

Debate Topics for January 13th, 2024

Lincoln-Douglas

Resolved: The United States ought to substantially reduce its military presence in the West Asia-North Africa region.

Public Forum

Resolved: The United States federal government should repeal Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act.

Policy

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase fiscal redistribution in the United States by adopting a federal jobs guarantee, expanding Social Security, and/or providing a basic income.

Big Questions

Resolved: Belief in the supernatural is incompatible with belief in science.

World Schools

This house would set a mandatory retirement age of 70 for federal judges.
Rounds 1,2, and 4 will use the prepared topic, while round 3 will be impromptu.

Congress

The first three bills listed are from the ISSDA January docket, while the last two are from the ISSDA 2024 State Tourney docket.

- #1 A Bill for Federal Bail Reform
- #6 A Bill to Decriminalize Drug Charges Relating to Possession
- #11 A Bill to End the Cuban Embargo to Promote Foreign Relations with the Republic of Cuba
- A Bill to Ban Non Compete Clauses from Employment Contracts
- A Bill to Prohibit Any President of The United States from Suspending, Denouncing, or Withdrawing from NATO Without Senate Approval Following an Act of Congress

A Bill for Federal Bail Reform

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of Federal law, no justice, judge, or other
3 judicial official in any court created by or under Article III of the Constitution
4 of the United States may use payment of money as a condition of pretrial
5 release in any criminal case.
6 SECTION 2. Any persons currently charged with a “qualifying offense” shall be released
7 without bail while they await their day in court and released with no
8 conditions unless it is proven that conditions are necessary to ensure court
9 appearance. The conditions of release must be nonmonetary and the least
10 restrictive to reasonably assure return to court.
11 SECTION 3. A person charged with a qualifying offense who is released to await trial in
12 the community can be subject to bail or pretrial detention at a later point if
13 he or she persistently and willfully fails to appear in court, violates an order
14 of protection, is accused of witness tampering or intimidation, or is charged
15 with another felony while awaiting trial for a felony.
16 SECTION 4. “Qualifying offenses” include all misdemeanors (except sex offenses and
17 contempt of court charges related to an allegation of domestic violence), all
18 non-violent felonies (except witness intimidation and tampering, sex
19 offenses, and conspiracy, terrorism, and contempt charges).
20 SECTION 5. This legislation will be implemented upon passage. All laws in conflict with
21 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Decriminalize Drug Charges Relating to Possession

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2 SECTION 1. This bill will decriminalize drug use relating to possession of a controlled
3 substance. This bill will also establish a delegation of experts in the fields
4 of health care and pharmaceuticals to create a benchmark that assesses
5 the amount of drug commonly possessed by an individual for any
6 medicinal, recreational, or therapeutic reasons. This will also expunge any
7 Federal conviction of possession of a controlled substance in an amount
8 equal to or less than the benchmark established by the delegation.
9 SECTION 2. A person in possession of or using a controlled substance with an amount
10 that is no greater than the amount determined by the delegation
11 established in Section 1 shall not be subject to criminal penalty.
12 SECTION 3. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall establish the
13 delegation. Each prior Federal Conviction on drug possession and use will
14 be expunged by each Federal court in the district where the conviction
15 occurred.
16 SECTION 4. This bill will be enacted by June 1, 2024.
17 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to End the Cuban Embargo to Promote Foreign Relations with the Republic of Cuba

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 SECTION 1. The United States of America will repeal all sanctions pertaining to the
3 Republic of Cuba except arms trade and nuclear power. Furthermore, The
4 United States will stop all military action aimed at hindering trade
5 between the Cuban Republic and the rest of the world.
- 6 SECTION 2. Sanctions shall be defined as an action, legislation, or regulation taken by
7 the United States government in order to discourage trade with the
8 Republic of Cuba
9 Military action shall be defined as planned or otherwise military exercises
10 or the funding of rebellious organizations, terror groups, and opposition
11 candidates, parties, or organizations on Cuban soil.
- 12 SECTION 3. The State Department in collaboration with the Treasury Department
13 shall be tasked with implementing this bill.
- 14 SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2025.
- 15 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Ban Non Compete 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 non compete
3 agreements.
- 4 SECTION 2. A noncompete agreement will be defined as a contract that prohibits an
5 employee from competing with their former employer/business directly or
6 indirectly for a specific duration of time after their employment has ended.
- 7 SECTION 3. The Department of Labor and the Federal Trade Commission will work
8 together to oversee the implementation of this legislation and ensure that
9 all businesses and employees are abiding by the requirements.
- 10 SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2025. All laws in conflict
11 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Bill to Prohibit Any President of The United States from Suspending, Denouncing, or Withdrawing from NATO Without Senate Approval Following an Act of Congress

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
- 2 SECTION 1. Any President of the United States shall be prohibited from suspending,
3 denouncing, or withdrawing the United States membership from NATO
4 without congressional approval, as NATO is an essential military alliance.
- 5 SECTION 2. An Act of Congress will be defined as a statute enacted by the United
6 States Congress that passes through both the House and Senate.
- 7 SECTION 3. The House of Representatives and Senate along with the United States
8 Department of State shall oversee the implementation of this bill.
- 9 SECTION 4. This bill will take effect on January 20, 2025 at the start of the 2025
10 presidential term.
- 11 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.