

The Ohio Speech and Debate Association



*HS Congressional Debate Legislation
2023 State Finals
House and Senate*

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S23 - P1

A Bill to Guarantee Economic Sovereignty

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** The United States of America shall hereby cease the trade of complex electronics with
3. the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China.
4. **SECTION 2.** Complex electronics are any electronic device deemed vital to the national or economic
5. interests of the United States of America by the Department of Defense or the
6. Department of Commerce.
7. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Commerce, Department of Treasury and Department of Defense
8. shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.
9. A. The trade of complex electronics with the People's Republic of China and the
10. Republic of China will cease immediately.
11. B. Any business that opens in the United States of America that produces complex
12. electronics will be given 100% of their taxes returned to them in the form of tax
13. credits.
14. C. The Department of Treasury will be given an adequate amount of funding by the
15. Department of Treasury which will be distributed to the aforementioned
16. businesses as seen fit by the Department of Treasury.
17. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect fiscal year 2025
18. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Akron District

S23 - P2

The Cryptocurrency Environmental Accountability Act (CEAA)

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

2. **SECTION 1.** The federal government will back the Crypto Climate Accord (CCA) via funding and
3. further development of methods in achieving net-zero carbon emissions from the
4. cryptocurrency industry.

5. **SECTION 2.** “Cryptocurrency”, frequently referred to as “crypto”, shall be defined as “a digital or
6. virtual currency that is secured by cryptography,” and the Crypto Climate Accord has
7. been established as “a private sector-led initiative for the entire crypto community
8. focused on decarbonizing the cryptocurrency industry.”

9. **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency will create a new division called the
10. Cryptocurrency Climate Agency, which will work with the Securities and Exchange
11. Commission in implementing and enforcing this bill with assistance from the previously
12. established Crypto Climate Accord.

13. A. Funding, in addition to the current EPA and SEC budgets, will be taken from the
14. Department of Defense as seen necessary by the Environmental Protection
15. Agency partnered with the Securities and Exchange Commission with approval
16. from Congress during the annual Budget Committee meetings.

17. B. Methods of reducing, and ultimately eliminating carbon emissions from
18. cryptocurrency will be developed and tested by supporters of the Crypto Climate
19. Accord with oversight from the federal government.

20. C. Further legislation to enforce this bill must be created with assistance from the
21. Crypto Climate Accord.

22. **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect upon passing. All cryptocurrencies by the calendar year 2030
23. will be required to have achieved net-zero emissions.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Canton District

S23 - P3

A Bill to Mandate Ranked-Choice Voting

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** All federal elections in the United States shall use the ranked-choice voting system.
3. **SECTION 2.** A. Ranked-choice voting shall be defined as an electoral system that allows people
4. to vote for multiple candidates, in order of preference. If a voter ranks a losing
5. candidate as their first choice, and the candidate is eliminated, then their vote
6. still counts: it just moves to their second-choice candidate. This process
7. continues until there is a candidate who has the majority of votes.
8. B. Federal elections shall be defined as any election for a role within the federal
9. government. This includes but is not limited to presidential elections,
10. congressional elections, and any other federal election.
11. **SECTION 3.** The US Election Assistance Commission will be responsible for overseeing the
12. enforcement of this bill. This includes allocating the proper funds for the enforcement of
13. this bill.
14. **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect prior to the federal elections of 2026.
15. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Cleveland District

S23 - P4

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Require 2/3 Congressional Approval of Supreme Court Nominees

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

2. **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled that the following article is proposed as
3. an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all
4. intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of
5. three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission by
6. the Congress:

7. **ARTICLE --**

8. **SECTION 1:** The president shall have power to nominate, and by and with the Advice and
9. Consent of two thirds of the Senate, shall appoint Supreme Court Justices.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Columbus District

S23 - P5

A Bill to Extend the Benefits of Veterans who Served in the Middle East

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** Any US Veteran of the Middle East serving from 1990 until current be given a toxic
3. screening panel by the Veterans Administration within thirty years of the end of
4. deployment.
5. **SECTION 2.** Any veteran registering positive for any toxic chemical burned by the US Government
6. shall be treated at no personal cost at any Veterans Administration Hospital or other
7. appropriate military hospital for the remainder of his or her life.
8. **SECTION 3.** That veterans be entitled to disability pay.
9. **SECTION 4.** The money for this medical screening and treatment will be seven billion dollars a year.
10. The funding would come from the current military budget for a period of ten years.
11. **SECTION 5.** This bill would go into effect upon passage.
12. **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the GMV District

S23 - P6

A Bill Establishing Consecutive Congressional Term Limits

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** Term limits shall be set for consecutive terms for Representatives of the House and
3. Senators of the Senate.
4. **SECTION 2.** Term Limits shall be set as:
 5. A. No Representative shall serve more than six consecutive terms of two years.
 6. B. No Senator shall serve more than two consecutive terms of six years.
7. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice shall oversee the implementation of this legislation. This
8. legislation is modeled after House Bill 104-67.
9. **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect at the next midterm election.
 10. A. Any Representative having served more than six consecutive terms at the
 11. next midterm election after passage shall be permitted to serve one final term.
 12. B. Any Senator having served more than two consecutive terms at the next midterm
 13. election after passage shall be permitted to serve one final term.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Toledo District

S23 - P7

A Bill to Put a Federal Ban on Animal Testing

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** A federal ban on animal testing shall be put on all agencies and industries which include
3. but are not limited to the cosmetic industry, hygiene industry, and the medical industry.
4. **SECTION 2.** Animal testing shall be defined as the use of non-human animals in experiments that
5. seek to control the variables that affect the behavior or biological system under study.
6. **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture will oversee the implementation and enforcement of
7. this bill.
8. A. If any agency is found to be animal testing they shall be fined an amount of
9. \$50,000 for the first offense, \$100,000 for the second offense, and be
10. permanently shut down after their third offense.
11. **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2024.
12. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Youngstown District

S23 - S1

A Bill to Extend Internet Access

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** The Internet Service Agency (ISA), a new independent agency that provides ISP services,
3. will be formed to provide internet services to rural areas lacking internet access.
4. **SECTION 2.** ISP stands for Internet Service Provider. ISPs provide customers the opportunity to pay a
5. reasonable fee for access to the World Wide Web.
6. **SECTION 3.** Congress will be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this piece of
7. legislation.
8. A. The ISA will receive an initial budget of \$50 billion USD.
9. I. \$10 billion USD will be used for the formation of the agency: constructing
10. buildings, hiring management, and hiring miscellaneous personnel.
11. II. \$40 billion USD will be used for the construction and maintenance of the
12. network infrastructure.
13. B. The ISA will charge a base price of \$30 USD every month per household for
14. internet access.
15. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will come into effect the next fiscal year, and the ISA's network will be
16. functional by 2028.
17. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Akron District

S23 - S2

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Remove the Natural Born Citizen

Clause for Presidency

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

2. **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed as
3. an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all
4. intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of
5. three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission by
6. the Congress:

7. **ARTICLE --**

8. **SECTION 1:** Article II, Section 1 of the United States Constitution will be amended with the following
9. text:

10. No Person except a Citizen of the United States of at least eighteen Years, at the time of
11. the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall
12. any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty-five
13. Years.

14. **SECTION 2:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Canton District

S23 - S3

A Bill to Restructure American-Venezuelan Relations

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

2. **SECTION 1.** The United States shall take a multi-pronged approach to restructure its Venezuelan
3. policy:

4. A. All economic and diplomatic sanctions by the United States Federal Government
5. on the State of Venezuela shall hereby be repealed.

6. B. The United States shall officially recognize Nicolás Maduro as the President of
7. Venezuela.

8. C. The United States shall engage in diplomatic talks with Venezuelan officials
9. affiliated with the Maduro Administration.

10. **SECTION 2.** A. Economic sanctions are defined as government mandated withdrawal of
11. customary trade and financial relations.

12. B. Diplomatic sanctions are defined as the interruption of diplomatic relations with
13. a targeted country and the coordinated recall of diplomatic representatives.

14. C. Diplomatic talks shall be defined as meetings between foreign officials to address
15. the current political state.

16. **SECTION 3.** The following departments shall be in charge of enforcing this legislation:

17. A. The Office of Foreign Assets Control within the Department of Treasury and the
18. Division for Counter Threat Finance and Sanctions within the Department of
19. State, shall be responsible for lifting all economic sanctions on Venezuela.

20. B. The Department of State shall be responsible for lifting diplomatic sanctions and
21. engaging in diplomatic talks.

22. C. The Bureau of Industry and Security within the Department of Commerce shall
23. be responsible for coordinating future trade and economic relations with
24. Venezuela.

25. **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall immediately go into effect upon its passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Cleveland District

S23 - S4

A Bill to Require Excuse Free Absentee Voting

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** All states must provide their voters with excuse free absentee voting ballots in federal
3. elections.
4. **SECTION 2.** Excuse free absentee voting is defined as votes cast by someone who is unable or
5. unwilling to attend the official polling station without being required to state the reason
6. for requesting the absentee ballot.
7. **SECTION 3.** States will be encouraged to use this method for local elections as well.
8. **SECTION 4.** The Election Assistance Commission will oversee the implementation of this bill
9. A. The EAC budget will increase to \$20 million for the collection and processing of
10. the new ballots.
11. B. Any state that is found in violation of this law will lose all of its federal funding.
12. **SECTION 5.** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2024.
13. **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Columbus District

S23 - S5

Bill to Ban Self-Driving Cars

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** Any automobile without a present, active human driver shall not be allowed to drive on
3. regular streets and infrastructure.
4. **SECTION 2.** Regular streets and infrastructure shall be defined as any structure built through public
5. works that are used primarily by civilian or commercial vehicles.
6. **SECTION 3.** A driver relying solely on the self-driving mechanism of a car will be fined at least \$1000
7. and have their license suspended for up to 30 days on the first offense. States and
8. counties may choose to increase penalties as they see fit.
9. **SECTION 4.** The Department of Transportation and local law enforcement agencies, including police
10. forces, shall oversee the enforcement of this bill.
11. **SECTION 5.** This legislation will come into effect upon passing.
12. **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the GMV District

S23 - S6

The Athlete Insurance Act (AIA)

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

2. **SECTION 1.** Student athletes will receive workers' compensation benefits; their school will pay for
3. half of their medical bills if injured while participating in a school sport. A student must
4. be eligible for compensation, which entails the following requirements: be a student
5. athlete and incur a school sport related injury. The school must carry insurance and the
6. state's deadlines must be met for reporting the injury and filing a medical claim.

7. **SECTION 2.** "Student athletes" is defined as "participants in an organized competitive sport
8. sponsored by the educational institution in which the student is enrolled; preferably
9. through an athletic association." Workers compensation provides benefits to employees
10. who get injured from a work-related cause, and includes disability benefits. Wage
11. benefits are exempt from this legislation. More specifically, if a student-athlete is injured
12. while participating in the sport, the school must pay a percent of their medical bills
13. based on the scale below.

14. A. 50% of the medical bills if the cost is below \$500

15. B. 25% of the medical bills if the cost is below \$1,000

16. C. 10% of the medical bills over these values, but will cap at \$5,500

17. **SECTION 3.** The school of the student who incurred an injury's Athletics Department and the U.S.
18. Department of Labor will oversee enforcement.

19. A. If this legislation is not enforced, the offending school will lose 2% of federal
20. funding per athlete failed, to be restored 60 days after the incident.

21. B. This legislation includes students/athletes in grades 6 through 12.

22. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect January of 2024.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Toledo District

S23 - S7

A Resolution to Restart Oil Leases Throughout The United States

1. **WHEREAS,** Since the executive body of the United states has signed executive order 14008 to end
2. Oil leases in Alaska and the Gulf Coast, Oil production in the U.S has drastically slowed;
3. and
4. **WHEREAS,** This Means that over 25% of all U.S oil production was set to end; and
5. **WHEREAS,** The overall nation is heavily impacted increasing inflation, gas prices and lowering the
6. overall yearly GDP of the U.S; and
7. **WHEREAS,** Oil is a major part of current world and without it are nation and many others that rely
8. on us will be harmed therefore a effort to restart these oil leases should be incentivized;
9. now, therefore, be it
10. **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that we shall hereby support a resolution to restart oil
11. leases in Alaska and the Gulf Coast.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Youngstown District

S23 - F1

Arctic Security Act

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

2. **SECTION 1.** The United States shall act decisively to secure peace and economic freedom in the
3. Arctic.

4. A. The United States shall construct a new carrier strike group designed specifically
5. for the Arctic and the North Atlantic.

6. B. The United States shall construct a new military base in Alaska capable of
7. housing and serving as a port for 15,000 military personnel and this new Arctic
8. carrier strike group.

9. C. The base must also contain the land and facilities to house at least 30,000 troops
10. in temporary housing for wartime or natural-disaster related placement.

11. D. \$100 billion per year shall be allocated to the Department of Defense for five
12. years, with subsequent renewals or increases in funding subject to Congressional
13. approval.

14. **SECTION 2.** The Carrier Strike Group shall, upon completion, contain a minimum of 5 new ‘heavy’
15. icebreaker ships, two cruisers, five destroyers, two new aircraft carriers, one carrier air
16. wing, and a support fleet including a minimum of four submarines, two auxiliary ships,
17. and two supply ships.

18. **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense and the Internal Revenue Service shall oversee the
19. implementation of this legislation.

20. A. Congress shall work with the Department of Defense on a year-to-year basis to
21. determine and implement any necessary adjustments to the amount of this
22. funding to more appropriately meet the need outlined in this legislation.

23. B. Funding for this legislation shall be derived from lowering the federal estate tax
24. exemption to \$2 million, limiting portability of estate taxes to a one-year window,
25. and imposing a 95% federal rate of taxation on estates. The annual federal gift
26. tax exclusion shall be lowered to \$5,000.

27. C. The Generation-Skipping Tax Rate (GSTT) shall also be raised to a 95% rate of
28. taxation.

29. D. Any additional funds derived from this tax above \$100B per year will be allocated
30. to the U.S. Department of Defense for renovation of existing facilities,
31. development of new war technologies and funds for recruiting and retention.

32. **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect on 5/1/2023, with the bid process for construction of
33. the carrier strike group and base to begin immediately. Funding shall be allocated to the
34. Department of Defense on May 1st of each year through the fifth payment on 5/1/2027.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Akron District

S23 - F2

A Bill to Require Owners of Firearms to Carry Liability Insurance

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** All gun owners residing in the United States and its territories, shall carry liability
3. insurance no lower than \$250,000 US Dollars. The insurance shall be used in event of
4. theft, accidental firing or committing a crime with said firearm.
5. **SECTION 2.** Gun owners shall be defined as an individual, group of private citizens or private
6. businesses who own and or manage at least one firearm. Firearms shall be defined by
7. the ATF as a Any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may
8. readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; The frame or
9. receiver of any such weapon; Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or. Any destructive
10. device.
11. **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms shall be given final authority over the
12. registration and enforcement of this law, as well as any state agencies the ATF deems
13. necessary to aid in such a cause.
14. **SECTION 4.** This law will take effect January 31st, 2024.
15. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Canton District

S23 - F3

A Bill to Abolish the Debt Limit

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** The United States Debt Limit, or Debt Ceiling, shall be abolished.
3. **SECTION 2.** The Debt Limit is the official limit on the total amount of debt that can be borrowed by
4. the United States Government.
5. **SECTION 3.** The Treasury Department shall be in charge of enforcing this bill, and they are advised to
6. always honor financial commitments previously made by Congress and the President.
7. **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect on October 1, 2023.
8. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Cleveland District

S23 - F4

A Bill to Prioritize the Use of Nuclear Energy

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** The United States will prioritize the use of nuclear energy as the country's main source
3. of power.
4. **SECTION 2.** Nuclear energy is defined as the energy released during nuclear fission or fusion,
5. especially when used to generate electricity. Prioritize is defined as the movement
6. towards a 50% nuclear power circuit over the next 10 years.
7. **SECTION 3.** The funding for this development will come from a reallocation of all federal subsidies
8. from the fossil fuel industry.
9. A. Thirty percent of the funding will go towards the creation and maintenance of
10. permanent nuclear waste storage services, such as, but not limited to, Yucca
11. Mountain.
12. B. The remaining seventy percent will go to the research and production of nuclear
13. energy.
14. **SECTION 4.** The Department of Energy and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will oversee the
15. prioritization of nuclear energy. The Internal Revenue Service will oversee the
16. reallocation of funds.
17. **SECTION 5.** This bill will go into effect by January 1, 2024.
18. **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Columbus District

S23 - F5

A Resolution to End the Practice of Federal Deportation

1. **WHEREAS,** Illegal immigrants are being deported by ICE, an expensive and unconstitutional
2. practice; and
3. **WHEREAS,** On average, ICE deports over 300,000 illegal immigrants annually; and
4. **WHEREAS,** It costs about \$23,500 to deport one illegal immigrant; and
5. **WHEREAS,** Illegal immigrants give the government over \$9 Billion dollars in tax revenue annually;
6. and
7. **WHEREAS,** The practice of federal deportation is unconstitutional; now, therefore, be it
8. **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the practice of federal deportation be ended.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the GMV District

S23 - F6

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Promote Campaign Fairness

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

2. **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article
3. is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be
4. valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the
5. legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its
6. submission by the Congress:

7. **ARTICLE --**

8. **SECTION 1.** Unlimited campaign donations to political action committees are hereby illegal
9. in all fifty States and the District of Columbia. Legislative bodies from the federal, state,
10. and local levels of government are to pass some kind of limitation on donations to be
11. made to any person or organization taking part in the election effort in the three
12. different levels of government in the United States.

13. **SECTION 2.** All organizations or persons must disclose the information of their contributors
14. to the public and halt any transactions concerning an election after their final financial
15. disclosure to the FEC before the election in which they are participating.

16. **SECTION 3.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Toledo District

S23 - F7

A Bill to Mandate Higher Standards for the Fashion Industry

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** All clothing sold in the United States must be made from materials that are determined
3. to be environmentally friendly, durable, and recyclable.
4. **SECTION 2.** Clothing is defined as items that are worn to cover the body. Environmentally friendly
5. materials are defined as materials that, throughout all stages of production, can be
6. verified to have lower carbon emissions and fewer negative environmental impacts than
7. relevant reference materials. Durable materials are defined as materials that will last
8. through numerous wash/wear cycles, over the span of at least one year. Recyclable
9. materials are defined as those which can be broken down and reused to make a new
10. product.
11. **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be enforced by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).
12. A. The FTC shall work with nonprofit organizations such as Textile Exchange to
13. generate a list of eligible materials for every fiscal year.
14. B. Companies found to be in violation of this legislation shall face fines of no less
15. than 10% of their annual gross profit in the previous fiscal year.
16. **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.
17. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Youngstown District