

HISD UIL Middle School Debate Legislative Docket

Modified from the Fall TFA Docket

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1. A Bill to Prevent Hospital Nonprofit Status Abuse To Reduce Medical Costs

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Federal Government shall deny nonprofit status to any hospital that violates either of the following conditions.

- A. Any single executive compensation exceeds \$500,000 before tax
- B. The hospital fails to use at least 95% of profits generated on capital improvements or measures to reduce costs to patients.
- C. The hospital or parent organization contributes to political campaigns or lobbying at the local, state, or federal level.

SECTION 2. The Internal Revenue Service shall be tasked with determining the nonprofit status of hospitals in accordance with Section 1 and any existing restrictions on nonprofit status

- A. Hospitals losing nonprofit status for violations of Section 1 shall be audited going back 5 years, or to the date of enactment of this legislation, and shall owe taxes plus interest in accordance with for-profit status for any years in violation.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall go into effect Jan 1, 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rock Hill High School



2. The Measuring Act of 2021

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States shall change the generally accepted measuring system in the US from the Imperial System to the Metric System in order to conform to worldwide practices. The metric system shall be made mandatory and implemented nationwide.

SECTION 2

- A. The Imperial System shall be defined as a system of measurement that uses specific units of measurements such as inches, feet, yards, miles, square feet, acres, fluid ounce, cup, pint, quart, gallon, ounce, pounds, and Fahrenheit,
- B. The Metric System shall be defined as a system of measurement that uses specific units of measurements such as centimeters, meters, liters, milliliters, kilometers, grams, kilograms, and Celsius

SECTION 3. Private corporations that refuse to comply with the new system of measurement shall be taxed at 41% of their annual revenue by the IRS until they comply, and in conjunction the following will apply

- A. The Department of Transportation shall be allocated \$10 billion to convert our nation's roadways
- B. The Department of Education shall be allocated \$1 billion towards the re-education of our nation's students throughout our schools
- C. The US Department of Commerce shall be allocated \$10 billion towards the switch of measurements within trade relations

SECTION 4. This Bill shall go into effect in the next Fiscal Year

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Alief Kerr Highschool



3. The Aquaculture Expansion Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Understanding the prominent risk of overfishing and the detriment it poses to the marine life of the Gulf of Mexico, \$15 Billion is hereby allocated for furthering research and implementing extensive commercialization of aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico.

SECTION 2. Aquaculture will be defined as the rearing of aquatic animals or the cultivation of aquatic plants for food.

SECTION 3. The Department of Agriculture will oversee the funding and implementation of a program specifically for aquatic farming and cultivation while working with The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for additional research and guidance.

- A. Grants to subsidize the research on aquaculture efficiency methods will be given to with a degree in biology or aquaculture.
- B. Sea animals and plants must be verified by the Department of Agriculture and the NOAA before being mass produced and farmed.
- C. Any farmer caught not following any conservation guidelines set by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) without proper approval will be subject to a \$50,000 fine and will have their agriculture license suspended and revoked.

SECTION 4. This bill will hereby be in effect January 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by San Angelo Central High School



4. A Bill to Introduce Nonvoting Members to Represent Indigenous Tribes in Congress

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** For each federally recognized tribe with greater than 25,000 members according to the most recent US Census, one non-voting member shall be added to the United States House of Representatives.
- SECTION 2.** A Non-voting member shall be defined as a Resident Commissioner, who has the power to participate in committees, introduce legislation, and speak on the House floor, but can't vote for both Committee and legislation decisions. They will serve four year terms, and decisions on how representation is chosen will be left to the discretion of each tribe.
- SECTION 3.** This shall be overseen by the Clerk of the House and the Federal Election Commission.
- A. If the tribe leaders do so request, up to \$50,000 may be allocated by federal funds for election security and costs of operation.
- SECTION 4.** These members will be seated starting in the 118th US Congress.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rock Hill High School



5. A Bill to Establish a Crypto Task Force to Secure Cryptocurrency

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. \$4 Billion shall be appropriated for the creation of a crypto task force on digital assets with the purpose of examining the impact and regulating the rise and future of cryptocurrency companies, such as Bitcoin.

SECTION 2. Task Force (TF) shall be defined as a unit established to work on a single defined task to increase communication and report to, work with and advise the federal government. Cryptocurrency shall be defined as digital currency in which transactions are verified and records maintained by a decentralized system using cryptography.

SECTION 3. The US Department of Treasury will oversee the implementation of this policy while agencies involved include, but are not limited to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).

A. The Secretary of the US Department of Treasury shall give quarterly reports to Congress of significant findings and effects of the fluctuation of cryptocurrency.

SECTION 4. This policy shall go into effect fiscal year 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Spring Woods High School



6. A Bill to Abolish Plea Bargains

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government will eliminate the usage of plea
3 bargains within the criminal justice system.

4 **SECTION 2.** A “plea bargain” shall be defined as a pre-discussed arrangement
5 between the prosecution and the defendant in which the defendant
6 pleads guilty in exchange for a reduced or alternative sentence. “Plea
7 bargains” shall encompass offers made by both the prosecution and the
8 defense.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will oversee the implementation and oversight
10 of this bill.

11 A. The defendant will still have the right to plead guilty, but the
12 prosecution may not provide any alternate sentencing if the
13 defendant chooses to do so. The trial will continue in the status quo.

14 B. All sentencing remains under the jurisdiction of the judge if a
15 defendant chooses to plead guilty.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect in fiscal year 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jasper High School.



7. A Resolution to Provide Fair Housing Opportunities for People with Arrest Records

1 **WHEREAS,** The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination concerning the sale, rental and
2 financing of housing based on race, religion, national origin and sex, but does not
3 prohibit discrimination based on an arrest record; and

4 **WHEREAS,** Formerly incarcerated people are almost ten times more likely to be homeless
5 than the general public; and

6 **WHEREAS,** Property owners have the ability to implement their own screening criteria to
7 determine if an applicant merits housing, including criminal record checks, which
8 means they have wide discretion to punish people with arrest records; and

9 **WHEREAS,** This type of discrimination disproportionately targets African Americans and
10 Latino populations, as the justice system incarcerates people of color at a higher
11 rate than white people; and

12 **WHEREAS,** The federal Department of Housing & Urban Development does not consider
13 arrest records a legitimate reason to deny someone housing, as it can have a
14 disparate impact on minorities; and

15 **WHEREAS,** There are very little legislative precautions to ensure that this type of
16 discrimination does not occur regardless; now, therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that property owners and housing authorities be
18 held under higher standards and regulations to ensure that individuals with an
19 arrest record are not deprived of housing opportunities.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Chapin High School



8. A Bill to Abolish Gifted and Talented Programs to

End Education Inequality

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** Gifted and Talented programs throughout public schools are to cease operation.
- SECTION 2.** The following definitions are provided:
- A. "GT programs" is defined as gifted and talented entry programs offered between K-8 grades that require an entry test for admission.
 - B. A "gifted student" is defined as any student classified as GT via testing, merit decided by schools in elementary education, or evaluation determined by teachers and/or administrators.
- SECTION 3.** The US Department of Education will work with local school districts to oversee the implementation of this bill.
- A. Schools will no longer test and/or seek out students to classify as GT.
 - B. Any students currently in GT programs will be transferred back to a standard education with their non-GT peers.
 - C. Mental health services will be provided for GT students upon transferring to assist in the adjustment.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect fiscal year 2022.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by William P. Clements High School.



9. A Bill to Create the Alaskan Visa Program

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Alaskan Visa Program will be created and put into effect.
- 2 **SECTION 2.** a. The Alaskan Visa Program allows 10,000 refugees from Middle Eastern and
3 Sub-Saharan African nations aged 18-25 to seek asylum in the US State of Alaska
4 for 20 years to build crucial infrastructure for the state of Alaska.
- 5 b. Refugees will be provided with tuition, room, and food for free at any public
6 college or university in the state of Alaska during the fall and spring semesters.
- 7 c. During the summer (months June, July, and August) refugees under the
8 Alaskan Visa Program must sustain employment in a firm that builds or
9 maintains infrastructure for the first 5 years of their 20 years of living in the
10 state of Alaska.
- 11 **SECTION 3.** a. The US Immigrations and Customs Enforcement will oversee the
12 implementation of this bill by providing the refugees with the visas as well as
13 ensuring refugees under this bill are not overstaying their time for more than 20
14 years.
- 15 b. The Department of Education will oversee the implementation by
16 providing funds for Section 2B of this Bill.
- 17 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented by January 1st, 2022.
- 18 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by R.C. Clark High School



10. A Resolution to Support Increased Education and Technology in Federal Prisons

WHEREAS, Since 2018, the First Step Act has addressed issues regarding the lack of education in prisons, and

WHEREAS, The lack of education among 24% of inmates has caused an increase in recidivism rates, and in turn, inmates are left without financial resources or social support systems; and

WHEREAS, The mass prison populations from high recidivism rates have resulted in

poor health care, increased gang violence, and mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, Prioritizing the health, education, and safety of inmates will improve the outcomes of individuals to include increased personal income, lower unemployment, greater political engagement, volunteerism, and improved health outcomes; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that we amend the 2018 First Step Act to include federally funded education programs to all federal prisons to offer inmates with more education opportunities and better access to internet, academic advisors, and professors; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That these educational programs will be available to all inmates who seek further and advanced education in the areas of high school, college, and vocational programs.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Granbury High School



11. A Bill to Increase Homeless Shelters to Rehabilitate the Homeless

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Government will work to increase the amount of homeless shelters in cities with homeless populations greater than 10,000 people.

SECTION 2. Homeless shelters shall be defined as temporary residencies for homeless individuals and families. Homelessness shall be defined as lacking housing or lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

SECTION 3. The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) will work in conjunction with state governments to implement this legislation.

A. An additional 75 million dollars will be allocated annually to the budget of the USICH for a span of 5 years.

B. The additional funding will be attained through diverting funds from the Department of Defense (DoD).

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect by January 1st 2022.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Spring Woods High School



12. Pandemic Response and Control Act of 2021

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. It is the sense of Congress that rapid response to future pandemics requires quick public action, reliable contact tracing, the ability to distance from infected individuals, and increased public knowledge, and therefore authorizes the following:

SECTION 2. Upon the designation of a Public Health Emergency by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (hereinafter "Secretary") under 42 U.S.C. § 247d(a)(2), the Secretary may authorize the limitation of protections on individually identifiable health information in 45 CFR §§ 160, 162, and 164. Previously protected individually identifiable information may be released by the Secretary to the Centers for Disease Control, and the governing state health agency for each U.S. State and territory.

SECTION 2. "Individually identifiable health information" will be defined according to 45 CFR § 160.103.

SECTION 3. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will be in charge of enforcing this bill.

A. Previously protected individually identifiable information approved for release shall be limited to the name and the address of any individual infected with the disease which is the subject of the 42 U.S.C. § 247d(a)(2) declaration.

B. The Secretary shall renew or rescind the order authorizing release of protected individually identifiable information every 90 days.

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect 180 days after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School



13. A Bill to Permanently Reinstate the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall permanently reinstate the Fixing America's Surface
3 Transportation (FAST) Act and increase the Department of Transportation
4 budget to provide for the maintenance of transportation infrastructure and
5 public transit options across America.

6 **SECTION 2.** Transportation Infrastructure is composed of fixed installations such as
7 railroads, roads, and airways. Public transit options include but shall not be
8 limited to subways, busses, and other modes of mass transit which reduce fuel
9 consumption, exhaust emissions, and automobile pollution.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Transportation will implement and oversee the program.

11 A. Congress will increase the Department of Transportation budget by \$88
12 billion.

13 B. \$35 Billion of the increased funding may be used by the Department of
14 Transportation to plan new transportation projects that will enhance public
15 transit options.

16 C. \$53 billion of the increased funding may be used by the States and
17 municipalities through the FAST Act federal grant program.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect at the beginning of fiscal year 2023.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hereford High School



14. A Bill to Amend Hate Crime Laws

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** 28 U.S.C. § 994 Sec. 280003 is hereby amended to read “when a perpetrator acts based upon a bias towards the victim or their property, based on race, color, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and disability.”
- SECTION 2.** Any person who harms or endangers another person on the bias of hate will be prosecuted under 28 U.S.C. § 994 Sec. 280003.
- SECTION 3.** The FBI will oversee the enforcement of this amendment and shall submit a report to the president by January 1 each year.
- A. Every state in the U.S. and any other territory owned by the U.S. shall be subject to this change.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2022.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Granbury High School



15. A Bill to End Forced Labor in Solar Energy Production

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The US will ban the import of all solar panels and components manufactured in the Xinjiang region of China.
- A. All third-party imports of solar panels and/or components must demonstrate that products are produced from a clean supply chain, certified as slave labor free.
- B. This ban will be repealed on the condition that China allows independent, regular and unannounced inspections of its Xinjiang manufacturing facilities to ensure they are in compliance with international standards prohibiting the use of forced labor.
- SECTION 2.** Congress will allocate \$300 million for the purpose of
- A. Loan guarantees and tax incentives to encourage domestic research and manufacturing of solar panels and components.
- B. Investment tax credits of 30% for residential and commercial installation of solar technology.
- SECTION 3.** The US Department of Commerce will oversee the implementation and enforcement of this bill.
- SECTION 4.** This law will take effect within 6 months of passage.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Katy Taylor High School



16. The Consumer Bankruptcy Reform Act of 2021

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The US Federal Government will hereby end the Chapter 13 Bankruptcy filing program, and remove credit counseling programs as a requirement in bankruptcy filing procedures.
- SECTION 2.** The following definitions apply:
- A. "Chapter 13 Bankruptcy" will be defined as a bankruptcy filing program as outlined in the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.
 - B. "credit counseling programs" will be defined as done by the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act (BAPCPA) of 2005.
- SECTION 3.** The United State Bankruptcy Court will be responsible for the enactment of this legislation:
- A. The Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure will be altered to no longer have Chapter 13 Bankruptcy as an option for filing.
 - B. The maximum disposable income eligibility ceiling of \$136 per month to file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy will be abolished.
 - C. Section 106(a) of the BAPCPA shall hereby be repealed to remove credit counseling programs as a necessity for bankruptcy filings.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will be implemented FY 2023.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Village High School



17. Bereavement Healing and Hope Act of 2021

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** A. Eligible employers must provide a total of 30 days leave, with 10 of those days being paid leave, for eligible employees who experience a qualifying bereavement event.
- B. Eligible employees who experience a qualifying bereavement event will qualify for an increase of \$10,000 to the standard income tax deduction to pay for bereavement counseling.
- SECTION 2.** “Eligible employer” will be defined according to 29 U.S. Code § 2611(4). “Eligible employee” will be defined according to 29 U.S. Code § 2611(2). “Qualifying bereavement event” includes the death of an individual’s spouse, child, parent, step-child, the still-birth of a child, or the miscarriage of a fetus after the 16th week of pregnancy.
- SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Labor will be in charge of enforcing Section 1(A) of this bill.
- A. Employers found in violation of Section 1(A) will be fine \$25,000 for the first violation.
- B. Employers found in violation of Section 1(A) will be fined \$40,000 for each subsequent violation.
- C. The Internal Revenue Service shall develop guidelines for reporting an increase to the standard deduction for the use of counseling services outlined in Section 1(B) of this Bill.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2023.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School

18. A Bill to Establish Online Learning as the Exclusive Source of K-12 Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2. **SECTION 1.** The US Department of Education shall work in conjunction with local and state
3. education authorities to oversee the implementation of online education for
4. children grades K-12.

5. **SECTION 2.** “Online Learning” shall be defined as any form of learning through a virtual
6. platform.

7. **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Education shall receive \$70 Billion annually from the
8. Department of Defense budget for a span of 3 years.

9. A. Budget spending shall be allocated into resources seen fit by state and district
10. education boards

11. B. State and local education boards shall see to the transition and distribution of
12. technology and resources for students each school year. Administrators and
13. teachers alike shall see to the recording and development of online educational
14. curriculums.

15. C. The Department of Education will work in coherence with state and local
16. school boards to distribute health guideline knowledge and access to vaccination
17. locations.

18. D. Physical Lessons and Essential exams such as those provided by College Board
19. ® can be administered under CDC approved conditions. All Staff and Student
20. Body violating CDC guidelines for COVID-19 during in-person events shall be
21. quarantined and kept under supervision.

22. **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect by August 1st, 2021.

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

**HUDL Specific legislation Introduced for Congressional Debate by Spring Woods*

19. A Bill to Create Housing Vouchers to Reduce the Effects of Gentrification.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **Section 1.** The United State Federal Government will establish a program to
3 provide vouchers for low income families so they can continue living in their
4 residences during gentrification.

5 **Section 2.** Gentrification shall be defined as the influx of wealthy individuals into
6 a poor urban area as determined by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban
7 Development.

8 **Section 3.** The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will
9 be given full authority to oversee and carry out this bill and will receive \$60 billion
10 from the Department of Homeland Security.

11 A. Those with incomes fitting within HUD's parameters for low income will be
12 given the opportunity to join the program.

13 B. HUD will be given full authority to determine which areas are being gentrified
14 and which individuals fall under low income.

15 C. Americans who apply to housing vouchers fraudulently will be subject to
16 criminal penalties.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2022.

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

**HUDL Specific legislation*

20. The Presidential Emoluments Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **Section 1** The United States should provide enforcement for the Constitutional prohibition on
3 foreign emoluments to the President of the United States.

4 **Section 2** The term emolument is defined as any improper benefit or interest, including, but not
5 limited to, those mentioned in the U.S. Constitution, article I, section 9, clause 8.

6 **Section 3** Any sitting United States Senator or Representative may bring an action in federal
7 court to halt the current President from receiving any emolument, office, title, or
8 improper benefit from any foreign state. The court may enter an injunction against
9 both the giver and the receiver of the emolument or improper benefit in order to
10 prevent the transaction or subsequent transaction of substantially similar nature.

11 **Section 4** This legislation shall go into effect January 1, 2022.

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



21. A Resolution to Condemn Israeli Encroachments on the Palestinian Border

- WHEREAS,** The United Nations recognizes Palestine as a sovereign state; and
- WHEREAS,** Israel's government has promoted encroachment on their border; and
- WHEREAS,** Encroachment propagates further conflict and radicalization; and
- WHEREAS,** Is a clear violation of human rights as well as Palestinian sovereignty; and
- WHEREAS,** Our government provides billions of dollars in aid to Israel; and
- WHEREAS,** We have a moral duty to prevent human rights violations; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that Israeli encroachments are a violation of human rights, Palestinian sovereignty and morality.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Westwood High School