

HARVARD

Debate Council



HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT
Middle School Division

Congressional Debate

2026 Middle School

Legislative Docket

Visit congressionaldebate.org/harvard-tournament/general-information for detailed and late breaking information before and during the tournament.

Items for this docket include bills and resolutions submitted by middle schools (Prelim items 1, 3, 5), supplemented by items selected from NSDA monthly legislation dockets.

NOTE: If there are 36 or fewer contestants, instead of holding a semifinal round, all contestants will participate in a fourth preliminary round, but will debate the items designated for semifinals.

MIDDLE SCHOOL Legislation Docket

Harvard Congressional Debate 2026

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Green School Energy Initiative Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A national program shall be established to assist public K–12 schools in
3 adopting renewable energy and energy-efficient systems to reduce
4 greenhouse gas emissions and provide educational opportunities.

5 **SECTION 2.** Definitions: A. “Renewable energy systems” -technology that generates
6 power from non-fossil-fuel sources, including solar, wind, and geothermal
7 power. B. “Energy-efficient systems” - equipment or practices that reduce
8 overall energy consumption in schools. C. “Federal grants” - financial
9 assistance provided by the federal government without repayment
10 obligations for the purposes outlined in this act. D. “Public school” refers to
11 any state-funded primary or secondary educational institution.

12 **SECTION 3.** Mandates: A. The Department of Energy (DOE) shall provide federal grants
13 to public K–12 schools to fund the installation of renewable energy and
14 energy-efficient heating, ventilation, and cooling systems. B. Schools may
15 apply for funding to cover up to 80% of installation costs, capped at
16 \$1,000,000 per school per year. C. To be eligible, schools must submit an
17 energy assessment demonstrating current energy use, commit to
18 maintaining renewable energy systems for at least 25 years, and include a
19 plan for student involvement and related educational programming.

20 **SECTION 4.** Oversight and Enforcement: The DOE and state education agencies shall
21 have jurisdiction over implementation and compliance. Schools receiving
22 grants must submit annual reports detailing pre- and post-implementation
23 energy consumption and greenhouse gas reductions. The DOE shall conduct
24 audits every three years to evaluate compliance and effectiveness.

25 **Section 5.** This legislation shall take effect 180 days after passage and apply to all
26 public schools starting with the 2026–27 school year. All other laws in
27 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Ban Pharmaceutical Ads from Television and Streaming Services

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Television stations and streaming services are henceforth prohibited from running
3 advertisements for medications where they may be viewed by consumers in the United
4 States and its territories.

5 **SECTION 2.** Any television station or streaming service found to be in violation of this legislation shall
6 be fined \$10,000 for each second of runtime during which pharmaceuticals were
7 advertised on their station or service. Should any station or service accrue more than \$10
8 million in fines within the space of one year, their license to broadcast shall be suspended
9 for a period of one (1) year.

10 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen and enforced by the Federal Communications Commission
11 (FCC).

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

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

A Bill to Repeal the Social Security Act Mental Health Exclusion

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**

2 **SECTION 1.** The Social Security Act (SSA) of 1965 (42 U.S.C. § 1396d) will be
3 amended to repeal the prohibition on reimbursements for mental health
4 and tuberculosis care.

5 **SECTION 2.** The following sections will be removed:

6 a) remove the parenthetical text in: i. section 1905(a)(1) which states
7 that funding will be given to all inpatient hospitals “(other than services in
8 an institution for tuberculosis or mental diseases)”

9 ii. Section 1905 (a)(15)(A) Which states that types of Medicare not
10 specified in the bill itself may be funded by the state “(except as a patient
11 in a medical institution.)”

12 b) Fully remove sections 1905(a)(15)(B) which states that types of
13 Medicaid not specified in the bill itself may be funded by the state except
14 “any such payments with respect to care or services for any individual who
15 has not attained 65 years of age and who is a patient in an institution for
16 tuberculosis or mental diseases.” As well as any other sections of the bill
17 which removes funding for Institutions for Medical Disease (IMDs.)

18 **SECTION 3.** Any and all agencies tasked with the original implementation of the
19 Social Security Act will oversee the implementation of this bill.

20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be enacted 6 months after its passing date.

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

The Federal Red Flag Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** If a person’s family member or a police officer believes that person may be a danger to
3 themselves or others, their local or territorial court must provide that family member or
4 police officer an opportunity to file a petition to have the dangerous person’s firearms and
5 any other deadly weapons temporarily seized until such time as the court deems there is
6 no longer any danger.

7 **SECTION 2.** Details concerning how petitions are to be filed, how weapons are to be seized, and under
8 what circumstances they are to be restored shall be determined at the unique discretion of
9 each state or territorial court with the oversight of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
10 Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the federal Department of Justice (DOJ).

11 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the ATF and the DOJ.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

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

Bill to Require Schools to Offer Plant-Based Meal Options

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**

2 **SECTION 1.** This bill revises the nutritional requirements outlined in the National
3 School Lunch Program of the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) by
4 requiring participating schools to provide at least one nutritious,
5 affordable, and culturally inclusive plant-based meal and milk option
6 each school day, promoting student health, dietary inclusivity, and
7 environmental sustainability.

8 **SECTION 2. Definitions:** “Plant-based meal” refers to any meal that contains no
9 animal-derived ingredients, including meat, dairy, eggs, or honey.
10 “Public school” refers to any state-funded primary or secondary
11 educational institution.
12 “Dietary inclusivity” means meals that reflect the diverse backgrounds of
13 the student population.

14 **SECTION 3.** Implementation will occur through the USDA. The USDA will establish
15 necessary guidelines and provide funds to help implement the standards
16 and provide necessary training. Each six months schools will provide
17 reports demonstrating compliance with the new standards. Schools not
18 in compliance will be given a 90-day period to come into compliance.
19 Funds through the NSLP can be withheld from schools that do not come
20 into compliance.

21 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be enacted July 21, 2026. All laws in conflict with this
22 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced by School AIX in the Education and Health Care.

A Bill to Protect SNAP for U.S. Citizens

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Benefits paid to documented citizens of the United States through the Supplemental
3 Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) shall no longer be halted during government
4 shutdowns.

5 **SECTION 2.** Under no circumstances will SNAP payments be made to undocumented workers and
6 residents during a government shutdown.

7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).

8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage. Should the government be shut
9 down at the time of passage, SNAP benefits shall be restored for U.S. citizens immediately.

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

A Bill to Abolish Capital Punishment at the Federal Level

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Capital punishment, also known as the death penalty, is hereby abolished as punishment
- 3 for any crime at the federal level.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Any individuals currently awaiting execution for federal crimes shall have their sentences
- 5 immediately commuted to life in prison without possibility of parole.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Justice.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.
- 8 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Institute the 50-Year Mortgage

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Mortgage lenders throughout the United States and its territories are directed to begin
- 3 offering homebuyers the option of a 50-year mortgage and to make this option as
- 4 attractive and affordable as possible.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA).
- 6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect sixty (60) days after passage.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

The AI Manhattan Project Act (AIMPA)

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall apportion \$30 billion to the Department of Defense and the Department of
3 Energy for the immediate initiation of the AI Manhattan Project.

4 **SECTION 2.** The term AI Manhattan Project shall refer to the government consolidation of all relevant
5 private and public sector resources to develop Artificial General Intelligence capabilities as
6 soon as possible. As a matter of national defense, such a project would receive top priority
7 and be executed with the strictest confidentiality to protect against foreign espionage.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Congressional Budget Office shall be tasked with bringing about the economic
9 feasibility of such an expensive undertaking. All funding options shall be open for
10 consideration, including significant reallocation of the current budgets of the Department
11 of Defense and the Department of Energy.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Department of Defense and the Department
13 of Energy.

14 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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