

Palm Beach Catholic Forensic League

PBCFL #5



Saturday, January 17th

Congressional Debate Legislation

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The Robin Hood Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall impose a federal annual wealth tax on households
2 with a net worth exceeding \$50 million. The wealth tax shall be
3 implemented with progressive rates as follows:
4 A. 2% on net worth between \$50 million and \$1 billion.
5 B. 3% on net worth exceeding \$1 billion.
6 All revenue collected under this wealth tax shall be deposited into existing
7 federal welfare programs, including but not limited to the Supplemental
8 Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy
9 Families (TANF), Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security.
- 10 **SECTION 2.** A. "Net worth" is defined as the total value of all assets minus liabilities,
11 including but not limited to: equities, bonds, privately-held business
12 interests, real estate, trusts, and other financial or non-financial assets.
13 B. "Households" shall refer to married couples filing jointly or individuals
14 filing independently.
- 15 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) shall enforce this legislation. The IRS will
16 administer audits and may require annual asset disclosures from all
17 households with a net worth above \$50 million.
- 18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2027. All laws in conflict with this
19 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts.

A Bill to Mandate Full Public Transparency of Social Media Recommendation Algorithms to Increase Accountability and Protect Users

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** All social media platforms operating in the United States with over 10
2 million monthly active users shall be required to publicly disclose the core
3 logic, ranking criteria, and weighting factors used in their recommendation
4 algorithms.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** For the purposes of this legislation:
- 6 A. “Social media platform” shall be defined as any online service or
7 application that allows users to create, share, or view content
8 generated by other users.
- 9 B. “Core logic” shall be defined as the decision-making processes, inputs,
10 and mathematical models that determine how content is ranked,
11 prioritized, or recommended to users.
- 12 C. “Public disclosure” shall consist of publishing a technical document
13 accessible on the platform’s website that clearly explains algorithmic
14 methodology, including data inputs, content weighting, moderation
15 factors, and ranking outcomes.
- 16 D. This legislation shall not require disclosure of specific source code or
17 user-specific data but must clearly reveal operational mechanisms,
18 decision criteria, and algorithmic structures.
- 19 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) shall oversee enforcement of this
20 legislation.
- 21 E. The FTC shall conduct annual compliance reviews of covered platforms.
- 22 F. Platforms found in violation shall be subject to civil penalties of up to
23 \$50,000,000 per violation, adjustable for inflation.
- 24 G. Repeated noncompliance may result in restrictions on algorithmic
25 deployment within the United States until compliance is achieved.
- 26 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2026. All laws in conflict with
27 this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by American Heritage Schools, Palm Beach Campus.

A Bill to Establish Federal Eligibility Standards for Presidential Candidates

SECTION 1. The United States shall establish a system such that individuals seeking the office of President or Vice President must meet certain criteria.

SECTION 2. a.) A felony conviction shall be defined as any criminal offense classified as a felony under federal or state law. No individual with one or more felony convictions, whether federal or state, shall be eligible to run for or hold the office of Vice President.

b.) All candidates shall submit to a background check conducted by a nonpartisan federal authority designated by Congress. Candidates with convictions and pending charges are required to disclose such charges prior to ballot access.

c.) The Federal Election Commission (FEC) shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill. States shall remove ineligible candidates from ballots upon notification by the FEC. Any attempt to falsify records or evade eligibility requirements shall be grounds for disqualification.

SECTION 3. Funding for this bill shall be provided through reallocations within the existing Federal Election Commission budget. Additional funding, if necessary, shall be generated through civil penalties imposed for violations of federal campaign and election laws. No new taxes shall be levied to implement this bill.

SECTION 4. This bill shall be implemented to take effect beginning with the next federal election cycle following its passage. This bill shall not apply retroactively to candidates currently holding office until the completion of their current term.

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

A Bill to Reduce Monetary Contributions to NATO

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** To encourage other countries to contribute to NATO more, the US will
3 instate a budget cap of 500 million dollars per fiscal year given to
4 NATO. The decision of which projects these specific funds will go
5 towards will be decided by this Congress as needed.

6 **SECTION 2.** NATO: shall be defined as North Atlantic Treaty Organization
7 Projects: Specific countries that NATO decides to give aid to

8 **SECTION 3.** 500 million dollars will be allocated towards this fund and the specific
9 oversight of where these funds will go will be overseen by Congress.

10 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect starting in fiscal year 2027.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Clark Advanced Learning Center.

A Bill to Establish a 12-Week Paid Maternity Leave Policy

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1:** The United States shall establish a federal policy guaranteeing twelve (12)
2 weeks of paid maternity leave, compensated at no less than 80% of regular
3 wages, following the birth or adoption of a child.

4 **SECTION 2:** A. “Eligible employees” shall be defined as any full-time worker who has
5 been employed for at least 12 months prior to the start of leave.

6 B. “Paid Maternity Leave” shall be defined as job-protected leave taken
7 for childbirth, recovery, bonding, and early parenthood adjustments.

8 C. “Employer” shall refer to any business, organization, or public agency

9 D. “Regular Wages” shall refer to the employee’s average weekly
10 earnings for the six months immediately preceding.

11 **SECTION 3:** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2027, allowing sufficient
12 time for federal agencies and employers to prepare for compliance.

13 **SECTION 4:** The US Department of Labor, specifically the Wage and Hour Division
14 (WHD), shall oversee enforcement of this policy.

15 A. Employers shall submit annual compliance reports verifying paid
16 maternity leave policies.

17 B. Employers found in violation shall be subject to fines of \$10,000 per
18 incident and be required to provide full back pay to affected employees.

19 **SECTION 5:** All laws or portions of laws in conflict with this legislation shall hereby be
20 declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Palm Beach Gardens High School.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration Budget Protection Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) shall have
2 its federal funding limited to a level that is no lower than 15% less
3 than its previous average spending.

4 **SECTION 2.** Federal funding shall be defined as all discretionary budget
5 authorities appropriated by Congress to the National Aeronautics and
6 emergency supplemental appropriations.

7 **SECTION 3. A.** The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) shall oversee
8 compliance with 13 this Act and shall review the president's annual
9 budget submission to ensure proposed appropriations for the National
10 Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) meet or exceed the
11 minimum funding level required under Section 1 of this Act and notify the
12 Committees on appropriations of the House of Representatives and the
13 Senate in writing if any President's budget submission or enacted
14 appropriations bill provides an amount for NASA below the minimum
15 level required under Section 1.

16 **B.** In any fiscal year in which the appropriations process would result in a
17 funding level for NASA below the minimum required under Section 1, the
18 OMB shall submit to Congress within 30 days, a budget amendment or
19 sequestration proposal that, increases Nasa's funding to at least the
20 minimum level required under Section 1; and identifies, if necessary,
21 offsets from other discretionary accounts, consistent with existing budget
22 laws. Such budget amendment or proposal shall be eligible for
23 considerations under expedited procedures, to the extent permitted by the
24 rules of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

25 **D.** No reprogramming or transfer of funds may be made from NASA to
26 any other agency or account if such action would reduce NASA's total
27 available budget authority below the minimum level required under
28 Section 1, unless explicitly authorized by a subsequent Act of Congress.

29 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall hereby take effect by February 1st of the fiscal year 2026.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by South Fork High School.

The S.A.D Resolution: Saudi Arabian Defense Resolution

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Saudi Arabia has been aided in the murder of Yemeni people by the United
2 States Congress; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Congress has sold arms to Saudi Arabia in exchange for oil and other
4 commodities; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** These weapons have been used in the murder of Yemeni citizens; now,
6 therefore, be it
- 7 **RESOLVED,** This congress shall halt any funding towards arms sales to Saudi Arabia and
8 shall call for an end to the United States military alliance with Saudi Arabia.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Suncoast Community High School.

A Bill to Abolish the Death Penalty

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** This bill abolishes the federal death penalty by repealing all federal
2 statutes that authorize capital punishment. In place of death sentences,
3 individuals previously sentenced to death under federal law shall be
4 resentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. This
5 legislation further expresses the sense of Congress that states should
6 abolish capital punishment through their own legislative processes.
- 7 **SECTION 2.** a) *Capital punishment* shall be defined as the execution of an individual by
8 the federal government as punishment for a criminal offense.
9 b) *Life imprisonment without parole* shall be defined as a sentence
10 requiring incarceration for the remainder of an individual's natural life with
11 no eligibility for release.
12 c) *A federal death row inmate* shall be defined as any individual currently
13 sentenced to death under federal law at the time this bill takes effect.
- 14 **SECTION 3.** a) The United States Department of Justice shall oversee the enforcement
15 of this legislation.
16 b) The Federal Bureau of Prisons shall be responsible for the resentencing
17 process and the transfer of affected individuals from death row to
18 appropriate federal correctional facilities.
19 c) Federal courts shall review and finalize resentencing determinations to
20 ensure compliance with this legislation.
- 21 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2026. All laws and provisions in
22 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by The Pine School.

An Act to Dissolve the ATF

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) is hereby
2 dissolved.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** Dissolution shall be defined as the complete abolishment of the ATF and
4 the reassignment of its functions.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** All functions previously exercised by the ATF shall be reassigned as follows:
6 A. Enforcement of firearms-related federal laws shall be transferred to the
7 Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).
8 B. Enforcement of alcohol- and tobacco-related federal laws shall be
9 transferred to the Department of the Treasury, specifically the Alcohol
10 and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB).
11 C. All ATF employees shall be reassigned to the FBI or TTB as necessary.
- 12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage. All laws in
13 conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Wellington High School.

A Bill to Coup-Proof West Africa

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States will provide economic, diplomatic, and intelligence
2 support to pro-democracy governments and organizations in West Africa
3 to ensure that peaceful transitions of power become the standard in the
4 region.
- 5 **SECTION 2.** West Africa will be defined as all members of ECOWAS and the Alliance of
6 Sahel States.
- 7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State and U.S. AFRICOM will enforce this legislation.
8 A. \$500 million will be allocated to The Department of State's Office of
9 West African Affairs.
10 B. \$500 million will be allocated to U.S AFRICOM for the development and
11 growth of bases in the region.
- 12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on September 24th, 2026. All laws in conflict
13 with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by West Boca Raton High School.