RIVERSIDE

SPEECH & DEBATE

2026 Warrior Invitational
Congressional Debate Legislation Packet

Please read these docket and procedural rules very carefully. They will be in effect for the duration of the tournament.

1. Each session (Session 1 and Session 2) has three main pieces of legislation. There are also two reserve bills, one per session. The chamber **MUST** debate the three main pieces of legislation before moving on to the reserve bill. That is eight total topics to research.

2. Chambers will decide amongst themselves by a majority vote of the chamber what order to debate the three main pieces of legislation assigned to each session.

3. No additional legislation may be considered. If a chamber debates all three pieces of main legislation for that session, the chamber then moves to the reserve legislation assigned for that session. Once the reserve legislation has been debated, the session is over. All students should be prepared to speak on each topic for the session.

4. The docket agenda can be amended at any time by a 2/3 vote of the chamber, but students may only move around the three pieces of main legislation for that session. Competitors may not move legislation from other sessions, or move the reserve legislation.

5. Each piece of legislation must have a minimum of both one affirmative and one negative speech before calling for the previous question. The first speech on each legislation, known as

the "authorship", goes to the person who wrote the legislation, or from the same school of the author. ***All legislation is adapted from student submissions***

6. RECENCY: Each chamber will receive a randomized list of students from the Tab Room. This list shall serve as the initial precedence list for speeches. Precedence for questions shall follow the reverse order of the speech precedence list. Each chamber will receive a new precedence list for the second session.

7. PRESIDING OFFICERS:

- Parliamentarians will conduct the election for Presiding Officer. Students should not see or count the ballots, nor should students preside over the election.
- Novice chambers will elect Presiding Officers. Coaches should teach their Congress students how to preside ahead of the tournament.
- There will be only one Presiding Officer per session.

8. Cross examination will use direct questioning with individual questioning periods of 30 seconds until the total cross examination time for the speaker has expired. The Presiding Officer will keep a separate recency chart for this and ensure that all competitors have an equal chance to ask questions. Initial precedence for questioning will follow the reverse order of the initial speech precedence list.

LEGISLATION DOCKET

Session One (Chamber decides order):

A. A Resolution to Encourage the International Skating Union (ISU) to Recall the Individual Neutral Athlete (AIN) Status

B. A Bill to Abolish the Death Penalty

C. A Bill to Ban the Provision of Low-Density Polyethylene & Polystyrene

Session One Reserve:

A Bill to Mandate Elderly Driving Retesting

Session Two (Chamber decides order):

A. A Bill to Temporarily Halt the State Level Regulation of AI Development

B. A Bill to Privatize the Social Security Administration

C. A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Further Protect the Rights of the Accused by Updating the 8th Amendment

Session Two Reserve:

A Bill to Establish Federal Standards for Medical Cost Estimate

A Resolution to Encourage the International Skating Union (ISU) to Recall the Individual Neutral Athlete (AIN) Status

WHEREAS, The International Skating Union has gone against the self-designated requirements to be eligible for Individual Neutral Athlete status (those from countries banned by the International Skating Union for political reasons); and

WHEREAS, During various international conflicts, skaters of differing nationalities consistently have or have not been allowed to compete under their own flag and anthem on an unfair basis, as the International Skating Union has given neutrality to skaters failing to meet their requirements; and

WHEREAS, The current season has had major confusion amongst both federations and skaters leading to unrest amongst the community (through arguments that certain individuals did not or did deserve neutrality); and

WHEREAS, Deciding those who can and cannot compete by political biases has limited those able to participate in international competitions by these arbitrary requirements; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled calls for the International Skating Union to remove the Individual Neutral Athlete status and to allow each country to participate under their own flag and nationality, as they have failed to properly implement neutrality in practice.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mauldin High School.

A Bill to Abolish the Death Penalty

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The death penalty shall hereby be abolished in the United States as well as all of its territories. No one, no matter the crime, shall be executed by any governmental authority in the United States jurisdiction.

SECTION 2. Any individual currently on death row shall have their sentence switched to lifetime imprisonment without parole. No further sentences may be issued for these individuals after the passage of this bill.

SECTION 3. This will be enforced by the Department of Justice (DOJ). The DOJ will be responsible for overseeing the transition of death penalties to lifetime imprisonment sentences. The DOJ shall coordinate with state and federal courts to ensure compliance with this bill.

SECTION 4. The execution of any more prisoners is henceforth prohibited in the United States and all of its territories.

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

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Riverside High School.

A Bill to Ban the Provision of Low-Density Polyethylene and Polystyrene

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. No company may provide plastic articles made of low-density polyethylene (LDPE) or polystyrene free of charge to its customers. Companies are encouraged to provide items that are recyclable.

SECTION 2. Low-density polyethylene is a material made through free-radical polymerization of ethylene gas. Polystyrene is a material made through the polymerization of styrene monomers. A “plastic article” or “plastic item” is herein defined as an article made from either or both of these materials.

SECTION 3. This bill shall not apply to:

A. Plastic items provided by physicians, dentists, or veterinarians for the purpose of containing medication;

B. Plastic items which are used for the purpose of containing meat and/or produce;

C. Plastic items used and/or distributed by 501(c)(3) organizations;

D. or, organizations providing plastic items during a declared state of emergency.

SECTION 4. This Environmental Protection Agency will be responsible for the enforcement of this bill.

SECTION 5. A fine of no less than $100 may be issued per plastic item distributed provided that the EPA provided a 7-day notice. After the second offense, the EPA may fine no less than $200, with a 30-day notice, with an increase of $10 per additional offense.

SECTION 6. This legislation will take effect on April 22, 2028. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Riverside High School.

A Bill to Mandate Elderly Driving Retesting

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Driving retesting is mandatory to all people once they reach 65 years of age, regardless of race, religion, or abilities.

SECTION 2. In order to protect all drivers on the road, all drivers must retake a road test that is supervised by state government motor vehicle agencies, or a third party within 6 months of their 65th birthday. From that point, testing will be required annually.

SECTION 3. This legislation will be jointly overseen by the States Department of Motor Vehicles and the Federal Department of Transportation. Failure of the driver to comply may result in punishment as left up to by the state.

SECTION 4. Failure of the state to comply with this legislation will result with a 25% cut towards the state's funding from the Department of transportation.

SECTION 5. This legislation will take effect on July 1, 2027. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mauldin High School.

A Bill to Temporarily Halt the State Level Regulation of AI Development

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The regulation of the further development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at the individual state level shall be temporarily halted for 1 year (approximately 365 days). State level regulation of AI has caused non-uniformity where some states such as California have taken a disproportionate amount of action compared to others. By temporarily halting state level AI regulation, AI companies get the chance to develop internal regulations. The federal government shall retain its authority to accordingly react to any changes in AI development should the need arise. If a state refuses to cooperate, a fine of $1 million shall be imposed, with potential additional fines for further non-compliance. After the year has ended, further actions may be taken as needed.

SECTION 2. The definition of the individual state level shall encompass the 50 states alongside all territories and islands officially recognized as part of the United States of America.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be overseen by the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

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

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mauldin High School.

A Bill to Privatize the Social Security Administration

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. ch. 7) is amended to: create personalized savings accounts with trackable savings; allow citizens to opt into controlling their Social Security Administration (SSA) invested assets; allow for the inheritance of Social Security savings.

SECTION 2. A personalized savings account is defined as an account where an individual can see their Social Security deposits and the value of their savings; all individuals will receive a personalized savings account regardless of whether they opt for account control. If an individual has a payment history but hasn't yet received an account value, then a value will be assigned depending on their previous Social Security contributions. Any interest or dividends will be paid into the Social Security account. Should an individual die with remaining funds in their savings account, those funds will be passed to the Social Security accounts of whoever is designated in the individual's will or among their immediate family.

SECTION 3. The SSA will be responsible for any expenses.

SECTION 4. The SSA will be responsible for overseeing account privatization; managing deposits, payouts, and tracking account values.

SECTION 5. This legislation will take effect on Jan 1st, 2028.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Riverside High School.

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Further Protect the Rights of the Accused by Updating the 8th Amendment

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. Under our current Constitution, the Eighth Amendment addresses cruel and unusual punishment without defining what constitutes cruel and unusual punishment. This has led to issues such as inadequate punishment and excessive bail.

SECTION 2. By changing the text of the 8th amendment from “excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted” shall be changed to read as follows: “excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments defined to be equal to the crime committed.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Greenville Technical Charter High School.

A Bill to Establish Federal Standards for Medical Cost Estimates

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All hospitals and hospital-affiliated outpatient facilities receiving federal healthcare reimbursements shall provide patients with a written estimate of the expected total cost of scheduled, nonemergency medical procedures before treatment is performed.

SECTION 2. Estimates shall include all reasonably estimated facility fees, professional fees, and associated charges. If the final bill exceeds the estimate by more than 10%, the provider shall issue an itemized explanation and allow the patient to request an independent billing review.

SECTION 3. In severe cases, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may require the provider to void the patient's entire bill. Severe cases shall include but not limited to: intentionally misleading cost estimates, repeated violations of this bill, or failure to provide an adequate explanation for significant billing discrepancies. The Secretary shall determine what constitutes a severe case and establish procedures for determining when a bill shall be voided.

SECTION 4. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall oversee implementation of this bill

SECTION 5. Any hospital or hospital-affiliated outpatient facility found to be in violation of this bill shall be fined $200,000 every two weeks until the violation is corrected. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall determine whether a violation has been corrected and establish procedures for identifying noncompliance.

SECTION 6. This bill shall take effect on January 1st 2027.

SECTION 7. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Riverside High School.