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2023 MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

PRELIMINARY ROUND LEGISLATION

A Bill to Ban Styrofoam Food Containers

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** The use of styrofoam by restaurants and other providers of prepared meals for packaging
- 3 and/or serving food and/or beverages is hereby banned.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** Any establishment found to be in violation of this legislation shall be fined \$100 for each
- 5 violation. Should the total amount fined to a single establishment ever exceed \$10,000,
- 6 that establishment shall lose its license(s) to sell food and/or beverages.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Food and Drug Administration.
- 8 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.
- 9 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Ban Tackling in Football and Rugby

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Tackling is hereby prohibited in public elementary, middle, and secondary education sports
3 in football, rugby, and any other activities where tackling is standard practice within the
4 sport. The use of flags as a stand-in for tackling shall remain legal, and public and private
5 leagues at all levels are encouraged to embrace this humane adaptation.

6 **SECTION 2.** Tackling is defined as the intentional use of physical contact and force to arrest another
7 player's movement, bring that player to the ground, and/or compel that player to lose
8 possession of the ball.

9 **SECTION 3.** Any public school found to be allowing tackling sports without penalty shall be fined \$1,000
10 for each violation.

11 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Department of Health and Human Services
12 and the Department of Education.

13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on August 1, 2025.

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

A Bill to Block Advanced Creative AI Websites and Apps

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** All domestic internet service providers (ISPs) are directed to block websites and apps that
3 utilize artificial intelligence to enable users to produce art, writing, and other creative
4 works based on original prompts.

5 **SECTION 2.** The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) shall be
6 entrusted with determining and publicizing which websites meet this criteria and must be
7 blocked, as well as with overseeing implementation of this legislation generally.

8 **SECTION 3.** Any ISPs found to be in violation of this legislation shall be fined a minimum of \$5,000 and a
9 maximum of \$50,000 per infraction. Repeated violations (more than five in a one-year
10 period) shall result in the revocation of that ISP's license to provide internet services.

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

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

A Bill to Close All Foreign Military Bases

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Within ten years of the passage of this legislation, all U.S. military bases situated within
- 3 foreign countries shall be closed, their troops and personnel returned to the U.S., and their
- 4 land and facilities returned unconditionally to each respective nation.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Defense.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Establish Mandatory Public Service

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Each U.S. Citizen born after January 1, 2006, must complete at least two years of public
3 service by the time of their 30th birthday.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** This requirement may be satisfied through two full years of service in one of the following:
5 the Armed Forces (including the National Guard), the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, or the
6 National Health Service Corps.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The penalties for failing to meet this requirement shall be identical to those that
8 accompany failure to register for the Selective Service when required to do so.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Selective Service System.
- 10 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.
- 11 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Invest in Namibia's Oil Fields

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** For the next ten years, Congress shall direct \$1 billion annually to Namibia to be utilized to
- 3 help that nation take advantage of its recently discovered offshore oil reserves.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** The Department of State will oversee this legislation and in particular to work actively and
- 5 carefully with Namibia to promote the equitable distribution of the wealth produced from
- 6 these oil fields among the Namibian people.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation shall be drawn from a 0.5% tariff increase on imports of oil and
- 8 petroleum products.
- 9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year.
- 10 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Protect the Patient's Right to Interstate Telehealth

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** No state, district, or territory shall make or enforce any law prohibiting a patient's right to
3 seek medical or pharmaceutical care across state lines via telehealth technologies so long
4 as the relevant medical professional(s) deem(s) such services safe to provide without in-
5 person examination, nor shall any insurance provider refuse coverage of such services on
6 these grounds.

7 **SECTION 2.** No state, district, or territory shall criminalize the shipment or receipt of pharmaceuticals
8 prescribed under the conditions described in Section 1.

9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Health and Human Services.

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

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

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Democratize the Supreme Court

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.** Judges of the Supreme Court (SCJs) shall henceforth be appointed to serve 12-year terms.

7 **SECTION 2.** An SCJ may be appointed to serve more than one term if renominated and reconfirmed.

8 **SECTION 3.** On June 1 of the first, second, and third year of each presidential term, the sitting president
9 shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint a new
10 SCJ (or re-nominate and re-appoint an old one). At each of these junctures, the president
11 and the Senate shall have until September 1 of that same year to complete the nomination
12 and confirmation process, with the outgoing SCJ's term set to expire and the new SCJ's
13 term set to commence on this same date.

14 **SECTION 4.** Beginning with the next presidential term, the terms of those SCJs currently serving shall
15 expire on this schedule one after another according to descending length of tenure. That is,
16 Justice Thomas' term shall expire in 2025, Justice Roberts' in 2026, Justice Alito's in 2027,
17 Justice Sotomayor's in 2029, Justice Kagan's in 2030, Justice Gorsuch's in 2031, Justice
18 Kavanaugh's in 2033, Justice Barrett's in 2034, and Justice Jackson's in 2035, with a new SCJ
19 nominated and confirmed in each of those years and the cycle beginning again in 2037.

20 **SECTION 5.** Should an SCJ's term end prematurely for any reason, the highest ranking member of the
21 presidential chain of command who belongs the party whose president appointed the SCJ
22 being replaced shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall
23 appoint a replacement to serve for however much time remains of that 12-year term.
24 Should the party in question fail to be represented in the presidential chain of command,
25 or should the president who nominated the SCJ being replaced have been unaffiliated,
26 these duties shall fall to the sitting president regardless of party.

27 **SECTION 6.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

A Resolution to Discourage Social Media Use Among Elected Officials

- 1 **WHEREAS** Politicians at all levels have become over reliant on social media to argue and communicate
2 policy proposals online to niche audiences and platforms; and
- 3 **WHEREAS** Disruption in the social media space among Twitter, Facebook, TikTok, and other
4 prominent social media platforms has made credibility and trust a matter of public
5 concern; and
- 6 **WHEREAS** The lack of fact-checking and mediation among nearly all social media platforms have
7 become inconsistent with the virtues of open communication with the public; and
- 8 **WHEREAS** Political figures of all types spend disproportionate time on social media platforms, either
9 by themselves or their designees, time that could be better spent governing and
10 communicating through other channels; and
- 11 **WHEREAS** Members of this Congress have proposed to ban TikTok from all government phones due to
12 concerns over data privacy; therefore be it
- 13 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that all holders of political office (federal, state, county,
14 municipal, and local) remove social media apps from their phones; and
- 15 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congressional and other political leaders will vow to discontinue their use of
16 public social media accounts so that public deliberation, policy implementation, and
17 enforcement no longer take place online but are a part of public debate on the floors of
18 their respective legislative bodies only.

The National Interstate and Defense Bikeways Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall establish a Bikeway Trust Fund and commit \$25 billion to said fund over the
3 next ten years to support the construction of safe and functional bicycling infrastructure
4 (bikeways) within and between major metropolitan areas throughout the United States.
5 Territories, states, and the Federal District are directed to utilize this funding promptly and
6 efficiently with the goal of establishing a robust nationwide interstate bikeway system
7 within ten years of the passage of this legislation, thereby enhancing our nation's defense
8 by insulating us against a variety of threats such as climate change and fossil fuel depletion.

9 **SECTION 2.** In order for states to gain access to this fund, they must commit to paying 10% of all
10 expenses related to the construction and maintenance of these bikeways. Territories and
11 the Federal District are exempt from this requirement.

12 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation shall be raised through a 5% excise tax increase on the sale of
13 gasoline and diesel for use in automobiles.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation, including determinations regarding where and how to construct bikeways,
15 shall be overseen by the Federal Highway Administration in conjunction with territories,
16 states, and the Federal District. Section 3 will be overseen by the Internal Revenue Service.

17 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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



2023 MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

SEMIFINAL LEGISLATION

A Bill to Eradicate Chemical and Nuclear Capabilities

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will dispose of all chemical and nuclear weapons currently in our
3 possession.

4 **SECTION 2.** “Nuclear weapons” are defined as munitions or devices specifically designed to inflict harm
5 or cause death through the energy harnessed by the splitting of atomic nuclei.

6 **SECTION 3.** “Chemical weapons” are defined as munitions or devices specifically designed to inflict harm
7 or cause death through the release of toxic or otherwise hazardous chemicals.

8 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Defense shall oversee the disposal of all chemical weapons within two
9 years of the legislation’s implementation and the disposal of all nuclear weapons within
10 five years of the legislation’s implementation.

11 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will go into effect at the start of the fiscal year 2023. All laws in conflict with
12 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Establish a 4-Day Workweek

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** All federal employers that currently utilize a traditional 5-day workweek in any capacity
3 shall adopt a 4-day workweek in those same contexts, shifting Friday to a non-working
4 “weekend” day where possible. Employers shall maintain an 8-hour maximum for each
5 workday, with no reduction in salaries.

6 **SECTION 2.** Federal employees who volunteer to work additional shifts beyond four days will be paid
7 overtime (minimum pay rate of time and a half).

8 **SECTION 3.** State, territorial, and local governments are encouraged to adopt similar policies, as are
9 private businesses.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Labor.

11 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

A Bill to Implement Basic Banking Services in Post Office

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States government will provide \$1 billion to all post offices in the United States
3 to offer postal banking services.

4 **SECTION 2.** Postal banking services include, but not limited to, services include check cashing, bill
5 paying, ATM access, expanded and improved money orders, and expanded wire transfers.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Postal Regulatory Commission will oversee this legislation and the U.S. Department of
7 Treasury will fund this legislation.

8 **SECTION 4.** This law will go into effect in fiscal year 2023. All laws in conflict with this legislation are
9 hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Invest in the Trans-African Highway

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall deliver \$10 billion to the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African
3 Union (AU), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) to support
4 the completion of the Trans-African Highway network.

5 **SECTION 2.** Congress directs the Department of State to work actively and aggressively to facilitate
6 cooperation among the nations involved in the construction of these highways so that they
7 may be completed as quickly and efficiently as possible.

8 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation shall be diverted from the Department of Defense budget.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the U.S. Agency for International Development
10 (USAID).

11 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year.

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

A Bill to Restructure the Mèrida Initiative

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will allocate one billion dollars every year for the next decade to counter-
3 narcotics and development within Mexico.

4 **SECTION 2.** Counter-narcotics will be spearheaded by drug interdiction through greater collaboration
5 between the U.S. Coast Guard and Mexican Navy with increased targeting for smuggling
6 networks. Economic development will be defined as aid packages to develop agricultural
7 industries and business development for cartel-ridden areas.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State, in collaboration with the Department of Defense and USAID, will
9 enforce this legislation.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect in fiscal year 2023. All laws in conflict with this legislation
11 are hereby declared null and void.

A Resolution to Encourage Ukraine to Join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

- 1 **WHEREAS** The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has, since its inception nearly 75 years ago,
2 played a crucial role in maintaining world peace; and
- 3 **WHEREAS** Ukraine has for decades now supported and embodied the values that are central to NATO;
4 and
- 5 **WHEREAS** Russia’s ongoing war with Ukraine is an affront to democratic values across the North
6 Atlantic region and around the world; and
- 7 **WHEREAS** The Ukrainian people deserve the full support of NATO and all its member nations in their
8 struggle to withstand the violations of Putin’s regime; now, therefore be it
- 9 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that Ukraine is strongly encouraged to begin the process of
10 joining NATO; and be it
- 11 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that all NATO member states are strongly encouraged to support Ukraine in this
12 process; and be it
- 13 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Russia is warned to end its hostilities in Ukraine totally and to withdraw
14 immediately (including from Crimea), for failure to do so will lead to war with NATO and all
15 its member states should these recommendations come to pass.



2023 MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

FINALS LEGISLATION

A Bill to Mandate Universal Charging Ports

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Every mobile phone, tablet, digital camera, smart watch, laptop, headphone or headset
3 unit, handheld video game console, portable speaker unit, e-reader, keyboard, computer
4 mouse, and portable navigation system that is rechargeable via a wired cable and operates
5 with a power delivery of up to 100 watts sold new in the United States and its territories
6 must be outfitted with a USB-C charging port.

7 **SECTION 2.** Any retailer found to be in violation of this legislation shall refund triple the cost of any
8 improperly outfitted item(s) to the relevant customer(s).

9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Trade Commission.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

A Bill to Provide for the Rescue of the Great Salt Lake

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall allocate \$10 billion to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) over the
3 next decade to support restoration of Utah’s Great Salt Lake to sustainable levels. The EPA
4 is directed to work with local stakeholders to follow the recommendations of the University
5 of Utah’s Great Salt Lake Strike Team: namely, to leverage the lake’s wet years; set a lake
6 elevation range goal; invest in conservation, water monitoring and modeling; and develop a
7 holistic water management plan.

8 **SECTION 2.** After ten years, Congress shall conduct an in-depth analysis of the situation and consider
9 extending or increasing this funding if necessary.

10 **SECTION 3.** Funding for this legislation shall be sourced from a 1% annual tax increase on the revenue
11 of the fossil fuel industry.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the EPA, with the exception of Section 3, which shall be
13 overseen by the Internal Revenue Service.

14 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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

A Bill to Require DNA Evidence for Death Penalty Sentencing

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** No convicted criminal shall be sentenced to death unless DNA evidence linking the criminal
3 to the crime comprises a central element of that conviction, as determined by the judge
4 overseeing the case.

5 **SECTION 2.** Any inmate currently sentenced to death and awaiting the completion of that sentence
6 whose conviction was not significantly predicated on DNA evidence shall have their
7 sentence commuted to life in prison. District attorneys with jurisdiction in the court where
8 the crime was originally tried shall be responsible for making these determinations and
9 shall have one year from the passage of this legislation to do so.

10 **SECTION 3.** If a judge is found to have violated this legislation, this shall serve as compelling grounds for
11 that judge's impeachment.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Justice.

13 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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

A Bill to Support the Bridging of the Darién Gap

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Over the next five years, Congress shall remit \$750 million dollars to the Republic of
3 Panama to be used to create a road traversing the Darién Gap and thus to complete the
4 Pan-American Highway.

5 **SECTION 2.** Congress shall allocate an additional \$100 million to support temporary relocation of US
6 workers to Panama to assist with all aspects of this project. Congress shall establish a
7 committee to oversee the disbursement of these funds.

8 **SECTION 3.** Congress requests that the Department of State work with the Panamanian government to
9 ensure that this project comes to fruition. Should the Department of State fail to negotiate
10 such a deal within one year of the passage of this legislation, all funding shall be retained
11 and the committee absolved.

12 **SECTION 4.** These funds shall be sourced from a corresponding reduction in the Department of Defense
13 budget.

14 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of State.

15 **SECTION 6.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Revoke the Presidential Veto Power

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 President shall no longer have the right to veto bills sent to them by Congress.

7 **SECTION 2.** As the Constitution stipulates, a bill that the President does not sign within ten days
8 (Sundays excepted) will become law anyway.

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

A Resolution to Promote Global Internet Freedom

- 1 **WHEREAS** The internet has become a crucial forum for free speech and the open exchange of ideas;
2 and
- 3 **WHEREAS** Many countries globally, including our own country to a certain extent, have sought to
4 curtail these freedoms; and
- 5 **WHEREAS** Tyrannies often begin by limiting their citizens’ freedoms of speech and expression, whether
6 online or not; now, therefore be it
- 7 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that internet freedoms are declared fundamental human
8 rights and deserve vigilant protection accordingly; and be it
- 9 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that any nation that seeks to limit the rights of its citizens to access the internet
10 and to engage in internet services freely is declared to be an enemy of human rights; and
11 be it
- 12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress shall consider deploying sanctions and other diplomatic
13 consequences against any such nation in an attempt to promote restoration of internet
14 freedoms for citizens of that nation; and be it
- 15 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress commends and celebrates all nations that protect and promote
16 their citizens’ internet freedoms.