FLORIDA BLUE KEY SPEECH & DEBATE

2026 CONGRESS PRELIMINARY ROUND PACKET

FBK SPEECH & DEBATE

Florida Blue Key – 3160 J. Wayne Reitz Union – PO Box 118505 – Gainesville, Florida 32611

WELCOME

We are excited to host Congressional Debate at the beautiful University of Florida campus from October 30th to November 1st. In this packet, competitors and coaches will find the tournament schedule, round procedures, and preliminary legislation. Please review all the information in this packet carefully.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

All times listed below are in Eastern Standard Time (EST).

DAY	SESSION	START TIME	END TIME
FRIDAY OCT. 30	JUDGE CHECK-IN	4:15 PM	—
	PRELIM SESSION 1	5:00 PM	8:00 PM
	CONGRESS ASSEMBLY	8:15 PM	8:45 PM
SATURDAY OCT. 31	PRELIM SESSION 2	9:00 AM	12:00 PM
	PRELIM SESSION 3	1:00 PM	4:00 PM
	BREAK ANNOUNCED	4:30 PM	—
	SEMIFINAL	5:00 PM	8:00 PM
	SEMIFINAL BANQUET	8:30 PM	—
SUNDAY NOV. 1	FINAL SESSION 1	9:00 AM	11:30 AM
	LUNCH BREAK	11:30 AM	12:30 PM
	FINAL SESSION 2	12:30 PM	3:00 PM

TIEBREAKERS

In the event competitors receive the same rankings in a round, speaker points will decide their placing. If speaker points are equal, then each competitor's parliamentarian rank will decide who has a better ranking.

TECHNOLOGY

Internet use is permitted for competitors during rounds. Internet connection MAY NOT be used to communicate with or receive any competitive advantage from others during rounds (coaches, other students, etc.). Florida Blue Key reserves the right to check these rules are properly followed at any time.

PRESIDING OFFICER (PO)

POs may serve one preliminary session unless no one else wishes to run. Standard NSDA parliamentary procedures should be enforced by the PO. “Best PO” voting will occur at the end of the third preliminary round. Semifinals sessions will have one PO for the entire round. The Final Round will have one PO for each session, two total.

SPEAKING ORDER

At the start of each round POs will be given random predetermined recency charts for speeches and questions. Speeches and questions will have inverse recency, therefore competitors with the best recency for speeches will have the worst recency for questions and vice versa. Recency will reset and predetermination will be re-randomized after each session of preliminary rounds. Recency will not reset for the second session of Finals. All other procedures will follow standard National Speech and Debate Association guidelines.

AGENDAS/DOCKETS

Tabling legislation from one session to another is prohibited (i.e. sessions 2 and 3 must start with new legislation not previously debated in that chamber). Authors will not be guaranteed the opportunity to speak on their legislation unless it is selected for the agenda. If the author of a bill or resolution — or their teammate — is not present in the chamber, or relinquishes authorship rights, another student may sponsor the legislation. School authorship privileges DO apply to legislation on the agenda.

QUESTIONING

All rounds will utilize direct questioning. This includes preliminary rounds. Defer to standard NSDA guidelines for conducting direct questioning throughout the course of the tournament.

BEST PRACTICES

We strongly encourage the PO to use gavels for time signaling. We also recommend that members of each chamber use placards for recognition. Spectators will be allowed in every round, as long as they remain quiet and do not distract from debate in any way. We advise spectators and competitors alike to not exit or enter a chamber during speeches or questioning.

SEMIFINALS & FINALS

The top 5 competitors in each of the 12 preliminary chambers will advance to semifinals and receive a bid to the Tournament of Champions. There will be four semifinal chambers with 15 competitors each. The top 4 competitors in each semifinal chamber will advance to a 16-competitor final round. Four semifinal bills will be released by October 21st. We recommend competitors prepare all four pieces of legislation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Final Round Scenario

After receiving feedback about the Final Round format, we have decided to continue the FBK tradition of a Final Round "Scenario." More information will be released during the **Congress Assembly on October 31st and Semifinal Banquet on November 1st.**

NSDA Rules & Guidelines

For a list of rules/guidelines not explicitly outlined in this document, please refer to the NSDA High School Unified Manual for the 2026–2027 school year. If you have any questions, please contact us at **congress@fbkdebate.org**.

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Restore Hawaii's Sovereignty

RESOLVED, By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

ARTICLE --

SECTION 1: The State of Hawaii shall be removed from the Union on January 1st, 2030. Leading up to removal, the United States shall assist in the formation of a self-sufficient democratic government by the people of Hawaii for the people of Hawaii. All land in the current state of Hawaii now held by the federal government is to be ceded to the newly formed government of Hawaii and may not be ceded or sold to other entities or government in the meantime.

SECTION 2: As reparation for irrevocable damage done to Hawaiian lands and culture, the United States shall pay 5 billion dollars (adjusted for inflation) to the nation of Hawaii at the start of each fiscal year through FY 2050.

SECTION 3: Following this Amendment's effective date, the United States shall not assert any claim over the territories constituting Hawaii nor exercise personal jurisdiction over Hawaiian citizens, subject to Section 4.

SECTION 4: All current U.S. citizens in the newly formed nation of Hawaii may choose to retain their citizenship and cannot be barred from holding dual U.S.-Hawaiian citizenship.

SECTION 5: The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by John Joura, Robinson High School.

A Bill to Protect Safety Online

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act of 1996 is hereby repealed. Companies still shall not be liable for defamation, negligence, emotional distress, product claims, spread of malware, scams, and harassment on their platforms. Companies shall receive immunity from prosecution under this legislation if they can prove they made a good faith attempt to remove a user, post, or message and reported all information on the identity of the user and evidence of the situation to local and national law enforcement but bypasses, hacking, or exploits made removal from their platform impossible.

SECTION 2. Communications Decency Act of 1996 shall refer to 47 U.S. Code § 230(c)(1) and (2).

SECTION 3. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), are responsible for implementing this bill in coordination with the Department of the Treasury.

A. A fund of $50 billion per year shall be established at the Department of the Treasury to allocate funds between the FCC, FBI, OFAC, and SEC.

B. Companies found in violation of this legislation shall be fined $100,000 per offense increasing by 1.08% per existing offense.

C. Companies with monthly active users fewer than 1,000,000 each month of operation and have yearly revenue under $25,000,000 shall be liable for $500 per offense increasing 1.08% per offense.

D. All international companies in noncompliance with this legislation shall pay section 3B fines or be banned from operating in the US. Additionally, the OFAC will add all company executives and investors to the SDN list.

E. All companies must submit all internal reports, financial records, and documents required or be fined at the discretion of the FCC.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on September 25, 2028. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by American Heritage Schools, Palm Beach.

A Bill to Redirect Surplus U.S. Food Waste to Combat Global Hunger

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall implement a program to redirect surplus food waste from manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to other nations that are experiencing severe food insecurity through a streamlined aid distribution system.

SECTION 2. Surplus food waste shall be defined as excess, safe-to-consume food which is discarded due to oversupply, cosmetic imperfections, or nearing expiration but still meeting the U.S. safety standards. Streamlined aid distribution shall be defined as an integrated operational framework that accelerates resource delivery by unifying regulatory compliance, cutting administrative redundancies, and establishing direct logistics corridors from donor to recipient.

SECTION 3. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the World Health Organization (WHO) shall oversee the processing, collection, and distribution of surplus food.

A. Incentives include a 30% federal tax credit based on the food's fair market value. In addition, food donors receive liability protections if the food causes harm.

B. A logistics framework shall be established in coordination with international organizations to facilitate efficient delivery to recipient nations.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by American Heritage Schools, Palm Beach.

A Bill to Ban the Usage of Artificial Intelligence in the U.S. Banking System

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All federally regulated financial institutions shall be banned from utilizing artificial intelligence systems in any banking operation or service.

SECTION 2. "Artificial Intelligence" shall mean any computational system capable of performing tasks, generating outputs, or influencing decisions through autonomous technologies.

"Financial Institution" shall include all federally regulated banks, credit unions, savings associations, and other entities under federal banking oversight.

SECTION 3. The Federal Reserve, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) shall jointly enforce this act.

A. $5 billion over the next five fiscal years shall be provided in order to fund a grant system for applicable financial institutions to assist in recruiting and retaining personnel necessary to perform functions previously conducted by artificial intelligence systems.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect on January 1st, 2028. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Audrey Hwang, Pine View School.

A Bill to Allow Mobile Voting in Federal Elections to Expand Secure Ballot Access

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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

SECTION 2. Mobile voting will be in addition to standard voting options. The definitions and Scope of Mobile Voting Access are as follows:

A. "Mobile voting" shall be defined as the act of casting a federal election ballot electronically via a secure application on a personal mobile device.

B. "End-to-End Verifiability (E2E-V)" shall refer to a voting protocol that uses cryptographic techniques enabling individual voter verification and system-wide auditability without compromising ballot secrecy.

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

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

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bettina Gannon, Oxbridge Academy.

A Bill to Ban Homeschooling to Enhance Social Activity and Independence

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. In order to ensure children have the opportunity to gain independence and receive the basic standards of education and fundamental skills, homeschooling shall be banned for children of appropriate age for education.

SECTION 2. The terms shall be defined as followed:

A. "Basic Standards of Education" shall be defined as the basic skills necessary to learn the average school curriculum.

B. "Homeschooling" shall be defined as education conducted in any place other than a school.

C. "Appropriate Age for Education" shall be defined as any person at or between the ages of 4 to 17.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education shall pull the funding of institutions, individuals, and programs that receive Federal funds if they do not comply with the provisions of this bill.

A. Recipients of Federal funds through grants, agreements, loans, or arrangements are subject to the consequences of encouraging homeschooling.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Archith Venkat, American Heritage Schools, Broward.

A Bill to Support Venezuelan Migrants

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Government shall allocate $500 million to the Peruvian government to supplement their efforts to support Venezuelan migrants within Peru's borders.

SECTION 2. The Department of State will be responsible for distributing aid to the Republic of Peru. Aid will be distributed in the following allocations:

A. $250 million will be earmarked for building infrastructure related to resettlement, including housing and transportation infrastructure.

B. $150 million will be earmarked for training and resources to the National Police of Peru to combat Tren de Aragua.

C. $100 million will be allocated for direct payments to refugee support organizations operating in Peru.

SECTION 3. The Department of State, in conjunction with the Department of Government Efficiency, will deploy a monitoring and evaluation framework to determine the efficacy of the aid. The framework should include spot checks and financial auditing to ensure that aid is being used to its maximum efficiency.

SECTION 4. Enforcement of this legislation is entrusted to the Department of State and the Department of Government Efficiency. Congress may terminate aid early if reports indicate that it is being used for illegitimate purposes.

SECTION 5. 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 Sebastian Blasdel, American Heritage Schools, Broward.

A Bill to Prohibit the Launch of LEO Satellites

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government shall prohibit the launch of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Satellites by private corporations.

SECTION 2. A LEO Satellite is defined as a piece of electronic equipment that circles in low Earth orbit (LEO) at an altitude of 2,000 kilometers or less.

SECTION 3. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will oversee and enforce this legislation.

A. Illegally launched LEO Satellites shall be disabled and moved to end-of-life disposal orbits at the expense of the private corporation which originally launched the device.

B. Any private corporation out of compliance will incur an additional fine of up to $1,000,000 per illegally launched LEO Satellite.

C. C.Private corporations illegally launching ten or more LEO Satellites shall have their business license permanently revoked.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Alberto Fermin, Nova High School.

A Bill to Enhance Rare Earth Element Collaboration with Namibia

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States (US) shall provide Namibia with annual economic aid of $1 billion, fostering mutually beneficial partnerships between US companies and local Namibian miners in the rare Earth element industry. This collaboration aligns with the US national security mission to diversify its rare Earth elements supply chains and simultaneously contribute to the economic development of Namibia.

SECTION 2. The economic aid shall be utilized to subsidize local Namibian 10 businesses, promoting grassroots economic stabilization initiatives. Additionally, a portion of the aid will be allocated to infrastructure enhancement and the construction of facilities. In return, US companies shall be granted priority access to partnership opportunities with local miners, ensuring that contracts offered by US companies take precedence over those from other foreign nations. US companies shall receive full approval from the Namibian government to establish infrastructure for mining and processing facilities on local land.

SECTION 3. The US Department of Defense and the US Agency for International Development will collaborate to implement this legislation

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Keith Richards, Nova High School.

A Bill to Rehabilitate the Public Criminal Defense System

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Public defenders shall no longer be allowed to work contemporaneously on more than 30 felony cases, or no more than 65 misdemeanor cases.

SECTION 2. In the event that a public defender is taking a hybrid of felony and misdemeanor cases contemporaneously, the public defender shall be limited to 45 cases in total, while taking on less than 20 felony cases.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice (DOJ) shall oversee the implementation and enforcement of this bill.

A. The DOJ shall create a committee that will oversee the allocation of funds to states to aid with the hiring of more public defenders, and retention of public defenders.

a. 2 billion dollars annually shall be allotted to this committee for the sake of hiring more public defenders.

b. 1 billion dollars annually shall be allocated to this committee for the sake of retaining public defenders, through increased wages.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on FY27. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Olympic Heights High School.

The R.A.Q. Act (Remove All Quotas)

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies receiving federal funding shall be prohibited from establishing or enforcing quotas, numerical targets, or performance benchmarks based on arrests, citations, searches, or summonses.

SECTION 2. For the purposes of this Act:

A. "Quota" shall be defined as any explicit or implicit requirement or expectation that pressures law enforcement officers to meet a predetermined numerical target for enforcement actions within a specified time period.

B. "Law enforcement agency" shall include any agency authorized to conduct policing or traffic enforcement.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice, acting through the Civil Rights Division, shall oversee the enforcement of this act. The specific enforcement mechanisms shall include:

A. Overseeing implicit compliance certifications submitted by law enforcement agencies receiving federal funding as well as periodic audits of agency performance.

B. Investigation of complaints alleging implicit or explicit quota-based practices by law enforcement officers

SECTION 4. All law enforcement agencies found in violation of this act will receive suspension, reduction, or termination of federal law enforcement.

SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect on FY 2028. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Olympic Heights High School.

The Civic Participation Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. To strengthen democratic legitimacy, promote broad civic engagement, and ensure equal representation in the electoral process by establishing a universal civic participation requirement for eligible United States citizens, while fully preserving individual freedom of political choice and political expression.

SECTION 2. All United States citizens who are 18 years of age or older and not legally barred from voting under federal law shall be required to submit a ballot in all federal general elections and federal primary elections. Submitting a ballot under this Act shall fulfill the requirement of civic participation and may include a blank, partially completed, or entirely unmarked ballot.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission (FEC), in coordination with State and local election authorities, shall administer, implement, and enforce the provisions of this Act.

A. The FEC shall issue national guidelines to ensure uniform enforcement, accessibility, and compliance across all states.
B. Such guidelines shall include provisions for early voting, mail-in voting, absentee voting, and reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities.
C. Failure to submit a ballot in a federal election without a valid exemption shall result in a civil fine not to exceed $100. No criminal penalties shall be imposed.
D. Federal Election days shall be designated federal public holidays to facilitate voter participation and compliance

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect beginning with the first federal election occurring at least 1 year after enactment. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Episcopal School of Dallas.

A Bill to Raise the Minimum Wage to $25

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The federal minimum wage established under 29 U.S.C. § 206 shall increase to $25 per hour over five years.

A. Beginning in Year 6, the minimum wage shall increase annually according to inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

B. A federal surtax of three percent shall be imposed on individual income over $2.5 million per year. Revenue collected from the surtax shall establish a Small Business Wage Transition Fund. Small businesses may receive grants from the Fund to cover up to 50 percent of the increased wage costs directly caused by the minimum wage increases required herein.

SECTION 2. Definitions

A. “Employer” and “employee” are as defined in 29 U.S.C. § 203.

B. “Wage” means compensation for employment and shall be interpreted consistent with federal wage law.

C. “Taxable income” is as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 63.

D. Small business” means an employer with fewer than 100 employees.

SECTION 3. Funding and Enforcement:

A. The Internal Revenue Service and the Department of the Treasury shall be responsible for administering and collecting the surtax.

B. Congress may appropriate additional funds if surtax revenue is insufficient to meet authorized grants.

C. The Department of Labor shall enforce the minimum wage requirements and administer the Small Business Wage Transition Fund.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lucas Hogan from Hogan Independent.

A Bill to Aid Egypt

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall hereby donate and deliver $400 million in humanitarian aid to the citizens of Egypt through Egypt's maritime border with Saudi Arabia. US troops will be allotted as necessary to deliver the aid to USDOS representatives at the border.

SECTION 2. A. Humanitarian aid shall consist of a combination of agricultural supplication, temporary housing, bottled water, and medical supplies, including but not limited to; vaccines and first aid equipment.

B. The maritime border shall be defined as the Red Sea that is a part of Egypt's territorial waters.

C. US troops allocation shall include but not be limited to: arming ships used for transport.

SECTION 3. The US Department of State will be responsible for the implementation and oversight of this bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Western High.