

The Princeton Classic Congressional Debate 2025

Princeton Classic Congressional Debate Tournament Information:

Dear Congressional Debate Coaches, Judges, and Competitors,

Welcome to the Princeton Classic Congressional Debate Tournament! In this document, you will find the Prelims, Semifinals, and Finals legislation. We will also release a live doc closer to the tournament that will have additional information and updates.

We ask all correspondence/ questions before the tournament come from adults (coaches and judges). You can reach us directly at: princetoncongress@gmail.com.

We acknowledge the trend of students having docket discussions prior to competing, so we have created a docket discussion space where competitors can discuss the agenda ahead of time. The goal is to ensure that newer competitors and smaller programs are included in discussions before tournaments. This google doc will not formally set the docket, and competitors will still need to vote on a docket in chamber. You will still be able to table and amend your dockets so you can move to a less one-sided piece of legislation if needed. In addition, you will set the docket by session.

[Students who wish to participate should complete this google form](#). We will then verify student names in batches and give them access to the google doc to participate.

FAQs:

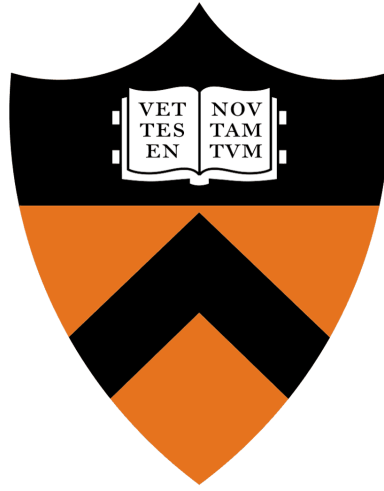
- The Congressional Debate division will be using NSDA rules.
- Sessions will last for approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes, which is inclusive of business, recess, and debate. This will allow for equity of opportunity to speak and chamber business. If there is a concern regarding equity of opportunity, the Parliamentarian will be instructed to contact Tab for instruction.
- A Presiding Officer will be elected in each session, and voting is run by the Parliamentarian.
- We will adopt recognition by placard per the NSDA National Tournament rules.
- Direct Questioning is in effect for all rounds of competition.
- We will have a pre-set recency list for Presiding Officers. The reverse order of this list should be used for questioning recency. Precedence and recency resets each session.
- In the Preliminary session docket, legislators named as the author of the legislation have the right to accept or decline their authorship privilege.

- In the Semi-Finals and Finals session docket, all legislators may raise their placards for the right of sponsorship.

If you have any questions, coaches can email: princetoncongress@gmail.com

Best,

Jordy Barry (Millburn HS, NJ), Dave Long (Southern Lehigh HS, PA), and Martene Campbell (Episcopal Collegiate, AR)



Preliminary Sessions Legislation

A Bill to Ban Animal Testing in Scientific Research

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government will enact a ban on animal testing
3 in scientific research.

4 **SECTION 2.** Animal testing is defined as the use of animals in research, testing, and
5 education to understand physiological and pathological conditions, in
6 which a live animal is forced to undergo something that is likely to cause
7 them pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm. Animal testing is often used
8 in drug discovery fields.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will oversee this legislation. Any
10 party that is found violating this bill will be subject to a fine of \$10,000
11 per infraction.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Vivian Liu, Ridge High School.

A Bill to Restrict Pharmaceutical Advertising to Protect Public Health

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription drugs shall be subject to
3 the following restrictions:

4 A. No pharmaceutical advertisements may air on broadcast or cable
5 television between the hours of 6:00 AM and 10:00 PM local time.

6 B. No pharmaceutical advertisements may appear in broadcast
7 media content (not inclusive of social media) primarily directed
8 toward individuals under the age of 18, determined by the TV
9 Rating System.

10 C. Pharmaceutical advertisements shall not include emotionally
11 manipulative imagery, high distraction imagery, testimonials from
12 actors portraying patients, or depictions of miraculous recovery
13 within the commercial content.

14 **SECTION 2.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in consultation with the
15 Food and Drug Administration (FDA), shall be responsible for enforcing
16 the provisions of this act.

17 A. Broadcast media entities or pharmaceutical companies found in
18 violation of this act shall be subject to civil penalties not to exceed
19 \$500,000 per infraction.

20 B. The FCC shall be authorized to issue further guidelines necessary to
21 enforce this act in a manner consistent with First Amendment
22 protections.

23 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall take effect January 1, 2027.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Duane McCarthy, La Salle College High School.

A Bill to Regulate Facial Detection Software

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** State, local, and federal law enforcement agencies shall be prohibited
3 from using facial recognition technology to identify, track, or monitor
4 individuals or suspects.

5 **SECTION 2.** “Facial recognition technology” shall be defined as any automated or
6 semi-automated system that assists in identifying, verifying, or gathering
7 information about an individual based on the physical characteristics of
8 that individual’s face.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will oversee this legislation, restricting grant
10 funding from agencies that violate the ban and shall ensure that any
11 facial data previously collected or stored by such agencies is destroyed.

12 **SECTION 4.** Exceptions to this prohibition shall be granted only for the following
13 purposes:

14 A. Locating missing persons, including minors or victims of human
15 trafficking.

16 B. Verifying identity in controlled environments such as airport security,
17 provided that data is deleted immediately after verification.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Matthew Collins, Episcopal Collegiate School.

A Bill to Prohibit the Trading of Individual Stocks by Members of Congress

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Members of Congress, their spouses, and dependent children shall be
3 prohibited from buying, selling, or trading individual stocks while serving
4 in elected federal office.

5 A. Members may continue to invest in diversified mutual funds, index
6 funds, or U.S. Treasury securities, provided such investments do not
7 pose a direct conflict of interest.

8 B. This prohibition is intended to preserve public trust and prevent the
9 use of nonpublic information for personal financial gain.

10 **SECTION 2.** A. Individual stocks refer to any publicly traded equity securities of a
11 single company listed on a national securities exchange.

12 B. Blind trust refers to an investment account managed independently by
13 a third party, with no communication or influence from the Members of
14 Congress.

15 C. Dependent children refer to any child under 18 legally claimed by a
16 member of Congress, including biological, adopted, or step-children.

17 D. Direct conflict of interest refers to a situation where a member's
18 financial holdings could be directly affected by their legislative or policy
19 decisions, creating a risk that personal gain influences their duties.

20 **SECTION 3.** The Office of Government Ethics (OGE) and the Securities and Exchange
21 Commission (SEC) shall jointly enforce this legislation.

22 A. Members currently holding individual stocks must either place assets
23 in a qualified blind trust or sell their stocks within 90 days of the
24 passing of this legislation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Laasya Ponnaluri, Dougherty Valley High School.

A Bill to Improve Students' Knowledge of Financial Literacy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All public high school students shall be required to complete a mandatory
3 financial literacy class. The course shall include the following topics: credit
4 and debit management, budgeting and saving, investing, tax basics,
5 insurance basics, career and income planning, and digital financial tools.

6 **SECTION 2.** A. "Financial Literacy" is defined as the ability to understand and use
7 financial skills to make informed decisions about money.

8 B. "Mandatory" is defined as required for graduation.

9 C. "Investing" is defined as types of investments, strategies, and costs.

10 D. "Taxes basics" is defined as learning about common types of taxes:
11 income, payroll, sales, and property taxes.

12 E. "Digital financial tools" is defined as online banking, mobile payments,
13 and digital advice apps.

14 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. The Department of Education shall oversee and fund the
15 implementation of this legislation with the help of state education
16 agencies.

17 A. State and local education agencies will implement these federal
18 mandates and can alter the curriculum for specific requirements or
19 necessities.

20 B. Individuals who fail this course with a grade falling under the required
21 average to pass a course, will not be able to graduate.

22 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on July 10, 2026. All laws in conflict with
23 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dhriti Jan, Roslyn High School.

The New Infrastructure for Americans Act (NIFA)

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall construct and maintain a high-speed rail system
3 connected through major metropolitan areas in the Midwestern United
4 States. The project will be developed in collaboration with Amtrak.

5 **SECTION 2.** The following are key terms in this legislation:

6 A. High-Speed Rail System shall be defined as a network of tracks for
7 passenger trains that travel at least 155 miles per hour (or 250
8 kilometers per hour).

9 B. Midwestern United States shall be defined as the 12 states creating
10 the North Central United States as listed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

11 C. Major Metropolitan Areas will include the following: Chicago (IL),
12 Detroit (MI), Minneapolis (MN), Milwaukee (WI), Cincinnati (OH),
13 Kansas City (MO), Omaha (NE), Des Moines (IA), St. Louis (MO),
14 Indianapolis (IN), Lincoln (NE), Cleveland (OH), Madison (WI).

15 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Transportation (DOT) will plan and propose the
16 project with estimated costs of production.

17 A. Funding for the railway will be reallocated over eight years from the
18 Department of Defense.

19 B. The project plan will be reviewed by the House Committee on
20 Transportation and Infrastructure.

21 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect 90 days after passage. All laws in conflict
22 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Keertana Sankar, William G. Enloe High School.

Global Retention of American Degrees (GRAD) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall establish a fast-track employment visa for
3 non-citizens who graduate from accredited U.S. colleges and universities
4 in federally identified high-need fields and obtain a job offer from a U.S.
5 employer in a high-need occupation within twelve months of graduation.

6 **SECTION 2.** A. High-need fields shall be defined as occupations listed on the U.S.
7 Department of Labor’s Shortage Occupation List at the time of
8 application.

9 B. Fast-track visa shall be defined as expedited work authorization and
10 eligibility for permanent residency after two consecutive years of
11 qualified employment.

12 C. “Qualified employment” shall be defined as full-time work of at least
13 thirty hours per week in a high-need occupation for a U.S. based
14 employer in compliance with federal labor law.

15 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall administer this visa
16 program.

17 A. The Department of Labor (DOL) shall verify employer compliance and
18 ensure no displacement of U.S. workers in substantially similar
19 positions.

20 B. The Department of Labor (DOL) shall verify employer compliance and
21 ensure no displacement of U.S. workers in substantially similar
22 positions.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Winston Chen, The Hill School.

A Bill to Invest in the Production of Icebreakers

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Whereas in the status quo, the United States has only three Icebreaker
2 ships located in the Arctic circle, therefore instead the United States will
3 invest in producing ten new Icebreaker ships.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** An icebreaker ship is defined as a vessel built with a strengthened hull,
5 powerful engines, and a specialized bow design to navigate and break
6 through thick icy terrain.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** We will allocate 15 billion dollars from the Department of War toward the
8 construction of 10 new icebreaker ships and 5 billion dollars towards
9 updating, repairing, and maintaining existing ships. These will be held by
10 the United States for clearing shipping routes through the arctic and
11 strengthening our military's ability to react to conflict in the region, in
12 addition to connecting the Pacific and Atlantic fleets by allowing ships too
13 large to go through the Panama Canal to travel through the Arctic Circle.
- 14 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Transportation and the Department of War will be in
15 charge of the implementation of this legislation.
- 16 A. Secured funding to companies for the construction of these ships must
17 be done within 1 year of passage, the construction must be underway
18 within 3 years on at least 5 of the vehicles, and within ten years at least 3
19 icebreakers must be finished and delivered, although faster completion is
20 encouraged.
- 21 **SECTION 5.** All bills in conflict with this bill are declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Xavier High School.

Empowering Clean Outcomes (ECO) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

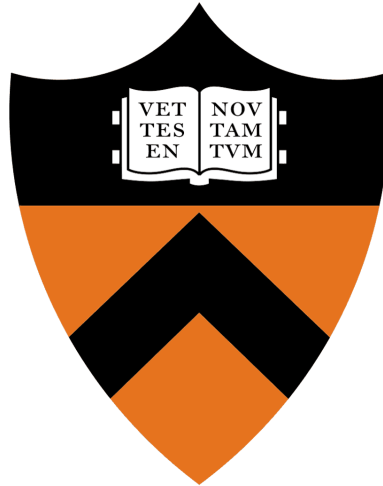
2 **SECTION 1.** A federal carbon tax of \$50 per metric ton of carbon dioxide
3 Equivalent shall be levied on U.S. corporations at the point of
4 production or import. In addition, a border carbon adjustment tariff
5 shall be imposed on imported goods, taxing them at a rate equivalent
6 to the domestic carbon tax based on their carbon intensity.

7 **SECTION 2.** A. Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) shall be defined as the standard
8 measure of greenhouse gas emissions as recognized by the
9 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
10 B. Border carbon adjustment shall be defined as a tariff on imports
11 That accounts for the greenhouse gas emissions associated with their
12 production.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall oversee the
14 administration of the carbon tax.
15 A. US Customs and Border Protection (CBP), in coordination with the
16 US Department of Commerce, shall enforce the border carbon
17 adjustment tariff.
18 B. Revenues from the carbon tax shall be allocated as follows:
19 a. 50% towards clean energy investment and research,
20 b. 25% toward direct rebates to low- and middle-income
21 households,
22 c. 25% toward federal deficit reduction.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rowen Vincent, Horace Greeley High School.



Semifinal Session

Legislation

A Resolution to Recognize Climate Refugees Under U.S. Immigration Law

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Rising sea levels, extreme weather, and drought caused by climate change
2 are displacing millions of people worldwide; and
3 **WHEREAS,** Current U.S. immigration law does not recognize “climate refugees” as a
4 protected category; and
5 **WHEREAS,** The United States has both a moral obligation and strategic interest in
6 addressing climate migration; now, therefore, be it
7 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled recommend the United States legally
8 recognize climate refugees as a distinct protected group eligible for
9 asylum.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Kathan Desai, Council Rock North High School.

A Bill to Implement Day Fines to Improve the Criminal Justice

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall use a day fine system for all finable offenses under
3 Federal Criminal Law and encourage states to use a day fine system under
4 their criminal laws.

5 A. Day Fines shall be structured as follows: severity of the crime shall
6 determine the amount of days the fine shall be applied across, and the
7 daily income of the offender shall determine the amount paid per day.

8 B. The following guidelines shall be followed for federal offenses: 35% of a
9 person's net daily income times 30-90 days for misdemeanor, and 60-120
10 days for felony offenses.

11 C. States can determine their own individual guidelines, as long as they do
12 not exceed fining below 20% or above 50% of a person's net daily
13 income, and as long as they do not exceed applying the fine over more
14 than 90 days for infractions and misdemeanors, and 120 days for felony
15 offenses.

16 D. Any rules pertaining to unusual situations, such as but not limited to
17 cases where there is no income, will be handled on the federal level by
18 the Department of Justice (DOJ) and on the state level.

19 E. Any States that do not have fine systems in line with these guidelines
20 shall lose 35% of allocated Federal Aid Highway funding.

21 **SECTION 2.** A. "Day Fines" are a form of progressive fine system, where the fine amount
22 is based on the severity of the crime, and the income of the offender.

23 **SECTION 3.** A. The DOJ shall be in charge of restructuring the Federal Fine system, as
24 well as overseeing the implementation of the guidelines by the states.

25 B. The Department of Transportation shall be in charge of revoking the
26 Federal Aid Highway funding if these guidelines are not followed.

27 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2028. State guidelines must be
28 implemented by FY 2029. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby
29 declared null and void.

A Bill to Require Simple Subscription Cancellation to Protect Consumers

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All businesses offering subscription-based goods or services shall provide a
3 simple online “Click-to-Cancel” mechanism allowing users to terminate their
4 subscriptions in no more than two clicks from the account or subscription
5 settings page.

6 **SECTION 2.** A. Subscription-based goods or services include any product, service, or
7 digital offering that automatically renews and charges consumers on a
8 recurring basis.

9 B. A Click-to-Cancel mechanism is a clear, conspicuous online option that
10 allows immediate cancellation without requiring phone calls, mailed
11 letters, live representatives, automated retention menus, upselling steps,
12 or questionnaires.

13 **SECTION 3.** The following practices are prohibited:

14 A. Requiring consumers to complete more than two user actions after
15 reaching the account or subscription settings page to cancel.

16 B. Requiring interaction with customer service representatives as a
17 condition for cancellation.

18 C. Requiring cancellation by telephone, physical mail, in-person visit, or any
19 method that is more burdensome than the method used to enroll when
20 the subscription was initiated online.

21 D. Using interface designs that hide, obscure, mislabel, or otherwise hinder
22 access to cancellation options, including deceptive “dark patterns.”

23 **SECTION 4.** Businesses must send consumers a cancellation confirmation email within 24
24 hours of cancellation.

25 **SECTION 5.** The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) shall oversee enforcement of this bill.
26 Violations shall result in civil penalties of up to \$50,000 per incident.
27 Repeated or intentional violations may trigger additional penalties.

28 **SECTION 6.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2026. All laws in conflict with
29 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jonah Kleinman, Collegiate School.

A Bill to Reduce Recidivism Through Prison Education and Training Programs

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Prisons shall allocate a designated portion of each day for prisoners to
3 participate in educational and vocational training programs. These
4 programs shall include, but are not limited to: literacy, higher education
5 courses, technical training, and vocational skills commonly offered in
6 accredited colleges or trade schools. The purpose of these programs is to
7 provide incarcerated individuals with skills and knowledge that improve
8 employment opportunities upon release and reduce recidivism rates.

9 **SECTION 2.** A. "Recidivism" refers to the tendency of a convicted individual to
10 reoffend.

11 B. "Education" program refers to organized instruction designed to
12 improve knowledge, literacy, or vocational skills.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Bureau of Prisons, under the Department of Justice, shall
14 implement and enforce this legislation.

15 A. The bureau shall oversee the operation of education and Vocational
16 programs, including staffing, scheduling, and curriculum
17 development.

18 B. The bureau shall monitor program Effectiveness and Report annually
19 to Congress on participation rates, educational outcomes, and impact
20 on recidivism.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Half Hollow Hills High School East.

A Resolution to Recognize Taiwan as an Independent Nation

WHEREAS, The People's Republic of China continues to exert economic and military pressure on Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan functions as a sovereign democratic nation with an independent government and economy; and

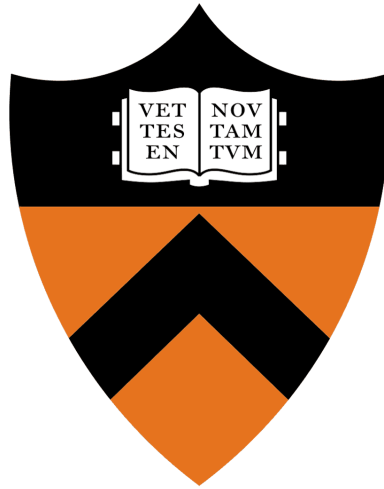
WHEREAS, Recognizing Taiwan would reaffirm United States support for democratic allies in the Indo-Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, The United States' current policy of strategic ambiguity has increased geopolitical tensions with China; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled formally recognize Taiwan as an independent nation; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the United States establish full diplomatic relations with Taiwan, including an exchange of ambassadors.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ethan Schwarz, Syosset High School.



Final Session Legislation

A Bill to Remove Sanctions on North Korea

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall remove all current economic sanctions imposed
3 on North Korea.

4 **SECTION 2.** Economic sanctions shall be defined as sanctions that prevent the buying
5 of goods from North Korea and the selling of goods to North Korea.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) will enforce the removal of
7 sanctions.

8 A. Failure to lift the sanctions will result in a \$1 million deduction of the
9 Office of Foreign Assets Control budget.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Durham Academy.

A Bill to Allow Voting by Phone in All Federal Elections

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Mobile voting (voting by phone) shall hereby be permitted and available
3 in all federal elections for all registered voters.

4 **SECTION 2.** The voting technology being utilized is End-to-End Verifiability (E2E-V).
5 This provides cryptography evidence, including audits of vote casting. The
6 voters can also check themselves if their vote is tabulated correctly.

7 A. In collaboration with experts employed by the organization leading
8 this legislation, state and federal election officials will implement and
9 oversee the system

10 B. This option will be available for every registered voter, especially
11 voters who face barriers to traditional voting options, including voters
12 with disabilities, military and overseas voters, voters on tribal lands,
13 hospitalized voters, and voters experiencing natural disasters or other
14 emergencies.

15 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Elections Commission will oversee the enforcement of this
16 legislation.

17 A. Tusk Philanthropies, in cooperation with its partners, including the
18 National Cybersecurity Center and the National Federation of the
19 Blind, will oversee the implementation and funding of mobile voting
20 and monetary compensation for federal election officials.

21 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in FY 2026. All laws in conflict with this
22 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bettina Gannon, Oxbridge Academy.

Farm and Agricultural Reform for Modernized Employee Regulations (F.A.R.M.E.R) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act) will be
3 amended to include the following agricultural regulation modifications:

4 A. Strike all exemptions for agricultural employers based on the
5 number of employees; All workplace safety regulations will be
6 enforced regardless of scale.

7 A. Industry-specific standards applying to the agricultural sector will be
8 added regarding chemical use, overuse injury, and heat illness
9 prevention.

10 **SECTION 2.** A. “Chemical use” is defined as the handling, application, storage, and
11 disposal of pesticides, fertilizers, cleaning agents, and other products
12 that pose harm to workers. “Overuse injury” is defined as
13 musculoskeletal problems caused by overuse or repetitive stress on
14 the body. “Heat illness prevention” is defined as measures an
15 employer can take in order to reduce or avoid heat-related illnesses in
16 hot or humid environments.

17 B. “Industry-specific standards” is defined in this case as standards
18 tailored to minimize hazards and hazardous practices in the
19 agricultural sector.

20 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor shall oversee the implementation of this
21 legislation.

22 A. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will
23 determine employers’ compliance with these modifications alongside
24 inspection of compliance with existing regulations.

25 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in FY 2026. All laws in conflict with this
26 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Macy Chervitz, The Bronx High School of Science.