



## **ACTAA Fall 2025 Legislative Docket**

1. A Bill to Insure Federally recognized Cryptocurrency through the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to reduce Market Volatility Introduced by Don Tyson School of Innovation
2. A Bill to Establish a Maternal-Infant Prison Program to Support Incarcerated Mothers with Short Sentences Introduced by Parkview Arts and Magnet High School
3. A Bill to Regulate and Establish Ethical Guidelines for Children's Participation in Experimental Cancer or Stem Cell Treatment Introduced by Bentonville West High School
4. A Resolution to Address the Rising Rates of Mental Health Issues Among Youth Introduced by Mills University Studies High School
5. A Bill to Require American Sign Language Courses in Arkansas Public Schools Introduced by Fayetteville High School
6. A Bill to Institute a Universal Healthcare System Introduced by Episcopal Collegiate School
7. A Bill to Prohibit Gambling Advertisements in Sports Media Introduced by Parkview Arts and Magnet High School
8. A Bill for Arkansas to Expand Upon the Clean Air Act Introduced by Mills University Studies High School
9. A Bill to Ban the Use of Congregate Care Facilities in the Foster Care System Introduced by Bentonville West High School
10. A Bill to Deschedule Marijuana at the Federal Level from Level 1 to Level 3 under the Controlled Substances Act Introduced by Don Tyson School of Innovation
11. A Bill to Require Impact Studies for Bills to be Submitted Introduced by Parkview Arts and Magnet High School
12. A Bill to Allow School Nurses and Teachers to Distribute Over-the-Counter Medications with Parent Approval Introduced by Russellville High School
13. A Bill to Limit Autonomous Vehicle Commercial Transportation Introduced by Bentonville West High School
14. A Bill to increase the Minimum Wage of Arkansas Introduced by Cabot High School
15. A Bill to End Federal Payroll Taxes Introduced by Russellville High School
16. A Bill to Increase Museum funding to increase NAGPRA's effectiveness Introduced by Cabot High School
17. A Bill to Require a Financial Education Course for High School Upperclassman within the state of Arkansas Introduced by Russellville High School

## **1. A Bill to Insure Federally recognized Cryptocurrency through the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to reduce Market Volatility**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The FDIC will financially back and guarantee any approved federally recognized and viable cryptocurrency accounts and therefore insure the cryptocurrency on all deposits to the U.S dollar amount of \$10,000, to lower associated market volatility.

**SECTION 2.** Federally recognized is defined as property, subject to capital gains or losses when bought, sold, or exchanged, and ordinary income when earned from activities.

Market volatility is defined as when a market or security experiences periods of unpredictable and sometimes sharp price movements.

Cryptocurrency is defined as any form of currency that exists digitally or virtually and uses cryptography to secure transactions.

**SECTION 3.** The IRS and FDIC will oversee enforcement by categorizing and regulating cryptocurrency being paid out and/or transferred.

A. Any person who chooses to not pay taxes will be referred to the IRS and charged with Tax fraud with an aligning tier following the U.S dollar equivalent of the amount owed in crypto-currency.

B. Any and all funds will be taken record of and any issues will be overseen by the FDIC prior to sending to the IRS.

C. Any person who is in the position to apply for reimbursement due to unforeseen circumstances must show proof of possession as would any bank customer applying for reimbursement for physical currency.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the beginning of FY 2028. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the start of Fiscal Year 2026.

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

## **2. A Bill to Establish a Maternal-Infant Prison Program to Support Incarcerated Mothers with Short Sentences**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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3 SECTION 1. A program shall be established allowing incarcerated mothers with a  
4 sentence of 28 months or less to keep their infant children with them  
5 in prison. The program will provide parenting education, healthcare  
6 access, nutritional resources, and recovery support in designated  
7 correctional facilities.  
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9 SECTION 2. For the purposes of this legislation:  
10 (a) "Infant" shall refer to a child aged 0 to 12 months;  
11 (b) "Short sentence" shall refer to a prison sentence not  
12 exceeding 28 months;  
13 (c) "Eligible mother" shall refer to an incarcerated woman who  
14 has not been convicted of deadly, sexual, or severely  
15 dangerous crimes and who meets behavioral and psychological  
16 suitability standards.  
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18 SECTION 3. The Department of Corrections shall oversee the implementation and  
19 operation of this program.  
20 (a) The Department of Corrections shall report annually to  
21 Congress on the program's implementation and effectiveness,  
22 including recommendations for improvement;  
23 (b) Program funding shall come from state appropriations and  
24 partnerships with maternal and child health-focused nonprofit  
25 organizations.  
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27 SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect on FY 2027. All laws in conflict with  
28 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.  
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36 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Parkview Arts and Magnet High School.*

### **3. A Bill to Regulate and Establish Ethical Guidelines for Children’s Participation in Experimental Cancer or Stem Cell Treatment**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Children ages 10–17 may participate in experimental cancer or stem cell treatment trials if:

- A. Both guardian consent and child consent are obtained.
- B. The study is approved by an independent Institutional Review Board (IRB).

**SECTION 2.** “Experimental treatment”: A medical procedure, drug, or stem cell-based therapy not yet fully approved for general use.

“Consent”: A persons ( guardian and child) affirmative agreement to participate, distinct from mere lack of objection.

**SECTION 3.** The Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) under the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will be in charge.

Violations (e.g., lack of consent, unapproved trials) may result in:

- A. Fines up to \$10 million
- B. Suspension of research licenses
- C. Criminal charges for gross negligence

**SECTION 4.** This bill takes 18 months after passing. All conflicting laws are hereby null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bentonville West High School.*

## 4. A Resolution to Address the Rising Rates of Mental Health Issues Among Youth

**WHEREAS,** the increasing prevalence of mental health challenges among young people has become a significant concern, with studies indicating that nearly one in five youth experience a mental health disorder each year; and

**WHEREAS,** this alarming trend correlates with various factors such as social media influence, academic pressures, and limited access to mental health resources, which further exacerbates the crisis; and

**WHEREAS,** the ongoing mental health crisis has profound implications, leading to reduced academic performance, increased dropout rates, and a higher risk of self-harm and suicide among affected youth; and

**WHEREAS,** lack of comprehensive mental health education in schools and insufficient funding for mental health services disproportionately impact vulnerable populations, perpetuating cycles of disadvantage; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled calls for the establishment of a nationwide initiative to enhance mental health education, increase funding for mental health services in schools, and promote accessible resources for youth; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Congress urges collaboration between federal, state, and local governments to ensure sustainable support systems for mental health are integrated into educational frameworks and community services.

## 5. A Bill to Require American Sign Language Courses in Arkansas Public Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Arkansas public schools must offer a digital or in person year long course in American Sign Language. The curriculum will be developed and taught by trained professionals.

**SECTION 2.** Public schools will be defined in this context as all 7th-12th grade publicly funded schools. Trained professionals will be defined as individuals with National Interpreters Certification and/or Certified Deaf Interpreter Certification. Resources will be defined as employees to implement this education, and materials required.

**SECTION 3.** This will be overseen by the Arkansas Department of Education.

**(A)** Failure to offer this education will result in a meeting with the Arkansas Department of Education, and a repeated offense will result in a 10% cut of federal yearly funding.

**(B)** Spending allocated money for non ASL education purposes will result in a fine determined by the amount misused.

**SECTION 4.** The Arkansas Department of Education will allocate \$25 million of its annual budget to funding the curriculum and providing necessary resources in schools.

**SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect at the start of the 2027 school year.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Fayetteville High School.*

## 6. A Bill to Institute a Universal Healthcare System

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States shall provide full medical coverage for all American citizens through a revised Medicaid program.

**SECTION 2.** "Medical coverage" may include emergency and non-emergency medicine, dental, vision, hearing, mental healthcare, substance abuse treatment, prescription medicine, and other forms of established medical treatment.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall administer this legislation through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Episcopal Collegiate School.*

## 7. A Bill to Prohibit Gambling Advertisements in Sports Media

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** All gambling advertisements shall be prohibited from appearing in sports media.

**SECTION 2.** A. "Gambling advertisement" shall refer to the promotion of activities including, but not limited to, casinos, lotteries, online betting platforms, and sportsbooks.

B. "Sports media" shall refer to all visual and audio forms of broadcasting, streaming, or reporting related to sports, including television, radio, and online content based in the United States.

**SECTION 3.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) shall be responsible for enforcing this legislation and penalizing violations

**SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect at the beginning of Fiscal Year 2027.  
All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Parkview Arts and Magnet High School.*



## 8. A Bill for Arkansas to Expand Upon the Clean Air Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Purpose and Findings This Act aims to protect and enhance the quality of the Nation's air resources to promote public health and welfare and the productive capacity of its population. This includes the regulation of traditional air pollutants, greenhouse gases, microplastic particulates, and other airborne contaminants that contribute to climate change and environmental degradation.

**SECTION 2.** Greenhouse gases: Includes carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>), and any other gas identified by the EPA that contributes to global warming. Microplastics: Any synthetic polymer particles smaller than 5 mm in diameter that are airborne or aerosolized and capable of being inhaled or deposited in the environment

**SECTION 3.** National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are limits on atmospheric concentrations of six common pollutants that cause air pollution, acid rain, and other health hazards. Environmental Protection Agency: a US federal agency established to protect human health and the environment. A national carbon reduction strategy consistent with net-zero by 2050. A framework for airborne microplastics detection, control, and public health reporting. The EPA may issue direct orders and penalties where states fail to meet compliance within designated timeframes. Citizen lawsuits are expanded to allow direct action against microplastics and GHG noncompliance.

**SECTION 4.** This reenstatement of the CCA will be enstated on June 1st, 2026.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mills University Studies High School.*

## **9. A Bill to Ban the Use of Congregate Care Facilities in the Foster Care System**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** No child shall be placed in a congregate care facility while in the custody of any state or federally funded foster care system.

**SECTION 2.** “Congregate care facility” shall be defined as a residential facility housing multiple unrelated children with 24-hour supervision that is not a licensed foster home or kinship placement. “Children” shall refer to individuals under the age of 18.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall oversee this piece of legislation.

A. States that eliminate the use of such care facilities shall be eligible for bonuses under the HSS up to 5 years after adopting this policy.

B. Funds shall be given to states demonstrating a measurable reduction in congregate care use, increased use of foster family placements, and improvements in permanency outcomes.

C. Funds shall be scaled depending on each state’s foster care system size and improvement effort.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2028.

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

## 10. A Bill to Deschedule Marijuana at the Federal Level from Level 1 to Level 3 under the Controlled Substances Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Marijuana, including all parts of the cannabis plant, whether growing or not, and  
3 all derivatives thereof, shall be removed from Schedule I of the Controlled  
4 Substances Act (21 U.S.C. §812) and shall no longer be classified as a controlled  
5 substance at Level 1 and will instead be placed on Level 3. This would allow  
6 experimentation and exploration of all effects in line with state laws about  
7 medical and recreational use.

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9 **SECTION 2.** Marijuana: The dried or powdered leaves of the cannabis plant, especially when  
10 smoked or consumed while activated by fire or heat as a known psychoactive  
11 drug.

12 Cannabis: a tall Asian herb that has a tough fiber and is often separated into a  
13 tall, loosely branched species (*C. sativa*) and a low-growing, densely branched  
14 species (*C. indica*) — used especially for cultivated varieties that have high levels  
15 of THC, tetrahydrocannabinol, that can cause various psychological effects,  
16 including euphoria, altered perception, and impaired cognitive function.

17 Deschedule: Completely remove marijuana from the 3 tiers (schedules) of the  
18 Controlled Substances Act (CSA).

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20 **SECTION 3.** The authority to regulate marijuana for interstate commerce, taxation, labeling,  
21 and distribution shall be transferred from the Drug Enforcement Administration  
22 (DEA) to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) or  
23 another appropriate federal agency as designated by Congress.

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25 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in the Fiscal Year 2027.

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

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34 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Don Tyson School of Innovation.*

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## 11. A Bill to Require Impact Studies for Bills to be Submitted

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Upon passage of this legislation, all bills submitted to the Arkansas State Legislature must provide an impact study if the bill requires state or federal funds. Impact studies must be completed through the Arkansas Bureau of Legislative Research. All bill impact study requests must be sent in by the legislation's sponsors.

**SECTION 2.** An impact assessment—an analysis of the likely impact of a range of possible options for implementing a change in policy—is produced by the appropriate department for any government bill or draft bill which may have a significant impact on business, voluntary organisations, or the environment. It is revised to reflect changes made to the bill during its passage through the Arkansas State Legislature. The topics with which an impact assessment deals include the regulatory burden, competition, small firms, legal aid, sustainable development, carbon emissions, wider environmental matters, health and wellbeing, human rights and justice, and rural matters.

**SECTION 3.** The Arkansas Bureau of Legislative Research will be overseeing this bill.  
A. Upon the passage of this legislation, the Arkansas Bureau of Legislative Research will have its budget increased from 22,486,891 to 23,000,000, after which the budget will be evaluated by the appropriations committee

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Parkview Arts and Magnet High School.*

## **12. A Bill to Allow School Nurses and Teachers to Distribute Over-the-Counter Medications with Parent Approval**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** At the beginning of each school year, parents or legal guardians may complete a standardized consent form, either digitally or on paper, authorizing the administration of approved over-the-counter (OTC) medications to their student during the school day. This form must include any known allergies, dosage preferences, and specific medications the student may or may not receive.

**SECTION 2.** "Over-the-counter (OTC) medicine" shall be defined as drugs available for purchase without a prescription. "Minor illnesses" shall be defined as medical conditions that are not severe, life-threatening, or requiring immediate medical attention. The Arkansas Department of Health shall maintain and distribute an approved list of allowable OTC medications, including but not limited to acetaminophen, ibuprofen, antacids, and allergy medications.

A. Teachers may administer approved OTC medications only in the absence of the school nurse. No formal medical training shall be required for teachers beyond instructions provided in written form by the school or school district.

B. All administrations of OTC medications must be documented in a medication log that includes the student's name, date, time, medication, dosage, and the administering adult's signature. School personnel acting in good faith shall be protected from civil liability.

**SECTION 3.** This bill will be enforced by the Arkansas Department of Education in coordination with local school districts.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented at the beginning of the 2025–2026 school year.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Russellville HS.*

## 13. A Bill to Limit Autonomous Vehicle Commercial Transportation

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** An online assessment must be completed every seven years to assess the safety of autonomous vehicles utilized for commercial transportation.

**SECTION 2.** Autonomous vehicles are defined as vehicle(s) capable of self-operation without human intervention. Commercial transportation purposes are achieved when there is movement of goods for business purposes.

**SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will oversee the enforcement of this bill for autonomous vehicles traveling 200 miles or more in a day.

- A. All accidents, fines, and impacts should be documented and submitted on the online application.
- B. Upon submission, the DOT will determine if the autonomous vehicle(s) will require a certified human operator physically present.
- C. Each failure to uphold this bill will result in a \$5,000 fine on the first offense, increasing by \$7,000 upon continued negligence.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 31st 2026.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bentonville West High School.*

## 14. A Bill to increase the minimum wage of Arkansas

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Arkansas Code of 1987 (2024) Title 11 - LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (§§ 11-1-201 — 11-15-105) Chapter 4 - WAGE AND HOUR REGULATIONS GENERALLY (§§ 11-4-101 — 11-4-612) Subchapter 2 - MINIMUM WAGE LAW (§§ 11-4-201 — 11-4-222) Section 11-4-210 - Minimum wage shall be amended to add a fourth paragraph to its subchapter a: Beginning January 1, 2026, every employer shall pay each of his or her employees wages at the rate of not less than fourteen dollars (\$14.00) per hour, beginning January 1, 2028 the rate of not less than seventeen dollars (\$17.00) per hour and beginning January 1, 2031 the rate of not less than twenty dollars (\$20.00) per hour except as otherwise provided in this subchapter.

**SECTION 2.** The Arkansas Department of Labor and Licensing will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cabot High School.*

## 15. A Bill to End Federal Payroll Taxes

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The federal payroll tax rate that all businesses must pay by law, are hereby nullified for any employee or employer.

**SECTION 2.** Payroll taxes are defined as any expense by the federal government levied to the employer or employee. i.e. Social Security tax, Medicare tax and Federal Unemployment tax.

**SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service will be responsible for the supervision and implementation of this bill.

**SECTION 4.** This law shall go into effect on June 1, 2026.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Russellville High School.*



## 16. A Bill to Increase Museum funding to increase NAGPRA's effectiveness

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Museum funding will be increased in order to repatriate Native artifacts.

**SECTION 2.** All museums who receive federal funding will be given an extra \$100,000 per 1,000 native american artifacts they possess to support repatriation. If at least 90% of all Native American or Native Hawaian artifacts in their possession are returned to their origins their funding will be permanently increased by 75% of the amount given. If they refuse to complete the tasks listed their funding will be reduced by 75% and the extra granted money under this legislation. If less than 90% of the artifacts are unable to be identified then their funding will return to normal. Documentation of their identification attempts must be given to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Office of Hawaiian Affairs for review in the event of failure to repatriate these artifacts.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of the Interior will be in charge of delivering these artifacts. The Smithsoian and the National Park Service will be incharge of identifying the artifacts and will have to verify these identifications.

A. Artifacts will be defined as any piece of an object made by people Native to the United State's land.

B. Funding for this legislation will come from a 1% increase to federal land tax for mining and logging companies. Mining and logging companies will be defined as companies for mine and log for a profit.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the start of the 2027 fiscal year. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cabot High School.*

## 17. A Bill to Require a Financial Education Course for High School Upperclassman within the state of Arkansas

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Arkansas has one of the highest poverty rates in the nation, and looking specifically at children, studies show that there is a connection between parents who relied on welfare and their children doing the same.

**SECTION 2.** To address this, a new graduation requirement will be put in place for students to complete a quantitative literacy class or acknowledged equivalent that meets the official ADE standards (I.e. the AP Business Principles/Personal Finance course.)

**SECTION 3.** The course will be added to the list of required credits defined by the Arkansas Department of Education for a High School Diploma. This course should be completed in either the final year or penultimate year of high school.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will be enforced by the Arkansas Department of Education and will be put into effect in the 2026-2027 school year with the new expectation affecting 2029 graduates and beyond. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Russellville High School.*