

2026 NSDA Northern Ohio District Tournament Congress Legislation

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AF-1

A Bill to Limit Executive Orders During Peacetime

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** To reestablish the coordination between Congress and the Executive Branch, Domestic Executive Orders may only be initiated during the formal declaration of a federal “State of Emergency.” Only military actions on foreign soil will be permitted underneath this legislation.
- SECTION 2.** A “State of Emergency” shall be defined as: an armed conflict declared by Congress, a major natural disaster, pandemics, terrorist attacks and/or major civil unrest. “Domestic Executive Orders” are defined as: an order, or orders, issued by the President of the United States intended to directly or indirectly affect the public in ways including, but not limited to, economic policy, government operations, social and/or regulatory policies, and the domestic deployment of troops.
- SECTION 3.** With the passing of this legislation, all preceding executive orders remain eligible for repeal with the discussion and approval of the sitting President and Congress.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the conclusion of the inauguration of the 48th President of the United States.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austintown Fitch High School

AF-2

A Bill to Mandate Media Literacy Studies in the United States

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. With increasing strength in AI technology leading to misinformation being spread in online communities, schools ought to be obligated to equip students with media literacy knowledge to determine the quality of the online content they consume.

SECTION 2. Misinformation shall be defined as: any and all media content that is presented as fact when it is proven false.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education will create a specialized sub-department in collaboration with The National Association for Media Literacy Education as well as State Education Departments.

A. The national and state level education departments will add committees with members to:

- 1.) Determine the training programs that will be offered to professional staff within these districts that will certify staff members to teach Media Literacy Education.
- 2.) Determine the amount of monies needed to fund a grant that will be awarded to school districts to fund the addition of or strengthen existing Media Literacy Education programs.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be implemented on August 1, 2027.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austintown Fitch High School

AF-3

A Bill to Mandate Visual Arts Education in Public High Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Visual arts education improves cognitive function, emotional regulation, and memory in school age students. Mandating one (1) credit of visual arts education for public school students in addition to the required one (1) credit of fine arts education will allow public school students to enter adulthood well-rounded and prepared for any future they choose.

SECTION 2. Visual arts shall be defined as creative works that are appreciated by sight (IE. sculpture, painting, drawing, etc..) and “1 Full Credit” shall be defined as 1 full year of taking these classes.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education (ED) in coordination with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) shall provide and implement funding for these public schools.

- A. The ED and NEA shall form joint-committees to survey high schools to determine not only the amount that shall be provided but what visual art classes need the most funding.
- B. If schools fail to use the funding as intended the funding shall be withheld until the school complies with the legislation and if schools commit multiple offences the funding shall be slashed.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be implemented on March 25, 2027.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austintown Fitch High School

AF-4

A Bill to Make America Literate Again

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. With decreasing literacy rates in school districts across the country, schools ought to be obligated to strengthen literacy programs. Through reauthorization of the Every Student Succeeds Act, a federal benchmark for literacy will be established for all K-12 primary and secondary educational institutions in the United States.

SECTION 2. Literacy shall be defined as “the ability to read and write.” A K-12 Educational institutions shall be defined as “any public or private primary or secondary, vocational school or technical institution, or any other institution furnishing education at the primary and secondary school level. Benchmarks shall be defined as tactics used to evaluate student progress and performance.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education will create a specialized sub-department in collaboration with The National Coalition for Literacy as well as State Education Departments.

A. The national and state level education departments will add committees with members to:

- 1.) Determine the training programs that will be offered to professional staff within these districts that will certify staff members to address literacy rates in their district.
- 2.) Determine the amount of monies needed to fund a grant awarded to school districts to fund the strengthening of Literacy Education programs.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be implemented August 1, 2027.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Austintown Fitch High School.

CAN-1

A Bill to Raise the Minimum Wage to \$20 an Hour

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A. Minimum wage is hereby raised to \$8 an hour.

B. All subminimum wages are abolished. Employers must pay all employees at least the minimum wage.

C. The minimum wage will increase by \$1.50 on January 1st of every year, starting in 2028, until it reaches \$20 on January 1st, 2035.

SECTION 2. A. Minimum wage is defined as the lowest wage an employee can legally be paid under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

B. Subminimum wages are defined as:

i. The minimum wage for tipped workers

ii. The minimum wage for youth workers

iii. The 14(c) minimum wage for disabled workers

SECTION 3. The U.S. Department of Labor shall oversee the implementation of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall begin to go into effect on January 1st, 2027.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Canfield High School

CAN-2

A Bill to Standardize Nutrition Labels

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** Companies must state all nutrition facts on their nutrition label of their product per every 100 grams, not per serving size.
- A. Companies may provide a second nutrition label on top of the mandated one that states their nutrition facts per serving size, but these labels must not be more prominent than the primary mandated label, must not be larger than the primary mandated label, and they must explicitly state that these nutrition facts are per serving size, and how large those serving sizes are in grams. Companies may not add any other nutrition labels.
- SECTION 2.** A company shall be defined as a legal entity formed by an individual or group of individuals that conducts business or commercial activity with the intention of earning profit.
- SECTION 3.** This bill will be enforced by the Food and Drug Administration. Any products sent out after the effect date that are not compliant will be recalled.
- SECTION 4.** This bill shall take effect at the start of fiscal year 2027.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Canfield High School

NIL-1

A Bill to Enact National Red Flag Laws

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. States receiving federal public safety funding will be required to implement Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) procedures within their respective courts. These orders may only be filed by a certified Law Enforcement officer or a family member. Additionally, firearms may only be held for up to a year. Those who have an ERPO filed against them shall be informed of the order and be given proper legal counsel.

SECTION 2. An Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) shall be defined as the temporary removal of firearms from individuals who are believed to be a significant threat to themselves or others. Clear and convincing evidence must be presented in order to grant an ERPO.

SECTION 3. The Department of Justice shall enforce this legislation:

- A. States that fail to abide by this legislation will see a removal of public safety funding until they have proven the establishment of ERPOs as a legal procedure.
- B. The DoJ shall help states with guidance, modeling, and overall implementation of this legislation. Additionally, Federal grants will be considered to assist in covering administrative costs.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect on January 1st, 2028

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Niles McKinley High School

NIL-2

Lunar Extraction Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The federal government will establish a division under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) that will focus on the research and development of lunar extraction technology in order to provide in situ resource utilization for the Artemis project while providing key precious materials for both energy utilization and national defense initiatives.

SECTION 2. The terms will be defined as such:

A. Lunar extraction is the process of removing, harvesting, and processing natural resources—such as water ice, oxygen, and metals—directly from the Moon's surface or subsurface.

B. In situ resource utilization is the practice of collection, processing, storing and use of materials found or manufactured on other astronomical objects (the Moon, Mars, asteroids, etc.) that replace materials that would otherwise be brought from Earth.

SECTION 3. NASA will develop a subdivision called the Lunar Extraction Division (LED) that will be responsible for the administration of this plan.

A. This division will develop a plan to create technology to make this process possible, oversee the implementation of the plan, and allocate resources that are mined from this process accordingly.

B. The division will provide biannual reports to Congress on the process of resource extraction and allocation.

C. An extra \$10 billion will be allocated to NASA each year starting with Fiscal Year 2027.

D. This law will sunset if no resources have been extracted by January 1, 2032.

SECTION 4. This law will go into effect on January 1, 2027.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Niles McKinley High School

NIL-3

A Bill to Guarantee Sick & Mental Health Days

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Companies that have fifty or more employees will now have to offer employees a minimum of six days annually designated for sick leave or mental health leave. These days will include full employee compensation.

SECTION 2. “Employee” will refer to an individual employed either full-time or part-time for a period exceeding 90 days. Additionally, “mental health leave” will refer to time taken off to ensure psychological and/or emotional well-being.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Labor shall oversee the enforcement of this legislation. Employers who violate this statute will face civil penalties not exceeding \$2500 per affected employee.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall go into effect on January 1st, 2027

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Niles McKinley High School

NIL-4

A Bill to Increase Foreign Infrastructure Investment

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The federal government will establish a Global Infrastructure Partnership Program (GIPP) to directly counter the People’s Republic of China’s Belt and Road Initiative by offering alternative infrastructure financing to participating foreign nations.
- SECTION 2.** Under this program, the United States will provide low-interest loans and partnership support for transportation, energy, and digital infrastructure projects, conditioned on transparent bidding processes and debt-sustainability standards.
- A. Priority funding will be given to nations that commit to limiting future participation in infrastructure projects financed or controlled by the People’s Republic of China.
- SECTION 3.** The Department of State and the Department of the Treasury will be in charge of implementation of this bill
- A. Both agencies will submit an annual joint report to Congress evaluating its effectiveness in reducing reliance on China’s Belt and Road Initiative and advancing United States strategic interests.
- B. Funding shall be administered primarily through the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation using loans, guarantees, and equity investments.
- SECTION 4.** This piece of legislation goes into effect on November 1, 2026.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Niles McKinley High School