



The Gilmour Academy
Novice and Middle School Tournament
October 18, 2025

Congressional Debate Legislation

1. A Bill to Protect Adoptee Rights Through Access to Original Birth Records
2. A Bill to Establish a National High-Speed Rail Network
3. A Resolution to Prohibit Former Congress Members from Becoming Lobbyists
4. A Bill to Protect Children From Social Media

A Bill to Protect Adoptee Rights Through Access to Original Birth Records

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. The federal government shall guarantee all adopted persons, upon reaching the age of 18, the unconditional right to access their original, unredacted birth certificate and adoption records.

Section 2. This legislation affirms that access to one's birth records is a fundamental human right tied to personal identity, medical history, and family heritage.

Section 3. States shall no longer seal original birth certificates from adoptees once they reach legal adulthood. Any existing state laws that restrict adult adoptees from access to identifying information shall be preempted by this act.

Section 4. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) shall oversee implementation and compliance. A federal standardization process will ensure that requests are fulfilled within 60 days of filing.

Section 5. Birth parents may submit a contact preference form, indicating whether they wish for direct contact, indirect contact, or no contact, but such a preference shall not block the adoptee's right to obtain their unaltered birth certificate.

Section 6. This legislation shall take effect January 1 of the year following its passage, with a one-year period for states and agencies to prepare compliance systems.

A Bill to Establish a National High-Speed Rail Network

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States federal government shall fund and oversee the creation of a national high-speed rail (HSR) network focused on connecting major metropolitan areas and regional economic hubs.

SECTION 2.

- High-speed rail shall be defined as passenger trains capable of exceeding 150 miles per hour using dedicated rail lines.
- The initial phase will prioritize corridors in the Midwest (Chicago–Cleveland–Columbus–Pittsburgh), the Northeast Corridor, and the West Coast.

SECTION 3.

- Funding shall be allocated through the Department of Transportation (DOT), with oversight by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).
- Financing shall come from a combination of federal infrastructure funds, public-private partnerships, and redirected subsidies currently provided to airlines for short-haul domestic routes under 300 miles.

SECTION 4. Implementation will begin in Fiscal Year 2026, with construction of the first priority corridor completed no later than 2032. Annual progress reports shall be submitted to Congress by the DOT.

SECTION 5. Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

A Resolution to Prohibit Former Congress Members from Becoming Lobbyists

- WHEREAS,** Partaking in lobbying after leaving office inspires corruption and increases special interest groups' hold on the legislative assembly; and
- WHEREAS,** 38.5% of Congress members that did not seek reelection in the 2018 midterms became lobbyists; and
- WHEREAS,** The political system is already corrupted by large campaign contributions and the great amount of influence K Street has over politicians; and
- WHEREAS,** Allowing former office holders to make a fortune off of their access to current members of Congress further destabilizes American democracy; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that all those who serve in Congress from this date forward be prohibited from taking part in any lobbying activity after their retirement from the House or Senate.

A Bill to Protect Children From Social Media

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. No social media platform shall permit citizens of the United States under the age of 16 to sign up for or maintain an account on their service. It shall be the responsibility of social media platforms to monitor and ensure the ages of their users in order to comply with this legislation.

SECTION 2. The 42 USC § 1862w(a)(2) definition of a social media platform shall be utilized: “a website or internet medium that—

(A) permits a person to become a registered user, establish an account, or create a profile for the purpose of allowing users to create, share, and view user-generated content through such an account or profile;

(B) enables 1 or more users to generate content that can be viewed by other users of the medium; and

(C) primarily serves as a medium for users to interact with content generated by other users of the medium.”

SECTION 3. Any domestic social media platform that violates this legislation shall be fined \$5000 for each underaged user found to be registered and/or maintaining an account on their service. Any domestic platform with more than 10 violations in a 365-day period shall be banned from conducting business for a period of at least 5 years. Any foreign social media platform that violates this legislation shall be immediately and permanently blocked from all United States’ web servers and devices.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be overseen by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect on January following passage of the bill.

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