

Gate City 2026

Congressional Debate Docket

Hosted by: Highland and Pocatello High School

13-14 November 2026

A Bill to Ban ICE from Allocating Funding to Private Contractors...	...2
A Bill to Minimize Prescription Medication Abuse...	...3
A Bill to Provide Free Public Transportation In Metropolitan Areas...	...4
A Resolution to Encourage Deep Ocean Exploration...	...5
The Cyberpunk Act...	...6
A Bill to Amend Section 1111(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act...	...7
A Bill to Raise the Social Media Minimum Age to Prevent Cyberbullying...	...8
A Bill to Reform Selective Wheat Breeding Practices to Further American Health...	...9
A Bill to Transition to Solar Infrastructure to Secure Resilient Power Grids...	...10
A Bill to Annex Puerto Rica to the State of Florida...	...11
A Bill to Limit Overdraft Fees...	...12

A Bill to Ban ICE from Allocating Funding to Private Contractors

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** ICE shall no longer be permitted to utilize funds approved by congress to
2 pay any private contractor to utilize, build, manage, and transport any
3 individuals held in custody by ICE (be them citizens of the US or not) to a
4 detention center or out of the country. ICE will have to use government
5 owned detention centers to house any individuals they, or anyone that is
6 permitted to work with them, arrests. ICE will be in charge of running their
7 own detention centers from now on.
- 8 **SECTION 2.** The following terms shall be defined as:
9 A. Private Contractors: Private prison groups such as GEO, CoreCivic,
10 Management and Training Corporation (MTC), and others that are
11 available to contract for the building of or use of detention facilities,
12 management of said facilities, or transportation between facilities or
13 out of country in regards to the detainment of individuals.
14 B. Funding: The annual budget, any inter-agency transfers, and other
15 funding related acts (bills, supplemental funding, etc.) approved by
16 congress for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) which are
17 then allocated to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
- 18 **SECTION 3.** The Government Accountability Office (GAO) will work with the
19 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and a committee within Congress
20 (to be established within the house) to review how ICE utilizes their
21 funding to ensure no funds are put towards private contractors. If such
22 allocation of funds is found, an immediate reduction of 10% to available
23 funds will be enforced for each offence.
- 24 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect November 30, 2027. All laws in conflict with
25 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pocatello High School.

A Bill to Minimize Prescription Medication Abuse

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Mental health medications should be limited or prescribed less for people
3 with psychiatric diagnoses. Medical providers should encourage other
4 alternatives, such as: Going outside, getting out in public more, and
5 eating healthier. Medication should not be prescribed frequently as a first
6 option.

7 **SECTION 2.** Mental health medication shall be defined as prescription drugs meant to
8 treat the mental illness or symptoms of said illness. This includes any
9 form of a non over the counter prescription medication prescribed to
10 help with diagnosed disorders recognized by the DSM 5. In case of
11 learning disability in class accommodation should be made over
12 prescribing medication. Medical providers shall use the World Health
13 Organization Disability Assessment Schedule (WHODAS) 2.0 to determine
14 severity of the diagnosis. Patients with a score below 25 (mild disability)
15 on a 0-100 model shall not be eligible for prescription therapy without
16 first exhausting other options. Patients scoring a 25-49 (moderate
17 disability) shall be given the option to access medication at the discretion
18 of the provider. The medication will only be limited and not entirely
19 banned meaning that it will remain accessible to patients in dire need.

20 **SECTION 3.** This will be overseen by the Office of National Drug Control.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Highland High School.

A Bill to Provide Free Public Transportation In Metropolitan Areas

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All public transit systems operating within Metropolitan Statistical Areas
3 (MSA) shall eliminate all fares for all passengers.

4 **SECTION 2.** Funding to offset lost fare revenue and operational costs shall be
5 provided through federal grants administered to local transit authorities,
6 funded by a 3% tax increase on corporate capital gains.

7 **SECTION 3.** Any state or MSA that reinstates fares on public transit systems within an
8 MSA following the enactment of this bill shall lose eligibility for federal
9 Department of Transportation infrastructure grants.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hillcrest High School.

A Resolution to Encourage Deep Ocean Exploration

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **WHEREAS**, The current scientific studies and advancements have declined; and

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4 **WHEREAS**, the scientific bacteria can advance healthcare and help regenerate the planet

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6 **WHEREAS**, The Earth's current temperature increased to 1.44°C on average globally—

7 undermining the efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C, the point of no return; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, the research of new organism and prediction of global catastrophes will help our

10 planet advance technology; now, therefore, be it

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12 **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled should publicly endorse and encourage deep

13 ocean exploration; and, be it

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15 **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled should ensure collaboration

16 between other deep ocean exploring countries.

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18 Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bonneville High School

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The Cyberpunk Act

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

3 **SECTION 1.** The Office of Science and Technological Policy is directed to place restrictions on the
4 development of new and dangerous technological weapons such as cybernetic enhancements to
5 the body or to existing weapons, civilian and military.

6 **SECTION 2.** Each company involved with or directly related to the creation of new technological weapons
7 are directed to undergo a mandatory evaluation of danger severity and resource monopoly on a
8 monthly basis.

9 **SECTION 3.** Any company that fails to comply with the monthly evaluation or deemed to own a monopoly
10 of any kind shall forfeit 75% of R&D funding until the next regulation check.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Office of Science and Technological Policy.

12 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect immediately.

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

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A Bill to Amend Section 1111(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** Upon passage of this legislation the national requirements of State
2 standardized assessments shall be repealed. A new federal mandate of
3 performance based assessments will be used to monitor education
4 standards statewide.

5 SECTION 2. For the purposes of this legislation

(a) "State Assessment" is defined as statewide tests taken by all public schools on no less than 3 subject levels throughout K-12 grades used to determine if schools meet Education Department standards.

(b) "Public Schools" is defined as any school that is established by a state or a subdivision of a state and funded by governmental entities .

13 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Education shall oversee the enforcement of this
14 legislation. The States and their local education agencies will oversee the
15 assessment implementation and interpretation of these scores in
16 accordance with state requirements.

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

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A Bill to Raise the Social Media Minimum Age to Prevent Cyberbullying

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Commercial social media platforms operating in the United States shall
2 prohibit individuals under the age of 16 from creating, maintaining, or
3 accessing user accounts.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this legislation:
- 5 A. “Social media platform” shall be defined as any public-facing digital
6 service or website whose primary purpose is to allow users to create
7 public or semi-public profiles, upload user-generated content, and
8 interact socially with other users.
- 9 B. “Age verification” shall refer to commercially reasonable,
10 privacy-preserving technical methods used to verify a user’s date of
11 birth without retaining identification records.
- 12 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) shall oversee the implementation and
13 enforcement of this bill.
- 14 A. The FTC shall establish standardized, privacy-preserving age verification
15 guidelines that platforms must implement prior to account creation
- 16 B. Covered platforms found in violation of this act shall be subject to civil
17 penalties of up to \$50,000 per unauthorized minor account.
- 18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2028. All laws in conflict with
19 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Century High School .

A Bill to Reform Selective Wheat Breeding Practices to Further American Health

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Congress shall prohibit the varied processes of selective wheat breeding for increased yield and shall require federally funded programs to prioritize nutritional value.

SECTION 2. “Selective Breeding” shall be defined as the process of selecting organisms to change their characteristics in a desired direction.

“Kernel” in wheat production relevance has an endosperm and a germ surrounded by two structural layers.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) shall oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

A. The USDA shall establish nutritional standards for newly developed wheat varieties receiving federal funding or approval.

B. Wheat breeding programs receiving federal grants shall submit annual reports demonstrating compliance with these standards.

C. Federal funding may be suspended for programs found in violation of this legislation after a one-year corrective period.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect at the beginning of the fiscal year following its passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mountain Home High School.

A Bill to Transition to Solar Infrastructure to Secure Resilient Power Grids

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All newly constructed commercial buildings and critical municipal facilities
2 must incorporate solar energy systems with battery storage capabilities as a
3 primary or secondary energy source to mitigate the impact of electrical
4 power outages.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this legislation:
- 6 A. “Critical municipal facilities” shall be defined to include hospitals, fire
7 stations, police departments, and water treatment infrastructure
- 8 B. “Solar energy systems” shall refer to photovoltaic panels integrated with
9 localized energy storage devices capable of maintaining essential building
10 operations during a grid power interruption.
- 11 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Energy (DOE), in coordination with the
12 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and state building regulatory authorities,
13 shall oversee the enforcement and implementation of this Act.
- 14 A. The DOE shall establish mandatory grid resilience guidelines and administer
15 technical assistance for compliant facility developers. The IRS shall
16 administer qualifying federal investment tax credits under Title 26 of the
17 U.S. Code.
- 18 B. Non-compliant municipal projects or commercial developments will face a
19 withholding of federal infrastructure grant eligibility until compliance
20 standards are met.
- 21 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2028. All laws in conflict with
22 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Century High School.

A Bill to Annex Puerto Rica to the State of Florida

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The territory of Puerto Rica shall be annexed to and incorporated within
3 the boundaries of the State of Florida, subject to the approval of bot the
4 legislature of the State of Florida and a referendum passed by the
5 registered voters of Puerto Rico.

6 **SECTION 2.** Upon successful approval outline in Section 1, the residents of Puerto
7 Rico shall be granted full representation in the Florida State Legislature
8 and the United States Congress as full voting citizens of the State of
9 Florida, with adjusted representation based on the next official census.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Government shall provide transition grants to assist in the
11 transition of public administration, tax structures, and legal frameworks
12 between the State of Florida and the territory of Puerto Rico.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of the Interior in
14 consultation with the State of Florida and the Government of Puerto Rico

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

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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hillcrest High School.

A Bill to Limit Overdraft Fees

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** All banks and financial institutions are hereby prohibited from charging overdraft fees or
3 nonsufficient funds (NSF) fees that exceed five dollars (\$5) per incident, unless said
4 institution can provide clear documentation that their processing fees related to a specific
5 transaction exceeded this amount, in which case they may charge enough to cover those
6 costs plus an additional five dollars (\$5).

7 **SECTION 2.** Any bank or financial institution found to be in violation of this legislation shall be fined one
8 thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each violating transaction, with funds raised from these fines
9 to be turned over to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to support consumer
10 financial protection initiatives.

11 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the CFPB.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

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