

Jackson Catholic Forensic League Diocesan Qualifier
February 6-7 at Forest Hill High School

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The Youth Voting Access Act

BE IT ENED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall expand voter pre-registration opportunities for young Americans beginning at age 16 and increase nationwide access to civic education and voter information.

SECTION 2.

- A. *Pre-registration* shall refer to the process by which individuals aged 16 or older may submit voter registration information to be automatically activated upon reaching legal voting age.
- B. *Voting access* shall refer to the accessibility to give or register a vote.
- C. *Civic education* shall refer to the process of learning about the rights and duties of citizenship, the structure and functions of government, and how to participate in and contribute to society.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice (DOJ) and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) shall oversee the implementation and enforcement of this legislation.

- A. CISA shall issue uniform national standards for secure digital and in-school pre-registration systems.
- B. DOJ, in consultation with the CISA, shall establish data protection and privacy requirements for online pre-registration portals.
- C. DOJ shall administer competitive grants supporting civic engagement and education in school districts.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect 180 days after passage. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Forest Hill High School

Legislation #1

A Bill to Mandate Transition Services in All Postsecondary Education Institutions for Students with Exceptionalities

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All public colleges, universities, and vocational schools shall be required to create transition programs for all students with special needs.

SECTION 2. Special Needs Students: individuals with learning difficulties or disabilities that require special educational provisions, adaptations, or accommodations to learn and participate in an educational setting.

Transition Services: a coordinated set of activities for a child with a disability that is designed to be results-oriented, focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child to facilitate the child's matriculation from school to post-school activities, including post-secondary education, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, or community participation.

Postsecondary Education: education after high school. This includes universities, colleges, community colleges, and vocational schools.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education (DOE) Office of Civil Rights (OCR) & Office of Special Education Programs will oversee enforcement of this legislation

- All institutions in violation will be penalized with a funding reduction.
- Funds for the Department of Education will be redistributed with an addition of a 15% federal tax increase to fund these services.

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

National Eviction Defense Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All low-income tenants facing eviction proceedings at local, state, or
3 federal level courts shall be guaranteed access to legal representation for
4 the duration of the eviction process.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. "Low income" is defined as an individual or household earning at or
6 below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line.

7 B. "Eviction Process" is defined as the legal process used by landlords to
8 recover possessions of real property from tenants.

9 C. "Legal representation" is defined as legal assistance provided by a
10 licensed attorney to represent tenants in eviction related matters.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice (DOJ) in coordination with the Department of
12 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) shall oversee the
13 implementation of this legislation. DOJ and HUD shall be granted \$2
14 billion dollars each annually to fund this program.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Madison Central High School.

Legislation #3

A Bill to Expand Benefits for Workers on Strike

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Workers on strike will now be able to claim up to 10 weeks of
3 unemployment insurance benefits. Benefits are available after a two-
4 week waiting period. Workers must repay benefits if they receive back
5 pay later.

6 **SECTION 2.** “Strike” is defined as an organized and intentional stoppage or slowdown
7 of work by employees, intending to make the employer comply with the
8 demands of the employees.

9 “Back pay” is defined as payment owed to a worker for work that was
10 done in the past.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor (DOL) will oversee the implementation of this
12 legislation. \$300 million dollars will be allocated annually to the DOL for
13 the implementation of this legislation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Madison Central High School.

Legislation #4

A Bill to Replace School Expulsions with Mandatory Restorative Justice Programs

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** A. All public elementary, middle and high schools shall be required to provide on-campus restorative justice programs to students that are at risk of expulsion.
2 B. Schools that fail to comply will lose access to 30% of federal education grants and 5% each year after non-compliant behavior.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** *Expulsion* - A disciplinary action that removes a student from their school, often permanently, for serious or repeated rule violations. (This definition is adopted for the purpose and provisions of the bill.)
9 *Restorative Justice Programs* - School community and student centered approach to justice that emphasizes repairing harm through dialogue between the student who caused harm to the school community.
12 *Federal Education Grants* - Federal funding provided via state and local education agencies to support academic programs, resources, and student services.
- 15 **SECTION 3.** \$125 billion will be allocated annually from the United States Department of Education's budget to fund school based restorative justice programs, including hiring licensed professionals and training staff. The United States Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health Services, will oversee the implementation and enforcement of this bill.
20 The United States Government will equally distribute the funding to give school districts autonomy on spending so schools can use money how they wish, still remaining within bill guidelines.
- 23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on August 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Abolish and Release the Strategic Petroleum Reserve

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Strategic Petroleum Reserve, created by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975, will be hereby abolished. All of its current holdings will be released into the domestic market at the rate of 10 million barrels per month for 40 months.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** "Strategic Petroleum Reserve" (SPR) is defined as the US oil reserve originally created by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 for the purpose of giving the US a buffer in case of international oil crisis. "Release", in this instance, is defined as the competitive auction of oil reserves by the Department of Energy to domestic buyers.
- 10 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Energy will oversee the enforcement of this legislation.
- 12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect 6 months following its passage. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Murrah High School

Legislation #6

A Bill to Create Battery Energy Storage Systems

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby allocate 500 million USD towards creating utility-scaled Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) nationwide to strive toward a more consistent and efficient energy supply.
- 2 **SECTION 2.** A utility-scaled BESS is defined as a large-scale system that stores excess energy generated by renewable sources like wind, solar, and hydro in rechargeable batteries.
- 3 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Energy will oversee the implementation of this bill.
 - 4 A. System construction will be distributed evenly across all states, regardless of population or demand.
- 5 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2027. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by St. Andrew's Episcopal School.

Legislation #7

A Bill to Create A Civilian Conservation Corps

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Introduced for Congressional Debate by St. Andrew's Episcopal School.

Legislation #8