 A. Private and charter schools will be required to follow state-mandated testing
10 requirements or may opt to apply equivalent standards to the National
11 Assessment of Educational Progress test. As in public schools, accountability will be
12 based on testing of all students without regard to socio-economic or special needs
13 status.

14 B. All private and charter schools receiving tax funding will be required to provide
15 special education and 504 services as required by law. Schools may not
16 discriminate based on special education qualification as part of the admissions
17 process.

18 C. Schools which fail to meet accountability standards for two consecutive years
19 will be placed on probationary status for one year, subject to the loss of funding
20 and/or the revocation of charter if the school fails to meet accountability at the
21 end of the probationary year. Schools which fail for a third consecutive year may
22 be subject to loss of accreditation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Katy Taylor High School.

Session 1 Bill 3- A Bill to Implement Congestion Pricing Plans in Urban Areas

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. States shall be required to implement an urban congestion pricing system in high-traffic
3 metropolitan areas as a condition for receiving full federal highway funding under the
4 Federal-Aid Highway Program.

5 SECTION 2. A. "Congestion pricing" is a toll system that charges vehicles to enter high-traffic zones
6 during peak hours, with rates based on congestion and vehicle type.

7 B. "High-traffic metro areas" are cities with over 1 million people or 40+ annual hours of
8 commuter delay, as determined by the FHWA.

9 C. Each state must establish at least one congestion pricing zone in a qualifying urban
10 area, meeting the following requirements:

11 1. A tolling system that applies fees to vehicles entering the congestion zone during peak
12 traffic hours (6:00 AM – 8:00 PM on weekdays and 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM on weekends).

13 2. Exemptions for emergency vehicles, public transit, and vehicles transporting
14 individuals with disabilities

15 3. At least 80% of the revenue collected must be dedicated to improving and expanding
16 public transportation systems

17 SECTION 3. The Federal Highway Administration (FWHA), in coordination with the US Department of
18 Transportation (USDOT), shall oversee compliance by reviewing state congestion pricing
19 plans and adjusting federal highway funding.

20 B. States failing to implement a qualifying system within the required timeframe shall
21 face a 10% reduction in federal highway funding

22 SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect in FY 2028.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Prosper High School.

Session 2 Bill 1 - A Bill to Promote the Development of Nuclear Energy to Advance Clean Energy and Economic Growth

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Congress shall establish a grant program to develop nuclear energy to foster sustainability.

SECTION 2. "Nuclear Energy Grant" refers to financial assistance provided by the U.S. government, "Qualifying Company" refers to an entity engaged in nuclear technologies that apply to the program and is deemed by the DOE and EPA as a potential qualifier for this grant, "Equity Stake" refers to the ownership percentage of 10% held by the U.S government.

SECTION 3. A. The Department of Energy (DOE) and EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) will oversee the enforcement and implementation of this bill.

B. The DOE will be given an additional \$5 Billion to create a Nuclear Energy Grant program for companies to apply to

C. The EPA will be given an additional \$250 Million to conduct investigations and create additional regulations regarding the safety of the people and environment

D. Companies deemed by the DOE and EPA as recipients have to give The United States Government an Equity Stake within the recipient company

E. Qualifying companies that receive grants shall prioritize:

i. Advanced reactor designs, including small modular reactors (SMRs).

ii. Sustainable nuclear waste management systems.

iii. Enhanced safety features for reactors and related infrastructure.

F. An amendment to the tax code to fund this initiative, a New federal tax of 1/10 of a cent per kilowatt-hour, a 5% increase on the gasoline tax, a 25% tariff on coal of any origin, and a 10% increase on the LNG tax

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on FY 2027. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Copperas Cove High School.

Session 2 Bill 2 - A Bill to Facilitate the Renewable Extraction of Deep Sea Resources

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 SECTION 1. Adversarial advancements in Deep Sea Mining within the status quo have made the
3 United States fall behind on such operations. Congress finds that the resources found on
4 the ocean surface could help in increasing localized manufacturing and build a global
5 supply chain centered in the United States; therefore, let authorized funding be given to
6 Deep Sea Mining entities.
- 7 SECTION 2. A. Deep Sea Mining will be defined as the process of extracting minerals from the ocean
8 floor at depths greater than 200 meters below sea level.
9 B. Renewable Extraction will be defined as a sustainable solution for such a practice with
10 the operations being powered by Solar, Wind, or Hydraulic energy sources.
- 11 SECTION 3. The legislation will be regulated by the Department of Energy, the National Oceanic and
12 Atmospheric Administration, and the Department of Treasury.
- 13 A. The Department of Energy will ensure that the entities whose funding is being
14 provided via this legislation are using sustainable energy sources as outlined in Section
15 2B, otherwise it should be reported to the Department of Treasury to cut funding
16 immediately.
- 17 B. \$10 Billion will be provided for research to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
18 Association to improve the energy efficiency of the following operations. Prior to any
19 companies extracting resources from international waters, they will receive an ISA
20 permit through this agency.
- 21 C. The Department of Treasury will provide \$5 Million in annual funding to private
22 entities that are complying with this legislation; meanwhile, they will further assess the
23 market profitability of Deep Sea Mining.
- 24 SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1st of 2026.
- 25 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jasper High School.

Session 2 Bill 3 - A Bill to Prevent the Sale of F-35 Fighter Jets to the Republic of Türkiye

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States will not sell any F-35 fighter jets to the Republic of
2 Türkiye or provide support that would allow Turkey to obtain or maintain
3 F-35 fighter jets for the next 20 years.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** No government agency, branch of the military, or the President can
5 authorize, pay for, or transfer any version of the F-35 fighter jet to the
6 Republic of Türkiye.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will be jointly overseen by the Department of the Treasury,
8 Department of Defense, and Department of State.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately when signed into law. All laws
10 in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Myers Park High School.

Finals Bill 1 - The American Climate Infrastructure and Resiliency Act (ACIRA)

1 BEITENACTEDBY THECONGRESSHERE ASSEMBLEDTHAT:

2 SECTION 1. The Federal Government shall establish the American Climate Infrastructure and
3 Resiliency Act, which shall fund and enforce infrastructure upgrades to reduce
4 greenhouse gas emissions and improve climate change resilience in public
5 buildings, transportation systems, and energy grids.

6 SECTION 2. For this legislation, Climate-resilient infrastructure refers to systems designed to
7 withstand and recover from climate-related hazards, including heat waves,
8 flooding, wildfires, etc.

9 SECTION 3. A. The Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protections Agency
10 (EPA) shall jointly oversee enforcement of this legislation.

11 B. These agencies are to administer a \$300 billion Green Infrastructure
12 Investment Fund (GIIF) over 10 years in the form of grants to local and state
13 governments.

14 C. Both agencies will collaborate to set new federal climate-resilience
15 construction standards that are required to be met by newly built public
16 buildings, transportation systems, and energy grids.

17 D. Older public buildings, transportation systems and energy grids will be re-
18 evaluated to reach a certain standard set by the agencies and will be required to
19 renovate according to them if not met.

20 SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect starting in FY 2027. All laws in conflict with this
21 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Walnut Grove High School.

Finals Bill 2 - A Bill to Establish Independent Redistricting Commissions to Abolish Gerrymandering

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The United States hereby establishes Independent Redistricting Commission in
3 each of the 50 states to redraw congressional district lines every 12 years
4 following the U.S. Census Demographic shift. This Independent Redistricting
5 Commission will be created by the state.

6 SECTION 2. A. The Independent Redistricting Commission will have its members selected to
7 reflect the state's geographical, racial, gender, and political diversity. The
8 commission will require 8 members, with 2 chosen from the two major political
9 parties respectively, and four independents. Any map will have to pass with eight
10 members in favor of the map to pass.

11 B. Each state will create its own independent redistricting commission. State
12 legislatures shall only reject the district map if they are found to violate the state
13 Constitution or the Constitution of the United States.

14 C. The independent commission will be established every 12 years according to
15 the U.S. Census demographic survey.

16 D. In the case that these maps violate the constitution, redistricting will be done
17 repeatedly until a map is approved.

18 SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission will work alongside states to implement this
19 bill. The Federal Election Commission will intervene if it's observed that there
20 exist any discrepancies in any of the terms listed above.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tompkins High School.

Finals Bill 3 - A Bill to Ban the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides to Protect Our Pollinators

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All use of neonicotinoid pesticides will be banned for commercial use.
2 Additional funding in the amount of \$25 million shall be distributed among
3 the appropriate agencies which oversee agriculture in each state. If
4 necessary, an extra \$25 million may be reallocated from the appropriate
5 agencies.
- 6 **SECTION 2.** Neonicotinoid pesticides threaten our world's pollinators, which are
7 necessary to the reproduction of the majority of flowering plants as well as
8 some of the world's food supply.
- 9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will be implemented and enforced jointly by the EPA and
10 USDA.
- 11 A. The appropriate agency will dedicate themselves to, but not limited to,
12 reviewing and implementing alternative pesticides, habitat grants,
13 Pollinator-Safe certifications, farmer education, technical assistance,
14 and maintenance.
- 15 B. Use of neonicotinoid pesticides after the effective date will result in a
16 starting fine of \$2,500 that will build as a proportional fine after each
17 violation according to the EPA.
- 18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026.
- 19 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
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- 21 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Myers Park High School.*