



**VARSITY STUDENT CONGRESS**

***STATE CHAMPIONSHIP LEGISLATION***

***MARCH 14, 2025***

***WOODWARD ACADEMY***

## **LEGISLATION FOR EACH SESSION**

*Each Session (Round 1, Round 2, and Finals) will be themed. Three pieces of legislation will be available for each preliminary session and four for finals. Only the legislation for that session may be debated. The chamber may order the bills however they choose. No new legislation may be brought to the floor. No authorships exist on the legislation; instead, only sponsorships will be heard on legislation.*

## **CHAMBERS FOR STATE (Bylaw 3.3.3.1)**

*Preliminary chambers will be based on the total number of entrants with an effort to keep chambers as close to 8 to 15 legislators as possible. There will be at least three preliminary chambers at the State Championship. Each school will be equally divided in one less than the total number of chambers. No school should have more than four (4) entries in one chamber. For example, if there are 5 chambers, each school will have their students divided into four different chambers. 50% of each chamber will advance to the Final Round.*

## **JUDGES FOR STATE (Bylaw 3.3.3.3)**

*All Prelim chambers will be evaluated by a total of 4 scorers. Preliminary chambers will be released the Friday afternoon of the tournament. Parliamentarians will be advised that all motions to suspend the rules will be ruled out of order by the Chair.*

## **DEBATING THE LEGISLATION (Bylaw 2.2.2)**

*Cycles on legislation will follow the following structure:*

- 1. Speeches introducing legislation are allotted up to three minutes, followed by two minutes of questioning by other delegates. A student from the school who wrote the legislation gets the privilege of recognition (called authorship), regardless of precedence; otherwise the presiding officer may recognize a "sponsor" from the chamber, provided this recognition follows the precedence guidelines above. Regardless, this speech of introduction must be followed by two minutes of questions. Should no student seek recognition for the authorship/sponsorship, the chamber will move to lay the legislation on the table until such time that a student is prepared to introduce it.*
- 2. The first negative speech must be followed by two minutes of questions.*
- 3. Following the first two speeches on legislation, the presiding officer will alternately recognize affirmative and negative speakers, who will address the chamber for up to three minutes, followed by one minute of questioning by other delegates. If no one wishes to oppose the preceding speaker, the presiding officer may recognize a speaker upholding the same side. When no one seeks the floor for debate, the presiding officer may ask the chamber if they are "ready for the question," at which point, if there is no objection, voting may commence on the legislation itself. There is no "minimum cycle" rule.*
- 4. All rounds use direct questioning, where the presiding officer will recognize contestants for continuous 30-second blocks of unmoderated, question-and-answer exchanges between the floor speaker and recognized questioner. Recognition for direct questions must follow the same preset recency table.*
- 5. The presiding officer ends debate on legislation one hour (inclusive of recesses) after the author/sponsor is recognized, or sooner if a delegate moves to previous question. No motion for previous question is required if the Presiding Officer determines the chamber has reached the time limit*

## **PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR STUDENT CONGRESS (BYLAW 2.2.3)**

*Congress will use parliamentary procedure as determined by the National Speech & Debate Association and default to any other Congressional procedures as per the National Speech & Debate Association High School Unified Manual.*



## **STATE PRELIM 1**

# **RESTORING EQUITY & ACCOUNTABILITY**

The legislation for this round will center on strengthening American democracy and social stability through reforms that protect individual rights and increase accountability within the federal government.

A Bill to Codify the Exemptions to Abortion Bans to Ensure the Continued Survival of Pregnant Persons – <i>Submitted by Rockdale Magnet HS</i>	4
A Bill to Ban Members of Congress from Trading Individual Stocks – <i>Submitted by Marist School</i>	5-6
A Resolution to Propose a Constitutional Amendment to Impose Term Limits on Members of Congress – <i>Submitted by Alpharetta HS</i>	7

# A Bill to Codify the Exemptions to Abortion Bans to Ensure the Continued Survival of Pregnant Persons

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1           **SECTION 1.**    Abortion shall be permitted in cases where the pregnant  
2           patient’s life is in danger or the fetus’ has a low chance of survival,  
3           regardless of state law.

4           **SECTION 2.**    a. “Abortion” shall refer to the medical procedure that  
5           terminates a pregnancy.

6           b. “Pregnant Patient” shall refer to the person carrying the pregnancy.

7           c. “Low chance of survival” shall be applicable to the fetus in the scenario  
8           where the fetus will not survive due to physical ailments if carried to term.

9           **SECTION 3.**    This legislation shall be enforced by the U. S. Department of  
10          Health and Human Services.

11          A. The patient’s doctor, after making the decision to terminate the  
12          pregnancy, shall submit a report to the U.S. Department of Health and  
13          Human Services.

14          B. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shall review the  
15          report submitted by the doctor, redact identifying information, and add  
16          it to a private database only accessible by doctors and others in the  
17          healthcare field.

18          **SECTION 4.**    This legislation will take effect on March 31st, 2026. All laws  
19          in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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# A Bill to Ban Members of Congress from Trading Individual Stocks

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** Members of the United States Congress are prohibited from purchasing,  
2 selling, or otherwise trading individual stocks while serving in office.

3 **SECTION 2. Definitions**

4 A. "Member of Congress" shall mean any elected member of the United  
5 States House of Representatives or the United States Senate.

6 B. "Individual stock" shall mean any equity security representing  
7 ownership in a single publicly traded company.

8 C. This prohibition shall apply to:

9 a. The Member of Congress;

10 b. The Member's spouse; and

11 c. Any dependent child as defined under Section 152 of the  
12 Internal Revenue Code.

13 D. Members of Congress shall be permitted to invest in diversified mutual  
14 funds, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), United States Treasury securities,  
15 or blind trusts that meet federal ethics standards.

16 **SECTION 3. Enforcement**

17 E. The House Committee on Ethics and the Senate Select Committee on  
18 Ethics shall oversee enforcement of this legislation for their respective  
19 chambers.

20 F. Any Member found in violation of this Act shall:

21 a. Be required to divest prohibited holdings within 30 days;

22 b. Be subject to a civil fine equal to the greater of \$50,000 or the  
23 value of the prohibited transaction; and

24 c. Be referred to the Department of Justice for investigation if  
25 evidence suggests insider trading or other violations of federal  
26 securities law.

27 G. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) shall provide  
28 investigative support and monitor compliance through existing financial  
disclosure requirements.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Marist School.*





## **STATE PRELIM 2**

# **FEDERAL POWER & RESPONSIBILITY**

The legislation in this session will focus on the role of the federal government in protecting interstate mobility, reforming economic obligations of the ultra-wealthy, and expanding national healthcare policy to address systemic inequities and save lives.

A Bill to Ensure a Minimum Income Tax on the Ultra Wealthy – <i>Submitted by Lassiter High School</i>	9
A Bill to Allow the Travel of Citizens between States to Obtain Healthcare Outlawed in Their Own States – <i>Submitted by Rockdale Magnet HS</i>	10
A Resolution to Establish a Presumed-Consent Organ Donation System to Increase the National Supply of Transplantable Organs -- <i>Submitted by Marist School</i>	11

# A Bill to Ensure a Minimum Income Tax on the Ultra Wealthy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** To ensure fairness in the tax system and for the prosperity of American  
3 citizens Congress hereby declares a minimum income tax on individual  
4 taxpayers whose net worth for the year exceeds \$100 million and to close  
5 tax loopholes.

6 **SECTION 2.** The tax is equal to 25% of the sum of the taxable income plus net  
7 unrealized gains for the taxable year, while not exceeding 40% of the net  
8 worth which exceeds \$100 million. Congress shall also reclassify 'Carried  
9 Interest' as ordinary income regardless of holding period.

10 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Treasury utilizing  
11 the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for enforcement as well as the  
12 Department of Justice for violation and/or evasion of federal tax laws.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on April 1, 2026.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lassiter Highschool.*

# A Bill to Allow the Travel of Citizens between States to Obtain Healthcare Outlawed in Their Own States

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1                   **SECTION 1.**     Citizens are henceforth allowed to pursue interstate travel  
2                   in order to obtain healthcare that is outright banned or severely limited in  
3                   their home state.

4                   **SECTION 2.**     a. “Citizens” refers to any person who is impacted by  
5                   legislation that prohibits the pursuit of healthcare.

6                   b. “Healthcare” refers to any medical procedure that would improve  
7                   quality of life.

8                   **SECTION 3.**     The enforcement of this legislation shall be jointly overseen  
9                   by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S.  
10                  Department of Justice.

11                  **SECTION 4.**     This legislation will take effect on March 31st, 2026. All laws  
12                  in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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# **A Resolution to Establish a Presumed-Consent Organ Donation System to Increase the National Supply of Transplantable Organs**

1 WHEREAS, The United States currently operates under an “opt-in” organ donation system,  
2 resulting in a significant shortage of transplantable organs; and

3 WHEREAS, More than 100,000 Americans remain on organ transplant waiting lists each  
4 year, with thousands dying annually due to the insufficient supply of  
5 donated organs; and

6 WHEREAS, Research from nations that employ “opt-out” or presumed-consent systems  
7 demonstrates substantially higher organ donation rates without  
8 compromising individual autonomy; and

9 WHEREAS, An opt-out framework preserves personal liberty by allowing any individual to  
10 decline participation while reducing procedural barriers that prevent  
11 willing donors from registering; and

12 WHEREAS, Increasing the availability of transplantable organs would reduce preventable  
13 deaths, lower long-term healthcare costs associated with chronic organ  
14 failure treatments, and improve overall public health outcomes; now,  
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled calls upon the United States to adopt a  
17 national presumed-consent (opt-out) organ donation policy, whereby all  
18 eligible adults are considered organ donors unless they formally register  
19 their decision to decline; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That Congress establish a standardized, accessible, and transparent  
21 national registry allowing individuals to easily opt out, and direct the  
22 Department of Health and Human Services to oversee public education  
23 initiatives to ensure informed consent under this policy.

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## **STATE FINAL**

# **CONFRONTING GLOBAL AND GENERATIONAL CHALLENGES**

The legislation for the Final Round will address the most pressing national and international issues facing the United States, including strategic energy independence, border and immigration enforcement, youth protection in the digital age, and the expansion of American diplomatic influence abroad.

A Bill to Fast Track the Development and Deployment of Small Modular Nuclear Reactors – <i>Submitted by the GFCA</i>	13
A Resolution to Prohibit Social Media Use by Individuals Under the Age of 16 – <i>Submitted by the GFCA</i>	14
A Bill to Mandate National Use of E-Verify by All Employers – <i>Submitted by the GFCA</i>	15
A Resolution to Establish a United States Embassy in Taiwan – <i>Submitted by the GFCA</i>	16

# A Bill to Fast Track the Development and Deployment of Small Modular Nuclear Reactors

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The federal government shall expedite the licensing, approval, and  
2 construction of Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMRs) in order to expand  
3 domestic energy production, strengthen grid reliability, and promote  
4 energy independence.

5 **SECTION 2.** Definitions

6 A. "Small Modular Reactor" (SMR) shall mean a nuclear fission reactor  
7 with a generating capacity of up to 300 megawatts of electricity per  
8 unit that is factory-fabricated and designed for modular deployment.

9 B. "Fast-track licensing" shall mean an accelerated review process that  
10 prioritizes SMR applications and shortens the standard combined  
11 construction and operating license review timeline.

12 C. Nothing in this Act shall waive core safety requirements established  
13 under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

14 **SECTION 3.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) shall establish an expedited  
15 licensing pathway for SMRs, with a target review timeline not to exceed 24  
16 months; The Department of Energy (DOE) shall provide federal loan  
17 guarantees and grants to support the construction of SMRs; The Federal  
18 Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) shall coordinate with regional  
19 transmission organizations to ensure grid integration of newly constructed  
20 SMRs.

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

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Georgia Forensic Coaches Association.*

# A Resolution to Prohibit Social Media Use by Individuals Under the Age of 16

1    **WHEREAS,**    The widespread use of social media by minors has been linked to rising  
2                    rates of anxiety, depression, and other mental health concerns among  
3                    young people; and

4    **WHEREAS,**    A substantial percentage of children under the age of 16 maintain active  
5                    social media accounts, often accessing algorithm-driven platforms  
6                    designed to maximize engagement rather than safeguard youth well-being;  
7                    and

8    **WHEREAS,**    Prolonged exposure to social media during critical stages of adolescent  
9                    development has been associated with increased cyberbullying, sleep  
10                   disruption, decreased academic performance, and heightened risk of  
11                   self-harm; and

12 **WHEREAS,**    Other democratic nations, including Australia, have pursued legislative  
13                   efforts to restrict or delay youth access to social media platforms in order  
14                   to protect minors from documented harms; and

15 **WHEREAS,**    The federal government has a compelling interest in safeguarding the  
16                   health, safety, and development of minors while maintaining appropriate  
17                   parental authority and constitutional protections; now, therefore, be it

18 **RESOLVED,**    That the Congress here assembled calls upon the United States to prohibit  
19                   social media account access for individuals under the age of 16 and require  
20                   social media companies to implement robust age-verification systems to  
21                   enforce this restriction; and, be it

22 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That Congress encourage the Federal Trade Commission to establish  
23                   civil penalties for platforms that knowingly permit underage users to  
24                   maintain accounts and to oversee national standards for privacy-protective  
25                   age verification mechanisms.

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Georgia Forensic Coaches Association.*

# A Bill to Mandate National Use of E-Verify by All Employers

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** All employers in the United States shall be required to use the federal  
2 E-Verify system to confirm the employment eligibility of all newly hired  
3 employees. No employer may knowingly hire or continue to employ an  
4 individual who is not authorized to work in the United States.

5 **SECTION 2.** Definitions

6 A. "Employer" shall mean any person or entity engaged in a business,  
7 industry, or enterprise affecting interstate commerce that hires one or  
8 more employees for wages or other remuneration.

9 B. "E-Verify" shall mean the internet-based system operated by the  
10 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in partnership with the Social  
11 Security Administration (SSA) that compares information from an  
12 employee's Form I-9 to federal records to confirm employment  
13 eligibility.

14 C. "Employee" shall mean any individual hired for employment in the  
15 United States as defined under Section 274A of the Immigration and  
16 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. § 1324a).

17 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall oversee enforcement of  
18 this Act and ensure the operational capacity of the E-Verify system  
19 nationwide.

20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2028. All laws in conflict with  
21 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Georgia Forensic Coaches Association.*

# A Resolution to Establish a United States Embassy in Taiwan

- 1    **WHEREAS,**    The United States does not currently maintain a formal embassy in Taiwan  
2                    despite substantial economic, strategic, and democratic ties between the  
3                    two governments; and
- 4    **WHEREAS,**    Taiwan is a major global trading partner and a critical leader in  
5                    semiconductor manufacturing, supplying a significant portion of the  
6                    world’s advanced microchips; and
- 7    **WHEREAS,**    The absence of a formal embassy limits the United States’ ability to  
8                    efficiently coordinate diplomatic, economic, and security cooperation in an  
9                    increasingly unstable Indo-Pacific region; and
- 10   **WHEREAS,**    A permanent embassy presence would enhance communication, crisis  
11                    coordination, and bilateral engagement between the United States and  
12                    Taiwan; now, therefore, be it
- 13   **RESOLVED,**   That the Congress here assembled calls upon the United States to establish  
14                    a permanent United States Embassy in Taiwan to formalize diplomatic  
15                    engagement and strengthen strategic cooperation; and, be it
- 16   **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That Congress work with the Department of State to ensure that the  
17                    establishment of such an embassy is accompanied by appropriate security  
18                    measures and diplomatic planning to preserve regional peace and stability.

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