



Scottsdale Prep Congressional Debate Docket 2026

In the interest of getting a docket to teams to start researching early, we closed legislation submissions. Instead, we wrote or borrowed past legislation from the NSDA and other national circuit tournaments. Each bill is open for sponsorship (first affirmative), as there are no authorships. In an attempt to be more welcoming to teams trying Congressional Debate for the first time, we have made this year's docket smaller and assigned specific legislation to specific sessions of debate (note: most tournaments do not do this). We hope this makes it easier to conduct in-depth research and minimize wasted effort. We also hope that this makes it easier for small teams to know what to expect, rather than get left out of conversations in the weeks leading up to the tournament. Each chamber can decide the order of the three bills set for a session, and will likely end up debating 2-3 of the items in each session. Assigning legislation to sessions also limits judges' ability to see any debate on a topic in one chamber before, unfortunately, judging it again in another chamber that might have adopted a different prelim order.

Morning Prelim Session Bills: Congressional Debaters will caucus and vote for a docket order for debate during the Morning Session. No legislation will be carried over from the morning to the afternoon session.

___ **A** - The Puerto Rico, Guam, and Columbia State Admission Act

___ **B** - A Bill to Promote Organ Donation

___ **C** - A Bill to Remove the Social Security Payroll Tax Cap

Afternoon Prelim Session Bills: Congressional Debaters will caucus and vote for a docket order for debate during the Afternoon Session. No legislation will be carried over from the morning session, or to finals.

___ **D** - A Bill to Reinstate the Fairness Doctrine

___ **E** - A Bill to Reduce the U.S. Military Presence in Okinawa

___ **F** - A Bill to Ban Unpaid Internships

Finals Round Legislation: Congressional Debaters who advance to the Finals Round will caucus and vote for a docket order for debate during the Finals Session. In previous years, there has been insufficient time to debate 3 Final Bills, so we will restrict debate to 2 bills this year to reduce wasted research and help smaller teams.

___ **Finals 1** - A Bill to Create a Cyber Force

___ **Finals 2** - Supreme Court Tenure Establishment and Retirement Modernization (TERM) Act



A - Puerto Rico, Guam, and Columbia State Admission Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Puerto Rico, Guam, and Columbia will all be admitted into the United States as states and granted the corresponding liberties.

SECTION 2. The U.S. Capitol, the White House, the Supreme Court, and the National Mall will remain the independent District of Columbia. All other land and population currently contained in the District of Columbia will become the state of Columbia.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission (FEC), Department of Revenue (DOR), and the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will oversee this legislation.

A. The FEC will allocate 2 Senators, 1 Representative, and 3 electors to Columbia; 2 Senators, 5 Representatives, and 7 electors to Puerto Rico; and 2 Senators, 1 representative, and 3 electors to Guam. Additionally, D.C. and Guam's current nonvoting delegates will be given voting status. This means there will now be 106 Senators, 442 representatives, and 542 electors total. Population-based representatives will be subject to change in accordance with census data at the next reapportionment.

B. The DOR will implement a federal income tax, earned income tax credit, and additional child tax credit as applicable within the new states.

C. The USCIS will review the state constitutions and grant state citizenship to all current U.S. citizens of the territories upon approval.

D. The United States flag will be immediately repealed, awaiting a new flag proposal that integrates the 3 new stars.

E. \$500,000 will be taken from the general Congressional discretionary fund as needed to implement the legislation

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect immediately after passage. All laws in conflict with this legislation will be declared null and void.



B - A Bill to Promote Organ Donation

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Congress shall promote organ donation through implementing a “mandated choice” system when individuals interact with a government agency. Congress shall also implement further protections and supports for organ donors.

SECTION 2. The following considerations will apply:

A. A “mandated choice” system requires adults by law to explicitly state whether or not they wish to be organ donors each time they complete routine government tasks such as renewing a driver’s license or filing taxes.

B. Congress shall also implement the following protections and supports for organ donors: federally-protected employment medical leave for organ donors; requiring Medicare Supplement (Medigap) be offered to beneficiaries younger than 65 with kidney failure; protection for donors from discrimination in life, disability, and long-term care insurance; as well as two Living Organ Donor Tax Credits. The first Living Donor Tax Credit of up to \$5000 is for living donors who are not reimbursed for donation-related expenses such as travel, lodging, lost wages, and child care. An additional tax credit of \$10,0000 will be available to donors who give an undesignated kidney or liver donation to a patient most in need, regardless of personal connection.

C. Health and safety requirements for organ donors and recipients are still in effect.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Health and Human Services.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year. All laws in conflict with this legislation will be declared null and void.



C - A Bill to Remove the Social Security Payroll Tax Cap

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** All payroll earnings shall henceforth be subject to the Social Security payroll
2 tax, regardless of how much those earnings total each year.

3 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
4 and the Social Security Administration (SSA), with the latter organization specifically
5 tasked with determining appropriate rates for those income levels that were not
6 covered before this point.

7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect January 1, 2027.

8 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation will be declared null and void.
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D - A Bill to Reinstate the Fairness Doctrine

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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

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

8 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect sixty (60) days following passage.

9 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation will be declared null and void.
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E - A Bill to Reduce the U.S. Military Presence in Okinawa

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall defund all U.S. military operations in Japan's Okinawa
2 Prefecture, excluding Kadena Air Base, over 5 years.

3 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Defense is directed to begin closing the other 30 out of 31
4 Okinawa military bases and reassigning all personnel currently stationed there
5 to conclude operations before the end of this funding.

6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Defense.

7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year. All laws in
8 conflict with this legislation will be declared null and void.
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F - A Bill to Ban Unpaid Internships

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (FLSA) is amended to ban the use of
2 unpaid internships by for-profit companies, and establish a minimum wage for interns.

3 **SECTION 2.**

4 A. The definition of “for-profit companies” included in the FLSA will remain the same.

5 B. The Department of Labor will employ the court-established “primary beneficiary”
6 test to determine whether or not a person is an intern or an employee.

7 C. A minimum wage for interns shall be the federal minimum wage.

8 D. Any person who willingly violates this legislation shall, upon conviction, be subject
9 to a fine of up to \$10,000 and six months in jail. Second-time offenders will be subject
10 to a fine of up to \$20,000 and one year in jail. Repeat offenders for the third offense
11 and beyond will be subject to a fine of up to \$50,000 and one year in jail.

12 E. All companies who fail to comply with this legislation will be required to pay their
13 intern(s) the amount of their unpaid wages, plus 10% interest for every month
14 delayed.
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16 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Labor.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect January 1, 2026. All laws in
18 conflict with this legislation will be declared null and void.
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Finals 1 - A Bill to Create a Cyber Force

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall establish the Cyber Force as the newest branch of the military,
2 structured within the United States Army.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** The Cyber Force branch of the military would organize, train, and equip cyber
4 personnel, while U.S. Cyber Command (CYBERCOM) would remain the operational
5 employer directing missions. Duplicate cyber divisions of other branches of the
6 military will be condensed within the new Cyber Force.
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8 A. \$10 Billion shall be funded for the initial startup cost for the Cyber Force to bring
9 on approximately 20,000 active-duty uniformed personnel, consisting of entirely
10 commissioned officers and warrant officers (to focus strictly on the high-level
11 technical and managerial tasks), as well as around 6,000 civilian support personnel
12 and 3,500 to 5,000 Cyber National Guard personnel.
- 13 B. Establishing a part-time Cyber National Guard allows the Cyber Force the flexibility
14 to quickly scale up military response during critical infrastructure cyber attacks.
- 15 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Defense.
- 16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect January 1, 2028. All laws in
17 conflict with this legislation will be declared null and void.
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Finals 2 - Supreme Court Tenure Establishment and Retirement Modernization (TERM) Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The length of active service for a Supreme Court Justice will be standardized to
2 18 years, with a new Justice appointed every two years (the first and third years after
3 a presidential election). Justices who exceed the 18th year will retain their title and
4 compensation, but move to “senior status” and not actively sit on Supreme Court
5 cases (but may be appointed to rule other federal courts).

6 **SECTION 2.** Current supreme court justices who have exceeded 18 years of service will be
7 required to move to “senior status” (in order of length of service) as regularly
8 appointed supreme court justices receive their commissions. If the number of
9 justices in regular active service falls below 9, then the president shall select one of
10 the “senior status” justices to temporarily return to the bench until a replacement
11 justice can be confirmed.
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13 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Administrative Office of United States
14 Courts.

15 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation will be declared null and void.
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