

# 2025 MINNEAPPLE CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

# LEGISLATIVE DOCKET



**RELEASED OCTOBER 17, 2025**

In compiling this legislation packet, we strived to balance submissions from schools and a variety of topic areas, while streamlining the amount of preparation contestants must do ahead of the tournament. Given the size of chambers, we assume two items will be debated each round, so there are 8 items for prelims (a buffer of 2 additional items in case debate wraps up sooner); 3 items for semis; and 2 items for finals.

***Students from schools who advance to semis/finals who wrote legislation are entitled to authorship speeches in the same fashion (author first, same school second); otherwise, anyone in the chamber may claim sponsorship.***

Rules, procedures, and online competition protocols are posted in a Google Doc linked to from the MinneApple Tabroom.com website (Congress page).

# Prelims

# A Bill to Tax Beef Products

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1                   **SECTION 1.**   The sale and import of all beef products into and within the  
2                   United States of America will hereby be subject to an additional tax of 20%.  
3                   The revenue generated by this taxation will be redistributed evenly  
4                   between the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and  
5                   environmental protection research initiatives.
- 6                   **SECTION 2.**   Beef products are defined as any commercial product that is  
7                   derived from any part of a cow, including cow's milk.
- 8                   **SECTION 3.**   The Internal Revenue Service will oversee the  
9                   implementation of this bill. The delegation of the funds provided to  
10                  environmental protection research will be at the discretion of the  
11                  Environmental Protection Agency.
- 12                  **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 Evelyn Jordan of Bloomington Kennedy.*

# **A Bill to Remove Insurers Abilities to Deny Claims for Non-Addictive Prescription Drugs**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1           **SECTION 1.**   The ability of private insurers to deny claims for  
2           non-addictive prescription drugs will hereby be removed.
- 3           **SECTION 2.**   Non-addictive prescription drugs will be defined as medicine  
4           which doesn't cause compulsive drug seeking behavior, being unlikely to  
5           lead to a psychological and physical dependency.
- 6           A.   Only Schedule V drugs per the US Drug Enforcement Administration  
7                Drug Schedules will be included.
- 8           B.   Any other Prescription drugs unclassified by the USDEA Drug Schedules  
9                shall also be included under the legislation.
- 10          **SECTION 3.**   The US Department of Treasury will undergo the  
11          implementation of this legislation. Specifically the Federal Insurance Office  
12          will focus on oversight.
- 13          C.   Any insurer who continues to deny claims will be fined \$100 per  
14          individual denial. If companies are continually denied they will be at  
15          risk of losing their national accreditation.
- 16          **SECTION 4.**   This legislation will take effect on July 1, 2026. All laws in  
17          conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
- 18

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bloomington Jefferson High School.*

# A Bill to Eliminate Homeschooling in the United States

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2           **SECTION 1.**   Homeschooling will no longer be recognized as a legal form  
3 of education in the United States.

4           **SECTION 2.**   Homeschooling: The practice of educating a child at home,  
5 typically by a parent or a hired tutor, rather than in a traditional public or  
6 private school setting.

7           **SECTION 3.**   Once passed the Department of Education will oversee the  
8 enforcement of this legislation.

9           A. Truancy Laws will be enforced on parents who are homeschooling  
10 children.

11          B. An amount of 2.3 billion dollars will be allocated in order to build  
12 programs in schools to help students who have been in a homeschool  
13 setting as well as students who need extra help to be on the same  
14 learning level as their peers.

15          **SECTION 4.**   This legislation will take effect on June 1st, 2028. All laws in  
16 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dowling Catholic.*

# The Urban Climate Resilience Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All U.S. cities shall increase their urban tree canopy coverage by at least  
2 20% over the next 15 years, with a target of no less than 30% overall tree  
3 coverage across municipal boundaries by 2042.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** The following is defined:  
5 A. A “city” is defined as an incorporated municipality with a residential  
6 population of at least 300,000 residents.  
7 B. “Tree canopy coverage” shall be defined as the proportion of ground  
8 covered by the spread of tree foliage when viewed from above, as  
9 determined by satellite or aerial imagery verified by the U.S. Forest  
10 Service.
- 11 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall receive \$5 billion annually  
12 in Congressional appropriations to fund this Act.  
13 A. Funds shall be distributed to cities based on (1) population density, (2)  
14 current canopy deficiency, and (3) environmental need (e.g., high heat  
15 index or poor air quality).  
16 B. At least 40% of funds must be allocated to neighborhoods with the  
17 lowest existing canopy coverage.  
18 C. Grants may be used for planting, long-term maintenance, and  
19 community tree programs.
- 20 **SECTION 4.** Cities must submit annual progress reports to the Environmental Protection  
21 Agency (EPA) beginning in 2029. The EPA shall conduct audits every three  
22 years to evaluate compliance. Any city failing to demonstrate measurable  
23 progress shall be fined up to \$10 per resident annually until compliance  
24 benchmarks are met.
- 25 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2027.
- 26 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School.*

# **A Bill to Reopen Economic Participation in Central America (REPCA)**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1                   **SECTION 1.**    The trade embargo on the state of Cuba will be lifted.
- 2                   a.    To further increase economic participation, 10% of the U.S
- 3                   Department of Commerce’s discretionary spending fund will be
- 4                   taken to invest in economic development in Central American
- 5                   countries, focusing particularly on Cuba.
- 6                   **SECTION 2.**    An embargo is defined as a trade restriction adopted as an
- 7                   economic sanction.
- 8                               Economic development will be defined as development
- 9                   aimed at developing an individual state’s economy.
- 10                  **SECTION 3.**    The Office of Foreign Assets Control will oversee this bill in
- 11                  coordination with the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United
- 12                  States.
- 13                  A.    The CFIUS will regulate investment in economic development in foreign
- 14                  countries while OFAC will focus on enforcing the lift of Cuban embargo
- 15                  **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 Iowa City West High School.*

# 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 to  
20 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.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.*



# The Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act 2.0

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1   **SECTION 1.**   Members of the United States Congress shall be prohibited from trading  
2                   individual stocks during their term in office.
- 3   **SECTION 2.**   Members of Congress shall be prohibited from trading individual stocks  
4                   during their term in office.
- 5   **SECTION 3.**   The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) shall oversee enforcement.  
6                   Members shall disclose all investments within 30 days of any transaction  
7                   that occurs.
- 8   **SECTION 4.**   Any violations shall result in fines equal to the profits earned or losses  
9                   avoided, plus \$100,000. Repeated offenses may result in referral to the  
10                  House or Senate Ethics Committees for disciplinary action.
- 11 **SECTION 5.**   This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026.
- 12 **SECTION 6.**   All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by East Ridge High School.*

# A Bill to Expand Free School Meals

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1                   **SECTION 1.**     Free school meals shall be provided to all students enrolled  
2                   in public K–12 schools throughout the United States, regardless of  
3                   household income

4                   **SECTION 2.**

5                   A. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) shall oversee the expansion  
6                   of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast  
7                   Program (SBP) to ensure universal access.

8                   B. Funding shall be allocated through federal education and nutrition  
9                   budgets, with supplemental grants provided to states based on student  
10                  population and need.

11                  C. Schools may not charge students for any standard breakfast or lunch  
12                  provided during the school day.

13                  **SECTION 3.**

14                  A. The USDA shall work with local school districts to improve nutritional  
15                  standards and food quality, prioritizing locally sourced and healthy options.

16                  B. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) shall submit annual reports  
17                  to Congress evaluating cost efficiency, participation rates, and nutritional  
18                  outcomes.

19                  **SECTION 4.**     This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2029. All laws in  
20                  conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

21

**Semis**

## 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  
9 programs, 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  
16 are 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.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bettendorf High School.*

# A Bill to Ban Fracking in the United States

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1                   **SECTION 1.**    An indefinite moratorium will now be placed on all fracking
- 2                   permits issued by the federal government. All existing permits that have
- 3                   already been issued are set to be rescinded on December 31, 2027.
- 4                   **SECTION 2.**    “Fracking” refers to a technique where large quantities of
- 5                   water, chemicals, and sand are blasted into impermeable rock formations
- 6                   to access trapped gas and oil.
- 7                   **SECTION 3.**    The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land
- 8                   Management (BLM) will oversee the implementation of this legislation.
- 9                   **SECTION 4.**    This legislation will take effect on FY 2026. All laws in conflict
- 10                  with this bill are hereby declared null and void.
- 11

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eastview High School.*

# A Bill to Prohibit Arms Sales to Human Rights Violating Nations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall fully prohibit the sale, transfer, or export of  
3 military grade weapons, equipment, and technology to any nation  
4 committing or intending to commit gross human rights violations.

5 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this legislation:

6 A. "Gross human rights violations" shall be defined as acts including, but  
7 not limited to, genocide, ethnic cleansing, torture, political repression,  
8 unlawful detention, or systematic suppression of civil liberties, as  
9 determined by annual U.S. State Department Human Rights Reports and  
10 verified findings by international bodies such as the United Nations.

11 B. "Military weapons, equipment, and technology" includes firearms,  
12 ammunition, surveillance systems, military aircraft, drones, vehicles, and  
13 defense-related technology, whether lethal or non-lethal.

14 **SECTION 3.** This policy shall be enforced by the U.S. Department of State in  
15 coordination with the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs and the  
16 Department of Commerce.

17 A. An annual review shall be conducted to determine which nations  
18 qualify under this restriction, based on current and credible human  
19 rights reporting.

20 B. Any violation of this restriction shall result in an automatic suspension  
21 of defense export licenses to the country in question and possible  
22 legal penalties or prosecution for violating contractors and  
23 corporations.

24 C. This bill will not require funding.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ansh Bhatia from Lakeville North.*

# **Finals**

## **A Bill to Mandate Audible Camera Shutter Noises**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All covered devices must have audible camera shutter noises. The camera  
3 shutter noise cannot be disabled or muted by the user.

4 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this legislation:

5 A. "Covered devices" shall be defined as any mobile phone or personal  
6 data assistant capable of capturing a digital photographic image.

7 B. "Camera shutter noises" shall be defined as an audible sound emitted  
8 from a covered device upon the capture of a photograph. The mandated  
9 camera noise shall have a volume of no less than 90 decibels and no more  
10 than 100 decibels at the time of sound emission.

11 **SECTION 3.** Funding and Enforcement:

12 A. The FCC shall be tasked with the enforcement of this legislation.

13 B. The penalty for non-compliance shall be a fine of \$30,000, paid by the  
14 manufacturer, for each shipment of non-compliant devices.

15 C. This legislation shall take effect at the start of the 2027 Fiscal Year.

16 **SECTION 4.** . All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Math and Science Academy.*



# A Bill to Institute a Universal Healthcare System

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Due to excessive medical bills and the inability to access treatment in  
3 underprivileged and rural communities, a universal healthcare coverage  
4 system will be implemented.

5 **SECTION 2.** Universal Healthcare Coverage, or UHC, can be defined as accessibility to a  
6 full range of quality healthcare services that will be non-discriminatory  
7 towards age, race, gender, income, employment, location, and pre-existing  
8 conditions.

9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will be funded by the Department of Health and Human  
10 Services with an annual allocation of \$100 million, along with additional  
11 funding from a 10% increase in income tax from the top 1%.

12 A. The Department of Health and Human Services will conduct checks  
13 specifically targeting low-income and rural communities to ensure proper,  
14 quality care for these individuals.

15 B. If funding towards this program isn't feasible after 5 years, 5% of the  
16 Department of Defense's Annual Budget will go towards this program.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on February 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with  
18 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.  
19

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.*