



2024 Hunterdon Central Winter Invitational Congress Legislation

Guidelines

-Each session (2 preliminary and 1 final) has legislation designated for it. Legislation was assigned to each session at random, with care taken to make sure that multiple pieces from the same school would not be assigned to the same session, if possible. Those pieces MUST be debated within those sessions.

-Use the polls to determine which pieces of legislation will be debated in each session. The top 3-4 pieces will be debated. The poll will close on Tuesday, January 2 at 5:00 P.M. Competitors will then know which bills to prepare for in each of the sessions.

[Preliminary Session #1 Poll](#)

[Preliminary Session #2 Poll](#)

[Final Session Poll](#)

Preliminary

Session #1

A Bill to Increase School Security Funding to Protect Students

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. \$2.5 billion shall be allocated in grant funding to enhance school security measures for public schools.

SECTION 2. School security measures shall be defined as investments made into student safety, intended to prevent, mitigate, or protect against school violence. School security measures may include, but are not limited to, metal detectors, technological improvements, and security personnel. Public schools shall be defined as any K-12 institution established under state law, regulated by local authorities, and funded by public taxation.

SECTION 3. The United States Department Of Education shall be tasked with the implementation of this legislation.

A. The Department of Education shall be responsible for developing a grant application and evaluation criteria, as well as ultimately distributing grant funds to public schools.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect at the beginning of FY 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cairee Upshur of Phillipsburg High School.

A Bill to Grant Two Years Of Free Community College or Technical College To All American Constituency

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** By the Passing of this legislation, all American constituents
3 are granted the access of two free years of either community college or
4 technical college.

5 **SECTION 2.** With two years of free education, those in underprivileged
6 areas will be able to prosper.

7 **SECTION 3.** The department of education will allocate necessary
8 funding annually to provide for this bill. Furthermore, this legislation will
9 be overseen by the department of education.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st 2025
11 All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared
null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pennsbury High School.

A Bill to Fund the Sahara Forest Project

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall provide funding to the Bellona Foundation in order
2 for them to be able to continue and better construction on the current
3 Sahara Forest Project.

4 **SECTION 2.** A. The Sahara Forest Project aims to provide fresh water, food, and
5 renewable energy in hot, arid regions as well as re-vegetating areas of
6 uninhabited desert.

7 B. The Bellona Foundation is an international environmental organization
8 and has a strong tradition of identifying and promoting new and innovative
9 solutions to environmental problems.

10 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be enforced by the US Agency for International
11 Development.

12 A. A \$1 billion dollar annual fund shall be allocated to the US Agency for
International Development to fund the Sahara Forest Project.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect at the start of FY 2025. All laws in conflict
with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Sameer Bagga from Ridge High School.

A Bill to Regulate Name, Image, and Likeness NIL for College Athletes

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** This bill will provide standards related to compensation for the the name, image,
3 and likeness rights of college athletes as just reward for their skills.

4 **SECTION2.** Name - The term "name" with respect to a college athlete means a combination
5 of first, last , or unique name that identifies a college athlete; Image - The term
6 "image", means a photograph, video, or computer generated image; Likeness -
7 The term "likeness", means a jersey number, the jersey number associated with
8 an athlete in a particular sport and in a particular institution of higher learning
9 during their period of their enrollment.

10 **SECTION 2.** An institution of higher education, conference, or athletic association shall have
11 no power to determine or limit the amount of compensation provided by a third
12 party or endorsement contract with a college athlete except for those that might
13 violate state law.

15 **Section3:** An institution of higher learning, conference, or athletic association may not
16 punish or prohibit the participation of a college athlete in a college athletic
17 event for having entered into a contract with an athletic representative or
18 certified agent.

19 **SECTION 3.** This bill will take effect on January 1, 2024.

20 **SECTION 4.** The Federal Trade Commission shall have the power to enforce this legislation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by: Delbarton School

A Bill to Lift Sanctions on Cuba

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States remove all sanctions and embargoes currently placed on
- 2 the Republic of Cuba.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** Sanctions and embargoes will include any special restrictions on travel or
- 4 trade between the United States and Cuba.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State, Department of Commerce, and the Department of
- 6 the Treasury shall be tasked with the implementation of this legislation.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately upon passage.
- 8 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bridgewater-Raritan

A BILL TO REVAMP RURAL COMMUNITIES
BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE

ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All current federal programs focused on the economic and/or infrastructure development of rural communities will fall under the jurisdiction of a new federal organization called the Rural Development Administration (RDA). Rural areas shall be exempt from Federal Grant Match Requirements.

SECTION 2. A rural community is defined as a county that includes some combination of open countryside, towns with fewer than 2,500 residents, and urban areas with less than 50,000 residents who are not connected to a larger labor market. Infrastructure is defined as the services and systems necessary for a society to function including but not limited to education, healthcare, internet access, and climate protection.

SECTION 3. the newly created Rural Development Administration will fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture

- A. All of the funding for current programs focused on rural areas will be reallocated to the RDA.
- B. The RDA will determine how to best reorganize and consolidate the current programs now under its jurisdiction.
- C. The RDA will also create a new board to represent rural communities in congress and address inequities faced by rural communities and minorities within them.

SECTION 4. The transitions detailed in this legislation will start immediately upon passage. All changes will be completed by FY 2029.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Angelina Douris

Council Rock High School North

A Bill to Decrease Innovation Espionage

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** A special interagency task force shall be created to stop innovation espionage.
- SECTION 2.** Innovation espionage shall be defined as any activity of a non U.S. citizen that transmits intellectual property to a foreign corporation, government, or agency.
- SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense (DoD), National Security Administration (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will hire more cybersecurity personnel, raise cybersecurity salaries, and create incentives for cybersecurity personnel to work for the government. In addition, they will develop methods to stop cyber attacks aimed at gaining intellectual property and educate companies on how to prevent innovation espionage.
- A. \$500 million shall be given to hire extra personnel, raise cyber security salaries, create incentives for cybersecurity personnel, and develop methods against cyber attacks.
 - B. \$10 million shall be given to increase awareness and educate companies on innovation espionage.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect three months from passage.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for debate by Joy Janney *Southern Lehigh High School*

Preliminary

Session #2

A Bill to Provide Aid to Laos for the Removal of Faulty Explosive Ordinances

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States Government shall provide aid in the
2 form of training, supplies, and the wages of foreign bomb defusing
3 personnel to Laos for the removal of faulty explosive ordinances leftover
4 from the Vietnam War.

5 **SECTION 2.** A) Faulty explosive ordinances shall be defined as ballistic
6 devices that failed to detonate on impact, or ballistic devices that have not
7 yet been detonated.

8 B) Supplies will be defined as the equipment needed to
9 defuse the faulty explosive ordinances, and the equipment needed to train
10 the bomb defusing personnel.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State shall oversee the
12 implementation of this legislation, and an extra 15 billion dollars will be
13 allocated to the annual budget of the Department of State, from the
14 Department of Defense's budget, and will be withdrawn annually, until the
15 expiration date of this legislation.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will come into effect on January 1st, 2025
17 and will expire in 2035.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by
Gavin Mahony
Southern Lehigh High School*

A Resolution to Establish a Military Base in Egypt to Combat Terrorism

WHEREAS, Egypt is facing instability within their borders while dealing with increased threat of violence from terrorist groups, mainly by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS); and

WHEREAS, hundreds of people are being killed every year due to an increase of attacks, and the government is unable to stop them; and

WHEREAS, Egypt is an invaluable ally to the United States and it is in a prime strategic location in the center of North Africa and on the border of the Middle East; therefore be it; and

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled shall encourage the construction of a joint military base in Egypt between the United States Army and the Egyptian government to provide stability to the region and nearby countries; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States shall provide the necessary funding to create and maintain the base to the Egyptian government.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pennsbury High School.

A Bill to Ban Corded Blinds

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED
THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The manufacturing of corded blinds will be banned with the
2 implementation of this bill.

3 **SECTION 2.** Corded blinds shall be defined as window coverings that use cord
4 to control horizontal slats on the blinds. This specific type of blind
5 causes approximately 9 children younger than 5 years of age to die
6 due to strangling per year. Cordless blinds are available for use
7 instead of corded blinds.

8 **SECTION 3.** The U.S Consumer Product Safety Commission will oversee the
9 implementation of this bill.

10 A. The U.S Consumer Product Safety Commission will conduct
11 random inspections and checks on companies every 12 months.

12 B. Any manufacturer found violating this bill will be fined
13 \$500,000 per year until the company complies.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2025.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Council Rock High School North

A Resolution to Declare Period Products as Essential Goods to Abolish the Sales Tax on Tampons

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Period Products are currently considered Luxury goods which allows 22
2 states to implement a sales tax; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** This causes a great imbalance between lower and middle class women who
4 are already struggling; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** A sizable number of women's careers and education are hampered
6 because of inadequate access to menstrual products.
- 7 **WHEREAS,** Menstrual symptoms cause women to miss work at a rate 45.2% more than
8 their non-menstruating counterparts. One in five girls under the age of 18
9 in the United States due to inadequate access to period products miss
10 school; now, therefore, be it
- 11 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled will declare all period products as
12 essential goods; and, be it
- 13 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That states will move to abolish their respective sales tax on
14 menstrual products.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Emma Schaible of Phillipsburg High School.

A Bill to Place a Tax on Fast Fashion to Counteract Unethical Labor and Climate Change

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Any fast fashion commodity imported into the United States shall be taxed
2 an additional 2% to discourage the purchase of such goods.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** Fast fashion shall be defined as any clothing made inexpensive by mass
4 production retailers.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will oversee enforcement of this
6 legislation as well as identify the corporations that qualify as fast fashion.
7 A. The money collected by this tax shall be used to fund better waste
8 collection and recycling systems.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with
10 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by rep. Aanvi Khade from Ridge High School.

A Resolution to Sanction India to Prevent Human Rights Abuses in Kashmir

1 **WHEREAS,** The people of Kashmir have been victims of genocide, land
2 grabbing, and bans on religious gatherings; and
3 **WHEREAS,** The driving forces behind the conflict in Kashmir is the
4 refusal of the Indian state to allow freedom of expression regarding
5 Kashmir’s independence and India’s growing military prowess; and
6 **WHEREAS,** Indian military forces and government prevent the freedom
7 of expression of Kashmiris through mass kidnappings, means of terror,
8 slowed internet, shootouts; and
9 **WHEREAS,** The United States has sold India the military equipment that
10 helped enable the Indian occupation of Kashmir; now, therefore, be it
11 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled stop all military sales and
12 auxiliary support to India; and, be it
13 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States sanction India until a fair and
14 equitable referendum for independence is held in Kashmir.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Millburn High School.

The Pharmaceutical Industry Transparency and Accountability Act

SECTION 1 The United States will restore trust in the pharmaceutical sector and prioritize the well-being of patients:

- a. Pharmaceutical companies must register all clinical trials and report the results, regardless of outcome, in a regularly-monitored database.
- b. Individuals will be incentivized to report corruption, unethical practices, or illegal activities within the pharmaceutical industry and will be protected with the creation of confidential hotlines and legal safeguards.
- c. Penalties will be stricter for violations of ethical standards.
- d. Pharmaceutical companies must disclose the costs associated with drug development, production, and marketing. Appropriate steps will be taken to prevent unjustified price increases for essential medications and promote competition within the pharmaceutical market.
- e. Collaboration between pharmaceutical companies and independent research institutions will be encouraged to promote unbiased research, reduce conflicts of interest, and ensure the efficacy of medications.

SECTION 2 “Database” shall be defined as a publicly accessible and comprehensive digital platform with accurate, up-to-date information.

“Violations of ethical standards” will be defined as bribery, fraud, or misleading advertising.

SECTION 3 The Pharmaceutical Industry Transparency and Accountability Commission (PITAC), will implement, regulate, and enforce the provisions outlined in this bill.

- a. The PITAC shall have the authority to investigate reported cases of corruption, enforce penalties for violations, and establish guidelines and protocols to ensure compliance.
- b. The PITAC shall be established as an independent agency under the purview of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).
- c. The DHHS shall collaborate with the PITAC to provide necessary resources, staff, and logistical support to enable the commission to fulfill its mandate successfully.

SECTION 4 This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sanika Jain
Council Rock High School North*

Final Session

A BILL TO COOL OUR SOLAR PANELS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All production of solar panels now requires photonic crystal cooling systems that reduce the amount of excessive heat emitted by 25% or more. Cooling systems should be installed by solar panel manufacturers. Manufacturers who fail to comply will be fined \$500,000 per month until compliance is achieved.

SECTION 2. “Manufacturers” include, and are limited to, all American owned and based companies.

SECTION 3. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency will work in collaboration to oversee the implementation of the cooling systems.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect in FY 2025.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Strath Haven

A Bill to Abolish the Draft

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Selective Service System (SSS) will be abolished, no longer requiring
2 men ages 18- 25 to register for the draft.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** The United States Armed Forces will continue a volunteer based military
4 force that is funded by the SSS budget redistribution. This will remove the
5 power of Congress and the President to institute a nation-wide draft.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** The Selective Service System budget will be reallocated by the end of the
7 next two fiscal years. Funds will be redistributed by need and priority to the
8 Department of Defense and the Department of Health.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in fiscal year 2025.
- 10 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lilly Grdovic of Phillipsburg High School.

A Bill to Eliminate Zoning Policies for Fair Housing

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All single-family zoning laws are hereby illegal. All municipalities must approve requests to add an additional housing unit to any plot of land currently containing only one. Municipalities are strongly encouraged to allow more than two units on single plots as well.

SECTION 2. Single-family zoning is a form of exclusionary zoning that prohibits any other residential housing except for detached, single-family homes.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on November 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,
Council Rock High School North*

A Bill to Decriminalize All Narcotic Drugs

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1** All narcotic drugs will be deregulated and decriminalized in the
3 United States and in all Territories under its jurisdiction.

4 **SECTION 2** Narcotic drugs will be defined as all substances in
5 Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substance Act of 1970
6 as well as the Single Convention of Narcotic Drugs signed by the
7 United States in 1967.

8 **SECTION 3** Any sales of narcotic drugs will be subject to an excise
9 a tax of 20% in addition to any state sales tax that would apply.

10 **SECTION 4** Full sovereign immunity and blanket immunity shall
11 exist for the United States government and all individuals and
12 corporate entities engaged in the manufacture, distribution, and
13 sale of narcotic drugs, respectively.

14 **SECTION 5** All federal statutory addiction-disability protections existing prior to
15 the passage of this legislation shall remain in effect without change
16 but no new category or protected class shall be created or exist
17 with the implementation of this bill.

18 **SECTION 6** This bill will go into effect January 1, 2024.

19 **SECTION 7** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared
20 null and void.

21 **SECTION 8** All treaties in conflict with this legislation are hereby
22 abrogated.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Delbarton School.

A Bill to Require Mental Health Programs in Schools to Support American Youth

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Public schools in the United States of America shall now require the
2 implementation of mental health programs in schools due to the lack of
3 programs already in place.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Mental health programs shall be defined as any program put in place that
5 serves to support the mental health of American students.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will oversee the enforcement and
7 implementation of this legislation.
- 8 A. All current programs will be developed alongside new programs.
9 B. The Department of Education will allocate \$200 million for the
10 implementation of this bill.
- 11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with
12 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Pennsbury High School.

A Resolution to Promote Free Trade Agreements with African Nations

WHEREAS, Chinese corporations are investing and expanding into multiple countries in Africa; and

WHEREAS, African nations are slowly dealing with increased Chinese economic influence within their borders; and

WHEREAS, Due to Chinese political and economic interests in the region being of greater importance than the livelihood of the civilians of African Nations, any form of Chinese control of any African sector could be potentially disastrous; and

WHEREAS, The United States stands to prosper greatly, both economically and politically, by reaching out to African nations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation to enter talks with African nations in order to create free trade agreements.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bridgewater-Raritan.

Rural Broadband Price Control Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The federal government shall establish price caps on broadband service
2 plans provided by internet service providers (ISPs) in regions defined as
3 rural or underserved.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Price caps shall be set based on a combination of factors, including average
5 income levels, cost of living, and the type of broadband service (e.g.,
6 fixed-line, wireless) offered in the respective area.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) shall be responsible for
8 determining the specific price cap thresholds, periodically reviewing and
9 adjusting them as needed.
- 10 A. The FCC shall establish guidelines to prevent ISPs from engaging in
11 predatory pricing or artificially inflating prices once price caps are
12 established.
- 13 B. The FCC shall closely monitor and investigate any allegations of
14 anti-competitive practices, including collusion among ISPs to
15 circumvent price caps.
- 16 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect immediately upon passage.
- 17 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
18
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Introduced for Congressional Debate by Aditya Rai from Ridge High School.