



# NATIONAL CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

## 2023 LEGISLATION DOCKET

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## 2023 NATIONAL CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

### **PRELIMINARY ROUND LEGISLATION FOR ALL DEBATE..... 4**

A Bill to Abolish Standardized Testing Requirements to Foster Student Growth .....	5
A Bill to Address the Climate Crisis .....	6
A Bill to Allow People Convicted of a Felony to Vote .....	7
A Bill to Eliminate Zoning Policies for Fair Housing .....	8
A Bill to Expand Career and Technical Education in Secondary Schools .....	9
A Bill to Fund Hypersonic Weapon Development to Enhance the Military’s Global Strike Capability .....	10
A Bill to Implement Campaign Financing Reform to Ensure Equity in Elections .....	11
A Bill to Invest in Kenya to Extract Rare Earth Elements .....	12
A Bill to Make Juvenile Detention and Correction Centers More Effective to the Physiological Needs of Youth ..	13
A Bill to Open American Immigration .....	14
A Bill to Prevent Employers from Accessing Digital Footprint.....	15
A Bill to Resize the House of Representatives for True Proportional Representation .....	16
A Bill to Universalize Mental Health Care in the United States .....	17
A Resolution to Remove Turkey From NATO.....	18
A Resolution to Restore Peace in Yemen .....	19

### **HOUSE QUARTERFINAL / SENATE SEMIFINAL ROUND LEGISLATION ..... 20**

A Bill to Ban Social Media Advertisements Targeted at Users 16 and Under .....	21
A Bill to Implement Regulations on Ghost Guns .....	22
A Bill to Include Preschool as a Part of Public Education to Increase Access to Early Childhood Development ....	23
A Bill to Provide the Cherokee Nation with a Voting House Member .....	24
Science for the Future Act .....	25
Sustainable Fishing Act .....	26
The Agricultural Ultimatum for Reform Act (AURA) of 2023 .....	27
The Families Matter Act.....	28

### **HOUSE SEMIFINAL ROUND LEGISLATION..... 29**

A Bill to Ban Noncompete Clauses from Employment Contracts.....	30
A Bill to Extend Internet Access .....	31
A Bill to Privatize the United States Postal Service.....	32
A Resolution to End the Cuban Embargo to Establish Normal Trade Relations.....	33

A Resolution to Increase the Use of Safe Injection Sites .....	34
A Resolution to Recognize the Republic of China as an Independent Country.....	35
Medical Research is the Public’s Domain Act .....	36
The National Clean Slate Act of 2023 .....	37
<b>SENATE FINAL ROUND LEGISLATION .....</b>	<b>38</b>
<hr/>	
A Bill to Establish Independent Redistricting Commission to Abolish Gerrymandering .....	39
A Bill to Integrate Social Work Professionals into Emergency Service Response Protocol.....	40
A Bill to Redistribute Subsidies to Reverse Emissions .....	41
A Bill to Require First Responders to Carry Naloxone .....	42
A Resolution to End Qualified Immunity .....	43
<b>HOUSE FINAL ROUND LEGISLATION .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<hr/>	
A Bill to Allow States to Sponsor Visas for Any Reason .....	45
A Bill to Enhance Aid in The Northern Triangle .....	46
A Bill to Establish Standards for Police Training .....	47
A Bill to Lower Tariffs on Insulin .....	48
A Bill to Standardize Federal Student Loan Interest to Make College Affordable and Accessible.....	49



2023 HIGH SCHOOL  
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

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**PRELIMINARY ROUND LEGISLATION  
FOR ALL DEBATE**

## A Bill to Abolish Standardized Testing Requirements to Foster Student Growth

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby ban all requirements of standardized testing in the Every  
3 Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Funding distributions based on standardized testing scores  
4 shall be banned and shall be replaced by attendance-based funding distributions.

5 **SECTION 2.** “Standardized Testing” shall be defined as an academic examination that is similar in  
6 admittance and examination across locations. Examples include STAAR, CAASPP, and the  
7 NYSTP.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education shall oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

9 **A.** The Department of Education shall disperse federal funding to state education agencies  
10 correlating to each state’s relative student attendance from the previous year.

11 **B.** All public schools shall lose thirty percent of their federal funding while in  
12 noncompliance with this legislation.

13 **C.** The Department of Education shall review all public schools in noncompliance and will  
14 be given the option to retroactively provide funding for public schools if they are both  
15 (1) in critical need of funding and (2) have returned to compliance within 180 days of  
16 violation.

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

## A Bill to Address the Climate Crisis

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Congress will provide funding and technical assistance for communities  
3 to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change, such as sea level rise, increased  
4 frequency of natural disasters, and changing precipitation patterns.

5 **SECTION 2.** Furthermore, the United States will provide funding for international climate cooperation  
6 and participation in international climate agreements, such as the Paris Agreement.

7 **SECTION 3.** The United States will promote energy efficiency through tax credits, rebates, and building  
8 codes that require more efficient use of energy. The United States government will provide  
9 incentives for the deployment of renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and  
10 hydropower, as well as energy storage and transmission technologies.

11 **A.** The United States government will provide tax cuts for corporations that go solar  
12 and/or use renewable energy sources (15%-25% max).

13 **B.** The tax cut will be decided after an inspection by the EPA. It will be based on how hard  
14 the company is trying to protect the climate.

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be overseen by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the  
16 Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

17 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby  
18 declared null and void.

## A Bill to Allow People Convicted of a Felony to Vote

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Any person convicted of a felony, whether released or imprisoned, will now be granted the  
3 opportunity to vote. For persons imprisoned, an absentee ballot will be provided, and  
4 voting jurisdiction will be determined by the location of the detention facility.

5 **SECTION 2. A.** Convicted felons shall be defined as any person who has been found guilty of a felony  
6 criminal offense.

7 **A.** An imprisoned person shall be defined as anyone confined in a prison or jail as  
8 punishment for a crime.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission (FEC) will oversee this legislation's implementation in  
10 conjunction with other agencies.

11 **A.** In addition to the FEC, each state's Secretary of State will ensure that convicted felons  
12 are able to register to vote and vote if they choose.

13 **B.** Additionally, the Secretary of State's Office will be responsible for the delivery of voter  
14 registration paperwork and absentee ballots to felons currently imprisoned.

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

## A Bill to Eliminate Zoning Policies for Fair Housing

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All single-family zoning laws are hereby illegal. All municipalities must approve requests to  
3 add an additional housing unit to any plot of land currently containing only one.

4 Municipalities are strongly encouraged to allow more than two units on single plots as well.

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

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

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



## A Bill to Expand Career and Technical Education in Secondary Schools

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress increases the funding for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act  
3 of 2006 from \$1.3 billion a year to \$1.5 billion per year.

4 **SECTION 2.** The increase of \$200 million will not be distributed to specific states, but instead be held in  
5 a fund and allocated as grant money to secondary schools serving under-resourced  
6 communities.

7 **SECTION 3.** Under-resourced communities are defined as large, heavily populated urban or suburban  
8 areas with high poverty rates and low incomes.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be overseen by the Department of Education

10 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with this legislation  
11 are hereby declared null and void.

## A Bill to Fund Hypersonic Weapon Development to Enhance the Military's Global Strike Capability

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Defense will be allocated \$30 billion per year until fiscal  
3 year 2053 to develop, construct, and maintain hypersonic weapons.

4 **SECTION 2.** “Hypersonic weapons” are defined as self-guided cruise missiles and gliders capable of  
5 speeds greater than Mach 5, that can be launched by ships, aircraft, or ground installations.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense will be responsible for the implementation of this bill. The  
7 Department of Defense budget will be increased by \$30 billion, or \$1 million per year until  
8 FY 2053 to facilitate the funding of this bill.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in FY 2024. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby  
10 declared null and void.

## A Bill to Implement Campaign Financing Reform to Ensure Equity in Elections

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of the Treasury shall create a fund dedicated to the support  
3 of financially-eligible challenger candidates for the United States House of Representatives.  
4 Candidates will submit requests for funding to be reviewed and approved by a panel of  
5 non-partisan committee members, which will be formed from the Federal Election  
6 Commission in order to fairly distribute funds.

7 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions apply:

8 Financially-eligible challenger candidates will be defined as candidates for the House of  
9 Representatives who file with the Federal Election Commission within the designated time  
10 period. Candidates must not have previously held office in the House of Representatives  
11 and must have collected less than \$15,000 in campaign donations.

12 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of the Treasury shall be responsible for the implementation of this  
13 legislation. The Treasury will appoint and oversee members of the aforementioned non-  
14 partisan panel.

15 The Treasury will collect a 10% tax on all campaign donations to House of Representatives  
16 candidates totaling over \$500,000 in order to finance the fund.

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

## A Bill to Invest in Kenya to Extract Rare Earth Elements

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1. A.** The United States shall grant Kenya annual economic aid of \$1 billion, in exchange for  
3 benefits for U.S. companies and partnerships in the rare earth element industry with  
4 local Kenyan miners.

5 **A.** This will reinforce the U.S. national security mission to diversify its rare earth elements  
6 supply chains while developing the Kenyan economy.

7 **SECTION 2. A.** The economic aid shall be used to subsidize local Kenyan businesses as part of bottom-  
8 up economic stabilization programs. Additionally, some portion of the aid will be  
9 directed toward infrastructure improvement and construction of facilities.

10 **B.** In return, U.S. companies shall receive priority access to partnership opportunities with  
11 local miners, in that U.S.-offered contracts shall take precedence over business  
12 opportunities from other foreign countries.

13 **C.** U.S. companies shall receive full approval from the Kenyan government to build  
14 infrastructure for mining and processing facilities on local land.

15 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Agency for International Development will  
16 work in conjunction to implement this legislation.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2024.

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

## A Bill to Make Juvenile Detention and Correction Centers More Effective to the Physiological Needs of Youth

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Juvenile detention and correction centers across the nation will make substantial changes  
3 to their systems so that they further incorporate the latest data on the neurological and  
4 psychological development of children and youth.

5 **SECTION 2.** Centers will give individuals in the system the rehabilitation resources they need, including  
6 therapy programs, education tools, and social interaction.

7 **A.** Therapy programs will include staffing one full-time licensed mental health  
8 professional per 100 youth to oversee counseling.

9 **B.** Education tools are defined as the resources necessary to meet the same education  
10 standards as the public education in that state, including special education programs,  
11 with the goal of helping youth reenter their graduating year.

12 **C.** Juvenile detention centers may not hold youth in solitary confinement.

13 **SECTION 3.** These changes will be overseen by the Special Litigation Section with direction from the  
14 Federal Bureau of Prisons, and enforcement from the IRS.

15 **A.** Funding from this legislation will come from a 4.5% Value Added Tax (VAT).

16 **SECTION 4.** Implementation of this legislation will begin immediately after passage.

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

## A Bill to Open American Immigration

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States of America hereby adopts an open-door policy to all non-violent  
3 immigrants.

4 **SECTION 2.** Open door policy is defined as a no-limit policy on people seeking access to live and work in  
5 the United States. Non-violent immigrants are any persons seeking to immigrate to the U.S.  
6 without intentions of criminal activity.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security in coordination with the U.S. Citizenship and  
8 Immigration Services and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement will be  
9 responsible for the enforcement of this bill.

10 **A.** All current persons living in the U.S. without documentation are required to obtain  
11 formal documentation to continue live in the U.S.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately. All laws in conflict with this legislation are  
13 hereby declared null and void.

## A Bill to Prevent Employers from Accessing Digital Footprint

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Employers will be prohibited from checking applicant and employee digital footprints.

3 **SECTION 2.** Digital footprint shall be defined as the information about a particular person that exists on  
4 the internet as a result of their online activity (social media profiles, personal emails, etc.).

5 Employer shall be defined as an individual or an organization in the government, private,  
6 nonprofit, or business sector that hires and pays people for their work.

7 **B.** Background Checks (defined as a process a person or company uses to verify that an  
8 individual is who they claim to be, to check and confirm the validity of someone's  
9 criminal record, education, and employment history) are not included in the  
10 jurisdiction of this legislation.

11 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Labor will oversee the enforcement and implementation  
12 of this legislation.

13 **A.** Any employer found to be in violation of this legislation will be fined \$5,000 for the first  
14 violation, \$10,000 for the second, and \$10,000 on top of the previous fine for each  
15 violation after.

16 **B.** Any employer found in violation more than five times will be tried in a municipal court.

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

## A Bill to Resize the House of Representatives for True Proportional Representation

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The number of Representatives in the House of Representatives shall now be proportional  
3 to the population of the United States.

4 **SECTION 2.** “Proportional” shall mean corresponding in size—i.e., increasing with the increases of the  
5 population and vice versa.

6 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Census Bureau shall be responsible for the enforcement of this bill.

7 **A.** The state with the smallest population shall receive one Representative in the House of  
8 Representatives.

9 **B.** Every other state shall receive a number of Representatives equal to their population  
10 divided by the smallest state’s population, rounded through conventional rounding  
11 methods.

12 **C.** Within a state with multiple Representatives, Representatives shall be apportioned  
13 through the same methods previously conducted.

14 **D.** This process shall be done every ten years, coinciding with the taking of the census.

15 **E.** All processes must be completed following the current apportionment deadlines.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2030. All laws in conflict with this legislation  
17 are hereby declared null and void.



## A Bill to Universalize Mental Health Care in the United States

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall make mental health care services free to all citizens.

3 **SECTION 2.** Mental health care services shall be defined as services from a licensed mental health care  
4 provider in psychological assessment and intervention, such as, but not limited to,  
5 therapeutic evaluation, counseling, and medication support.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services within the Department of Human Health and  
7 Services will be expanded to oversee the implementation of this bill.

8 **A.** A Mental Health Commission will be created to determine covered services.

9 **B.** This legislation shall be funded by a 5% income tax increase on those with a household  
10 income of 500,000 USD or more annually.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect in the fiscal year 2024. All laws in conflict with this  
12 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

## A Resolution to Remove Turkey From NATO

- 1    **WHEREAS,** The Republic of Turkey has abandoned the North Atlantic Treaty Organization’s (NATO)  
2                   humanitarian values for its personal objectives; and
- 3    **WHEREAS,** Turkey is increasing its cooperative relations with Russia; and
- 4    **WHEREAS,** Turkey has proven resistant when called to intervene in defense of NATO’s common  
5                   interests; however, it has not hesitated to pursue its own objectives even when these  
6                   interests go against NATO’s mission; and
- 7    **WHEREAS,** Turkey no longer shares the same political values as NATO, and abuses its influence in  
8                   NATO for personal gain; and
- 9    **WHEREAS,** The security and efficacy of NATO has deteriorated due to Turkey’s Actions; now, therefore  
10                  be it
- 11   **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled recommend that the Republic of Turkey be removed  
12                  from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

## A Resolution to Restore Peace in Yemen

- 1    **WHEREAS,** The people of Yemen are the victims of a devastating military, humanitarian and political  
2                    crisis; and
- 3    **WHEREAS,** The driving forces behind instability and danger in Yemen is constant conflict and a lack of  
4                    basic resources necessary to sustain life; and
- 5    **WHEREAS,** Saudi Arabian warships blockade shipments of food, water, and medicine to Yemeni  
6                    civilians; and
- 7    **WHEREAS,** The United States is responsible for supporting Saudi Arabia and its catastrophic  
8                    intervention in internal Yemeni civil conflicts; and
- 9    **WHEREAS,** The support of the United States has been instrumental in Saudi Arabia's military  
10                  operations in and around Yemen, training and assisting different branches of the Saudi  
11                  Arabian armed forces; now, therefore, be it
- 12   **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States stop all military aid and auxiliary  
13                  support to Saudi Arabia; and, be it
- 14   **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States Armed Forces stop all military operations in Saudi Arabia,  
15                  excluding targeted and judicious counterterrorism operations approved by the U.S. Senate  
16                  Committee on Armed Services.



2023 HIGH SCHOOL  
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

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**HOUSE QUARTERFINAL /  
SENATE SEMIFINAL  
ROUND LEGISLATION**

## A Bill to Ban Social Media Advertisements Targeted at Users 16 and Under

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All social media platforms are hereby prohibited from directing advertisements to users  
3 under the age of 16 years.

4 **SECTION 2.** Social media platforms are required to establish default safety tools to protect adolescent  
5 users on such platforms and provide guardians with greater autonomy regarding social  
6 media use by adolescents.

7 **A.** Guardians shall have the right to remove their children from content algorithms that  
8 direct false, misleading, or harmful content.

9 **B.** Guardians shall have the right to access, review, and delete the information of  
10 adolescent users collected by social media platforms at any time.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Communications Commission shall oversee full enforcement of the above  
12 sections.

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

## A Bill to Implement Regulations on Ghost Guns

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government will require the sellers of ghost guns to track their  
3 sales and report the sales to the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record.

4 **SECTION 2.** A “Ghost Gun” is defined as serialized firearms that can be bought online and assembled at  
5 home.

6 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms (ATF) will see implementation of this bill.

7 Any seller not compliant will be fined \$800 per untracked firearm piece.

8 Any firearm sold without a serial number will be charged with the sale of an unserialized  
9 firearm with a minimum of five years in jail and \$2000 fine.

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

## A Bill to Include Preschool as a Part of Public Education to Increase Access to Early Childhood Development

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** This bill will officially include preschool as a part of public education allowing further  
3 accessibility of preschool for children.

4 **SECTION 2.** Preschool will be defined as an early childhood program in which children combine learning  
5 with play and have an emphasis in learning and development. We define public education  
6 as education in schools provided by the government.

7 **A.** The goal of this bill is to allow a focus in childhood development that seeks to alleviate  
8 monetary stress from parents while providing a safe educational space for children.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will be in charge of overseeing the implementation of this  
10 bill.

11 **A.** Should any issues arise from the implementation of this bill the proper corrections will  
12 be overseen by the Department of Education and Department of Justice.

13 **B.** Any monetary support that may need to be implemented for this bill will be taken from  
14 the Department of Defense on a yearly basis that will be decided within the next year  
15 during further committee meetings related to this bill.

16 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are  
17 hereby declared null and void.

## A Bill to Provide the Cherokee Nation with a Voting House Member

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall honor the Treaty of New Echota and establish a permanent voting  
3 delegate seat for the Cherokee Nation.

4 **SECTION 2.** This bill shall permanently increase the number of voting house members from 435 to 436,  
5 thus invalidating the Reapportionment Act of 1929, and introducing a new congressional  
6 member cap of 436.

7 **SECTION 3.** Eligibility for this position requires that all individuals seeking this office fulfill  
8 Constitutional requirements for house election, be an established member of Cherokee  
9 Nation and reside in the modern-day Cherokee Nation Reservation in Northeastern  
10 Oklahoma

11 **A.** This congressional seat shall be democratically elected by individuals who are members  
12 of Cherokee Nation, and likewise fulfill any and all voter requirements imposed by  
13 Cherokee Nation, and the federal government.

14 **B.** All voter precincts containing members of the Cherokee Nation shall have to provide all  
15 eligible Cherokee Nation voters proper access to ballots in primary and general  
16 elections, to elect their Cherokee congressional candidates and representative.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall provide for national Cherokee Nation elections and subsequent  
18 representation for the 120th Congress, and all congresses thereafter. All laws in conflict  
19 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.



## Science for the Future Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** \$100 million shall be allocated to the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science for the  
3 purposes of the following:

4 **A.** The DOE Office of Science shall continue to leverage U.S. participation in the Large  
5 Hadron Collider and prioritize expanding international partnerships and investments in  
6 the Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility and Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment.

7 **B.** DOE shall support the construction of a Facility for Rare Isotope Beams to advance the  
8 understanding of rare nuclear isotopes and the evolution of the cosmos.

9 **C.** DOE shall establish within the Office of Science, a cross-cutting research initiative to  
10 leverage the federal government's innovative analytical resources and tools, user  
11 facilities, and advanced computational and networking capabilities to prevent, prepare  
12 for, and respond to emerging infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

13 **D.** DOE may not carry out gain-of-function research of concern.

14 **SECTION 2.** A nonpartisan commission of scientific experts will oversee the implementation of this  
15 legislation.

16 **A.** If any programs are deemed to have failed at their stated goals after five years, funding  
17 may be reallocated to other DOE programs.

18 **SECTION 3.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are  
19 hereby declared null and void.

## Sustainable Fishing Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** To conserve rapidly depleting fish this will conserve fish in the world while keeping the  
3 businesses profitable.

4 **SECTION 2.** Conservation shall be defined as the prevention of wasteful use of resources. Sustainable  
5 shall be defined as able to be maintained at a certain rate and level.

6 **SECTION 3.** Upon the signage of this Act into law, fishing restrictions shall be put in place and the  
7 following funding will be allocated to the Department of Commerce and the National  
8 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

9 **A.** A national database of known natural fish breeding areas shall be established by the  
10 NOAA.

11 **B.** Fishing will hereby be banned from all designated natural breeding areas. Any violator  
12 will face fines of up to \$1 million and three years in prison.

13 **C.** Fishing will be banned within 10 miles of these areas for a minimum of three years and  
14 until the NOAA deems fishing within those ten miles is now sustainable. Any violator  
15 will face fines of up to \$1 million and three years in prison.

16 **D.** Fisheries will be fully reimbursed for all profit losses for three years.

17 **E.** Sustainable fishing Experts from across the world will be hired by the government.  
18 They will be sent out across the country to advise fisheries on sustainable yet profitable  
19 fishing practices. Their services will be free of charge to these fisheries.

20 **F.** The NOAA, and the Department of Commerce, shall be provided \$100 million yearly for  
21 enforcement of this legislation.

22 **G.** All funding necessary for this bill will come from a \$0.01 tax on every gallon of water  
23 pumped by large corporations who have profits of over \$5 million yearly.

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

## The Agricultural Ultimatum for Reform Act (AURA) of 2023

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) shall divest from pre-existing and  
3 future agricultural subsidies toward large agricultural corporations and commercial farms  
4 by 50% for each stipulation that goes unmet by the end of fiscal year 2023.

5 **A. STIPULATION A:** The use of pesticides shall be eradicated.

6 **B. STIPULATION B:** Regenerative agriculture will replace current tilling and plowing  
7 practices.

8 All current subsidies will be redirected toward small farms if both stipulations are unmet by  
9 large farms. If large farms only meet one stipulation, 50% of funding will be cut.

10 **SECTION 2.** Large farms and agricultural corporations, for the purposes of this legislation, will be  
11 defined as grossing \$350,000 minimum in income yearly whereas small farms will be  
12 defined as grossing less than \$350,000 minimum in income yearly.

13 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will be tasked with the oversight and  
14 enforcement of this legislation.

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect June 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with this legislation are  
16 hereby declared null and void.

## The Families Matter Act

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

2 **SECTION 1.** All citizens of the United States of America who are employed in the United States or who  
3 are employed overseas by the United States federal government are entitled to 12 weeks  
4 of paid family leave.

5 **SECTION 2.** Paid family leave can be described as leave taken for (1) the birth of a child, (2) the  
6 adoption or foster care of a child, and (3) the care of an immediate family member with a  
7 serious health condition that will be paid for by the federal government.

8 **SECTION 3.** This bill would be overseen by the Department of Labor. The funding from this bill will be  
9 \$350 billion taken from the current U.S. military budget. This budget will be for the years  
10 2025 to 2035. All funding after the 10-year program will be decided further by congress  
11 after the 2035 funding date.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the beginning of 2025 fiscal year.

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



2023 HIGH SCHOOL  
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

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**HOUSE SEMIFINAL ROUND  
LEGISLATION**

## A Bill to Ban Noncompete Clauses from Employment Contracts

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Employers may no longer require their employees to sign noncompete agreements.

3 **SECTION 2.** A noncompete agreement will be defined as a contract that prohibits an employee from  
4 competing with their former employer/business directly or indirectly for a specific duration  
5 of time after their employment has ended.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor and the Federal Trade Commission will work together to oversee  
7 the implementation of this legislation and ensure that all businesses and employees are  
8 abiding by the requirements.

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

## 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 shall oversee the implementation and enforcement of this piece of legislation.

7 **A.** The ISA shall receive an initial budget of \$50 billion USD.

8 **a.** \$10 billion USD will be used for the formation of the agency: constructing buildings,  
9 hiring management, and hiring miscellaneous personnel.

10 **b.** \$40 billion USD will be used for the construction and maintenance of the network  
11 infrastructure.

12 **B.** The ISA will charge a base price of \$30 USD every month per household for internet  
13 access.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2026. All laws in conflict with this legislation are  
15 hereby declared null and void.

## A Bill to Privatize the United States Postal Service

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** United States Postal Service (USPS) shall attempt to become a privatized entity.

3 **SECTION 2.** The passage of this bill will open a 180-day bid submission period followed by a 90-day  
4 public comment period. All bid submissions must include the following:

5 **A.** a plan to retain not less than 25% of the current United States Postal Service  
6 workforce; and

7 **B.** a plan to provide severance packages to all USPS employees let go because of  
8 privatization, which must include not less than six-weeks' pay plus two-weeks' pay for  
9 each year of service; and

10 **C.** a plan to continue the current universal service obligation of the USPS for not less than  
11 10 years.

12 **SECTION 3.** The USPS Board of Governors shall review all bids and, at the conclusion of the public  
13 comment period, make a final selection and present it to Congress for final approval.

14 **A.** If there are no bids meeting the requirements in Section 2, the USPS will not become  
15 privatized and Sections 3 B-D will not take effect.

16 **B.** The winning bidder shall receive an annual federal subsidy of \$10 billion each year for a  
17 total of five years.

18 **C.** The Private Express Statutes (18 U.S.C. § 1693-1696 and 39 U.S.C. 601-606) will be  
19 repealed.

20 **D.** The Postal Regulatory Commission will continue to exist to enforce legal obligations on  
21 the privatized USPS.

22 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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



## A Resolution to End the Cuban Embargo to Establish Normal Trade Relations

- 1   **WHEREAS,** For 60 years, the United States economic embargo on Cuba has failed to achieve its  
2                   objectives and has not brought about the desired political change; and
- 3   **WHEREAS,** The embargo has limited access to basic goods for the Cuban people, leading to  
4                   widespread shortages; and
- 5   **WHEREAS,** The embargo has also prevented U.S. businesses from participating in the Cuban market,  
6                   limiting opportunities for trade and economic growth; and
- 7   **WHEREAS,** The United States has a moral obligation to promote stability and cooperation in its  
8                   neighborhood; now, therefore, be it
- 9   **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled that the United States shall end its embargo on the  
10                  Republic of Cuba; and, be it
- 11   **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States shall improve its diplomatic relations with Cuba and  
12                  establish normal trade relations.

## A Resolution to Increase the Use of Safe Injection Sites

- 1   **WHEREAS,** The opioid crisis endangers the lives of tens of thousands every year; and
- 2   **WHEREAS,** Overdose deaths due to opioids like heroin in the U.S. have overall risen from
- 3           approximately 11,000 deaths per year in 2002 to 71,000 in 2019; and
- 4   **WHEREAS,** Improper intravenous drug use greatly increases the likelihood of transmittable diseases
- 5           such as HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C; and
- 6   **WHEREAS,** People who share syringes are 22 times more likely to contract HIV than the general
- 7           population; and
- 8   **WHEREAS,** In 2010, 53% of the 17,000 new cases of Hepatitis C were attributed to intravenous drug
- 9           users; and
- 10   **WHEREAS,** Safe injection sites have been proven to decrease overdose deaths from 253 to 165 per
- 11           100,000 years and the absolute risk difference was 88 deaths per 100,000 years now,
- 12           therefore, be it
- 13   **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States federal government mandate that
- 14           every state be required to establish plans to implement injection sites in order to combat
- 15           the heroin epidemic and decrease overdose rates in the United States.

## A Resolution to Recognize the Republic of China as an Independent Country

- 1   **WHEREAS,** The island of Taiwan and its associated territories, henceforth referred to as the Republic of  
2                   China (ROC), has been and continues to be a separate and independent country from the  
3                   People’s Republic of China; and
- 4   **WHEREAS,** The failure to recognize the Republic of China as an independent country has weakened its  
5                   sovereignty, hampered its defensive capabilities, and reduced its presence on the global  
6                   stage; and
- 7   **WHEREAS,** The Republic of China remains a key U.S. ally, maintains a vibrant democracy, and forms  
8                   arguably the most critical component of the United States’ Chinese containment strategy;  
9                   and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** The U.S. policy of “strategic ambiguity” towards the defense of the Republic of China has  
11                  been increasingly undermined; and
- 12 **WHEREAS,** Recognition of the ROC as an independent country would resolve these concerns and  
13                  encourage our allies to rally behind the Republic of China; now, therefore, be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled the Republic of China be recognized as a separate and  
15                  independent country according to a two-China policy; and, be it
- 16 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the United States formally commit to the defense of the Republic of China in  
17                  the event of a military conflict between the Republic of China and the People’s Republic of  
18                  China; and, be it
- 19 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 is declared null and void, and the United  
20                  States will normalize relations between the ROC and the United States.

## Medical Research is the Public's Domain Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All medical research on topics specified by the Department of Health and Human Services  
3 (HHS) must be given a tax credit for the cost of said research if the research is placed in the  
4 public domain after the passage of this piece of legislation.

5 **SECTION 2.** A tax credit is defined as an amount of money that taxpayers can subtract directly from  
6 taxes owed to the Federal Government.

7 Public domain shall be defined as the state of belonging or being available to the public as a  
8 whole, and therefore not subject to copyright.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Department of Health and Human Services  
10 (HHS) shall oversee the implementation and enforcement of this piece of legislation.

11 **A.** The IRS shall only grant tax credits if the research is complete, approved by the HHS,  
12 and formally placed in the public domain.

13 **B.** The HHS shall review all published medical research to approve or disapprove it as  
14 within the scope of this legislation.

15 **C.** The HHS shall receive an increase in funding of \$10 million and the Internal Revenue  
16 Service an increase of funding of \$5 billion.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2026. All laws in conflict with this legislation are  
18 hereby declared null and void.

## The National Clean Slate Act of 2023

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Records of federal criminal convictions shall be automatically sealed without the need for a  
3 court order when certain conditions are met.

4 **SECTION 2.** A sealed record is hidden from public view but can still be accessed by law enforcement.  
5 Conditions for automatic record sealing are as follows:

6 **A.** The conviction is a first-time misdemeanor offense. Sex offenses are excluded from this  
7 legislation.

8 **B.** No less than five years have passed since the date of conviction.

9 **C.** The offender has completed all court-ordered obligations associated with their  
10 sentence, including imprisonment, probation, or supervised release.

11 **D.** The offender has not accrued any additional criminal convictions since the initial  
12 conviction.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Administrative Office of the United States Courts  
14 shall enforce this legislation.

15 **A.** All states are required to have automatic record sealing in place no later than two years  
16 after this legislation takes effect.

17 **B.** The DOJ shall work in conjunction with state legislatures to develop and enact clean  
18 slate laws in the context of state-level criminal statutes.

19 **C.** States not compliant with Section 3A will have 20% of their highway funding withheld  
20 for each fiscal year of noncompliance.

21 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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



2023 HIGH SCHOOL  
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

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**SENATE FINAL ROUND LEGISLATION**

## A Bill to Establish Independent Redistricting Commission to Abolish Gerrymandering

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States hereby establishes Independent Redistricting Commission in each of the  
3 50 states to redraw congressional district lines every 10 years following the U.S. Census  
4 Demographic shift. The Independent Redistricting Commission will be created by the state.

5 **SECTION 2. A.** Independent Redistricting Commission will have its members selected to reflect the  
6 state's geographical, racial, gender, and political diversity. The commission would  
7 require 12 members, with four chosen from the two major parties respectively and  
8 four independents. Any map will have to pass with eight members in favor of the map  
9 to pass.

10 **B.** Each state will create its own independent redistricting commission. State legislatures  
11 shall only reject the district map if they are found to violate the state Constitution or  
12 the Constitution of the United States.

13 **C.** The independent commission will be established every ten years according to the U.S.  
14 Census demographic survey.

15 **D.** In the case that these maps violate the constitution, redistricting process will be done  
16 repeatedly until a map is approved.

17 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission will work alongside states to implement this bill. The  
18 Federal Election Commission will intervene if it's observed that there exist any  
19 discrepancies in any of the terms listed above.

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

## A Bill to Integrate Social Work Professionals into Emergency Service Response Protocol

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** State police agencies within the United States and the District of Columbia shall begin  
3 staffing social workers to respond adjunctly with first responder professionals in cases  
4 where social work expertise may be needed. This includes but is not limited to domestic  
5 abuse or mental health crises. Social workers will also collaborate with detectives in cases  
6 where deemed necessary.

7 **SECTION 2.** Social workers shall be defined as professionals trained at a minimum in mental and  
8 emotional health crisis intervention, social welfare practice, conflict resolution, domestic  
9 violence crimes, abuse crimes, and neglect.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will oversee the implementation and enforcement of this bill.  
11 The Department of Justice will litigate against all states found in violation of this Act.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect six (6) months after passage. All laws in conflict with this  
13 legislation are hereby declared null and void.



## A Bill to Redistribute Subsidies to Reverse Emissions

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall reinforce its dedication toward ending subsidies to fossil fuel  
3 corporations.

4 **A.** The United States will phase out subsidies by incrementally decreasing subsidies by  
5 10% of the original amount allocated to companies every year.

6 **B.** Funds recovered from subsidies will be accumulated into a fund to provide grants to  
7 private companies that submit formal proposals to create negative emissions  
8 technologies.

9 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions apply:

10 **A.** Subsidies will be defined as any form of financial benefit, whether direct payments or  
11 tax exemptions, to incentivize business production or expansion.

12 **B.** Fossil fuel corporations will be defined as any company engaged in the production,  
13 manufacturing, or sale of any non-renewable form of energy, including coal, natural  
14 gas, crude oil, petroleum products, and more.

15 **C.** Negative emissions technologies will be defined as mechanisms for the absorption and  
16 storage of atmospheric greenhouse gases.

17 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency shall be responsible  
18 for the implementation of this legislation.

19 **A.** The Department of Energy will be tasked with the responsibility of ending fossil fuel  
20 subsidies by 2035.

21 **B.** The Environmental Protection Agency will be tasked with the responsibility of  
22 approving applications for funding from private companies.

23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on August 1, 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are  
24 hereby declared null and void.

## A Bill to Require First Responders to Carry Naloxone

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All first responders are hereby required by law to carry naloxone when on duty and to use  
3 it when medically indicated—i.e., they encounter a person who has overdosed.

4 Departments shall be required to host semiannual training on how to use naloxone.

5 **SECTION 2.** “Naloxone” shall be defined as a synthetic drug that blocks opioid receptors in the nervous  
6 system used to treat narcotic overdose. A “first responder” shall be defined as someone  
7 trained to respond to an emergency, including but not limited to police officers,  
8 firefighters, and paramedics.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and departments will be responsible  
10 for the enforcement of this bill.

11 **A.** Any first responder found in violation of this bill will be fined \$500 per infraction.

12 **B.** Any department in violation of this bill will have their funding reduced by 10% until they  
13 comply.

14 **C.** Funding for this bill will come from a 2% tax on pharmaceutical companies.

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately after passage. All laws in conflict with this  
16 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

## A Resolution to End Qualified Immunity

- 1   **WHEREAS,** Qualified immunity is a legal doctrine that protects law enforcement officers from being  
2                   sued in their personal capacity or being held personally liable for violations of the  
3                   Constitution; and
- 4   **WHEREAS,** Qualified immunity permits government officials and law enforcement to violate people’s  
5                   constitutional rights and deprive people of their civil rights with little to no legal recourse;  
6                   and
- 7   **WHEREAS,** Qualified immunity makes it nearly impossible for victims of abuse or civil rights violations  
8                   performed by law enforcement to prosecute the officer in a court of law; and
- 9   **WHEREAS,** Qualified immunity is often used to dismiss police brutality cases, particularly against  
10                  people of color; now, therefore, be it
- 11 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States pass the Ending Qualified Immunity  
12                  Act in order to provide for accountability when public officials violate Americans'  
13                  constitutional rights.



2023 HIGH SCHOOL  
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

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**HOUSE FINAL ROUND LEGISLATION**

## A Bill to Allow States to Sponsor Visas for Any Reason

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Individual states will be allowed to sponsor temporary visas for migrants for any reason.

3 **SECTION 2.** A system will be established for states to establish specific criteria for migrants they wish to  
4 sponsor. Each state will base their criteria on the needs of their economy and government  
5 institutions.

6 **SECTION 3.** When states wish to sponsor a migrant that meets their criteria, the federal government  
7 will conduct a customary background check. After a prospective migrant is approved and  
8 arrives in their state, they will be required to work in that state unless that state permits  
9 working elsewhere. Migrants will also only be allowed to work until their visa expires,  
10 unless their state renews it.

11 **SECTION 4.** Migrants under this program will be permitted to apply for permanent residence (Green  
12 Card) in the United States after eight years of compliance with their state's rules. This will  
13 allow them to seek citizenship after five years with permanent residence.

14 **SECTION 5.** State-sponsored migrants will be eligible to receive Social Security benefits. However, they  
15 will not be eligible to receive other federal benefits.

16 **SECTION 6.** The Department of Homeland Security will be responsible for the implementation of this  
17 legislation.

18 **SECTION 7.** This legislation will take effect in FY 2026. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby  
19 declared null and void.

## A Bill to Enhance Aid in The Northern Triangle

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** An additional, cumulative \$50 billion shall be allocated to aid and foreign direct investment  
3 in the Northern Triangle to bolster economic and social opportunity.

4 **A.** At least 50% of the aid will be used to expand the Central America Regional Security  
5 Initiative (CARSI) and its humanitarian efforts.

6 **B.** The remaining funds (after the allocation detailed in section 1 A) shall be allocated to  
7 foreign direct investment.

8 **SECTION 2.** Humanitarian efforts shall be defined as (but not limited to) the development of economic  
9 and social opportunity in the Northern Triangle (e.g., the creation and investment in  
10 hospitals, schools, and small businesses) with the ultimate goal of alleviating poverty and  
11 decreasing violence. Foreign direct investment shall be defined as aid carried out utilizing  
12 local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the region that have been approved by the  
13 Department of State (DOS). Aid shall be allocated via the discretion of the implementing  
14 body with the oversight of the DOS.

15 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State (DOS) shall be tasked with the implementation of this legislation.  
16 The DOS will do an evaluation and audit regarding the efficacy of aid in poverty reduction  
17 and violence reduction. Funding allocation will come out of the Department of Defense  
18 budget.

19 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the beginning of the next fiscal year. All laws in conflict  
20 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

## A Bill to Establish Standards for Police Training

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The following requirements shall be met before a police cadet may graduate from police  
3 academy.

4 **A.** The cadet must have obtained a bachelor's degree from a four-year public or private  
5 university.

6 **B.** The cadet must spend two years or more studying at a police academy.

7 **C.** The cadet must have received all necessary local, state, and federal authorization or  
8 certification to wield a firearm as a private individual.

9 **D.** The cadet must not have been convicted with any felonies or violent crimes. Any police  
10 officer who is convicted of a felony or violent crime will have their degree from police  
11 academy permanently and irrevocably revoked.

12 **SECTION 2.** Police academy shall be defined as a training school that trains and certifies prospective  
13 cadets as law enforcement officers.

14 A law enforcement officer is defined as a public-sector employee whose duties primarily  
15 include the enforcement of laws, and who may have the authority to detain, apprehend,  
16 arrest, and prosecute valid suspects.

17 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Justice shall oversee the implementation of this bill.

18 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall come into effect at the start of fiscal year 2024.

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

## A Bill to Lower Tariffs on Insulin

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** That the Congress of the United States lower tariffs on imported insulin from 2% to 0.5%
- 3 **SECTION 2.** This act will be implemented over a course of five years with a 0.3% tariff reduction per
- 4 year beginning January 1, 2024.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The United States Customs and Border Protection will enforce this legislation.
- 6 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with this legislation
- 7 are hereby declared null and void.



## A Bill to Standardize Federal Student Loan Interest to Make College Affordable and Accessible

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** At the start of every fiscal year, all Federal Student Loans will be assigned a fixed and non-  
3 compounding interest rate of no more than 2% of the principal amount borrowed.

4 **SECTION 2.** A Federal Student Loan is defined as any loan lent by the Federal Government for the  
5 purpose of paying for higher education. These include, but are not limited to, subsidized  
6 loans, unsubsidized loans, Stafford loans, and parent PLUS loans.

7 **A.** The newly revised Federal Student Loan interest model will be solely limited to simple  
8 interest calculation methods.

9 **SECTION 3.** This Act will be adjunctly implemented and enforced by the Department of Education, the  
10 Ombudsman Group, and the Internal Review Service (IRS). Implementation will not require  
11 appropriation of any funds.

12 **B.** The IRS will revise the Federal Tax Code as needed to accommodate interest-related  
13 rebates.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the beginning of the 2025 fiscal year. All laws in conflict  
15 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.