



NATIONAL CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

2024 LEGISLATION DOCKET

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2024 MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

PRELIMINARY ROUND LEGISLATION

A Bill to End Seed Patent Protections

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The US federal government will end the practice of granting intellectual property rights
3 protections, including patents, trademarks, and copyrights, for seeds, seed DNA strands,
4 transgenic seed organisms, and seed biomes.

5 **SECTION 2.** The US Department of Agriculture, along with the Office of the US Trade Representative,
6 will oversee the following provisions.

7 A. Existing patent protections will be allowed to expire at the end of the patent period
8 with the following exceptions:

9 1. Farmers will be allowed to germinate seeds for replanting from existing crops
10 without paying patent holders fees for those seeds.

11 2. Natural cross-pollination of DNA in crops will no longer be considered patent
12 violations.

13 B. Any seed patents issued between the passage of this legislation and its
14 implementation date will be limited to 10 years.

15 C. The Office of the US Trade Representative will lobby the World Trade Organization to
16 remove seed patent protections from the TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of
17 International Property Rights) Agreement.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with this legislation
19 are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill Requiring Employers to Provide Employees with Paid Parental Leave

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All employers shall provide all employees with paid parental leave, regardless of gender.

3 **SECTION 2.** The minimum amount of parental leave provided by an employer shall be 12 weeks for any
4 employee who has been employed for a minimum of one year. Parental leave is defined as
5 time taken off by someone who is a guardian to a minor. It can be taken any time after an
6 employee has become a parent/guardian, and can be taken up to 1 month before the end
7 of a pregnancy, finalization of an adoption, or foster care placement.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Bureau of Labor will oversee regulation of this policy in ensuring that employers are
9 providing this benefit to their employees. Furthermore, the IRS will oversee the regulation
10 of business taxes for the purpose of creating a fund to be utilized by smaller businesses. For
11 companies that make less than 2 million in annual revenue, 0.5% of tax dollars will go into a
12 fund that these companies can use to compensate their employees on parent leave.
13 Companies who make more than \$2 million will be responsible for paying their employees'
14 parental leave.

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

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

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Abolish the Federal Income Tax

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

5 **ARTICLE --**

6 **SECTION 1.** The Sixteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution is hereby repealed.

7 **SECTION 2.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

A Bill to Abolish Gifted and Talented Programs to Embolden Opportunities for Equal Education

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall hereby prohibit the usage of Gifted and Talented programs in all
3 public-school districts. All grants previously gifted to state educational agencies (SEAs) and
4 local educational agencies (LEAs) concerning Gifted and Talented programs shall be
5 remarked as funding for SEAs and LEAs to use as needed to address critical infrastructure.

6 **SECTION 2.** “Gifted and Talented programs” shall be defined as curricular programs that distinguish
7 group(s) of students as high performing relative to other students. This includes all
8 programs previously defined by the Jacob K. Javits Gifted & Talented Student Education Act
9 of 1988.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education and the Well-Rounded Education Programs Office shall
11 oversee implementation of this legislation in the following ways:

12 A. The Department of Education shall identify school districts in non-compliance with this
13 legislation and reduce the federal funding these school districts receive by ten percent
14 each year until all federal funding has been eliminated.

15 B. The Well-Rounded Education Programs Office shall reroute funding for research
16 associated with Gifted and Talented programs toward funding general elementary
17 education research.

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

A Bill to Protect Student Literacy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** State governments shall revoke legislation, or not create legislation, that bans any book
3 from school libraries.

4 **SECTION 2.** Banning books shall include the removal or censorship of material for reasons including but
5 not limited to the material containing content that is violent, offensive, and/or sexual.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will work with state governments for the implementation of
7 this bill.

8 A. Any state that complies with this legislation will see a 20% increase in federal funding
9 of said state's education budget.

10 B. The funding of this bill will come from the U.S. Department of Education.

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

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

A Bill to Replace Traditional Teaching Methods with AI-Powered Education to Support Teachers and Students

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** This legislation will advance the school system by replacing traditional teaching methods
3 with AI-powered education. Implantation will support the future of students and teachers
4 while improving essential jobs during a nationwide teacher shortage. The bill does not
5 replace teachers, as they will still be necessary in classrooms, but instead offers them
6 lesson plan support and more one-on-one time with students.

7 **SECTION 2.** Traditional teaching methods are defined as one-size-fits-all lectures, paper tests/readings,
8 repetition, memorization, and little development of critical thinking, problem-solving, and
9 decision-making skills. AI-powered education is defined as an analysis of student learning
10 styles, strengths, and weaknesses to create a tailored lesson plan and suggest resources to
11 serve their individual needs. Additionally, AI-powered education will assist teachers quickly
12 through areas like individualization and feedback.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will oversee enforcement by establishing policies to regulate
14 AI use to maximize AI use without misuse.

- 15 A. Misuse is defined as the risk of becoming overly reliant on AI-driven technology.
- 16 B. The White House Office of Science and Technology (OSTP) will head the creation of an
17 AI-powered teaching system alongside oversight of the U.S. Federal Trade
18 Commission, Department of Justice, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and Equal
19 Employment Opportunity Commission.
- 20 C. The U.S. Federal Trade Commission, Department of Justice, Consumer Financial
21 Protection Bureau, and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission shall regulate AI
22 to ensure better fairness, equality, and justice in AI systems. It will collaborate with
23 the Department of Education to ensure those qualities within schools. Additionally, 4
24 billion dollars will be funded as an investment by the Department of Education which
25 has over 271 billion dollars in funding.

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

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

A Bill to Admit Guam as the 51st U.S. State

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Guam shall be admitted into the United States as a state and be on equal footing with
3 other states in all respects.

4 **SECTION 2.** The State of Guam shall consist of all islands and territorial waters presently under the
5 jurisdiction of the territory of Guam.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Election Commission (FEC) and Congress shall oversee implementation of this
7 legislation.

8 A. The FEC shall allocate 2 Senate seats and 3 Electors to Guam. Additionally, Guam's
9 current non-voting delegate in the House of Representatives shall be given voting
10 status.

11 B. Congress shall approve the state constitution proposed by the Legislature of Guam and
12 delegate all other matters of implementation to the appropriate government agency.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall immediately go into effect. All laws in conflict with this legislation are
14 hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Ensure Sufficient Nurse Staffing

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) is amended to establish direct care
3 registered nurse-to-patient staffing ratio requirements, and a nursing program grant of
4 \$250 million shall be established.

5 **SECTION 2.** A sustainable direct care registered nurse-patient ratio as outlined in the subsections below
6 shall be required.

7 a. 1-to-1 in operating rooms

8 b. 1-to-2 in intensive care, labor and delivery, ICU patients in the ER, and neonatal care

9 c. 1-to-3 in step down

10 d. 1-to-4 in emergency rooms, postpartum/antepartum, and telemetry units

11 e. 1-to-5 in medical-surgical units

12 f. 1-to-6 in postpartum (women only) and psychiatry units

13 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Occupational
14 Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) shall oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

15 a. OSHA shall be able to enforce administrative fines of up to \$50,000 under non-
16 compliance with this legislation.

17 **SECTION 4.** Effective Dates:

18 a. The requirements under section 2 shall take effect 2 years after the date of the
19 enactment of this title and in the case of a hospital in a rural area (as defined in section
20 1886(d)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act), 4 years after the date of the enactment of this
21 title.

22 b. The nursing program grant shall take effect 6 months after the date of the enactment
23 of this title.

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

A Bill to Impose Fees on Remittance Transfers to Fund Immigration Reform

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A fee equal to 10 percent of the United States dollar amount shall be imposed on the
3 sender of all remittance transfers.

4 **SECTION 2.** “Remittance transfer” shall be defined as a sum of money sent by someone working abroad
5 to their family back home.

6 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Treasury, in conjunction with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
7 and remittance transfer providers, shall develop and make available a system for
8 remittance transfer providers to submit the remittance transfer fees collected in
9 accordance with section 3344(b) of title 31, United States Code. The funds collected shall
10 be allocated to the annual budget of the Department of Homeland Security in order to fund
11 immigration reform, which includes but is not limited to border security and addressing
12 court backlog.

13 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect on January 1, 2025. All other laws in conflict with this
14 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Ban Homeowner Associations

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All Homeowner Associations (HOAs) are hereby banned.

3 **SECTION 2.** “Homeowner Associations (HOAs)” will be defined as an organization in a subdivision,
4 planned community, or condominium building that makes and enforces rules for the
5 properties and residents.

6 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development will oversee the
7 implementation of this bill.

8 A. Any person that starts a Homeowner Association (HOA) will be charged with a fine up
9 to five-thousand dollars (\$5,000).

10 B. The Department of Justice will oversee “Section Three (3)” of this legislation.

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

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



2024 MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

SEMIFINAL LEGISLATION

A Bill to Require Speed Limiting Devices in All Motor Vehicles

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Secretary of Transportation shall, in accordance with 49 U.S.C. § 30111 (a), require all
3 new motor vehicles produced and/or sold in the United States to feature an intelligent
4 speed assistance device.

5 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions shall apply:

- 6 1. "Motor vehicle" shall be defined in accordance with 49 U.S.C. § 30102 (7).
- 7 2. "Intelligent speed assistance device" (or "speed limiter") shall be defined as a device
8 which utilizes technology to cap the speed of a motor vehicle at five miles per hour
9 more than the speed limit in a specific zone.
- 10 3. This technology shall allow for slight acceleration past the speed limit, if necessary,
11 based on applicable traffic conditions.

12 **SECTION 3.** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall enforce all sections of this
13 legislation.

14 A. The Attorney General may bring a civil action against a vehicle manufacturer found to
15 be in violation of the above sections in a United States District Court in compliance with
16 49 U.S.C. § 30163.

17 B. The Secretary of Transportation shall prepare a report regarding the impact of the
18 above sections one year after they shall have become law. The same report shall be
19 transmitted to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
20 Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
21 United States Senate.

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

The Fiber-optic Access and Broadband Deployment for High-speed Internet and Lifelines Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall allocate a total of \$20 billion toward Internet
3 Service Providers (ISPs) annually to create reliable broadband services in underserved and
4 rural areas.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. An “underserved” and “rural area” shall be defined as an area where available internet
6 services do not meet the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) broadband
7 standards.

8 B. “Reliable broadband services” shall offer both minimum download and upload speeds of
9 at least 25 megabits per second (Mbps).

10 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) shall oversee the implementation of this
11 legislation.

12 A. All funds from existing NASA satellite programs along with additional funding by the
13 FCC will be redirected to Internet Service Providers (ISPs)

14 B. The FCC will conduct audits every three years to ensure proper and effective use of the
15 allocated funds.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of Fiscal Year 2025. All laws in conflict with this
17 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

The National Railroad Support Act of 2024

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall invest \$100 billion into both creating new high-speed railroads as well as
3 maintaining all pre-existing railroads.

4 **SECTION 2.** Railroads are defined as a track or set of tracks made of steel rails along which passenger
5 and freight trains run. Traditional Railroads are defined as any railroads that are not high-
6 speed.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Railway Administration (FRA) and the Federal Department of Transportation
8 (DOT) will oversee enforcement.

9 A. Funding shall come from a 5% tax on diesel sales, a 5% tax on No.6 fuel oils, and a 5%
10 tax on Airline ticket sales. Any additional funding required shall generously be provided
11 by the U.S. Department of Defense.

12 B. The FRA and DOT must submit a plan of action detailing the location of railways they
13 will construct as well as which sections of pre-existing railways they will maintain to
14 Congress within 6 months of this legislation taking effect. The plan will emphasize
15 maintaining high-speed and traditional railroads first and then constructing new
16 railroads second.

17 C. Newly created railroads must be able to withstand high-speed passenger trains
18 traveling above 180 miles/hour.

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

A Bill to Institute a Vegan Diet in Primary and Secondary Schools

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1** Any primary or secondary schools that receive any amount of federal funding are hereby
3 required to adhere to the principles of veganism in the foods and beverages they serve to
4 students. That is, they may no longer serve any foods or beverages that were sourced from
5 animals, namely meat, dairy, and eggs. Non-federally funded schools are encouraged to
6 follow suit as well.

7 **SECTION 2.** Any school or district that is found out of compliance with this legislation shall lose 50% of
8 its federal funding until such time as compliance is reached.

9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the National School Lunch Program and the
10 Department of Education.

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

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



2024 MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE LEGISLATION

FINALS LEGISLATION

A Resolution to Oppose Oppressive Voter ID Laws

- 1 **WHEREAS** Voter ID Laws are used in many states to restrict the right to vote “to those who can show
2 appropriate picture identification;” and
- 3 **WHEREAS** This identification can often be difficult or expensive to obtain; and
- 4 **WHEREAS** Those impacted by these laws are disproportionately people of color; and
- 5 **WHEREAS** These laws limit the ability of all people to participate in the democratic process; and
- 6 **WHEREAS** A democracy is supposed to be a government for, by, and of the people; and
- 7 **WHEREAS** Representation cannot effectively occur if individuals are unjustly silenced; now, therefore,
8 be it
- 9 **RESOLVED** By the Congress here assembled that we reject all oppressive voter identification laws in
10 the United States.

A Bill to Set an Age Limit on the Purchase of Energy Drinks

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The sale of energy drinks to any persons under the age of 21 is hereby banned.

3 **SECTION 2.** Energy drinks are defined as any beverage containing more than 150 milligrams of caffeine
4 per liter.

5 **SECTION 3.** All states and territories as well as the Federal District are instructed to levy the same
6 criminal penalties on violators of this law as would be applied for the sale of alcohol to
7 minors in that jurisdiction. Any jurisdiction that fails to comply with this directive shall lose
8 50% of federal highway funding until such time as compliance is reached.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Food and Drug Administration.

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

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

A Bill to Mandate Compassionate Family Seating on Airplanes

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** No commercial airline may sell tickets to a family unit and charge extra to seat that family
3 unit in adjacent seating, presuming sufficient adjacent seats are available at the time the
4 tickets are purchased.

5 **SECTION 2.** A family unit is defined as one or more parents or legal guardians traveling with one or
6 more of their legal dependent children who are under the age of 16. Adjacent seating is
7 defined as seating that is in the same row and unseparated by other seats or an aisle. If the
8 size of a family unit exceeds the number of truly adjacent seats available on the airplane
9 (whether due to the seating arrangements of the aircraft or to certain seats already having
10 been sold), the definition of adjacency shall be expanded to allow an airline to seat a family
11 unit across one or more aisles from one another or in seats that are directly in front
12 of/behind one another but in separate rows.

13 **SECTION 3.** Any airline that is found to have violated this legislation shall be ordered to refund double
14 the entire cost of the itinerary to the affected family unit.

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

16 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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

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
16 of 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.