

Louisiana High School Speech League Congressional Debate

December 2017 Docket Legislative Docket

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This publication is a suggested docket of all legislation that can be considered during sessions of Congressional Debate hosted by tournaments sanctioned by the Louisiana High School Speech League (LHSSL). Each chamber will set its own agenda at the beginning of the preliminary and final sessions. Legislation is submitted by member schools of the LHSSL. Those schools are notated on the pieces of legislations to allow for proper authorship speeches. Also, submissions from affiliate and out-of-state schools will be added in and notated for tournaments hosting these competitors. Finally, this docket has been supplemented with bills and resolutions selected by the LHSSL Clerk of Congress. No authorship speeches exist for these bills; instead, sponsorship speeches will be given based off of the precedence and recency in the individual chambers.

Please see the LHSSL website for full packet of Congressional Debate Guidelines. This document includes the following details, which are critical to proper participation in Louisiana High School Speech League Congressional Debate:

- Rules and procedures
- Code of ethics
- Oath of office
- Table of parliamentary motions

If you have any questions regarding the LHSSL Congressional Debate Docket, please contact the LA Clerk of Congress.

Packet Updates: Please note that any additional legislation being added to the LHSSL docket from month to month will be highlighted in yellow in the Table of Contents. Otherwise, the docket will remain largely unchanged to bring continuity to debate. Please note these pieces of legislation so that correctly numbering is used and the most current docket legislation is ready for debate each month.



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B1. Bill to Increase Access to Supreme Court Oral Arguments

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Federal Rule 53 shall be abolished to allow for video recording of United
3 States Supreme Court oral arguments.

4 **SECTION 2.** Federal Rule 53 states that no USSC oral arguments may be recorded by
5 means of videotaping or other visual media.

6 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Justice shall be responsible for the
7 implementation of this bill.

24 **SECTION 4.** The law will go into effect immediately upon passing

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Clerk of Congress



B2. A Bill to Support Net Neutrality

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will immediately support net neutrality for open
3 access to the internet.

4 **SECTION 2.** This bill will prevent broadband throttling to websites by ISP (Internet
5 Service Providers). ISPs will not be able to throttle competitor's
6 websites to its customers, and will not be able to charge a premium for
7 access. Any attempts to degrade internet access in any way will be
8 prosecuted.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Communications Commission will oversee implementation
10 of this legislation.

11 A. ISPs will be prevented from throttling by FCC oversight. If they
12 are found to be blocking or limiting connections, they will be fined
13 at the highest legal level ruled fit.

14 B. The FCC will examine and monitor the DNS servers (Domain
15 Name) of ISPs.

23 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.

24 **SECTION 5.** All laws conflicting with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Clerk of Congress



B3. A Bill to Defund Sanctuary Cities

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All Federal funding directed towards cities and counties whose law
3 enforcement agencies fail to comply with Federal immigration law shall
4 cease immediately.

5 **SECTION 2.** Federal funding shall be defined as any funds allocated directly by
6 Congress, or given by a Federal agency to a city or county. The Federal
7 Immigration Law (FIL) will be enforced by the DHS, ICE and USBP.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of the Homeland Security (DHS) shall work in
9 conjunction with the Department of the Treasury (DOT) to implement
10 all aspects of this bill.

11 A. The DHS and DOT will be responsible for identifying the cities and
12 counties not in compliance with Federal Immigration Law.

13 **SECTION 4.** This will go into effect immediately after passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Clerk of Congress



B4. A Bill to Provide a Path to Citizenship for Undocumented Residents

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. The US Citizenship and Immigration Services will issue a blanket amnesty providing a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants currently residing in the United States under the following guidelines:

- A. There will be a 60 day registration period for individuals to apply for permanent resident status.
- B. Applicants will be required to provide documented proof of continuous residence in the United States for a minimum of 5 years.
 - 1. Proof of residence may include, but is not limited to, mortgage payment receipts, rent receipts, utility payments, pay stubs, or school enrollment documents for minors.
 - 2. Children under school age may be exempt from this requirement.
- C. All applicants will be subject to background checks. Conviction of a felony may be grounds for rejection of the residency application.
- D. Granting of resident status will allow each individual to begin the residence requirement for naturalization and US citizenship

SECTION 2. Immigrants granted resident status will be allowed to work in the US and will be eligible to receive any benefits or services available to non-citizen legal residents.

SECTION 3. The Department of Homeland Security will be responsible for the



23 implementation and enforcement of these provisions.

24 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

26 void.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Comeaux High School



B5. A Bill to Put Boots on the Ground in Yemen to Effectively Combat the Houthi Rebels

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States military will be providing military support to the

3 Yemen government, by placing 15,000 U.S troops on the ground. The

4 United States will end support for the Saudi Air Coalition.

5 **SECTION 2.** The United States will place boots on the ground to gain back the major

6 cities of Yemen to establish a foothold in the region.

7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will take effect on April 16th 9 , 2017

10 **SECTION 4.** The U.S. Department of Defense will oversee the enforcement of the

11 bill.

12 A. The Department of Defense will monitor the spending to ensure

13 adequate use of funds.

14 B. The Department of Defense will oversee operations within

15 Yemen.

16 **SECTION 5.** This Bill will go into effect immediately upon passage

17 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict will be null and void

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B6. A Bill to Fund Private Space Corporations for Asteroid Mining to Extract Resources from Interplanetary Asteroids for Deep Space Operations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** NASA will provide contracts to private space corporations for the
3 specific purpose of asteroid mining.

SECTION 2. Asteroid Mining is the exploitation of raw materials from asteroids and other minor planets, including near-Earth objects. Foreign Bodies are unearthy bodies in outer space. Deep Space Operations refer to exploration and mining operations conducted in outer space. Interplanetary Asteroids are small rocky bodies that orbit our Sun.

9 **SECTION 3.** NASA will oversee the enforcement of this bill by controlling funding for
10 promising private corporations under their discretion.

11 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into immediately upon passage

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B7. A Bill to Increase Regulations on the Purchase of Firearms

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The prerequisites for purchasing a firearm should be increased to
include

3 doctor evaluation and an aptitude test.

5 **SECTION 2. A.** A doctor's evaluation will consist of a consultation with a licensed
6 psychiatric physician about the physical, mental, and situational
7 factors that may arise with the purchase of a firearm. The doctor
8 will then determine if the purchaser is competent, and issue a
9 written statement of their approval.

10 **B.** An aptitude test will consist of a demonstration of proper use of a
11 firearm. This test will be administered by licensed firearm dealers.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms shall be tasked with the
13 implementation and enforcement of this bill.

12 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect immediately on passage

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Comeaux High School



B8. A Bill to Increase Relations with Cuba

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. The embargo and sanctions placed upon Cuba shall be lifted in order to increase relations with the country of Cuba.

SECTION 2. The embargo is defined as the one set by President John F. Kennedy 54 years ago, which strained Cuba commercially, economically, and financially.

SECTION 3. A. The US Department of State shall oversee the lift of the embargo.

B. The US Department of Treasury shall oversee the removal of sanctions upon Cuba.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into immediately upon passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



B9. A Bill to End Mandatory Minimum Sentencing

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** End all mandatory minimum sentencing for low level non-violent drug
3 offenses. Every convict currently serving a mandatory minimum for a low
4 level drug offense shall have their sentences changed accordingly.

5 **SECTION 2.** Non-violent offense shall be defined as by the Department of Justice as
6 offenses without harm or threat.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice shall oversee the enforcement of this bill.

8 **SECTION 4.** This will take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Comeaux High School



B10. A Bill to Make College More Available

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. A. Any American citizen between the ages of 18 and 21 that serves two years of alternative civilian service or national service will receive two years of free college.

B. The college at which the citizen receives two years of free education, must be one of the state colleges within the state in which that person lives

SECTION 2. A. Alternative civilian service is defined as service to a government made as a civilian, particularly such service as an option for conscripted persons who object to military service.

B. Conscription, or drafting, is the compulsory enlistment of people in a national service, most often a military service.

SECTION 3. The United States Selective Service System will be the government agency that will oversee the implementation and maintenance of this bill.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Comeaux High School



B11: A Bill to Require Mandatory National Service

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. All U.S. Citizens are required to perform 10 months of National Service through Americorps, unless otherwise exempt under Section 3, while between the ages of 17 and 27.

SECTION 2. The Corporation for National and Community Service(CNCS) will administer the program, and will expand eligible service programs as needed to include service opportunities for professionals who wish to serve after concluding their professional education, and for the disabled as that term is defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

SECTION 3. The CNCS will grant exemptions as follows:

- A. Any citizen who enlists in a branch of the U.S. armed forces or is otherwise committed to and has served a year with the armed forces is exempt,
- B. Any citizen who serves a year in the Peace Corps is exempt,
- C. Any citizen who is unable, due to a physical or mental disability or illness, to serve, even in programs specifically set up to accommodate the disabled, is exempt
- D. Any citizen who , for extraordinary reasons not foreseen , is deemed unable to serve, may be exempt by the CNCS, but under no circumstances may this exemption be used to excuse whole categories of persons for religious, political, class, race, gender,



22 national origin or other reasons. This exemption must be narrowly
23 drawn to insure that political influence, patronage, religious
24 service, and socioeconomic class are not reasons to avoid National
25 Service.

26 **SECTION 4.** This law will take effect within 1 year from date of passage, and apply to
27 every citizen who turns 17 within ,or subsequent to, the year of its 28
28 effective date, giving those citizens until their 28th birthday to complete
29 their service.

30 **SECTION 5.** Congress will increase funding for the CNCS, increasing its budget by a
31 multiple of 4 from its last approved 2017 budget of \$1,030,358,000, in
32 the first year of implementation, and private donations and grants to
33 specific programs overseen by the CNCS through Americorps will be
34 eligible for tax deduction under I.R.S. Rules for charitable deductions.

35 **SECTION 6.** This law will take effect immediately upon passage

36 **SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this law are deemed null and void.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Christ Episcopal School



1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

6 **SECTION 2.** Self-Driving , or Autonomous, vehicles are those that stop, start, and
7 move in any direction through computer technology without the active
8 intervention of a human being, and which are designed to transport
9 people.

8 **SECTION 4.** This will take effect immediately upon passage.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Christ Episcopal School



B13. A Bill to Expand High Speed Internet Lifeline to All Americans

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government will expand the current free Lifeline High
3 Speed Internet service to all American citizens.

4 **SECTION 2.** The Federal Communications Commission will be responsible for the
5 implementation of this bill.

6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will become effective on July 1, 2018.

8 **SECTION 4.** Funding for this legislation will be provided by all necessary and proper
9 means.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Archbishop Shaw High School



B14. A Bill to Invade Cuba

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will invade the nation of Cuba.

3 **SECTION 2.** The United States Department of Defense will be responsible for the
4 Implementation of this bill.

5 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation will be provided by the United States
6 Department of Defense budget.

7 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect immediately upon passage

8 **SECTION 5.** All laws conflicting with this legislation are hereby declared null and
9 void.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Archbishop Shaw High School



B15. A Bill to Increase U.S. Contributions to the United Nations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will increase yearly contributions to the United
3 Nations, to aid in the United Nations' tasks by thirteen percent (13%).

4 **SECTION 2.** A contribution is defined as a part played by a person or a thing in
5 bringing about a result or helping something to advance. These
6 contributions are used to aid the United Nations in its efforts to aid the
7 undeveloped world.

8 **SECTION 3.** The United States Agency for International Development (USAID),
9 and the Office of Developmental Finance (ODF) will oversee the
10 enforcement of this bill

11 A. The USAID is in charge of United States foreign aid. The USAID's
12 role will be to work with the United Nations, to decide the best
13 use of the given aid.

14 B. The ODF works financially with the UN to date. The ODF will
15 control the transfer of aid

16 C. The United Nations decides funding for countries based upon
17 their yearly revenue. The thirteen percent increase will not derive
18 from this but rather from the finances already contributed.

19 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will become effective upon passage with the thirteen
20 percent (13%) increase in the U.S. contribution to take effect upon the
21 next scheduled U.S. contribution to the United Nations.



22 **SECTION 5.** All laws conflicting with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Archbishop Shaw High School



B16. A Bill to End the Production of the Penny in the U.S.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Mint shall end production of the American one-cent
3 coin, know as the penny.

4 **SECTION 2.** The United States Government shall mandate that all retail and
5 wholesale prices of goods and services in the United States be rounded
6 to the nearest fifth cent.

7 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation will be provided by the United States
8 Department of Defense budget.

7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Archbishop Shaw High School



B17. A Bill to Raise the Tax on Gasoline

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The tax on gasoline will be raised from 18.4 cents per gallon to 22 cents
3 per gallon. Revenue generated from this tax will be used to make
4 investments to repair America's aging infrastructure.

5 **SECTION 2.** Infrastructure- America's highways and bridges

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development will
7 oversee the implication of A Bill to Raise the Tax on Gasoline.

7 **SECTION 4.** This act will be enacted 90 days after the implication of this bill

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the De La Salle High School



1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government Declare the 2nd Saturday in November
3 as Election Day.

5 **SECTION 2.** The first Tuesday in November will be replaced by the 2nd Saturday in
6 November.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission will oversee the change of days

8 **SECTION 4.** The Election Day Change will take effect for the Presidential Elections in
9 2020

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Thrive Academy - Baton Rouge



B19. A Bill to Cease Foreign Aid

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government shall cease all foreign aid to foreign countries and states. Foreign aid shall be suspended in an effort to focus the budget on domestic problems, specifically education, infrastructure, and border security. Thus, all parts of the budget currently used for the purpose of foreign aid shall be redistributed into the aforementioned areas of the budget.

SECTION 2. “Foreign aid” is defined as economic, technical, or military aid given by the United States to another nation or state.

SECTION 3. The Office of U.S. Foreign Assistance and the State Department shall oversee Implementation of this bill. Furthermore, the Office of Management and Budget shall oversee the redistribution of the money used in foreign aid.

SECTION 4. Implementation of this bill shall be within the next fiscal budget passed in the Senate.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



B20. A Bill to Defund Planned Parenthood

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States of America ceases all federal, tax-payer money that is currently being given to the health clinic organization known as Planned Parenthood due to their controversial providing of abortions.

SECTION 2. Planned Parenthood is defined as “a nonprofit organization that does research into and gives advice on contraception, family planning, and reproductive problems”, federal funding is defined as “any federal program, project, service, and activity provided by the federal government that directly assists domestic governments, organizations, or individuals in the areas of education, health, etc.”, and tax-payer money is defined as “Public funds, all money spent or invested by government to satisfy individual or collective needs or to create future benefits”.

SECTION 3. The United States Congress will oversee the implementation of the bill..

SECTION 4. This bill shall be implemented within the next approved federal budget.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



B21. A Bill to Legalize Marijuana

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall legalize the drug known as
3 marijuana for recreational and medicinal use. The restrictions on using
4 this drug are that a person may only use it publicly in
5 smoking-designated areas, such as those with cigarettes.

6 **SECTION 2.** Marijuana is defined as “the dried leaves and flowering tops of the
7 pistillate hemp plant that yield THC and are smoked in cigarettes for
8 their intoxicating.” Smoking-Designated Area shall be defined as “an
9 outdoor area where smoking is permitted, which must be at least 20 feet
10 from windows, entryways, vents, doorways or other openings and must
11 be designed to prevent smoke escaping from the designated smoking
12 area into an enclosed area of a workplace or public place or other areas.”

13 **SECTION 3.** Department of Health and Human Services shall oversee the
14 implementation of this bill.

15 **SECTION 4.** Implementation shall be within six months of passing.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



B22. A Bill to Return Cultural Artifacts to Their Nation of Origin

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government shall return all cultural artifacts in its possession that do not originate from the United States to their nation of origin. For example, the Hope Diamond currently housed in the National Museum of Natural History shall be returned to India, where the diamond was originally discovered.

- a. In the case an artifact belongs to a nation that no longer exists, the artifact shall go to whichever occupies the territory the artifact originated from.
- b. The artifacts shall only be returned if and when the country of origin is determined to be stable enough to safely house the artifact. A congressional committee shall be established to determine this. Until the country is deemed safe, the artifact shall remain in the United States.

SECTION 2. "Cultural artifact" is defined as anything created by a human or group of people that provides information about the culture and civilization the people are a part of. "Safe", in reference to nations, is defined as a nation with political stability and an atmosphere that does not threaten the value or safety of the artifact.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of the Interior shall oversee implementation of this bill. If a museum is found to not have returned the artifact, the Department of the Interior has the right to enforce



23 eminent domain and confiscate the artifact, only for the purposes of
24 returning the artifact to its nation of origin.

25 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented twelve months after passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



B23. A Bill to Significantly Increase NASA's Funding

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** In an effort to promote innovation, science, and engineering, as well as
3 national defense, it shall be mandated that the same amount of 10% of
4 military spending in the federal budget must be given to NASA's
5 funding.

6 To be clear, 10% of military spending will not go to NASA; instead, the
7 amount equal to 10% of military spending will be added to NASA's
8 funding.

9 **SECTION 2.** "Military spending" is defined as the amount of financial resources
10 dedicated to raising and maintaining an armed forces or other methods
11 essential for defense purposes. "NASA" is defined as the National
12 Aeronautics and Space Administration, and is tasked with exploring and
13 researching space and the Earth. "Federal budget" is defined as the
14 distribution of federal funds among various agencies, departments,
15 organizations, and entities both in and outside the federal government.

16 **SECTION 3.** The Office of Management and Budget shall oversee the
17 implementation of this bill.

18 **SECTION 4.** Implementation of this bill is immediate upon passage.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A Bill To Fund the Construction of Offshore Wind Farms In the Gulf of
3 Mexico, the United States of America ought to fund the construction of
4 offshore wind farms in the Gulf Atlantic region.

5 **SECTION 2.** These wind farms should be built to the specification of the Department
6 of Energy. These wind farms are to be constructed in the portion of the
7 Gulf of Mexico owned by the U.S.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy shall oversee the implementation of this bill.
9 They shall be responsible for the design and allocation of funds to both
10 government owned entities and private companies where necessary.

11 **SECTION 4.** This construction should begin in 2018-2019

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by John Paul the Great Academy



R1. A Resolution to Prohibit the Denial of Health Insurance to Those With Pre Existing Conditions

- 1 **Whereas,** within recent senate legislation such as The American Health
2 Care Act and The Cassidy Graham Bill , protections for those with pre
3 existing conditions have been removed and
- 4 **Whereas,** while current negotiations have failed to repeal and replace
5 the Affordable Care Act , there will be more initiatives to come and
- 6 **Whereas,** it is discrimination to deny those with pre existing conditions
7 and currently those who exhibit those traits are protected by law, with
8 new legislation they might not be and
- 9 **Whereas,** insurance companies should not delegate policies and denials
10 based on financial gain being that it is an unethical business practice;
11 now, therefore, be it
- 12 **Resolved,** By the Student Congress here assembled that the United States craft
13 legislation to prohibit the Denial of Health Insurance to Those With Pre
14 Existing Conditions.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Comeaux High School



R2. A Resolution to Protect Cultural Landmarks and Historical Statues In Their Current Existence

- 1 **Whereas,** in the summer of 2017 there has been a newfound interest in
2 the removal of historical monuments based on political affiliation and
3 past grievances; and
- 4 **Whereas,** in a Newsweek article published on August 25, President(s)
5 Thomas Jefferson and Theodore Roosevelt were degraded to simple
6 “racists” and slaveholders; and
- 7 **Whereas,** with the removal of civil war monuments , the renewed
8 interest in taking down monuments with the representation or
9 glorification of past presidents has taken place; and
- 10 **Whereas,** history regardless of creed or political affiliation should be
11 preserved and protected against removal and defacement; and
- 10 **Whereas,** a person or events life as it was known should not be degraded to one
13 moment in time; now, therefore, be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** By the Student Congress here assembled that the United States Should
15 Protect Cultural Landmarks and Historical Statues In Their Current
16 Existence.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Comeaux High School



2016-2017 Louisiana High School Speech League Congressional Debate



R3. A Resolution to Protect Academic Freedom in Post Secondary Education

- 1 **Whereas,** in recent years the ability of tenure professors to pursue research in
2 fields that are socially uneasy has lead to a condemnation of supposed
3 truths even with support by scientific evidence in their academic
4 environments, and
- 5 **Whereas,** The rejection of truth has been the cause of tenure professors being
6 fired without just cause but simply for researching fields that are
7 considered offensive or taboo, and,
- 8 **Whereas,** This movement is denying tenure professors the right to academic
9 freedom afforded to them, and pollutes the scientific and educational
10 environment for everyone, and,
- 11 **Whereas,** This current trend forces mankind to subsist in his ignorance of many
12 subjects within the fields of science and philosophy and allows for
13 degradation of academic standards. Now therefore be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** by this student congress that academic freedom ought to be protected
15 in post secondary education.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by by John Paul the Great Academy



R4. A Resolution to Reduce Carbon Emissions

- 1 **Whereas,** the United States contributes roughly 45% of the world's carbon
2 emissions; and
- 4 **Whereas,** The United States' withdrawal from the Paris climate accord will
5 decrease accountability for the nation's carbon footprint; and
- 7 **Whereas,** without an objective goal for carbon emissions in the next 10 years the
8 U.S. will continue to be one of the world's largest contributors to the
9 environmental crisis; now, therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** by the Student Congress here assembled that the United States
11 Environmental Protection Agency create a goal modeled after the Paris
12 climate accord by which to hold the country accountable for our carbon
13 footprint order to grant further incentive to innovate new and cleaner
14 energy

Submitted for Congressional Debate by John Paul the Great Academy



R5. A Resolution to Provide Adequate Funding for Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis

- 1 **Whereas,** the World Health Organization declared tuberculosis to be a global
2 health emergency in 1993; and
- 3 **Whereas,** approximately one-third of the world's population carries the
4 tuberculosis bacteria, the number of people infected in 2015 rose by
5 1.6%, and people who have HIV are 20-30% more susceptible to
6 tuberculosis; and
- 7 **Whereas,** 5.6% of new tuberculosis cases are estimated to be drug-resistant, and
8 117 countries have reported the occurrence of "extensively
9 drug-resistant TB"; and
- 11 **Whereas,** US Global Health Funding for tuberculosis has seen a decrease since
12 2012; now, therefore, be it
- 14 **Resolved,** that the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
15 to substantially increase the allocated funding through USAID for
16 tuberculosis research specifically focusing on drug-resistant TB.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R6. A Resolution to Encourage Fetal Research to Save Lives

- 1 **Whereas,** Various states including Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, North Dakota, Ohio,
2 Oklahoma, and South Dakota have passed laws to either heavily restrict
3 or ban experimentation, research, and/or sale of aborted fetuses; and
- 3 **Whereas,** These research restrictions have greatly delayed areas of study such as
4 fetal tissue research, which could provide insight into diseases. Human
5 development and treatments for spinal cord injuries could help the
6 medical facilities around the nation save lives; and
- 7 **Whereas,** Majority race students who are passed over for admission are not given
8 an equal opportunity; and
- 9 **Whereas,** The restrictions set forth by these states have set back further
10 advancements in the medical field that could save lives of future
11 generations; and
- 12 **Whereas,** Fetal research is being obstructed by restrictive laws, and it is necessary
13 to improve knowledge of various areas of medical science; now,
14 therefore, be it
- 15 **Resolved,** That the Congress here assembled encourage fetal research on aborted
16 fetuses with the consent of the donor.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Comeaux High School



R7. A Resolution to Condemn Israeli Settlements in Palestine

- 1 **Whereas,** Israel is currently constructing settlements in the West Bank and East
2 Jerusalem, areas set aside for a future Palestinian state; and
3 **Whereas,** More than 300,000 settlers are encroaching on privately-held Palestinian
4 land; and
5 **Whereas,** The current Israeli settlements are damaging the prospects for a
6 peaceful solution to the current conflict in the region and the two-state
7 solution; and
8 **Whereas,** The United Nations has repeatedly declared Israeli settlements in
9 violation of international law; now, therefore, be it
10 **Resolved,** That the Congress here assembled condemn Israeli settlements in
11 disputed territories; and, be it
12 **Further Resolved,** That the Congress here assembled pass legislation to stop any
13 further American funding for the propagation of settlements.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R8. A Resolution to Incentivize the Increase of Teacher Salaries to Benefit the Education System and Future Generations

- 1 **Whereas,** Teachers are currently underpaid and many times have to take on
2 multiple jobs to make ends meet and provide for themselves and their
3 children basic necessities; and
- 4 **Whereas,** Teachers talents are strained under such conditions and many would-be
5 teachers are discouraged from taking up the job because of the
6 detrimental financial situation; and
- 7 **Whereas,** Education is one of the building blocks of our society and shapes future
8 generations; and
- 9 **Whereas,** The goal of our education system is harmed by the lack of financial
10 support given to teachers as it deters many great candidates from
11 applying for the job and many times takes away the current teachers
12 ability to focus solely on educating and improving the lives of new
13 generations; now, therefore, be it
- 14 **Resolved,** That the Congress here assembled commit to raising the salaries of
15 teachers to ultimately benefit future generations.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R9. A Resolution to Increase Deployment of a Missile Defense System in the Yellow Sea

- 1 **Whereas,** North Korea is developing nuclear weapons; and
- 2 **Whereas,** North Korea has aggressively pursued the capability to launch a nuclear
- 3 strike on other nations and has threatened said nations multiple times;
- 4 and
- 6 **Whereas,** This has led to regional tensions and uncertainty and increased the risk
- 7 of nuclear war; and
- 8 **Whereas,** US allies are threatened by this state of affairs, and the US has an
- 9 obligation to protect them; and
- 13 **Whereas,** The US has the capability to protect the region with a Missile Defense
- 14 System placed in the Yellow Sea; now, therefore, be it
- 15 **Resolved,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
- 16 that the US military ought to increase the deployment of missile defense
- 17 system in the Yellow Sea.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by the Clerk of Congress



R10: A Resolution to Eliminate “Stand Your Ground” Laws

- 1 **Whereas,** “Stand your ground” laws have encouraged retaliatory acts through the
2 use of deadly force; and
- 3 **Whereas,** Countless dangerous individuals have been acquitted from homicide
4 charges by claiming the “stand your ground” defense in situations where
5 retreat was possible; and
- 6 **Whereas,** A “stand-your-ground” law is a justification in a criminal case, whereby
7 defendants can "stand their ground" and use force without retreating, in
8 order to protect and defend themselves or others against threats or
9 perceived threats; and
- 10 **Whereas,** “Stand your ground” laws eschew the fundamental duty to avoid
conflict;
- 11 now, therefore, be it
- 12 **Resolved,** That state legislatures be urged by this Congress here assembled to
13 repeal “stand your ground” laws and refrain from passing “stand your
14 ground” laws in the future; and, be it

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Comeaux High School



R11: A Resolution to seize the South China Sea to Benefit the United States and its Allies

- 1 **Whereas,** The South China Sea and the resources it contains have become a highly
2 contested maritime territory; and
- 3 **Whereas,** China, which continues to build artificial islands, is increasing its power 4
4 projection on a global scale, which could help North Korea's own power
5 projection; and
- 6 **Whereas,** The United States taking control of the South China Sea would not only
7 ensure protection of its allies, but allow for a strategically advantageous
8 maritime position; now, therefore, be it
- 9 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled the U.S. military make substantial
10 efforts to seize the South China Sea to benefit the United States of
11 America and its allies.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Archbishop Shaw High School



R12: A Resolution to Solve the Inequality in Marriage

- 1 **Whereas,** Same-sex couples do not have the same legal rights and federal 2
2 protections in Civil Unions as those in opposite-sex marriages do; and
- 3 **Whereas,** An estimated 5 percent of American identifies themselves under the
4 category of "homosexual" (which includes gay, lesbian, bi, or
5 transgendered); and
- 6 **Whereas,** The Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional on the grounds of
7 violating the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment,
8 which provides that "no state shall... deny to any person within its
9 jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws"; and
- 10 **Whereas,** Religious views and opinion are not legal ground and basis for
11 opposition and ban, as we are a society that fundamentally separates
12 church and state; and
- 13 **Whereas,** The American Psychology Association has stated that homosexuality is
14 not a choice; there has been little evidence to prove it as such;
15 now, therefore be it
- 16 **RESOLVED,** By the Student Congress here assembled that, a federal law, binding to
17 all states as well, be passed allowing for members of the same sex who
18 wish to have the equal, legal benefits as those in heterosexual marriages
19 be fully allowed to do so; and, be it
- 20 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That an amendment be passed that prohibits the definition of



21

marriage to be strictly defined as “between a man and a woman”.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Thrive Academy - Baton Rouge



R13: A Resolution to Legalize Marijuana

- 1 **Whereas,** recent legislation in California has estimated its Cannabis Sativa crops as a
2 \$14-billion industry, placing it above vegetable and grapes, and
3 **Whereas,** allowing legalized taxation of this state’s crop alone could produce
4 upward of \$1-billion in tax revenue for the state each year, and
6 **Whereas,** medical use of marijuana is already legal in several states, and
7 **Whereas,** legislation would allow the U.S. Government regulation of production
8 and distribution, just as with tobacco and alcohol, and
9 **Whereas,** legalizing marijuana would allow law enforcement agents to focus on
10 more serious crimes, and
11 **Whereas,** the current U.S. economy would benefit greatly from its own source of
12 income and reduction in reliance on foreign aid; therefore
13 **RESOLVED,** by this Student Congress here assembled that Cannabis Sativa,
14 otherwise known as Marijuana, be legally sold, regulated and taxed in
15 the United States of America.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Thrive Academy - Baton Rouge



R14: A Resolution to Implement Universal Health Care in America

- 1 **Whereas,** the infant mortality rate of the United States is higher than that of poverty-stricken
2 Cuba, and
- 3 **Whereas,** Americans receive the recommended care only about 55% of the time,
4 and
- 5 **Whereas,** more than 75% of Americans are not satisfied with the total cost of
6 health care, and
- 7 **Whereas,** approximately 46 million Americans do not have healthcare, and
- 8 **Whereas,** numerous uninsured Americans are denied aid in many hospitals,
9 therefore; be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** by the Student Congress here assembled that universal health care be
11 implemented in the United States by 2019.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Thrive Academy - Baton Rouge



R15: A Resolution to End the War on Drugs

- 1 **Whereas,** The War on Drugs has been a complete failure that has produced no decrease in
2 illegal drug use in the United States.
- 3 **Whereas,** The War on Drugs was implemented as a tool to enforce racism and 4
4 injustices against minority communities.
- 5 **Whereas,** The War on Drugs has resulted in a devastated America, mass
6 incarceration, an unjust criminal justice system, and millions of lives that
7 have been deprived of their rights. Now, therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
11 for solution; and, be it that the War on Drugs is ended.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



R16: A Resolution to Recognize the Sovereignty of Taiwan

- 1 **Whereas,** The nation of Taiwan is not considered a state by most of the world, but rather a
2 rebellion towards China.
- 3 **Whereas,** As a result, the independence and beliefs of those in Taiwan are
4 undermined, as well as their goal for democracy and independence.
- 5 **Whereas,** No longer recognizing Taiwan as a sovereign nation will continue to be a
6 hypocrisy of the United States. As a nation built on the values of
7 democracy, America should look towards promoting and protecting
8 those who seek democracy and freedom; Now, therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
11 for solution; and, be it that the United States of America formally
12 recognize Taiwan as a sovereign nation, and separated from the People's
13 Republic of China.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Holy Cross School



R17: A resolution to grant stronger rights to victims of sexual assault

- 1 **Whereas,** victims of sexual assault are often victimized for a second time, and
- 3 **Whereas,** victims of rape are being forced to face their attackers over custody
- 4 rights for a child conceived during an assault, and
- 5 **Whereas,** There are seven states (Maryland, Alabama, Mississippi, Minnesota,
- 6 North Dakota, Wyoming, and New Mexico) without laws preventing
- 7 rapists from gaining custody of children conceived without consent
- 8 according to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), now
- 9 therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** by the student congress here assembled that out of a respect for the
- 11 intrinsic value and dignity of the victims, stronger custody ought to be
- 12 uniformly granted to the injured party.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by John Paul the Great Academy



R18: A Resolution to Make the District of Columbia a State

- 1 **Whereas,** In 2015, the District had a resident population of 672,228 people, more than that
2 of the state of Wyoming and Vermont, who are under represented in the Senate
3 as well as the fact that Only in the District of Columbia can Congress impose
4 financial and other burdens without the people's consent or participation, and
5 **Whereas,** The State of New Columbia ought to be declared a State of the United
6 States of America, and admitted into the Union with equal rights as the
7 other States in all respects whatsoever, and
8 **Whereas,** The size and vital role of the District of Columbia in the lives of so many
9 Americans merits its right to full representation with the standard two
10 senators and representatives based on population, and
11 **Whereas,** The State ought to consist of all of the territory of the District of
12 Columbia as they currently exist, and
13 **Whereas,** Statehood is simple justice that will restore to the people of the District
14 of Columbia the democratic rights they lost in 1800 and allow them to
15 join union they helped create; now therefore, be it
16 **RESOLVED,** by this student congress that the District of Columbia should be granted
17 statehood.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by John Paul the Great Academy



R19: A Resolution to End Alcohol Abuse Among the Youth in America

- 1 **Whereas,** Underage drinking is a serious public health problem in the United States.
- 2 Alcohol is the most widely used substance of abuse among America’s youth, and
- 3 drinking by young people poses enormous health and safety risks. and,
- 4 **Whereas,** The consequences of underage drinking can affect everyone, and
- 5 **Whereas,** An estimated 88,000 people (approximately 62,000 men and 26,000
- 6 women) die from alcohol-related causes annually, making alcohol the
- 7 fourth leading preventable cause of death in the United States, and
- 8 **Whereas,** Research indicates that alcohol use during the teenage years could
- 9 interfere with normal adolescent brain development. In addition,
- 10 underage drinking contributes to a range of acute consequences,
- 11 including injuries, sexual assaults, and even deaths—including those
- 12 from car crashes. Now therefore, be it
- 13 **RESOLVED,** by this student congress that the U.S. should further fund and support
- 14 Anti-Alcohol Abuse programs.

Submitted for Congressional Debate by John Paul the Great Academy