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Congressional Debate Debate

Legislation Docket

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A Bill to Fund the United States Triumphal Arch

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Congress hereby authorizes and agrees to provide funding (up to $250 million) for the construction of a commemorative triumphal arch on Columbia Island in the Federal District according to those plans and specifications already proposed by the President and approved by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts.

SECTION 2. Congress directs the Department of the Interior to move with haste in constructing this arch so that it might be completed as close as possible to the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Department of the Interior.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

A Bill to Provide Federal Funding for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Congress hereby commits to funding Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Congress will operate a 50/50 matching model for states and territories that are willing and able to contribute to the program and will pay 100% of costs for states and territories that are not.

SECTION 2. Congress directs the Department of Education to ensure that this program becomes and remains available to all children under the age of 5 residing in a U.S. zipcode, regardless of citizenship status.

SECTION 3. Funding for this legislation shall be sourced from a commensurate reduction in the Department of Defense budget.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Education.

SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect on Dolly Parton's next birthday: January 19, 2027.

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

A Bill to Mandate Shop Class

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. All departments of education throughout the United States and its territories must ensure that shop class is offered to students at some point in grades 9 through 12.

SECTION 2. Shop class is defined as a hands-on course that teaches students a range of practical skills related to construction, carpentry, engineering, and design, and involving machines and materials such as wood and metal.

SECTION 3. Any state or territory that fails to achieve compliance with this legislation shall lose 50% of its Title I funding until compliance is reached or restored.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Education.

SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2027.

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

The Federal Bottle Bill

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. To incentivize recycling on a wider scale, all states and territories must implement deposit and redemption systems for beverage cans and bottles, where a modest deposit is paid upon purchase and returned when the empty can or bottle is redeemed at a designated and authorized redemption center. States and territories may choose to exclude cans and bottles that contain dairy products and/or alcoholic beverages from their programs.

SECTION 2. Funds from uncollected deposits shall be recycled back into the state or territory's program to cover necessary expenses.

SECTION 3. Any states or territories that fail to implement bottle redemption programs that meet these minimum criteria shall lose eligibility for Solid Waste Management Assistance Grants until such time as compliance is reached.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be overseen by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2027.

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

A Bill to Jettison International Law

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Congress hereby nullifies the impact of all previously adopted international treaties on the business of the United States government both domestically and abroad. Our nation shall henceforth conduct itself according to our own values and the wisdom and experience of our leaders, and nothing more.

SECTION 2. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of State.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

An Act to Award a Posthumous Congressional Gold Medal to Charlie Kirk

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design to Charles James Kirk, in recognition of his commitment to education through public discourse, his promotion of free speech more generally, and the enormous sacrifice he made in defense of these values.

SECTION 2. As soon as may be arranged, this award shall be presented to Charlie Kirk's widow, Erika Lane Kirk, at a ceremony planned for this purpose.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of the award referred to in Section 1, the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

SECTION 4. There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act. The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal described in Section 2 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal. The amounts received from the sale of duplicate medals shall be deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

A Bill to Bar Bite Mark Evidence

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. The Federal Rules of Evidence shall be amended such that any evidence related to or stemming from bite marks, namely the effort to connect a suspect to a victim by comparing the suspect's teeth to the shape of a bite mark on the victim, shall be deemed wholly inadmissible in a federal court of law.

SECTION 2. Continued funding to states and territories from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) shall be conditioned on the enactment of similar legislation within one (1) year of passage.

SECTION 3. Federal cases that were decided in whole or in part based on bite mark evidence may be appealed and overturned if a guilty verdict is not upheld with bite mark evidence thrown out. States and territories are strongly encouraged to enact legislation allowing for similar review.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Justice.

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

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

The Promoting Accuracy in Elections by Prohibiting Electronic Recording (PAEPER) Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Electronic voting machines, digital ballot-marking devices (BMDs), optical scanners, and automated tabulation systems are hereby banned in all jurisdictions conducting federal elections. The tasks meant to be streamlined by these electronic devices must be carefully executed and rigorously accounted for by hand and by human tabulators.

SECTION 2. States and territories are strongly encouraged to enact similar legislation for elections at the subnational level.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

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

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

A Bill to Limit Overdraft Fees

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

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

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

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

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

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

A Resolution to Call for the Decodification of Vehicular Biking

WHEREAS The wholesale codification of vehicular biking has drastically increased the dangers associated with road cycling in the United States and its territories; and

WHEREAS This approach has further served to facilitate the wanton rejection of attempts to build safer and more efficient designated cycling infrastructure; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED by the Congress here assembled that states and territories are directed to amend those statutes governing cycling which instruct or require cyclists to operate on vehicular roadways like automobiles do, removing unsafe “far right as practicable” stipulations and calling for the widespread adoption of designated cycling infrastructure where cyclists are afforded additional right of way protections; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that Congress directs states and territories to prioritize the adoption of designated cycling infrastructure.

A Bill to Increase Domestic Oil Production

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Congress hereby directs the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to loosen their regulations on oil drilling within the areas they oversee, specifically the Gulf of America, the Arctic, and the Western Public Lands of New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada, such that the process for corporations to attain permits to drill for oil in these federally managed areas more or less resembles that in non-protected areas.

SECTION 2. This legislation shall be overseen by the aforementioned agencies, with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) additionally serving in a protective advisory capacity.

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

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

A Bill to Raise the Federal Tax Standard Deduction

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The federal income tax exemption threshold shall be raised to the following amounts: Single Filers: $30,000 in annual income. Heads of Household: $45,000 in annual income. Married Individuals Filing Jointly: $60,000 in combined annual income. These amounts shall replace the existing standard deduction amounts for the applicable filing statuses.

SECTION 2. For the purposes of this bill, the term “federal standard deduction” shall mean the fixed amount of income that a taxpayer may deduct from their gross income before calculating their federal income tax liability.

SECTION 3. The Internal Revenue System (IRS), under the supervision of the department of treasury will be responsible for administering and enforcing the provisions of this bill.

A. The IRS will update all applicable tax forms, filing procedures, and guidances to reflect the revised federal standard deduction.
B. ten million dollars will be added from the department of defenses annual budget as mandatory spending for the IRS. This money will be used to hire employees and update systems to comply with this new bill.
C. The revised standard deduction amounts established under this Act shall apply to taxable years beginning on or after the effective date of this Act. Tax returns filed for taxable years beginning before the effective date shall remain subject to the standard deduction amounts applicable to those respective taxable years.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Andrea Stanislawski of Crater Highschool

A Bill to Mandate Mock Congress for all High School Graduates

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All public high schools will require every student to participate in quarterly mock congressional debates sessions every year. Exceptions will be made for students with specific accommodations and those who participate in extracurricular congressional debate. Congressional debate will further on be required by each school as part of civic education. Should a student not attend the mock congress session or fail the standards, their diploma may be withheld until they pay $35,000 as a donation to their nearest speech and debate team.

SECTION 2. “Mock congressional debate” is defined by the National Speech and Debate Association as “Congressional Debate is a mock legislative assembly competition where students draft bills and resolutions, which they and their peers later debate and vote to pass into law and then take action on by voting for or against the legislation. “Participation” in these sessions will be counted as a student writing their own piece of original legislation for the year and then speaking during the following debate session.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education will oversee the enforcement of this legislation. Any schools found in violation of this legislation will receive no further federal grants for the next school year.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on the first day of the 2027 school year.

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

A Resolution to Provide Adequate Defense Systems to Member-States of NATO-OTAN

Whereas, the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), or more specifically, the Russian Federation and Republic of Belarus, has repeatedly struck North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member states via covert infiltration, violation of internationally recognized air space and waters, and cyberwarfare,

Whereas, strikes carried out by the Russian Federation have killed a significant number of civilians within NATO member states and damaged critical infrastructure from the Balkans to the Baltic Sea,

Whereas, the governing body of United States of America, upon its entry into NATO, had agreed to the defense of the states involved in NATO, obligated under Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty,

Whereas, ever since the founding of NATO, the United States has helped in the defense of its allies within NATO, hence why it should be hereby

Resolved, that the United States of America must send adequate air and naval defense systems to member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization which border Ukraine and member states of the Collective Security Treaty Organization.

Respectfully submitted,
Maximus Medina, Marshfield High School.

A BILL TO BAN FLOCK CAMERAS IN OREGON

Be it enacted by the Congress here assembled that:

Section one: All flock cameras, and other surveillance methods that use Artificial Intelligence are hereby banned in the state of Oregon.

Section two: Flock cameras are defined as "…a specialized public safety sensor built to identify vehicle details that may help generate investigative leads. Unlike general-purpose video surveillance, it utilizes machine learning algorithms to capture non-biometric vehicle data—specifically license plates, make, model, and color"

Section three: This legislation will be enforced by the Oregon state police (OSP)

Section four: This legislation shall take effect four months after passage and signing into law.

Section five: All laws in conflict are hereby declared null and void

Respectfully submitted by:

Representative Orla McCarthy, Marshfield High School

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A Bill to Require Watermarks on Artificial Intelligence-Generated Content

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. SECTION 1. The federal government shall require artificial intelligence companies to place a digital watermark on images, videos, audio recordings, and written content created mostly by artificial intelligence.
3. SECTION 2. A digital watermark is information added to digital content that identifies whether the content was created or significantly edited by artificial intelligence. The watermark must be difficult to remove and must not noticeably lower the quality of the content.
4. SECTION 3. Artificial intelligence companies must include the watermark before releasing their tools to the public. Social media companies shall also make a reasonable effort to keep the watermark when users upload AI-generated content.
5. SECTION 4. The Federal Trade Commission shall enforce this bill. Companies or individuals that knowingly release AI tools without the required watermark may receive a warning for a first violation and a fine of up to $100,000 for later violations.
6. SECTION 5. This bill shall not require watermarks on content created entirely by humans. It shall also protect private information and shall not require companies to reveal the identity of the person who created the content.
7. SECTION 6. This bill shall take effect immediately after passage.
8. SECTION 7. All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.