



Carolina West Congressional Debate Tournament

**Senate will have TWO preliminary sessions and no finals.
House will have ONE preliminary session, followed by finals.**

Congress Tournament Schedule – March 6-7, 2026 [SUBJECT TO CHANGE]	
Friday 3:45 PM – 4:00 PM:	Opening Assembly
Friday 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM:	Senate Session 1 / House Preliminary Session
Senate Session 2 and House Finals times TBA by the tournament date.	
Could be Friday at 7:30 PM or anytime Saturday depending on other events.	
AWARDS:	Saturday evening at end of full tournament

Congress Rules and Procedures

The Congressional Debate will follow the ranking and placement guidelines that are in the NSDA Unified Manual. The Congressional Debate rules are listed on pages 109-113. Listed below are some of the highlights as well as local district policies.

Legislation

Legislation will be chosen by the district committee and posted at <http://carolinawest.tabroom.com> by February 15, 2026. There will be three pieces designated for each session with one backup piece of legislation per session that may be used only in the event that all legislation for a given session has been fully debated.

Entry Limits

The number of students you may enter to the Congressional Debate portion is determined by the members and degrees that your school has on record as of February 22, 2025 at 5 PM EST. Please enter all NSDA points prior to this date and time.

NSDA Degrees	Senate	House
1-20	2	2
21-35	2	3
36-55	2	4
56-75	2	5
76-100	2	6
101-150	2	7
151-200	2	8
201-250	2	9
251-300	2	10
301-350	2	11



Placement in Houses

Coaches may request which of their students are in the same chambers with each other as long as the students are evenly divided among chambers. Coaches may not, however, request that their students be placed in chamber with certain students from other schools.

Presiding Officers

There will be only one Presiding Officer per session.

- **At the beginning of Session One** of both Senate and House, the Parliamentarian will conduct the election.
- At the **end of the first Senate session**, this process is repeated to determine the Presiding Officer for the second session. No student may preside twice in Senate preliminary chambers unless no other student is willing to preside.
- **In the House Finals**, there will also only be one Presiding Officer. That election takes place using the same protocol as the preliminary session listed above. The Presiding Officer in House Finals may or may not have presided in the preliminary session.

Docket Setting

Each session will have three pieces of legislation that may only be debated in that session. Additionally, there will be one piece of backup legislation which may only be used if the legislation in a session is completely exhausted after a full debate.

- The docket order ("agenda") for the first session will be set by a simple majority vote of the chamber is in agreement after one or more agendas are nominated and proposed.
- The agenda it may not be amended during the day without unanimous consent of the chamber. **However, any docket change cannot add the backup legislation or legislation from another session. Only primary legislation for that session can be involved in a docket revision.**
- Backup legislation can only be debated after primary legislation is fully debated.
- **SENATE DOCKET:** In the Senate, the docket order for the second session will use the same process and will be set at the end of the first session before the lunch recess.
- **HOUSE DOCKET:** The House Finals docket order will be chosen using the process described above at the beginning of the final session.

Cross Examination

The Carolina West District Tournament will be using direct questioning for cross examination where questioners are recognized for 30 second intervals in which a series of questions are asked before moving to the next questioner. This is an NSDA requirement and may not be suspended.



Establishing Precedence

A random list of students to be used as preset precedence will be provided by the District Committee. Questioning precedence will follow the reverse order of speaking precedence. This is an NSDA requirement and this may not be changed by the District Committee.

Senate Qualifiers

The Carolina West District is able to qualify **two** Senators for the district **as long as a total of at least 10 students from 6 different schools enter the Senate**. This is done through a standard two session Congress with a single Senate chamber. Top two finishers will qualify.

House Qualifiers

Based on previous years, we anticipate qualifying **four or six** Representatives. This is based on the number of entries as indicated in the chart below.

Session One is a preliminary session with two judges and a parliamentarian. We will have the corresponding number of chambers (according to the chart below) during Session One of House. At the conclusion of the preliminary session, we will advance the corresponding number of students to Finals with four judges and a parliamentarian. The chart below will determine the number of qualifiers.

HOUSE SECTIONING AND QUALIFYING GUIDELINES FOR CAROLINA WEST DISTRICT

Participating Students (if virtual)	Participating Students (if in-person)	Preliminary Chambers	Students who Advance to Final Session per chamber	Qualifiers to nationals
16	16-20	1	2 nd prelim session instead of Finals.	2
17-29	21-29	2	6	2
30	30-36	2	6	4
31-45	37-54	3	4	4
46-58	55-58	4	3	4
59-60	59-72	4	3	6
61-75	73-87	5	3	6
76-87	-----	6	2	6
-----	88-90	5	3	7
-----	91-108	6	2	7
88 +	108+	7	2	7



Judges

Judge Quota and Judge Registration Requirements

1. All judges must have an active free account on Tabroom.com so please be sure that is taken care of before attempting to enter your judges.
2. Every school must provide one judge for every five Congress entries.
3. Each Congress judge must also be able to judge either Speech or Debate when Congress is not in session.
4. **Your Congress judges may be called upon to judge a Big Questions debate round.** This is a fairly easy debate to judge and our district committee members will be available to assist and train as needed. Please let your Congress judges know that they may also judge Big Questions.

Rules Concerning Judges

1. Judges must have an active account on Tabroom.com and know their login information.
2. **Judges must be able to judge speech or debate events in addition to Congress. Please list a second category for each judge in the notes section of your registration for each judge.**
3. Judges must have graduated from high school.
4. First-year out judges may be registered, but must be designated as such. These judges are "free strikes." Failure to identify first-year out judges could result in the disqualification of the judge, a missing judge fee assessment, and the loss of your judge bond.
5. Judges must be aware of all NSDA rules regarding event procedures, scoring, and requirements of the event you have placed them in. If a judge is unfamiliar with the rules and regulations, untrained or unqualified to judge (as determined by the District Committee) your school will be assessed a missing judge fee.

Fees & Limits

Please pay all outstanding NSDA fees prior to February 27th. You must pay these fees directly to the NSDA National Office in order to be allowed to compete. You will not be able to compete without paying outstanding national fees first.

Each student entering the Carolina West District tournament series will pay \$40, regardless of the number of events that the student enters. Each school will be charged a \$50 school fee.



Paperwork to Submit

The following items need to be turned in to the appropriate listed person by their respective due dates.

1. Tabroom Online Registration for Congress – **February 27, 2026 at 4PM.**
2. School Consent Form Form
 - This is a form generated by Tabroom after you complete your registration Under the “NSDA Forms” tab..
 - Must be printed and signed by the coach.

Additionally, the National Tournament Single Entry Letter of Intent **MUST** be on file **PRIOR TO** the beginning of the first session if a student is also entered in any other tournament event.

How To Register on Tabroom.com

1. Go to www.carolinawest.tabroom.com
2. Logon in the top right-hand corner of the screen.
3. Click “Register” on the tabs of the tournament. You’ll have to certify that the information you provide is accurate, and then make sure that you update your NSDA roster (this is pretty intuitive). **Please put in your points prior to this step so that you don’t have to go back and do it. Remember, the number of entries you get is dependent on the number of degrees your program has.**
4. Under “Entries” you will find a drop-down menu on the right hand side. You can select any event offered. Once you select an event, you will have a list of your students who are eligible for the tournament. Select their name and click “Add Entry.” You may continue to add until all of your slots are filled.
5. Your School Consent Forms are under “NSDA Forms” as well as your Single Entry Letter of Intent.
6. Under “Judges” you will enter the names of the required number of judges. **Judges must create Tabroom accounts for themselves if they don’t have one already. (Or you may create an account for them and let them know the details.) Then you must add them to the Tabroom system if you haven’t already. You may not enter judges who do not have Tabroom accounts. Tabroom will not accept them.** On the right-hand side, you’ll find “Add Judge.” Type in the email address associated with the judge and if it exists in Tabroom, they will be added as a judge. If they do not get added, they don’t have an account yet and need to create one.



2026 CAROLINA WEST NSDA CONGRESS DOCKET

Each session has three primary and two secondary pieces of legislation. The primary pieces must be debated first. At the beginning of each session, the chamber will decide by simple majority which order to debate the three primary pieces for the session. The agenda is then locked and may only be changed by unanimous consent of the chamber. Secondary legislation is only to be considered after the three primary pieces have already been debated and voted on. Secondary legislation must be debated in the order listed. In no case may legislation be debated in a session other than the one in which it is listed.

SENATE SESSION ONE AND HOUSE PRELIMINARY SESSION

Primary Legislation

Chamber decides order by simple majority.

- A Bill to Incentivize Mandated Influenza Vaccinations in K-12 Schools
- A Bill to Abolish ICE
- A Bill to Build Up Venezuela

Secondary Legislation

Must not be used until the three above have been debated and voted on.

- A Bill to Ban Sports Betting

SENATE SESSION TWO AND HOUSE FINALS

Primary Legislation

Chamber decides order by simple majority.

- A Resolution to Encourage the Curtailing of Excessive Absentee Voting
- A Bill to Reinstate the Fairness Doctrine
- A Bill to Restrict the Use of Artificial Intelligence Technologies in Healthcare

Secondary Legislation

Must not be used until the three above have been debated and voted on.

- A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Enfranchise the Incarcerated

A Bill to Incentivize Mandated Influenza Vaccinations in K-12 Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall federally mandate influenza vaccinations for all
2 students in public schools from grades K-12.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** **A.** Influenza, also known as the common flu, shall be defined as a
4 contagious respiratory illness caused by the influenza virus and manifested
5 as an affectant of the nose, throat and lungs - often causing fever and
6 fatigue.
- 7 **B.** Vaccinations refer to the medical practice of stimulating strength in the
8 immune system by injecting the immunization for its designated virus.
- 9 **C.** K-12 public schools are defined as educational facilities that receive
10 federal funding and educate grades between kindergarten and 12th grade.
- 11 **SECTION 3.** **A.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) alongside the
12 Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will oversee enforcement along with
13 the specific enforcement mechanism.
- 14 **B.** Schools that do not comply will witness an 80% decrease in federal
15 funding.
- 16 **C.** Those who wish to be exempted from mandatory vaccination need to
17 submit a proper FDA guide-lined report consisting of a valid reason for no
18 vaccination alongside a signature from an authorized personnel.
19 Reasons for exemption can include religious and or allergy conflicts.
- 20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2028. All laws in conflict with this
21 elegislation are hereby declared null and void.
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A Bill to Abolish ICE

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress hereby abolishes the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

3 **SECTION 2.** Congress directs the Executive to consider carefully which tasks that heretofore have been
4 carried out by ICE are indeed worth continuing and which can be jettisoned. Those tasks
5 which must be upheld shall be reassigned to other agencies. These decisions and
6 reassignments are to be carried out in a manner that upholds the human rights of all first
7 and foremost and which further upholds our nation's commitments to due process, equal
8 protection, non-discrimination, privacy, and family values and integrity.

9 **SECTION 3.** ICE employees who are laid off as a result of this legislation shall be offered reassignment
10 to other federal agencies where opportunities exist for which they are qualified. Those ICE
11 employees who are eligible for federal severance pay under 5 U.S.C. § 5595 shall be offered
12 it should reassignment prove impossible or should they prefer to seek another path even
13 where reassignment is available.

14 **SECTION 4.** Funds saved through this abolition shall be delivered to our nation's immigration courts to
15 facilitate lawful immigration, asylum-seekers, and meaningful paths to citizenship for law-
16 abiding undocumented workers.

17 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

A Bill to Build up Venezuela

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** American oil companies that establish and utilize
3 infrastructure in Venezuela must give 20% of the annual revenue derived
4 from drilling in Venezuela to a sovereign wealth fund.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Venezuelan sovereign wealth fund will be an
6 endowment managed by the American transitional government that
7 subsidizes social services.

8 A. Projects funded by the Venezuelan sovereign wealth fund shall
9 include but not be limited to: the creation of railways, pipelines,
0 hospitals, police stations, and school zones.

10 B. Whilst infrastructure is under construction and unable to be
11 harnessed, oil companies will be required to pay an annual fee to the
12 sovereign wealth fund.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State shall work in conjunction with
14 the American transitional government and the Venezuelan government in
15 order to implement this legislation.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on July 5th, 2026.

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

A Bill to Ban Sports Betting

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** All sports betting is hereby prohibited anywhere within the United States and its territories.

3 This includes online betting on any devices located domestically.

4 **SECTION 2.** Sports betting shall include any monetary wager with a payout based on any element of a
5 sporting event. This most commonly refers to an event's final score or overall outcome, but
6 other far more minute elements may be bet on as well and would equally be prohibited
7 under this legislation.

8 **SECTION 3.** Any establishment or website that is found to have permitted sports betting on its
9 premises/webspace shall be fined \$10,000 per infraction. Should any individual
10 establishment or website accrue more than ten (10) violations in a period of twelve (12)
11 months or fewer, it shall be stripped of any and all operational licensing for a period of no
12 less than three (3) years. Individuals engaging in sports betting shall not be punished.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) with the support
14 of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) for enforcement purposes.

15 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

A Resolution to Encourage the Curtailing of Excessive Absentee Voting

- 1 **WHEREAS** Absentee voting was originally designed with a very limited scope to protect the right to
2 vote when intractable extenuating circumstances, in particular military service, made
3 physical presence at a polling place unduly challenging; and
- 4 **WHEREAS** Absentee voting has since been abused in many jurisdictions to allow citizens to vote
5 absentee for less legitimate reasons or even without providing any reason whatsoever; and
- 6 **WHEREAS** The sanctity of our elections is indisputably crucial for the ongoing viability of our republic,
7 and so we must do all we can to prevent opportunities for voter fraud as well as to
8 eliminate the space for conspiracies to fester around perceptions thereof; now, therefore
9 be it
- 10 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that all States and Territories are encouraged to eliminate
11 no-excuse absentee voting; and be it
- 12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress encourages all States and Territories to be conscientious and
13 conservative in determining which situations truly justify absentee voting and to accept no
14 others.

A Bill to Reinstate the Fairness Doctrine

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is hereby ordered to reinstate the Fairness
3 Doctrine. That is, all holders of broadcast licenses are henceforth required to regularly
4 devote airtime to controversial issues and to ensure that contrasting viewpoints on these
5 issues are given reasonably fair and equal representation.

6 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be overseen by the FCC, which shall specifically be tasked with setting
7 and enforcing standards of fair broadcasting.

8 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect thirty (30) days following passage.

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

A Bill to Restrict the Use of Artificial Intelligence technologies in Healthcare

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Artificial Intelligence and Large Language Models are hereby banned from
3 use in healthcare settings unless a human operator retains decision-making control at
4 every step of the process. Under no circumstances should the aforementioned
5 technologies be implemented without proper controls.

6 **SECTION 2.** “Artificial Intelligence” is defined as any technology which makes
7 autonomous decisions without human input. “Large Language Models” are defined as any
8 chatbot technology that can process natural language and autonomously generate a
9 response.

10 **SECTION 3.** Enforcement of this bill will be delegated to the Department of Health and
11 Human Services. Healthcare entities found to be in violation of this bill will be fined no
12 less than \$10,000 per violation.

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

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A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Enfranchise the Incarcerated