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Debate Council



HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT

Congressional Debate

2026 Varsity

Legislative Docket

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Harvard Congressional Debate 2026

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The Haitian Recovery Act (HR Act)

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States government shall allocate \$1 Billion to
3 support Haiti in restoring stability, strengthening its national police
4 force, and addressing urgent humanitarian needs.

5 **SECTION 2.** For the purpose of this bill, the following term shall be defined:

6 a) Haitian National Police (HNP): The primary law enforcement agency of
7 Haiti.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State, in coordination with the
9 Department of Defense and the Department of Treasury, shall oversee
10 the enforcement of this legislation. The specific enforcement mechanisms
11 shall include:

12 a) Allocation of Funds: i. \$500 million shall be earmarked for enhancing
13 and strengthening the capacity of the Haitian National Police, including
14 training, equipment, and infrastructure. ii. \$300 million shall be allocated
15 for urgent humanitarian aid, including food, medical supplies, and clean
16 water. iii. \$200 million shall be reserved for future governance support
17 and economic development initiatives.

18 b) Deployment of U.S. Troops: A limited contingent of U.S. troops, not
19 exceeding 1,000 personnel, shall be deployed to Haiti to assist in training
20 the HNP and providing logistical support for aid distribution.

21 c) Monitoring and evaluation: The Department of State shall establish a
22 monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the effectiveness of the
23 funds allocated and the progress achieved in stabilizing Haiti.

24 d) Reporting requirements: The Department of State shall provide
25 quarterly reports to Congress on the implementation of this bill and the
26 situation in Haiti, which they will get from the HNP.

27 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage.

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

A Bill to Ban the Use of AI in ICE and Border Patrol

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The use of artificial intelligence shall hereby be banned in all official
3 operations conducted by the U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement
4 (ICE) and the U.S. Border and Customs Protections (BCP).

5 **SECTION 2.** “Artificial Intelligence” shall be defined as any software or application
6 which assists in law enforcement decision making, operations, and other
7 tasks without human input, including Facial Recognition Technology
8 (FRT), Generative AI, and Large Language Models (LLMs). “Official
9 operations” shall be defined as any initiative, mission, and/or investigation
10 conducted by ICE and CBP.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security shall oversee the implementation
12 of this legislation within their law enforcement agencies.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passing. All laws in
14 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by School FC.

A Bill to Aid Egypt

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby donate and deliver \$400 million in
2 humanitarian aid to the citizens of Egypt through Egypt's
3 maritime border with Saudi Arabia. US troops will be allotted as
4 necessary to deliver the aid to USDOS representatives at the border.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** **A.** Humanitarian aid shall consist of a combination of agricultural
6 supplication, temporary housing, bottled water, and medical supplies,
7 including but not limited to; vaccines and first aid equipment.
- 8 **B.** The maritime border shall be defined as the Red Sea that is a part of
9 Egypt's territorial waters.
- 10 **C.** US troops allocation shall include but not be limited to: arming ships
11 used for transport.
- 12 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of State will be responsible for the implementation
13 and oversight of this bill.
- 14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be implemented immediately upon passage.
- 15 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and
16 void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by School QK.

A Bill to Halt Expansion of United States ICBMs

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The US Federal Government shall halt any expansion or replacement of
3 Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs).

4 **SECTION 2.** An ICBM is defined as any land-based missile that uses projectile motion
5 to deliver warheads on a target with a range of more than 3,500 miles.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, and
7 Department of Energy shall be responsible for enforcement of this bill.

8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation begins implementation immediately upon passage. All
9 laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by School CN in the topic area of Defense

A Bill to Promote Artificial Intelligence Education in Schools

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Education shall establish a national
3 initiative to integrate Artificial Intelligence (AI) education into K–12 public
4 school curriculum.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. Artificial Intelligence can be defined as the application of computer
6 systems able to perform tasks or produce output normally requiring human
7 intelligence, especially by applying machine learning techniques to large
8 collections of data.

9 B. Development of standardized AI literacy modules covering fundamentals
10 of machine learning, ethical considerations, and responsible use.

11 C. Funding for teacher training programs to equip educators with the skills to
12 teach AI-related topics.

13 D. Partnerships with universities, research institutions, and private sector
14 organizations to provide resources and materials.

15 **SECTION 3.** The program shall be administered by the Department of Education in
16 consultation with the National Science Foundation (NSF). An annual
17 appropriation of \$500 million shall be allotted to fund this program.

18 A. Should program demand exceed initial allocations, the Department of
19 Education may request supplemental appropriations from Congress, not
20 to exceed an additional \$250 million annually.

21 B. Congress will conduct a review every two years to ensure effectiveness
22 and proper allocation of funding. If not, the parameters of today’s
23 legislation will be revisited.

24 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect with the 2026-2027 academic year. All laws in
25 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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The ADR (American Drilling Reform) Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States will hereby begin phasing out oil drilling operations in
2 order to facilitate a green transition.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** Application for Permit to Drill (APD): A permit overseen by the Bureau of
4 Land Management which grants firms permission to drill on a given parcel
5 of land.
6 APD Maximum: The maximum amount of APDs that the BLM is permitted
7 to issue in a given financial year.
8 GHG Protocol: An internationally recognized standard for quantifying the
9 carbon footprint of firms.
- 10 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Land Management will be responsible for implementation.
11 A. The BLM will no longer offer extensions on preexisting APDs. Any
12 company seeking an extension on their APD must apply for a new
13 permit.
14 B. The APD maximum will be set to 6,000 in FY 2027. In every subsequent
15 fiscal year, the APD maximum shall decrease by 100, until the APD
16 maximum reaches 1,000, at which point the APD maximum will remain
17 constant.
18 C. Firms will be required to submit their GHG protocol with their APD
19 application; based on this metric, firms with lower GHG emissions will
20 be prioritized by the BLM for APD grants.
21 a. Any company found to be falsifying GHG protocols will be
22 denied APDs for a period of no less than 3 years.
- 23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on October 1st, 2026. All laws in conflict
24 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
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A Bill to Establish a Minimum Wage for Working Incarcerated Individuals

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All private prisons shall pay their working inmates a
2 minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** A. “Working inmates” are defined as prisoners in private
4 prisons who do labor for their prisons (i.e. cooking, cleaning, etc.)
5 B. “Minimum wage” is defined as the minimum amount of money a
6 working inmate must make per hour.
7 C. “Private prisons” are defined as prisons and correctional facilities not
8 owned and/or operated by the federal, state, or local government.
- 9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will be overseen jointly by the Federal
10 Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) and the Department of Labor (DOL).
11 A. Any and all private prisons who do not adhere to this minimum wage by
12 the time this legislation takes effect will be paid half as much as they
13 previously were by the government in all future payments until they
14 adhere to the \$7.25 minimum wage.
15 B. Private prisons that adhere to this \$7.25 minimum wage will be
16 reimbursed 25% of the wages they pay to prisoners.
- 17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2027. All laws
18 in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
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Introduced for Congressional Debate by School RY.

A Bill to Recognize the Republic of Somaliland as an Independent Nation

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **Section 1.** The United States of America shall officially recognize the Republic of
2. Somaliland as an independent nation.
3. A) The recognized territory will span from the currently recognized border
4. of Somalia with Djibouti and Ethiopia to the west and south, the coast of the
5. Gulf of Aden to the north, and Somaliland's former border as British Somaliland
6. to the east.
7. B) The US will work with the Somaliland government to open embassies in
8. Hargeisa and Washington D.C.
9. C) The U.S. will recommend to the United Nations and other world governments
10. to recognize the same.
11. **Section 2.** The official recognition of a country will include, but not be limited to
12. diplomatic, economic and military relations.
13. **Section 3.** The Department of State will oversee the implementation of this legislation.
14. **Section 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately after passing.
15. **Section 5.** All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional debate by School XT in the topic area of Foreign Relations and Aid

A Bill to Sanction Qatar

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall sanction
3 Qatar by limiting all forms of trade conducted with Qatar until
4 improvements are made regarding human rights in Qatar.

5 **SECTION 2.** Improvements include but are not limited to providing
6 safe working conditions, eliminating gender segregation, and
7 terminating persecution of the LGBTQ+ community. Sanctions are
8 defined as economic and trade restrictions placed on a country.
9 Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of
10 race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other
11 protected status ensuring the protection of these rights.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State (DoS) and the Department of
13 Commerce (DoC) will oversee enforcement of this legislation.

14 A. The Department of State will provide reports every six months to
15 check if requirements are met in order to lift sanctions.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2027. All
 laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by School VE.

A Bill to Invest in Hypersonic Missiles

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Defense shall initiate a comprehensive program to
3 invest into the construction, research, and deployment of hypersonic
4 weapons.

5 **SECTION 2.** Hypersonic weapons shall be defined as any missile that travels at or above
6 Mach-5 (five times the speed of sound).

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense shall receive \$10 billion per year over the next
8 5 fiscal years in order to research, test, and eventually deploy hypersonic
9 missiles.

10 **A.** 60% will be allocated for research and development.

11 **B.** 20% will be allocated for testing, evaluation, and deployment.

12 **C.** 20% will be allocated to defend against foreign hypersonics using
13 surveillance systems.

14 The Department of Defense will be required to provide Congress with
15 annual reports detailing allocation of funds, expenditures, and planning.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately after passage. All laws in
17 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced by School YN in the category of Defense.

A Bill to Establish the Lithium Extraction and Development (LEAD) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Due to recent discoveries of domestic lithium reserves and to combat
3 China’s monopoly on global lithium, the United States shall create a fund
4 to offset initial mining costs as well as creating a tax subsidy to incentivize
5 businesses to mine domestic lithium and manufacture green technology
6 that requires lithium domestically.

7 **SECTION 2.** Green technology in this instance shall be defined as technology that
8 primarily serves to help the environment, requiring lithium for
9 production, including but not limited to lithium-ion batteries, wind
10 turbines, and EV energy storage systems.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of the Interior, the EPA, and the IRS shall be responsible
12 for enforcing this legislation.

13 A. The United States shall allocate \$100 billion over 5 years to create a
14 fund to help cover US mining businesses’ initial costs for getting
15 started, only if they pledge to exclusively mine in the United States.

16 B. A 5% tax credit on a business’s income tax shall be provided to those
17 who mine lithium domestically to manufacture green technology.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect on January 1st, 2027. All laws in conflict
19 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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A Bill to Create a Public Option Healthcare Plan to Eliminate Healthcare Inequity

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government shall create and endorse a public option
2 healthcare plan with the aim of expanding healthcare accessibility and
3 minimizing healthcare cost burden on consumers.

4 **SECTION 2.** A public option insurance program is defined as a
5 government-administered health insurance plan that operates alongside
6 and competes with private insurers to provide individual healthcare
7 coverage

8 **SECTION 3.** The United State Department of Health and Human Services shall be tasked
9 with the funding, enforcement, research and oversight of this legislation,
10 with funds being drawn from a combination of the following, at the
11 discretion of the Department of Health and Human Services:

- 12 A. The Department of Health and Human Services budget
- 13 B. Federal reallocation of existing subsidies provided to private insurance
14 plans under the Affordable Care Act
- 15 C. Participant premiums with a maximum of 100 dollars per month for
16 individuals with a household income less than or equal to 4 times the
17 federally designated poverty line and a maximum of 200 dollars per
18 month for individuals with a household income exceeding 4 times the
19 federally designated poverty line

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

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by School OF in the
topic area of Education and Health Care.*

The V.O.T.E (Verifiable Online Transparent Elections) Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Mobile voting shall be authorized and made available as an optional
2 method of participation in all federal elections for all registered voters,
3 utilizing secure digital voting technology alongside existing voting methods.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** A. Mobile Voting shall mean the casting of a legally valid ballot through a
5 secure application on a personal electronic device.
6 B. End-to-End Verifiable (E2E-V) System shall mean a voting system that
7 provides cryptographic evidence allowing voters and auditors to verify that
8 votes are cast as intended, recorded as cast, and counted as recorded,
9 while preserving ballot secrecy.
- 10 **SECTION 3.** A. State and federal election officials, in coordination with experts
11 employed by Tusk Philanthropies, shall implement mobile voting systems.
12 B. Tusk Philanthropies, in cooperation with partners including the National
13 Cybersecurity Center and the National Federation of the Blind, shall
14 oversee funding and support for the mobile voting systems.
15 C. The Federal Election Commission shall oversee enforcement of this
16 legislation.
17 D. All mobile voting systems shall allow voters to verify that their ballots
18 were cast and counted correctly.
19 E. This option shall be available to all registered voters, including voters
20 with disabilities, military and overseas voters, voters on tribal lands,
21 hospitalized voters, and voters experiencing emergencies or natural
22 disasters.
- 23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect January 1, 2027. All laws in conflict with
24 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by School HJ

A Bill to Support Venezuelan Migrants

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government shall allocate \$500 million to the Peruvian
3 government to supplement their efforts to support Venezuelan migrants
4 within Peru’s borders.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Department of State will be responsible for distributing aid to the
6 Republic of Peru. Aid will be distributed in the following allocations:

7 A. \$250 million will be earmarked for building infrastructure related to
8 resettlement, including housing and transportation infrastructure.

9 B. \$150 million will be earmarked for training and resources to the
10 National Police of Peru to combat Tren de Aragua.

11 C. \$100 million will be allocated for direct payments to refugee support
12 organizations operating in Peru.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State, in conjunction with the Department of
14 Government Efficiency, will deploy a monitoring and evaluation framework
15 to determine the efficacy of the aid. The framework should include spot
16 checks and financial auditing to ensure that aid is being used to its maximum
17 efficiency.

18 **SECTION 4.** Enforcement of this legislation is entrusted to the Department of State and
19 the Department of Government Efficiency. Congress may terminate aid early
20 if reports indicate that it is being used for illegitimate purposes.

21 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with
22 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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A Bill to Support Nuclear Investment and the Clean Energy Transition

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1. Nuclear Investment.** (A) The United States shall equally appropriate \$100
3 billion over the next ten fiscal years to the Department of Energy (DOE) for
4 the expansion of nuclear energy infrastructure. (B) These funds (the “Nuclear
5 Energy Expansion Fund”) shall be prioritized for the construction of new
6 reactors, the modernization of existing facilities, and the research and
7 development of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).

8 **SECTION 2. Fossil Fuel De-Incentivization.** (A) An additional excise tax of 15% shall be
9 levied on all domestic extraction and production of coal, oil, and natural gas.
10 (B) All existing federal subsidies for fossil fuel exploration and production are
11 hereby terminated. (C) All revenue generated from this tax shall be
12 deposited into the Nuclear Energy Expansion Fund established in SECTION 1.

13 **SECTION 3. Oversight and Enforcement.** (A) The Department of Energy (DOE) shall
14 oversee the distribution of grants and infrastructure project selection. (B)
15 The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) shall be responsible for the collection and
16 enforcement of the new excise taxes.

17 **SECTION 4. Effective Clause.** This legislation will take effect one year after its date of
18 passage. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and
19 void.

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A Bill to Prevent Evergreening in Medical Industry Patents to Expand Affordable Access to Life Saving Treatments

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall reform patent protections in the medical industry to balance
3 innovation incentives with public access by limiting excessive exclusivity
4 periods and preventing anti-competitive patent practices that raise drug and
5 medical device costs.

6 **SECTION 2.** A. A medical patent refers to any patent granted for pharmaceuticals,
7 biologics, medical devices, diagnostic tools, or therapeutic technologies.

8 B. Evergreening refers to the practice of obtaining secondary patents for
9 minor modifications to an existing medical product to extend market
10 exclusivity without significant therapeutic improvement.

11 C. A public health necessity refers to any device or treatment essential for
12 preventing or treating life-threatening or widespread diseases

13 **SECTION 3.** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in coordination with
14 the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Department of Health and
15 Human Services (HHS) shall oversee enforcement of this Act.

16 A. The USPTO shall review and limit approval of secondary medical patents
17 that do not demonstrate substantial clinical benefit.

18 B. The FTC shall investigate and penalize anti-competitive patent practices
19 that restrict generic or biosimilar market entry.

20 C. HHS shall be authorized to recommend compulsory licensing for patented
21 medical products during public health emergencies to ensure affordable
22 access.

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