

The 2018 Glenbrooks Congressional Debate Legislation



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THE GLENBROOKS CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE RULES AND PROCEDURES

Thank you for choosing to attend the 39th annual Glenbrooks Tournament. The following rules intend to promote procedural unity among the chambers and to foster a consistently high standard of Congressional debate. A chamber cannot alter or ignore these regulations with a motion to suspend the rules. They are consistent with the guidelines and standards suggested by the Tournament of Champions, to which each student who advances to semifinals earns a qualifying bid. Note that the Glenbrooks tournament follows NSDA rules unless superseded by those below outlined, and seeks the relevant advice of the latest available edition of Robert's Rules of Order for matters on which this document and the NSDA are silent. Tournament directors reserve the right to issue additional special rules for the Glenbrooks as warranted and welcome your questions in advance of the tournament.

1 SESSIONS & CHAMBERS

1.1 Number of Sessions: The tournament will consist of three preliminary sessions, one semifinal session, and a final session.

1.2 Assignment to Preliminary Chambers: Students will be assigned to geographically diverse preliminary chambers ideally of a size ranging from 18-22 students, never to exceed 25. Where possible students from the same school will be placed evenly in chambers. However, students may be placed together to leave chambers open such that judges from that school can be assigned without conflicts.

2 LEGISLATION

2.1 Submission of Preliminary Legislation: The tournament will publish guidelines and deadlines for student legislation submission annually in the invitation. Tournament officials will consider submitted legislation from attending students, selecting bills and resolutions that are controversial, timely, well written, properly formatted, and that there substantial affirmative and negative arguments. Submission of legislation for consideration is not a guarantee that it will be included in the tournament's docket, as it must be limited to a reasonable number of pieces of legislation so that debaters can adequately prepare. In keeping with longstanding Glenbrooks tradition, legislation selected for the tournament will be assigned to three categories: Economics, Foreign Affairs, or Public Welfare.

2.2 Semifinal and Final Legislation: The Congressional debate tabulation staff will write or select legislation for the semifinal and final sessions, drawing at their discretion from recent monthly legislation dockets published by the NSDA.

2.3 Publishing of Legislation: Once published on the tournament website, the legislation docket should be downloaded and printed. The tournament will not supply printed copies to the students. A printed copy will be provided for each judge and parliamentarian's personal use.

3 ESTABLISHING THE AGENDA

3.1 Determining the Agenda: Prior to the beginning of Session 1, each preliminary chamber will act as a committee of the whole to determine the order of legislation to be debated throughout the three preliminary sessions. The chamber may do this by unanimous consent or by voting on multiple proposed agendas. The agenda established by each chamber must rotate between legislation drawn from Economics, Foreign Affairs or Public Welfare; the rotation can be initiated by any of the three categories.

3.2 Freedom of Debate: Suspensions of the rules to allow for changes to the agenda are not permitted. Once the chamber has set an agenda for the tournament, they may not deviate from that agenda. This ensures fair competition

and equitable preparation. Debate on a bill will continue until time expires in the session during which it began or the previous question is called, whichever comes first.

4 ELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

4.1 Election Procedures: The parliamentarian will conduct elections for presiding officers, assisted by scorers in the collection of the secret ballots. Each student within the chamber may cast one vote. Voting will continue, dropping the lowest vote-getter(s), until one person receives a majority. The voting for the second session Presiding Officer shall be held at the end of the first session, and voting for the third session presiding officer shall be held at the end of the second session.

4.2 Progression of Speeches and Cross-Examination: Debate on each bill or resolution will begin with a call for a three-minute authorship speech by its signed author, or in their absence by a representative from their school. An author or student(s) from the author's school may decline to stand for this speech. In the absence of such a speech, the presiding officer will call for any representative to deliver the first affirmative speech, functionally sponsoring the legislation. Following the delivery of the first affirmative speech, the chair will allow for two minutes of questioning of the speaker. Following the questioning, the chair will ask for a speech in opposition to the bill. This speech will be three minutes long followed by a two minute of questioning. All subsequent speeches shall be three minutes in length followed by a one-minute questioning period. In the preliminary sessions speakers may only ask one question at a time (two-part/multiple questions are not allowed).

4.3 One-Sided Debate: In the unlikely absence of a first affirmative speech, debate may also begin on a new piece of legislation with a negative speech. There is no limitation on the number of consecutive affirmative or negative speeches that can be given.

4.4 Recognizing Speakers: When more than one debater seeks the floor, the presiding officer must follow the precedence/recency method, that is:

- First, recognize students who have not spoken during the session. Choose between these students at random.
- Next, recognize students who have spoken fewer times during the session.
- Finally, recognize students who spoke earlier (least recently) during the session.

4.5 Penalty for Speeches Exceeding Time Limits: Any regular floor speech that extends more than 10 seconds beyond the maximum speaking time of three minutes shall be penalized one full point on the speech score by the judge evaluating the session. The Presiding Officer is required to keep accurate time of each speech and report it to the judges when the speaker has finished.

4.6 Precedence and the Legislative Day: Within each session precedence/recency do not reset, to ensure that all students in a chamber have opportunities to speak and receive evaluation from the scorers. When each new session begins precedence/recency will be reset. The length of sessions should not be altered to indulge the debaters' desire to allow all members to end with an equal number of speeches (i.e., do not recess early after all students have given two speeches in the session).

5 OTHER NOTES OF DECORUM

5.1 Amendments: Legislators may submit amendments to the Presiding Officer in writing. A motion to amend is necessary to consider the written amendment; such a motion is in order anytime after the first affirmative speech. Once the motion is made, the Presiding Officer decides if the amendment is germane. The Presiding Officer must consult with the Parliamentarian to make this decision. If the amendment is deemed not to be germane, the chair rules it out-of-order and the amendment process stops. If the chair rules the amendment germane, he/she should read the contents of the amendment to the chamber. A 1/3 second of the members present in the chamber is required to debate the amendment. If the chamber votes a second, debate on the amendment commences immediately. Legislators may make a motion to table or call the previous question on the amendment at any time. The first speech on the amendment is a sponsorship speech. The chair determines speaker recognition for the sponsorship speech based on priority; the author of the amendment is not guaranteed the sponsorship speech. The sponsor accepts

responsibility for the mechanics of the amendment and yields to two minutes of questioning. All amendment speeches receive a score and count towards priority. A majority vote is necessary for the chamber to adopt the amendment (this of course after a 2/3 vote has been achieved to call previous question on the amendment).

5.2 Voting By Unanimous Consent: When a motion is unlikely to be contested, it is appropriate for the Chair to call for unanimous consent by asking, “are there any objections” before executing the motion. Members may then respond by announcing “objection” to the chamber. This is not an automatic recognition to explain the substance of that objection. Proper expression of your objection is to then vote “Nay” in the subsequent division of the chamber (this prohibition includes explaining that you have a speech you still wish to deliver; the chamber is aware that you’ve been standing thus far and is not obliged to allow every member to deliver every speech he/she may desire). It is imperative that Presiding Officers cease the inefficient practice of allowing explanations of objections ad nauseam.

5.3 Personal Privileges: It has become common practice in recent years to suspend the rules and allow for an “open” chamber where members may freely enter and exit between speeches. While this does relieve the Chair of traffic directing duties, it has led to some degree of abuse by debaters. Therefore at the Glenbrooks tournament suspension of the rules for the purposes of an open chamber is not permitted. No more than two members should be excused from chambers simultaneously.

5.4 Designation as a House of Representatives or a Senate: The Glenbrooks tournament strives to be a contest with the highest standards of behavior at all times among attending students. Debate modeling the work of the United States Congress should be enjoyable but also taken seriously. All preliminary chambers are designated as a House of Representatives, while semifinal chambers and the final chamber are designated as Senates. A member of a Senate is always referred to as Senator, while a member of a House of Representatives is always referred to as Representative. The Presiding Officer of a Senate is addressed as President, while the Presiding Officer of a House of Representatives is addressed as Speaker. The Presiding Officer is responsible for enforcing proper decorum.

5.5 Advocates in Good Faith: A debater may not speak on both sides of the same legislation, but may speak as many times on the same piece of legislation as their priority permits and the chamber allows before calling the question.

6 JUDGE AND PARLIAMENTARIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1 Number of Judges: Two qualified judges will serve for each session, and the tournament directors will attempt to seat larger panels for semifinal and final sessions. A judge will not be assigned to evaluate a student from their school(s).

6.2 Instructions to Judges: Judges should rank the students as "legislators" and not merely as "speakers" considering their argumentative skill, oratorical skill and overall effectiveness as a leader in the chamber. Brief guidelines are specified on the speech ballots.

6.3 Judges' Scoring of Speeches and Preferential Rankings: In the preliminary session, each judge will score every speech on a scale of 1-6 points (6 is best). At the end of each session, the two judges will independently each rank the top eight students who advanced the debate most effectively (1st is best). All unranked students will receive a rank of ninth. The Presiding Officer may be ranked in the top eight, and should be if s/he provides outstanding service to the chamber. All judges will be instructed that they must consider the Presiding Officer.

6.4 Parliamentarians: A Parliamentarian will be appointed to serve continuously for the three preliminary sessions. The Parliamentarians ensure order, allowing the chamber to run itself but correcting significant procedural errors that affect fairness.

6.5 Scoring of the Presiding Officer: The Parliamentarian will be solely responsible for scoring the performance of the presiding officer following each session. As per NSDA rules, the Parliamentarian will award the Presiding Officer up to six points per hour per session for a total of 18 points.

6.6 Parliamentarians' Preferential Rankings: Once at the end of all preliminary sessions, the semifinal session, or the final session as appropriate, the parliamentarian will rank all of the legislators in the chamber. The parliamentarian's top eight rankings will be included in the calculation of which legislators advance from each chamber, and his/her rankings beyond eighth will be used to break ties as below indicated.

6.7 Best Legislation: The Parliamentarian will conduct an election for Outstanding Legislation at the end of the third session. All legislation debated within the chamber will be eligible for consideration. The winning legislation must receive a simple majority of the votes cast. If no legislation earns a simple majority, the legislation that receives the lowest vote total (or the legislation with the same lowest total) will be dropped from consideration until one piece of legislation does obtain the required simple majority.

6.8 Best Presiding Officer: The Parliamentarian will also conduct an election for best Presiding Officer at the end of the third session. The winning candidate must receive a simple majority of the votes cast. If no person earns a simple majority, the candidate who receives the lowest vote total will be dropped from consideration and voting will be repeated. If the two lowest vote getters are tied, a runoff between the two will occur with the lowest vote getter being dropped. Another vote will be taken between the two remaining candidates.

7 THE SEMIFINAL & FINAL SESSIONS

7.1 Number of Students Advancing: Consistent with TOC guidelines, the tournament intends to advance no more than one-third of all preliminary contestants to the semifinal session. While the number of students advancing is dependent on the number of preliminary chambers and the optimum number of students in the semifinal chambers, generally six students have advanced from each preliminary chamber in past years. The exact number of students advancing from each preliminary chamber will be announced before the tournament begins. There will be three or four semifinal chambers, ideally of 15-18 students each, and one final chamber of 14-16 students.

7.2 Determining Advancing Students: Each individual preliminary chamber is tabulated independent of the others. Legislators with the lowest cumulative rank total (each judge's top eight plus the parliamentarian's top eight) advance to the next level of competition. The parliamentarian's preference will break all ties. Ranks do not carry forward from preliminary sessions to the semifinal session, or from the semifinal session to the final session.

7.3 Balancing the Semifinal Chambers: Advancing students shall be assigned to one of three or four semifinal chambers with an effort made to ensure geographical distribution, disperse students from the same preliminary chamber, and balance strength of competition based on preliminary rankings. Students from the same school will be evenly placed in different semifinal chambers.

7.4 Judges and the Parliamentarian: At least two judges - and ideally more - will be assigned to the semifinal session and will be responsible for evaluating the participants' speeches. At least four judges will be assigned to the final session.

7.5 Presiding Officer: Each parliamentarian and the Director of Congress will act as the temporary presiding officer of the semifinal and final sessions respectively, accepting nominations for the Presiding Officer. The members will vote immediately for one nominee after each nominee has the opportunity to address the chamber.

7.6 Legislation and Authorship Speeches: Tournament directors have selected the legislation to be debated in the semifinal and final sessions. The chamber will meet as a committee of the whole to choose the order in which the legislation will be debated. There are no authorship speeches in the semifinal or final sessions. Any student may give the sponsorship speech.

7.7 Direct Questioning: For the semifinal and final sessions, the tournament implements the direct questioning procedures that are becoming increasingly common throughout the country. The chair will then yield time to members of the of the chamber wishing to question the speaker in blocks of 30 seconds, prioritizing those who may have been refuted. The tournament directors will provide additional instructions at the beginning of the semifinal session.

7.8 Awards: All participants in the final session will receive awards at the awards ceremony following its conclusion.

8 ETHICAL AND BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

8.1 Observers: All chambers are open for public viewing. Gallery members should be quiet and attentive, entering and exiting chambers only between speeches. The parliamentarian in each chamber can and should remove any disruptive observers and bar them from returning.

8.2 Electronic Devices and Internet Usage: The use of electronic devices in chambers is permitted, though it is strongly recommended that students avoid reading notes from devices when delivering speeches in front of the chamber. All devices must be silenced. Please be advised that limited power supplies may exist in the classrooms and the tournament accepts no responsibility for providing Congressional debaters with a power source at any tournament site. Internet access in chambers during a session (including during personal privileges and recesses while a session is ongoing) **will be permitted** for The 2018 Glenbrooks. Internet usage between sessions is also permitted.

8.3 Ethical Use of Evidence: The Glenbrooks will utilize the National Speech and Debate Association's pilot evidence rules available at CongressionalDebate.org.

8.4 General Tournament Rules: Beyond the rules and procedures specific to Congressional debate outlined above, the Glenbrook schools also require that you observe the following general standards of conduct.

- No eating or drinking (excluding water) by anyone associated with the tournament while in classrooms.
- Inappropriate language will not be allowed.
- Disrespect or misuse of the facilities or furnishings will not be tolerated.
- Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated.
- All school district policies, local, and state laws regarding harassment must be observed.
- All school district policies, local, and state laws prohibiting smoking (including vaping), alcohol, and weapons must be observed.

8.5 Penalties: Consequences for infractions may result in any or all of the following actions at the sole discretion tournament directors whose decisions are final.

- Disqualification from the tournament
- Loss of participation points
- Forfeiture of awards
- School administrators being notified of any misconduct
- Any additional consequences deemed appropriate to the severity of the infraction

Schools will be held financially responsible for all damages incurred.

A Bill to Privatize Nuclear Waste Disposal

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The Nuclear Waste Policy Act will be amended to:

- 3 A. Require the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to set regulations and restrictions on the
4 disposal of nuclear waste from energy production in the United States.
- 5 B. Require nuclear waste produced by private companies to be disposed of by that company
6 or a private nuclear waste disposal company.
- 7 C. Mandate all disposing entities to follow federal law with respect to nuclear waste
8 disposal.

9 SECTION 2. Private companies shall be defined as companies in the nuclear power industry that are active in
10 the production and/or disposal of nuclear energy and are not owned by the United States federal
11 government or a state government.

12 SECTION 3. The Department of Energy (DOE) will be charged with the implementation and enforcement of
13 this bill.

14 SECTION 4. Implementation will begin in FY 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Olathe Northwest High School

A Bill to Tax Added Sugar

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 SECTION 1. A tax on any food or drink product with added sugar would be subject to a 1% sales tax.
- 3 SECTION 2. Added sugar shall be defined as refined or unrefined sugar, corn syrup or any other sugar
4 substitutes.
- 5 SECTION 3. United States Department of Agriculture in conjunction with the IRS will be in charge of the
6 implementation of this bill. At least 25% of the revenue generated must be spent on general
7 health initiatives.
- 8 SECTION 4. This legislation shall be implemented by the beginning of 2019.
- 9 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Evanston Township High School

A Bill to Modernize Employment Requirements

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The parameters required for states to receive block grants under TANF and SNAP will be altered
3 to remove work requirements.

4 SECTION 2. TANF shall be defined as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, passed under the 104th
5 Congress. SNAP shall be defined as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, passed under
6 the 113th Congress. Work requirements will be defined as activity in an employment related
7 program as defined by the states.

8 SECTION 3. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Agriculture shall be
9 responsible for the implementation of this legislation.

10 A. The Secretary of HHS shall no longer require documentation of state-enforced work
11 requirements to determine a state eligible for TANF grants.

12 B. The Secretary of the USDA shall end any state-based work requirement pilot projects.

13 SECTION 4. This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by James Bowie High School

A Bill to Inflate the Minimum Wage

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The federal minimum wage shall be annually indexed with inflation. This will occur after analysis
3 of the Consumer Price Index of all Urban Consumers.

4 SECTION 2. The federal minimum wage shall be defined based upon the provisions in the Fair Labor Standards
5 Act. The Consumer Price Index of all Urban Consumers shall be defined as the Bureau of Labor
6 Statistic's measurement of changes in the price of a basket of goods and services by urban
7 consumers.

8 SECTION 3. The Bureau of Labor Statistics and the US Department of Labor shall be responsible for the
9 implementation of this bill.

10 A. All state minimum wages shall be of equal or greater value than the annually indexed
11 federal minimum wage.

12 B. The US Department of Labor and the Bureau of Labor Statistics will be ordered to
13 annually review the impact the new minimum wage has on the poverty level.

14 SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect at the start of the Fiscal Year 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Schaumburg High School

A Bill to Establish a Carbon Tax

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. A carbon tax of 36 cents per gallon, or \$40 per ton, shall be implemented in the United States. $\frac{1}{4}$
3 of the annual revenue shall be directed towards funding an expansion of the Earned Income Tax
4 Credit, and the inclusion of childless workers.

5 SECTION 2. “Carbon tax” is defined as a tax levied on individuals and any company that produces carbon
6 dioxide emissions.

7 SECTION 3. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service
8 (IRS) shall be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this legislation. Congress
9 shall provide an additional \$100 million to both the IRS and EPA annually for enforcement
10 resources until January 1, 2024. After January 1, 2024, Congress shall provide an additional \$50
11 million to both the IRS and EPA. The IRS and EPA shall tax non-compliant companies 400%.

12 SECTION 4. This legislation shall begin implementation by January 1, 2020 at \$10 a ton and increase by \$10
13 each year until \$40 at January 1, 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Monte Vista High School

A Bill to Halt Military Trade with Taiwan

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The USA will stop all military weapons and military vehicles trade with Taiwan. The USA will
3 also stop the sale of information that would be used to manufacture military naval vessels and
4 military aircraft to the Taiwan government and Taiwanese companies.

5 SECTION 2. Naval vehicles include vehicles that travel on water and underwater.

6 SECTION 3. The Department of State and the Department of Commerce will oversee the Implementation of
7 this bill. This bill will lose its effects when the United States federal government officially
8 recognizes Taiwan as an independent nation.

9 SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect January 1, 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Edina High School

A Bill to Invest in Africa's Education System

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 SECTION 1. The United States will allocate 50 billion dollars to the improvement and advancement of
3 education in the continent of Africa.
- 4 SECTION 2. African education includes aid towards educational infrastructure, hiring qualified teachers,
5 educational technology, and other educational necessities.
- 6 SECTION 3. The Department of State and the Department of Education will be responsible for providing
7 funding and working with DoE approved Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Africa.
- 8 SECTION 4. Will be put into action January 1, 2020.
- 9 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eagan High School

A Bill to Remove Troops from South Korea

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A. The United States military shall progressively withdraw its 28,000 troops per year from the Korean Peninsula in the span of 5 years

B. The Department of Defense will send \$500 million military aid to the Korean Peninsula in the span of 5 years.

SECTION 2. Military aid shall be defined as aid used to assist a country or its people in defense efforts or to assist a country in maintaining control over its territory and shall be allocated for the development of the South Korean Military.

SECTION 3. The Department of Defense and The State Department shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

A. The Department of Defense will oversee the withdrawal of the troops.

B. The State Department shall oversee the implementation of the aid and conduct yearly audits to ensure the aid is used properly

C. The State Department shall cut off all aid if any misuse is discovered.

SECTION 4. This legislation will be enacted immediately upon passage

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Western High School

A Bill to Import Foreign Pharmaceuticals

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. A. The FDA shall be responsible for implementing a 30-day review period for each request
3 from a pharmaceutical sponsor seeking importation and market approval for their product
4 when it has already been verified in accountable drug exporting countries.

5 B. Following review, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall be responsible for
6 formally approving or denying applicants and negotiating the form and content of
7 labeling for all pharmaceuticals accepted.

8 SECTION 2. A. “Pharmaceutical sponsors” shall be defined as any company representing a foreign
9 medicinal drug described in their request to the Department of Health and Human
10 Services.

11 B. “Accountable drug exporting countries” shall be defined as nations with federal drug
12 oversight agencies currently recognized and accepted by existing policy under the FDA
13 Export Reform and Enhancement Act of 1996.

14 SECTION 3. The Department of Health and Human Services shall be responsible for overseeing the
15 implementation of this legislation. Monthly reports on all denials and approvals shall be
16 submitted to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House and the Committee on Health,
17 Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

18 SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect in Fiscal Year 2019.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Spring Woods High School

A Bill to End the Latin American War on Drugs

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The United States Government shall completely phase out all of its current counternarcotics
3 operations in Latin America over the next five years.

4 SECTION 2. Counternarcotics operations shall include, but not be limited to, the Section 1004 and Section
5 1033 counternarcotics programs.

6 SECTION 3. The funds saved by terminating these programs shall be allocated to economic development plans
7 in Latin America.

8 SECTION 4. The Department of Defense and the Department of State shall be tasked with terminating their
9 counternarcotics operations. The Bureau of International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement
10 Affairs shall be tasked with implementing new economic development plans in Latin America.

11 SECTION 5. This bill shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Charlotte Latin School

A Bill to Overhaul the Power Grid System

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. A. The US national power grid system will be comprehensively overhauled to better protect
3 against cybersecurity threats, natural disasters, and become adaptable to renewable
4 energy.

5 B. \$10 billion will be immediately distributed nationwide to begin implementing this
6 legislation.

7 SECTION 2. “Comprehensively overhauled” refers to modernizing the power grid to be adaptable to renewable
8 energy sources and will implement underground power lines. “Cyber security threats” refer to
9 potential terrorist attacks or hacks on the power grid system that could render it useless.

10 SECTION 3. The Department of Energy and the Department of Homeland Security shall oversee the funding
11 and implementation of this legislation.

12 SECTION 4. This bill shall go into implementation at the start of the 2019 Fiscal Year.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Theodore Roosevelt High School

A Bill to Fund FEMA

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The funds diverted to Immigration and Customs Enforcement will now be granted back to the
3 budget of FEMA.

4 SECTION 2. The funding of \$9.8 million granted to ICE for detention and removal operations plus an
5 additional \$200 thousand will be transferred to FEMA's budget. The funds taken from ICE will be
6 explicitly placed into the budget of the Center for Domestic Preparedness.

7 SECTION 3. The Department of Homeland Security will be overseeing this legislation and the transfer of funds.

8 SECTION 4. This law will take effect in FY 2019.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by West Orange High School

A Bill to Die with Dignity

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Adults who have a terminal illness will be able to choose to end their life of their own accord.

SECTION 2. Adults shall be defined as anyone 18 years of age or older, Terminal illness shall be defined as a disease that cannot be cured or adequately treated and that is reasonably expected to result in the death of the patient within a short period of time.

SECTION 3. Patients and doctors will be required to follow specific protocol:

- A. Patient (or legally designated proxy with approval of patient) must make verbal and written request to their standing primary care physician or terminal illness specialist. Physicians have the right to turn down the request.
- B. Patient must be evaluated by the doctor to determine the severity, immediacy, and pain associated with their disease and death.
- C. Physician must inform patient of other options to address pain levels and assisted living, insist the patient document having conferred with family, friends, or next of kin to make them aware of this desire, and remind the patient they may change their mind.
- D. A second physician must independently review the case to concur with the first doctor's diagnosis and to verify that the patient is fully informed.
- E. Once the patient's request has been approved, they may submit a written request for the lethal prescription. The physician can prescribe the lethal drugs two days after receiving this written request but may not under any circumstances administer the drugs themselves.
- F. The physician may prescribe one of two kinds of barbiturates: Seconal or Nembutal.
- G. According to directions provided by the physician, the patient will self-administer the lethal dosage in their private residence with at least one health-care worker present.
- H. Once the health care worker determines that life functions appear to have ceased, authorities should be called to verify physical death and remove the body.

SECTION 4. Physicians who do not comply with established protocol face fines starting at \$10,000 and possible revocation or suspension of their medical license.

SECTION 5. This law will go in effect by January 1, 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by John F. Kennedy High School

A Bill to Subsidize Research and Development of Biodegradable Plastic

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government shall hereby subsidize the research, development, and
3 production of biodegradable plastics.

4 SECTION 2. Biodegradable plastics shall be defined as plastics that decompose naturally and quickly in the
5 environment or decompose rapidly when introduced to certain enzymes.

6 SECTION 3. The Environmental Protection Agency shall oversee implementation and enforcement of this
7 legislation by annually subsidizing biodegradable plastic researchers and manufacturers in the
8 amount of at least \$2 billion US dollars.

9 A. The subsidies provided to manufacturers will be given in the form of cash subsidies.

10 B. Subsidies will be given to researchers based on how much measurable progress is made
11 each year.

12 SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect at the start of 2019.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano Senior High School

A Bill to Pursue Arctic Interests

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government shall provide 4.8 billion dollars to the U.S. Coast Guard to fund the building of 6 heavy polar class icebreakers. All polar class icebreakers built using the allocated funds must be equipped with full science capability.

SECTION 2. A. A heavy polar class icebreaker shall be defined as a cutting vessel specifically designed to clear arctic ice with the use of an icebreaking bow.

B. Full science capability, as defined by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, refers to a vessel equipped with facilities comparable with those of modern oceanographic research ships.

SECTION 3. A. The Comptroller General of the United States will be responsible for establishing a review committee consisting of relevant staff from the Government Accountability Office, the National Science Foundation, U.S. Coast Guard, and prominent experts from industry and academia. This committee will be responsible for creating a procurement schedule and providing oversight of the building process. The Comptroller General shall also be required to submit a biannual report of these proceedings to Congress and make recommendations for further legislative action if deemed necessary.

B. The 4.8 billion dollars specified in Section 1 shall be provided from the budget of the Department of Homeland Security.

SECTION 4. This bill shall be implemented on January 1, 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bronx High School of Science

A Bill to Increase Gas Taxes to Repair Infrastructure

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The federal gasoline tax will be raised to 22 cents per gallon for standard fuel and 34 cents per
3 gallon for diesel.

4 SECTION 2. The federal gasoline tax shall be defined as the federal tax levied upon gasoline sales in the United
5 States. All gas taxes are applied to federal infrastructure projects.

6 SECTION 3. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Energy shall oversee implementation of
7 this legislation.

8 SECTION 4. This legislation shall be enacted on January 1, 2020.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by American Heritage – Plantation

A Resolution to Rejoin the Iran Nuclear Deal

1 WHEREAS, President Trump’s decision to pull out of the Iran Nuclear Deal has increased tensions with Iranian
2 President Hassan Rouhani and surrounding Middle Eastern states; and
3 WHEREAS, The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reported last year that Iran has complied with
4 the Iran Nuclear Deal and continues to work towards non-proliferation; and
5 WHEREAS, Iran’s renewed partnership with Russia increases the likelihood of regional violence; now,
6 therefore, be it
7 RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled encourages President Trump to rejoin the Iran Nuclear Deal in
8 order to redeem the Iranian people’s trust in addition to advocating for non-proliferation and
9 incentivizing Iran to comply.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Durham Academy

A Bill to Allow for Online Voting

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1. The United States government shall hereby allow for online voting in all 50 states and territories
3 as an alternative to our current voting system.

4 SECTION 2. Online Voting shall be defined as a US governmental online voting service that allows for the use
5 of online electronic means to either aid or complete the casting and counting of votes.

6 SECTION 3. This bill shall be enforced by the Federal Election Commission.

7 A. Current Voting candidate prerequisites shall be used for online voting.

8 B. The Federal Election Commission will be responsible for creating a council for securing
9 online voting. This will include protection from fraud, and identity theft. 10 billion
10 dollars shall be allocated for this service.

11 SECTION 4. This law will go into effect on June 1, 2019.

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

Submitted for Congressional Debate by Dowling Catholic High School