**PO Script**

Good morning, fellow legislators and judges. I am \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from School Code \_\_\_, and I am your presiding officer for this session. It is an honor to be here with you.

Before we begin this session, let me lay down a few ground rules to help move debate along more smoothly today.

First, my gaveling procedures. I will gavel one time at two minutes, twice at 2:30, and three times at 2:55. You will have a ten-second grace period. At 3:05 I will start softly gaveling, and will pick up the pace for five to ten seconds, at which time you **WILL** be instructed to stop for questioning.

We are required to have two hours of debate, which begins once the first speaker begins their speech. We are allowed up to 10 minutes of recess time, which is included in the two hours of debate. We will try to take a break at the midway point of the session. Please refrain from requesting “points of personal privilege” for restroom breaks during the session.

We will debate the legislation which has sponsors in this chamber first. After we have finished all those items, we can move on to other legislation.

As to how I will call speakers, the first speech on all items will be given by a sponsor. To ensure fairness, after that I will use geography, calling speakers from different areas of the room. Next, the number of speeches, where if multiple legislators are standing to be recognized, whoever has given the fewest has priority. And finally, recency, where if multiple legislators are standing and have given an equal number of speeches, whoever has spoken least recently has priority.

All sponsorship and first negative speeches have a mandatory two-minute questioning period, and all other speeches have a mandatory one-minute questioning period. We will utilize “Direct Questioning,” which calls for 30-second blocks of time for legislators to ask questions of the speaker, and for speakers to respond. There will be four 30-second blocks for the sponsorship and first negative speeches, and two 30-second blocks for all other speeches on a specific legislative item. Questioning will also be spread fairly across the chamber.

For “personal privilege,” no more than one legislator can be absent at a time.

We are now in line to start the session. Is there a motion to open the floor for debate?

Is there a second?

All in favor?

Motion clearly passes.

Our first item is a bill/resolution to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Is there a sponsor present?

**AFTER THE SPEECH IS DONE, SAY,** "The time of that speech was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, questioners please rise." **USE YOUR SEATING CHART AND SPREAD THE WEALTH.** If you are able to say the last name of the questioner, do so; if not, just pointing at the questioner and saying "representative" will suffice.

**WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE “MOVES TO PREVIOUS QUESTION,” BUT (in your opinion) THERE ARE STILL A DECENT NUMBER OF SPEAKERS LEFT ON BOTH THE AFFIRMATIVE AND NEGATIVE SIDES:** *The chair does not have to automatically accept a motion from the floor to end debate on a bill or resolution and move to previous question. Say the following:*

"I appreciate your request, but seeing there are still legislators wishing to speak on this legislation, I will not accept your motion at this time. I will reconsider after we've had a few more speeches on both sides of the legislation, though."

**WHEN FINALLY VOTING ON THE QUESTION:**

* For what purpose does the speaker rise?
* "Move to the previous question."
* Is there a second?
* "Second."
* It's been moved and seconded, all in favor? All opposed?
* (If it seems like it's not a 2/3 majority, say, "Is there a call for division of the house?" Someone should say yes, after which you do a hand vote. If it's more than 2/3, say, "OK, we are now voting on a bill/resolution to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, all in favor, please stand. (Count the votes and write it next to the item on the board.) All opposed? (Count them and write them on the board.) Abstentions? (Same.) On a vote of (aff-neg-abstain), this legislation clearly passes/fails.
* Our next item is a bill/resolution to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Is there a sponsor present?

**YOUR GUIDE TO CONGRESS MOTIONS**

WHAT YOU                        WHAT YOU                    VOTE          EFFECT

WANT TO DO                    SAY                                NEEDED

Begin debate                       “I move to                        Majority       Officially begin debating legislation.               open the floor

                                             for debate.”

Stop debating a bill             “I move to                            2/3               Calls for an

or resolution                        previous question.”                                     immediate vote on

                                                                                                                     legislation

Personal liberties                “Point of personal                Decision of  Gets permission to

privilege (to exit chambers).”  the P.O        leave the congress

chamber (for a

restroom break)

Debate the legislation later “I move to                            Majority       Puts legislation on

(to table it)                           table the legislation.”                                   hold. (It will need to

                                                                                                                     be readdressed

before the end of the

                                                                                                                     legislative day.

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

* There is no such thing as “prefacing a question” or a “two-part question” in cross examination
* **PBCFL rules DO NOT allow for an “open chamber”** (which means legislators must ask for personal privilege at a PBCFL tournament).
* You are role playing a federal legislator. You are not a high school student.
* **A debate cycle must be at least three speeches**, and should end after an affirmative speech if at all possible.
* **Recency DOES NOT reset after lunch.**
* “Longest Standing” and “Activity in the Chamber” are faulty speaker recognition systems and SHOULD NOT be used to determine recency.
* Legislation with sponsors in your chamber ALWAYS have priority over legislation whose schools are not in your chamber.

**GAVELING PROCEDURES:** 1 tap = 2 minutes; 2 taps = 2 minutes 30 seconds; 3 taps = 2:55

**AUTHORSHIP/SPONSORSHIP SPEECHES HAVE AUTOMATIC PRIORITY.**

**AFTER THAT, GEOGRAPHY** – AT THE START OF THE OPENING SESSION, THE PO SHOULD BE CALLING SPEAKERS FROM DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE CHAMBER / DIFFERENT SCHOOLS.

**NEXT, NUMBER OF SPEECHES GIVEN** – IF MULTIPLE LEGISLATORS ARE STANDING TO BE RECOGNIZED TO SPEAK, WHOEVER HAS GIVEN THE FEWEST SPEECHES HAS PRECEDENCE.

**FINALLY, THERE’S RECENCY** – IF MULTIPLE LEGISLATORS ARE STANDING TO BE RECOGNIZED TO SPEAK, AND HAVE GIVEN AN EQUAL NUMBER OF SPEECHES, WHOEVER HAS SPOKEN LEAST RECENTLY HAS PRIORITY.

*“Longest Standing” and “Activity in the Chamber” (number of questions asked by a student) are faulty speaker recognition systems and should not be used to determine a fair speaker order.*

**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 1**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Pablo Puente-Munoz, John I Leonard**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Clark

Martin County

Oxbridge

Suncoast

Wellington

Palm Beach Central

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

*YOU MAY NOT DEBATE THESE ITEMS UNTIL AFTER ALL TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION HAS BEEN DEBATED. NOVICE CHAMBERS CAN SELECT THE ORDER OF “TIER 2” ITEMS TO DEBATE*

If you have any questions, text Wellington Coach Paul Gaba at 561-352-0635. Make sure you let him know your name and chamber.

**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 2**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Kylie Gibson, John I Leonard**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Martin County

Dreyfoos

Wellington

Oxbridge

Palm Beach Central

Suncoast

Olympic Heights

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 3**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Nicole Ramos, John I Leonard**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Wellington

Suncoast

Martin County

Palm Beach Central

Dreyfoos

Oxbridge

Clark

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 4**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Kelvin Smith, Wellington**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Park Vista

Clark

Oxbridge

Palm Beach Central

Suncoast

Martin County

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 5**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Mak Reyes, John I Leonard**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Palm Beach Central

Olympic Heights

Suncoast

Clark

Wellington

Oxbridge

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 6**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Carlos Canales, John I Leonard**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Dreyfoos

Wellington

Clark

Suncoast

Oxbridge

Palm Beach Central

Olympic Heights

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 7**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Annie Harter, Cardinal Newman**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

American Heritage

Suncoast

Dreyfoos

Olympic Heights

Palm Beach Central

Wellington

Oxbridge

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 8**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Bradley Temes, Olympic Heights**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Seminole Ridge

Oxbridge

Dreyfoos

Wellington

Olympic Heights

Suncoast

John I Leonard

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 9**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Gwendolyn Rogers, Olympic Heights**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Suncoast

Park Vista

John I Leonard

Oxbridge

Wellington

American Heritage

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 10**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Leticia Veiga, Spanish River**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Cardinal Newman

Olympic Heights

Oxbridge

Dreyfoos

Suncoast

Wellington

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 11**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Chase Evans, Palm Beach Central**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Olympic Heights

Oxbridge

Suncoast

Wellington

John I Leonard

Cardinal Newman

Dreyfoos

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 12**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Alexander Jean-Joseph, Palm Beach Central**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Oxbridge

Cardinal Newman

Wellington

John I Leonard

Martin County

Suncoast

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 13**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Maddox Manriquez, Wellington**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

Suncoast

John I Leonard

American Heritage

Cardinal Newman

Dreyfoos

Oxbridge

Park Vista

The Benjamin School

Palm Beach Central

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 14**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Ava Redfield, Wellington**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

The Benjamin School

Oxbridge

John I Leonard

Olympic Heights

Park Vista

Cardinal Newman

Palm Beach Central

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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**DOCKET – NOVICE HOUSE 15**

**PRESIDING OFFICER: Yhazaliyah Avila, Wellington**

**TIER 1: SPONSORED LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

**THESE MUST BE DEBATED IN THE ORDER LISTED:**

John I Leonard

Cardinal Newman

The Benjamin School

Dreyfoos

Olympic Heights

Oxbridge

Park Vista

**TIER 2: ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION (SCHOOLS NOT IN YOUR CHAMBER)**

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