

Prelims Legislation

A Bill to Increase Ethical Mineral Trading with Sierra Leone

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall establish the Sierra Leone Ethical Mineral Partnership (SLEMP) to promote transparent, ethical, and sustainable trade of critical minerals, including but not limited to diamonds, gold, bauxite, and coltan, between the United States and Sierra Leone.

SECTION 2. The SLEMP shall:

- A. Require that all U.S. companies sourcing minerals from Sierra Leone comply with existing U.S. laws, including the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Section 1502) concerning conflict minerals, and the Clean Diamond Trade Act (CDTA).
- B. Fund and support Sierra Leone’s efforts to implement fair labor practices, environmental protections, and digital traceability systems for mineral exports.
- C. Provide technical assistance to Sierra Leone’s Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources to strengthen regulatory oversight and prevent corruption in mineral certification.
- D. Incentivize U.S. companies that import ethically certified minerals through tax deductions of up to 5% on import duties related to certified minerals

SECTION 3. Funding for the SLEMP shall come from a reallocation of existing resources within the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Department of Commerce’s International Trade Administration (ITA).

SECTION 4. The U.S. Department of State, in coordination with the Department of Commerce and USAID, shall oversee implementation of this act and report annually to Congress on:

- A. The effectiveness of the ethical mineral tracking system
- B. Progress in labor and environmental standards in Sierra Leone’s mining sector
- C. The impact on U.S. and Sierra Leone trade relations.

SECTION 5. Failure of U.S. corporations to comply with SLEMP certification standards shall result in: Loss of eligibility for tax incentives under Section 2(D), and Civil penalties up to \$1,000,000 per violation for knowingly importing uncertified minerals.

SECTION 6. This legislation will take effect on July 1st, 2029. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bettendorf High School.

A Bill to Improve Education

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States federal government will assist all public K-12 schools by
3 offering increased financial support to those in need.

4 **SECTION 2.** Public school districts with documented students that score below the state's
5 proficiency mandates will be offered aid to improve academic performance.

6 **SECTION 3.** Scoring will be calculated through the mean average of state required testing.

7 **SECTION 4.** Aid eligibility will reset annually after a state-wide test is conducted. Aid shall
8 include, but is not limited to: extra teachers, tutors, online learning programs,
9 grading websites, and physical supplies by request.

10 **SECTION 5.** The Department of Education will oversee the implementation of this bill.

11 A. \$10,000,000,000 will be set aside for this bill from the general fund, to be
12 utilized once the Department of Education requirements are met for said
13 funding.

14 B. The Department of Education will create a tool only accessed by school
15 districts to request aid and ensure all government accountability policies are
16 followed for the distribution of said funds.

17 **SECTION 6.** This legislation will take effect on July 1st, 2025. All laws in conflict with this
18 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bettendorf High School.

A Bill to Allow Free School Lunch for Students in Public Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** School lunches should be free for all students who attend K-12 public schools.
- SECTION 2.** School lunch is defined as a provided meal by the school, not including a la carte or extra options.
- SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture will oversee the enforcement of this bill.
- A. \$35.4 billion dollars will be allocated from the USDA to fund this bill.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2026. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Waukee High School.

A Bill to Ban Private Prisons

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** No department shall enter into or renew a contract with a
2 private detention facility. No person residing in the United States shall be
3 incarcerated, held, or detained in any way in a private detention facility.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** “Private detention facility” will be defined as a detention
5 facility, located within or outside of U.S jurisdiction, that is operated by a
6 private, nongovernmental, for-profit entity, and operating pursuant to a
7 contract or agreement with a governmental entity. This extends to detention
8 facilities for the purpose of holding or detaining undocumented persons.
- 9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall also act as an incentive mechanism for
10 states to implement this bill in reference to all private state detention
11 facilities. Appropriate funding as decided by congress will be delegated to
12 states from the defense budget for the purpose of transitioning away from
13 private detention facilities. Should states decide not to implement this
14 legislation all federal highway funding will be revoked.
- 15 **SECTION 4.** The U.S Department of Justice in conjunction with all relevant
16 federal and state departments shall be responsible for the implementation of
17 this legislation.
- 18 **SECTION 5.** This bill will take effect immediately upon passage with an 8 month
19 adjustment period.
- 20 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this piece of legislation are hereby declared null
21 and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lincoln East.

A Bill to Increase the Minimum Wage to a Living Wage

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** The federal minimum wage shall be set to \$15, and shall increase by
3. increments adjusted for inflation every year.
6. **SECTION 2.** For the sake of this bill the following terms shall be defined.
7. "Living wage" shall be defined as the minimum income needed to exceed the national
8. average cost of living.
9. **B.** "Minimum wage" shall be defined as the lowest hourly wage permitted by law for
10. nonexempt workers.
11. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor (DOL) and The U.S. Census Bureau shall oversee
12. this piece of legislation.
13. **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect in FY2027.
14. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this piece of legislation are hereby declared null
15. And void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lincoln East High School.

A Resolution to Inoculate Tuberculosis

- WHEREAS,** Tuberculosis, despite having an effective cure for over 80 years, is still killing citizens of the United States and citizens of other nations abroad; and
- WHEREAS,** 1.25 million people died from tuberculosis (TB) in 2023, mainly in countries recognized by the United Nations as Least Developed Countries; and
- WHEREAS,** There has been an influx of deadly Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis every year since the synthesis of Antimycobacterials; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled pledges to put forth 0.5% of the United States' GDP annually for programs to eradicate Tuberculosis, and asks all member countries of the United Nations to take the same pledge.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lincoln East.

A Bill to Reduce Food Deserts

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government shall provide a federal tax credit of up to
2 \$250,000 annually to grocery stores that open and operate in designated
3 food desert areas. The tax credit shall scale proportionally with store
4 square footage or annual revenue, as determined by the IRS. Eligible
5 grocery stores must maintain operations for at least three consecutive
6 years and dedicate a minimum of 40% of floor space to fresh produce and
7 staple food items to qualify. Fresh produce and staple foods must be
8 competitive priced relative to regional market averages. The IRS may
9 reduce federal credit amount proportionally if a store receives other state
10 incentives.

11 **SECTION 2.** Food deserts consist of low-income census tracts where residents have
12 limited access to healthy, affordable food, as defined by the U.S.
13 Department of Agriculture (USDA). A grocery store shall be defined as a
14 retail establishment primarily engaged in the sale of food for home
15 preparation and consumption. Staple foods must include at least three
16 categories from the USDA's standard four food groups.

17 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), in coordination with the USDA, shall
18 oversee the implementation of this bill and allocate \$500 million annually
19 for tax credits and compliance monitoring.

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

22
23
24
25
26
27
28

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ames High School.

A Bill to Reduce Housing Inequality

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government shall prohibit localities from using
2 single-family exclusive zoning in metropolitan areas with populations over
3 500,000, and require localities to allow for by-right development of
4 multi-family housing, including affordable housing projects, in any zone
5 designated for residential uses.
- 6 **SECTION 2.** Municipalities that maintain zoning ordinances out of compliance with the
7 requirements of Section 1 shall be ineligible for federal grants for
8 transportation, infrastructure, and community development. Affordable
9 housing shall include any multi-family residential building with more than
10 four units, or any single-family home that is deed-restricted to be sold or
11 rented to households earning less than 80% of the Area Median Income.
- 12 **SECTION 3.** HUD shall oversee the implementation of this bill and allocate \$500 million
13 for enforcement, community outreach, and housing development
14 incentives.
- 15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with this
16 legislation are hereby declared null and void.
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ames High School.

A Bill to Require Safe Storage of Firearms

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All gun owners are required to store any owned firearms securely.
- 2 **SECTION 2.** “Securely” will be defined as a lock of some sort which must be unlocked
3 before operation/access to the firearm is possible. Examples of secure
4 storage include but are not limited to gun safes and trigger locks.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives will be
6 responsible for overseeing enforcement of this bill in cooperation with
7 state and local law enforcement.
- 8 A. Those found to be in violation of this legislation will be fined as follows:
9 for the first offense up to \$500, for the second offense up to \$1,000,
10 and in cases of severe negligence up to \$10,000
- 11 B. Repeated violations could result in a loss of gun licence.
- 12 C. Violations of this legislation resulting in injury will result in 1-5 years of
13 imprisonment. Violations of this legislation resulting in death will result
14 in 10-15 years of imprisonment. Violations of this legislation resulting in
15 injury or death of a minor will result in 5-25 years of imprisonment.
- 16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2027. All laws in conflict with this
17 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ames High School.

F.A.T.E.D

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All individuals under the age of 19 are prohibited from purchasing or
2 possessing energy drinks.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** Energy drinks are defined as any liquid containing 50 mg or more of
4 caffeine per 8 oz.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives will be tasked
6 with overseeing and enforcing this legislation. Furthermore, the ATF will be
7 rebranded as the F.A.T.E.D. (Firearms, Alcohol, Tobacco, and Energy Drinks)
8 Bureau. Any individual under the age of 19 found in possession of an
9 energy drink will be charged with a misdemeanor and a fine of 100 dollars.
10 A second violation will result in a fine of up to 2000 dollars.
- 11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with
12 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ankeny High School.

A Bill to Ban All Imported Beauty Products

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States will regulate beauty products by banning the import of
2 beauty products into the United States.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** Beauty products are defined as any products that are applied to the human
4 body to alter a person's appearance.
- 5 A. This legislation excludes packaging components that are manufactured
6 outside of the United States.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** Funds from the Department of Defense will be allocated to the FDA to
8 enforce this regulation.
- 9 A. The FDA will enforce this regulation by inspecting factories and
10 packages entering the United States.
- 11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on July 1st 2026. All laws in conflict with this
12 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Emma Bowen of Edina High School

A Bill to Build More Nuclear Energy

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall substantially increase investment into domestic
2 nuclear power plants and related infrastructure to decrease the impact on
3 the environment. The U.S. shall also increase the affordability of nuclear
4 energy options by subsidizing consumer costs.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** Nuclear power plants are nuclear power reactors that generate electricity
6 for a power grid. Related infrastructure includes but is not limited to:
7 nuclear waste facilities, generators, and cooling towers. Substantial
8 investment is investing enough money to build 5 more nuclear plants over
9 the 10 years. This funding will also cover the costs associated with
10 maintaining and revamping existing nuclear plants. In addition, this funding
11 will cover costs for researching effective methods of construction.
- 12 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Energy will be responsible for
13 implementing this legislation. It shall submit an annual report on the
14 progress made. If logistical or other challenges should arise, the
15 Department shall allocate additional funds to stay on schedule.
- 16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2026. All laws in conflict with
17 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pranika Kumar, Edina High School.

A Bill to Ensure Technological Infrastructure in Educational Systems

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall designate \$30 billion in funds to low-income
2 schools to upgrade their technological infrastructure. Funds will be sent
3 directly for the district to divide and spend on technological infrastructure
4 based on the will of the district.

5 **SECTION 2.** Technological infrastructure will take the form of physical electronics such
6 as computers and tablets and software such as online textbooks. This is a
7 partial list of technological infrastructure. This is just an example of what
8 districts can spend their money on.

9 **SECTION 3.** Funds will be requisitioned from the Department of Defense's Budget for
10 FY 2025. The Department of Education is implementing the bill and
11 dispensing funds.

12 A. The funds will be given out depending on the amount of students in
13 each district.

14 B. Extra funds will be recouped by The Department of Education to be
15 used the next year.

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

18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Edina High School.

A Bill to Revitalize Medically Underserved Hospitals

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** This bill shall revitalize healthcare by increasing Medicare reimbursement
2 rates by 15% for providers serving medically underserved areas and
3 awarding categorical grants to states in order to fund upgrades to medically
4 underserved hospital facilities and recruit and retain their medical
5 personnel.
- 6 **SECTION 2.** Medical reimbursement rates are the amounts that the federal government
7 gives to healthcare providers for delivering medical services to Medicare
8 beneficiaries. Medically underserved is defined as a hospital with an Index
9 of Medical Underservice score of 62 or under which is calculated by the
10 U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.
- 11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) shall administer a
12 categorical grant program. \$100 billion dollars will be allocated annually to
13 fund this legislation. Fundings shall be raised through a 20% tax increase on
14 the revenue of pharmaceutical companies based wholly or in part within
15 the United States and its territories.
- 16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY27. All laws in conflict with this
17 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mihi Amara of Edina High School.

A Bill to Replace the \$1 Bill With the \$1 Coin

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States will perform a variety of actions to phase out the \$1 bill,
2 replacing it with the \$1 coin.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** The Department of the Treasury shall be allocated \$2 billion in order to
4 oversee this piece of legislation.
- 5 A. The US Mint shall stop minting the \$1 bill.
- 6 B. All financial institutions, including but not limited to banks, credit
7 unions, businesses, and ATMs, must provide change in \$1 coins instead
8 of \$1 bills.
- 9 C. All newly manufactured vending machines, kiosks, and other
10 automated payment systems must accept \$1 coins and may no longer
11 accept \$1 bills.
- 12 D. A publicly accessible website shall be established and maintained by
13 the Department of the Treasury and the U.S. Mint, enabling individuals
14 to order \$1 coins at face value, with delivery fees subsidized by the
15 Treasury to promote adoption.
- 16 E. Starting FY 2030, the \$1 bill shall be officially declared invalid as legal
17 tender and will no longer be accepted for financial transactions.
- 18 **SECTION 3.** This legislation takes effect in FY 2026. All laws in conflict with this
19 legislation are hereby declared null and void.
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Johnston High School.

Finals Legislation

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** All existing zoning laws and ordinances that restrict the use of private
2 property shall be abolished to encourage economic development and
3 affordable housing.

4 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this Act:
5 A “Zoning Law” refers to any regulation, ordinance, or statute at the
6 federal, state, or local level that dictates how land may be used or
7 developed, including but not limited to restrictions on building height,
8 density, land use type, and setback requirements.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) shall enforce
10 this piece of legislation.
11 A. All federal, state, and local zoning laws are hereby repealed.
12 B. All covenants, contracts, or agreements requiring compliance with
13 zoning laws are rendered null and void.
14 C. Governments may regulate land use only to prevent direct harm to
15 public health, safety, or environmental sustainability, or provide
16 uniform infrastructure standards for essential public services such as
17 roads, utilities, and emergency response.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect 1 year after enactment. All laws in conflict
19 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27

27

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Johnston High School.

A Bill to Provide for Comprehensive Immigration Reform in the United States

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall establish a bi-partisan committee to evaluate ways to reduce
2 government bureaucracy and red tape in immigration to make immigration
3 easier and faster to the United States in a “Ellis Island” style immigration
4 system. Furthermore, Congress shall create a pathway to citizenship for all
5 undocumented immigrants currently residing in the United States.
6
- 7 **SECTION 2.** An “Ellis Island” style immigration system shall be defined as a system
8 where immigrants can come to the United States with minimal
9 commonsense restrictions (such as criminal background checks) and where
10 immigration applications take days and weeks at most to be approved and
11 not years all without red tape or government bureaucracy.
- 12 **SECTION 3.** The United States Immigration and Customs Service shall be responsible for
13 overseeing these reforms.
- 14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on December 31st 2027. All laws in conflict
15 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
Introduced for Congressional Debate by Waukee High School.

A Bill to Slam the Brakes on Autonomous Vehicles

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All companies, groups, or persons currently producing or
2 designing autonomous vehicles with the intent of profit, sale, or public use
3 shall be required to cease action.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** “Autonomous vehicle” will be defined as any motorized form
5 of transportation that has capabilities at or beyond SAE Stage 4.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Transportation in conjunction with the
7 Department of Justice and all other relevant agencies shall oversee the
8 implementation and enforcement of this legislation. Should any company,
9 group or person not comply with this legislation, all C-suite officers, persons
10 serving on the Board of Directors, or positions otherwise equivalent, will be
11 subject to up to five years in prison, and, if in possession, the company will
12 be revoked of their Certificate of Conformity.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the start of FY2027. All laws
 in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lincoln East High School.

A Bill to Send Humanitarian Aid to Darfur

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) will send
2 in-kind and cash-based humanitarian aid to Darfur in western Sudan.
3 Humanitarian aid will be sent to non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
4 working in Darfur.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** In-kind humanitarian aid refers to non-monetary goods and services critical
6 to human life, such as food, water, shelter, and medical supplies.
7 Cash-based humanitarian aid is defined as the provision of money
8 delivered to recipients physically or digitally. NGOs are nonprofit,
9 third-party groups not officially affiliated with the government with the
10 intent of addressing social and/or political issues.
- 11 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of State will oversee this bill, and the USAID
12 will oversee its execution and implementation.
- 13 A. Because Sudan has no definitive form of government, but instead rival
14 government structures between the belligerents in its current civil war,
15 NGOs stationed in Darfur will be responsible for receiving and using aid
16 appropriately.
- 17 B. Aid will not be used for conglomeration by a specific group of people
18 and will be distributed between all ethnic and social groups in the
19 Darfur region.
- 20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2027. All laws in conflict with
21 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ames High School.