

The Ohio Speech and Debate Association



*Congressional Debate
Legislation
2025 High School State Finals*

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There will be no authorship speeches at the 2025 OSDA State Finals.

P-1

A Bill to Subsidize Sustainable Farming in Ohio

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** In light of the current dwindling amount of rich farmland in Ohio and a shortage of funds
3. to invest in Ohio counties, the Ohio Government shall pursue implementing “humanure”
4. in order to help replenish infertile farmland and prevent a surplus of infertile farmland.
5. **SECTION 2.** Humanure shall be defined as biosolid, processed, compost derived from human waste
6. previously treated by local sewage systems that will be integrated into farmland.
7. **SECTION 3.** The Ohio Department of Agriculture shall work in tandem with the Ohio Department of
8. Health to decide who shall receive these grants and oversee implementation of
9. humanure with the specific enforcement mechanism.
10. A. The Ohio Department of Agriculture shall be allocated \$18,000,000 to award to
11. six municipalities for the creation of composting facilities attached to existing
12. waste treatment plants.
13. B. Municipalities may apply for grants issued by the Ohio Department of Agriculture
14. \$3,000,000. The six municipalities with the most need and the best plan of
15. sewage diversion will be awarded with this grant.
16. C. The compost should be made available to all Ohio farmers at no more than 5%
17. above the cost of production.
18. **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect January 1, 2026.
19. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Akron District

P-2

A Bill to Reuse Radioactive Waste In Our Infrastructure

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby initiate a five-year study to determine if reusing
3. phosphogypsum in the construction of roadways is a safe process for the people and the
4. environment.
5. **SECTION 2.** The term “safe” shall be defined as not having any abnormal health hazards on living
6. things and not being environmentally destructive. The five-year study shall be
7. determined as non-invasive research conducted and tried to determine a conclusion.
8. Construction shall be defined as the material for roads, including but not limited to,
9. concrete and asphalt.
10. **SECTION 3.** The Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Transportation will be
11. tasked with implementing this legislation.
12. A. \$150 million will be allocated to the EPA for research. Further funding is subject
13. to future congressional approval.
14. **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be implemented immediately upon passage.
15. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Canton District

P-3

Veterans Mental Health and Homelessness Act of 2026

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **SECTION 1.** Veterans facing mental health and/or addiction issues after service will be encouraged
3. to attend medical visits and therapy.
4. A. Veterans who have had 20 years or more of service will now be eligible for
5. 100% service connection coverage.
6. B. The U.S Department of Veterans Affairs will build 500 new transitional housing
7. facilities across the United States to aid veterans who meet certain criteria:
8. 1. Homelessness, with or without a family
9. 2. Veteran status
10. 3. Ability to work
11. **SECTION 2.** For the purpose of this act:
12. A. A “service connected condition” shall be defined as an illness or injury that
13. was caused by—or got worse because of—active military service.
14. B. “Transitional housing” shall have the same meaning as in 42 USC § 11360(31).
15. **SECTION 3.** The U.S Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S Department of Housing and
16. Urban Development shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.
17. The Federal government will support the Department of Housing and Urban
18. Development - Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) voucher program.
19. **SECTION 4.** The Federal government will increase funds to the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs
20. (VA) by an additional \$100 billion USD. Funding will come from an increased excise tax
21. on cigarettes, vapes, and alcohol.
22. **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026.
23. **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Cleveland District

P-4

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Eliminate Birthright Citizenship

1. **WHEREAS,** Birthright citizenship, as outlined in the 14th Amendment of the US Constitution, grants
2. citizenship to any individual born on US soil, regardless of civic engagement; and
3. **WHEREAS,** A well-informed citizenry is essential for the proper functioning of a democracy, ensuring
4. that citizens understand their rights, responsibilities, and the workings of government;
5. and
6. **WHEREAS,** The naturalization process, which includes a citizenship test, ensures that individuals
7. seeking citizenship possess the necessary knowledge of US history, government, and
8. civic duties, thus promoting an informed and engaged citizenry; and
9. **WHEREAS,** Replacing birthright citizenship with a naturalization test would ensure that all US
10. citizens are knowledgeable about their country's systems and better prepared to
11. participate in civic life; now, therefore, be it
12. **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled, that the US Constitution be amended to eliminate
13. birthright citizenship, replacing it with a naturalization test for all individuals born in the
14. US to determine eligibility for citizenship.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Columbus District

P-5

A Resolution to Fund Mexico's Immigration System

1. **WHEREAS,** Illegal immigration has caused an abundant amount of conflict, violence, and instability
2. in the Central American sphere through a lack of clear enforcement and funding; and
3. **WHEREAS,** Central American countries continue to produce asylum seekers by the thousands due to
4. their internal conflicts; and
5. **WHEREAS,** Mexico has been tasked to limit the flow of Central American immigrants entering the
6. United States by apprehending suspects at the southern Mexican border, but has failed
7. due to a lack of resources in their immigration departments; and
8. **WHEREAS,** The unchecked flow of immigrants from Central America directly to the US (through
9. Mexico) has created problems of crime and violence; now, therefore, be it
10. **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the US provide funding to the Mexican government
11. for use within their own immigration system, using the funding to properly apprehend
12. undocumented immigrants near the border; and, be it
13. **FURTHER RESOLVED,** If the Mexican government and local enforcement agencies fail to use this
14. funding for ethical means to decrease rates of undocumented immigration and all
15. implications associated with it, the US government shall retract this funding.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the GMV District

P-6

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Prohibit Presidential Preemptive Pardons

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed as
3. an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all
4. intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of
5. three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission by
6. the Congress:
7. **ARTICLE –**
8. **SECTION 1:** The power of the President to “grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the
9. United States (as described in Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution) shall prohibit
10. preemptive pardons.
11. **SECTION 2:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Youngstown District

S-1

A Resolution to Demand that the President Re-Sign the Rome Statute

1. **WHEREAS,** International law and the promise of world peace are only possible when the nations of
2. the world work together to support these lofty goals; and
3. **WHEREAS,** The withdrawal of the United States from the Rome Statute in 2002 dealt a serious blow
4. to our nation's credibility and to the values we claim to hold dear, both at home and
5. abroad; and
6. **WHEREAS,** It is not too late to reverse course and reclaim our position as a moral leader for the
7. entire globe; now, therefore be it
8. **RESOLVED,** by the Congress here assembled that the President of the United States is called upon to
9. sign back onto the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and reaffirm
10. our nation's commitment to upholding the work of the ICC, including our full cooperation
11. in the enforcement and execution of all ICC arrest warrants; and be it
12. **FURTHER RESOLVED,** that, should the President answer this call, Congress as a whole implores all
13. Senators to vote to ratify the Rome Statute.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

S-2

A Resolution to Encourage the Recognition of Northern Cyprus

1. **WHEREAS,** As of this past July, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, commonly known as
2. Northern Cyprus, has been the de facto government of the northeastern portion of the
3. island of Cyprus for half a century; and
4. **WHEREAS,** Official recognition by and normalized relations with the international community would
5. do enormous good for the nearly 400,000 people who call this territory home; and
6. **WHEREAS,** Movement in this direction would also be enormously beneficial for relations between
7. the United States and Turkey; now, therefore be it
8. **RESOLVED,** by the Congress here assembled that the Executive Branch is strongly encouraged to
9. recognize the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and to establish an embassy in North
10. Nicosia as soon as is practicable; and be it
11. **FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Congress encourages the rest of the international community to make haste
12. in following suit.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

S-3

A Bill to Legalize Hitchhiking on Interstates

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2. **SECTION 1.** Hitchhiking is hereby legalized along all entrance ramps of at least 1000 feet in length
3. throughout the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense
4. Highways, so long as hitchhikers keep at least 1000 feet from the ramp's junction with
5. the highway when seeking a ride. Hitchhikers may henceforth seek rides at designated
6. rest areas as well.

7. **SECTION 2.** Barring an emergency, motorists are prohibited from dropping off hitchhikers anywhere
8. along the Interstate Highway System with the exception of designated rest areas.
9. Motorists may also exit the interstate and release a hitchhiker on any other nearby road.

10. **SECTION 3.** A hitchhiker under sixteen years of age must be accompanied by their parent or legal
11. guardian.

12. **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Highway Administration.

13. **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

14. **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

S-4

A Bill to Expand the Protections of the Animal Welfare Act

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
2. **SECTION 1.** The Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, Pub. L. 89–544, is hereby amended to
3. eliminate the law’s exclusion of cold-blooded animals from its protections.
4. **SECTION 2.** Birds, rats of the genus *Rattus*, mice of the genus *Mus*, and farm animals shall remain
5. excluded.
6. **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Department of Agriculture and the
7. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).
8. **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026.
9. **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

F-1

A Bill to Mandate AI Watermarks

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2. **SECTION 1.** Any content created using artificial intelligence (AI) within the United States and its
3. territories is required to encode a watermark that allows for easy detection of the fact
4. that AI was used. All foreign AI content creation services are required to abide by this
5. same requirement in order to do business in the United States.

6. **SECTION 2.** Any domestic business found to be in violation of this legislation shall be fined \$50,000
7. for each infraction, with five or more infractions in a twelve-month period resulting in a
8. five-year suspension of that business' licensure. Any international business found to be
9. in violation of this legislation shall immediately and permanently be banned from doing
10. business in the United States.

11. **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC),
12. which shall be additionally responsible for determining what specific form these
13. watermarks take and communicating those standards to AI-content producers.

14. **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Provide Senatorial Representation for Inhabited Territories

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

5. **ARTICLE —**

6. **SECTION 1.** The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State and
7. one Senator from each inhabited Territory, to be elected in accordance with the 17th
8. Amendment of the Constitution.

9. **SECTION 2.** For the time being, this means each of the following territories shall gain one Senator:
10. Puerto Rico, Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Northern Mariana Islands.
11. Puerto Rico and Guam shall elect their first Senators in the next general election
12. practicable following ratification, U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa shall elect
13. their first Senators two years later, and Northern Mariana Islands shall elect its first
14. Senator two years following that.

15. **SECTION 3.** Should the United States acquire additional inhabited Territories following ratification,
16. Senatorial representation shall be bestowed accordingly.

17. **SECTION 4.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

F-3

A Bill to Provide Full Funding for NPR

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
2. **SECTION 1.** Congress shall henceforth provide total funding for the operations of National Public
3. Radio (NPR). NPR shall be barred from seeking and obtaining funding through corporate
4. sponsorships, member donations, or any other means.
5. **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).
6. **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next legislative fiscal year.
7. **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association

A Bill to Fund Free Public Municipal Restrooms

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
2. **SECTION 1.** Congress shall establish an annual fund of \$500 million to support the construction and
3. maintenance of restrooms in municipal areas that shall be free to the public and open 24
4. hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (closing only for cleaning, maintenance, and
5. repairs).
6. **SECTION 2.** These funds shall be managed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development
7. (HUD), which shall establish a program that enables municipalities to apply for, receive,
8. and utilize these funds. Congress directs HUD to ensure this process promotes the
9. construction of public restrooms in areas that would most benefit from them.
10. **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next congressional fiscal year.
11. **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech and Debate Association