



**Cesar Chavez
Middle School
Congress Docket**

HOW CESAR CHAVEZ CONGRESS WILL WORK:

1. There will be three (3) rounds and students will debate two (2) bills/resolutions per round. Students can give a second speech on a bill or resolution only if time allows, **and everyone in the chamber had a chance to speak.**
2. The docket has been preset (please see the order of the legislation set below), so there will be no need to set the docket.
3. Students make speeches of 3 minutes (with 10 minutes grace period) in length either in affirmation or negation of the bill or resolution being debated.
4. After a student completes their 3 minute speech, the presiding officer calls on other students to ask short (generally 10 seconds or so in length) questions of the speaker who has just spoken, with only one question per each student being called upon.
5. The speaker answers those questions very briefly (generally roughly 10 seconds per response). The questioning period goes on for 2 minutes for the authorship/sponsorship speech and the first negative speech and 1 minute for every speaker afterwards with as many students as possible asking questions.
6. This process continues back and forth (affirmation speeches, then negation speeches in a cycle) until the students decide to vote on the bill (or table it for possible later additional discussion).
7. After students have completed debate on one bill or resolution, they proceed onto the next one.

ROUNDS PROCEDURE

- Presiding officer(s) will be elected at the beginning of each session. This presiding officer will serve for the entirety of the session or for the duration of one legislation and may not give speeches during the time over which he/she is presiding. However, the presiding officer will be ranked based on his/her performance in the role.
- **However, a Presiding Officer may split a round with another Presiding Officer.**
- Students may motion for an “open podium,” in the sense that if an affirmative speaker has just spoken, it is impermissible to give another affirmative the floor **over a negation speaker**, even if the affirmative speaker has precedence based on recency, if there are not enough affirmation speeches or negation speeches to complete a cycle. 2/3 majority is required for “open podium” to pass.
- Presiding officers are required to follow standard recency/precedence procedures. First priority is given to speakers who have given the fewest speeches. Between speakers who have given the same number of speeches, the speaker who has spoken the least recently is given priority. Before recency is established, ties must be broken randomly. **Standing time will NOT be used during the rounds.**
- Recency, precedence, and questions reset between sessions.

- Legislation may not be debated between sessions. If debate begins on a bill in one session, it must end in the same session and may not be continued to other sessions.
- Standard questioning procedures will be used; prefacing and two-part questions are not allowed.

CESAR CHAVEZ CONGRESS DOCKET

1. A Bill To Regulate The Use Of Handguns
2. A Resolution To Regulate The Amount Of CO₂ Emissions In The U.S.
3. A Resolution To Establish a Permanent Settlement on Mars
4. A Resolution To Regulate Dietary Supplements
5. A Bill to Regulate How Startups Employ Workers
6. A Bill to Federally Allow The Use of Marijuana

A Bill To Regulate The Use Of Handguns

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** The U.S. government will regulate the private ownership of handguns.

2. **SECTION 2.** Handguns are small guns, such as revolvers or pistols, designed to be held and
3. shot with one hand.

4. Private ownership is the fact of being owned by a private individual or
5. organization, rather than by the state or a public body.

6. Handguns will be regulated according to the following:
7. A. People, who wish to own a gun, must be scanned with background checks
8. identifying his/her previous records, such as criminal records.
9. B. Also each person must go through a mental evaluation by a qualified
10. medical professional in order to own a gun.
11. C. In addition, there will be a limit on the amount of stores and a rigorous
12. licensing approval for each store that sells guns in each state.

13. **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Treasury will oversee the funding of this bill. The
14. U.S. Department of Justice will oversee the enforcement of the bill.

15. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on November 20, 2016.

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

A Resolution To Regulate The Amount Of CO₂ Emissions
In The U.S.

1. **WHEREAS,** The air in many areas of the U.S. is too polluted to the point that it is making
2. living in those areas unbearable and unhealthy; and

3. **WHEREAS,** The U.S. is the second largest contributor to the amount of the level of
4. greenhouse gases; and

5. **WHEREAS,** Cities such as Los Angeles, Cincinnati, Phoenix, New York and Chicago have
6. smog levels that pollute the air greatly; and

7. **WHEREAS,** This has greatly increased the number of people diagnosed with severe
8. asthma, heart disease, lung disease, and has caused many pregnant women to
9. give birth to babies with defects; now, therefore, be it

10. **RESOLVED,** By this Congress that: a law shall put in place to limit the chemical output of
11. major factories and the emission levels produced by cars by 20%.

A Resolution To Establish a Permanent Settlement on Mars

1. **WHEREAS,** Johan Rockström, an executive director of the Stockholm Resilience Centre
2. states that humanity has already raced past four of the nine boundaries keeping
3. our planet hospitable to modern life, such as climate change, loss of
4. biodiversity, the addition of phosphorus and nitrogen to the world’s crops and
5. ecosystems, and deforestation; and

6. **WHEREAS,** Earth's population is expanding at an exponential rate, and the natural
7. resources vital to our survival are running out faster than we can replace them
8. with sustainable alternatives, and the human race has faced the treat of nuclear
9. extinction on more than one occasion. According to famed theoretical
10. physicist Stephen Hawking, “it's time to free ourselves from Mother Earth as
11. it will be difficult enough to avoid disaster on planet Earth in the next hundred
12. years, let alone the next thousand, or million;” and

13. **WHEREAS,** Planetary settlement would also jump start many technologies; and,

14. **WHEREAS,** Planetary exploration would also bring new resources to Earth; now, therefore,
15. be it

16. **RESOLVED,** By this Congress that: the U.S. Congress should work with NASA to prioritize
17. and provide funding for a settlement mission on Mars by 2028.

A Resolution To Regulate Dietary Supplements

1. **WHEREAS,** Due to the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act (DSHEA), which
2. was signed into law by President Clinton in October 1994, dietary
3. supplements are not subject to the same regulatory requirements as other
4. foods; and

5. **WHEREAS,** A dietary supplement is a product intended for ingestion that contains a
6. "dietary ingredient" intended to add further nutritional value to (supplement)
7. the diet. A "dietary ingredient" may be one, or any combination, of the
8. following substances: a vitamin, a mineral, an herb or other botanical, an
9. amino acid, a dietary substance for use by people to supplement the diet by
10. increasing the total dietary intake, a concentrate, metabolite, constituent, or
11. extract; and

12. **WHEREAS,** More than one-half of Americans take one or more supplements a day; and

13. **WHEREAS,** There have been cases of hospitalizations, organ failure, and detrimental
14. reactions to various dietary supplements; now, therefore, be it

15. **RESOLVED,** By this Congress that: the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall increase
16. their power by regulating the production and distribution of all dietary
17. supplements sold in the U.S.

A Bill to Regulate How Startups Employ Workers

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** The United States government will regulate how startups will employ and
2. classify their workers.

3. **SECTION 2.** A. Firstly, all startups will be defined as newly established businesses.
4. B. Secondly, a minimum of 50% of the workforce in a startup must be W-2
5. workers.
6. C. Thirdly, a W-2 employee is an employee whose taxes are withheld by the
7. employer and whose earnings are reported to the IRS at the year-end. Also
8. an employer is required to provide a W-2 employee with a place of work
9. as well as with health insurance or discounted health insurance,
10. unemployment, in case the employee is fired, a retirement plan, and other
11. benefits.

12. **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Labor shall enforce the regulation of W-2 workers in
13. startups.

14. **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect in October 31, 2017.

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

A Bill to Federally Allow The Use of Marijuana

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. **SECTION 1.** All U.S. states shall be required to allow the use of Marijuana for medical
2. purposes only.
3. **SECTION 2.** Marijuana's medical uses are defined as the reduction of the side effects of
4. chemotherapy, stimulation of appetite, act as a painkiller, helping those with
5. brain disorders, etc;
6. However, marijuana will not be allowed for recreational use.
7. Also before the user obtains the drug, the said user must have a prescription
8. from a medical board certified doctor.
9. **SECTION 3.** A new subsection of the FDA, called the Medical Drug Regulations
10. Administration shall reinforce this legislation in all states.
11. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on February 4, 2017.
12. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.