



## **NJ State Championship Congressional Debate Legislation**

### **Prelim Bills (In No Particular Order)**

- A Bill To Illegalize Keeping Animals in Captivity for The Public View to Protect Wildlife
- A Bill to Lessen the Pay Gap Between Women and Men to Ensure Gender Equality in the Workforce
- A Bill to Increase School Security Funding to Protect Students
- A Bill to Requires States Receiving Federal Education Funding to Mandate CPR Training as a High School Graduation Requirement
- A Bill to Set Public Defender Quota
- A Bill to Limit the Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Criminal Justice System to Protect Human Rights and Prevent Misuse

### **Finals Bills (In No Particular Order)**

- The Maritime Shield Initiative
- A Bill to Rebuild Rural Hospitals To Ensure Equal Access to Health Care
- A Bill to Establish Free Trade with Pakistan

### **Links to the Docket Discussion**

Varsity - [njsdl.live/varsitycongress](https://njsdl.live/varsitycongress)

Novice - [njsdl.live/novicecongress](https://njsdl.live/novicecongress)

**A BILL TO ILLEGALIZE KEEPING ANIMALS IN CAPTIVITY FOR THE PUBLIC VIEW TO PROTECT WILDLIFE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** All facilities will no longer be legally allowed to hold animals in captivity  
3 solely for entertainment in the United States of America.

4 **SECTION 2.** A. Entertainment is defined as providing amusement for people.

5 B. A facility is defined as a place or building with a specific purpose.

6 C. Captivity is the confinement of someone or something against their  
7 will.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) will oversee the  
9 enforcement of this bill by supervising all facilities where wildlife is held.

0 A. APHIS will be allocated \$15,000,000 annually to upkeep this bill.

1 **SECTION 4.** This law will be implicated by January 1<sup>st</sup> of 2028.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Hannah Khaleel, Hunterdon Central Regional High School*

## A Bill to Lessen the Pay Gap Between Women and Men To Ensure Gender Equality in the Workforce

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** Large corporations must lessen the pay gap between men and women  
2 through reporting the annual paychecks between the two.

3 **SECTION 2.** 'Large corporations' are to be defined as businesses with 100 more  
4 employees, and/or are making more than \$50 million in revenue annually.  
5 'Gender Pay Gap' shall be defined as the difference in average gross hourly  
6 earnings between men and women within the workforce.

7 'Reports' will consist of the information on employees gender, race, job  
8 title, experience in their job, and hours worked.

9 **SECTION 3.** Enforcement of this legislation shall be overseen jointly by the U.S  
10 Department of Labor, and the U.S Equal Employment Opportunity  
11 Commission (EEOC).

12 A. The DOL shall require annual wage data reporting and conduct  
13 compliance audits of covered corporations.

14 B. The EEOC shall be authorized to initiate investigations without the filing  
15 of individual employee complaints, when a gender based wage gap is  
16 confirmed

17 C. Corporations found in violation of this act will be subject to a 6% fine to  
18 their yearly revenue and an Investigation of Audits through the EEOC  
19 alongside assistance from the DOL.

20 D. A violation is found if the gap exceeds more than 10%, and cannot be  
21 explained by legitimate factors. Corporations will be given 180 days of  
22 notice and are examined via independent audits. If they cannot prove

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24 the gap is justified they must fix the pay gap disparity, as overseen by  
25 the EEOC.

26 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2028.

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

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Zarish Hussain and Fatima Tariq from Cherry Hill High School East.*

## **A Bill to Increase School Security Funding to Protect Students**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** \$3 billion shall be allocated in grant funding to enhance school security measures for public schools.

**SECTION 2.** School security measures shall be defined as investments made into student safety, intended to prevent, mitigate, or protect against school violence.

A. School security measures may include, but are not limited to, training, metal detectors, technological improvements, and security personnel.

B. Public schools shall be defined as any K-12 institution established under state law, regulated by local authorities, and funded by public taxation.

**SECTION 3.** The United States Department Of Education shall be tasked with the implementation of this legislation.

A. The Department of Education shall be responsible for developing a grant application and evaluation criteria, as well as ultimately distributing and monitoring use of grant funds to public schools.

B. Schools will have to meet the criteria established in the application in order to be eligible for the grant funding.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect at the beginning of FY 2027.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cairee Upshur of Phillipsburg High School.*

## **A Bill to Require States Receiving Federal Education Funding to Mandate CPR Training as a High School Graduation Requirement**

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT: ▼

1 **SECTION 1.** For all school districts receiving federal funding under the Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education Act, all high school students will be required to  
3 become certified in CPR, as a graduation requirement to receive an official  
4 High School Diploma provided by the state or district Board of Education.

5 **SECTION 2.** Becoming CPR certified is defined as a credential that qualifies the holder  
6 to perform a life-saving procedure on someone who cannot breathe on  
7 their own due to a near-drowning incident, suffocation or a cardiac event.  
8 CPR is defined as an emergency procedure used during cardiac or  
9 respiratory arrest that involves chest compressions, to preserve brain  
10 function and maintain circulation until spontaneous breathing and  
11 heartbeat can be restored.

12 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education will be in charge of approving eligible  
13 courses, developing proper guidelines for school districts to follow, and  
14 maintaining information that ensures the students are complying with this  
15 bill. The local school districts will ensure that students have access to these  
16 courses, integrating these lessons within physical education and health  
17 classes.

18 **SECTION 4.** The students that will be exempt from this bill include those who are  
19 religiously excused and students with any medical issue preventing them  
20 from taking this course.

21 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect at the beginning of the 26-27 school year for  
22 all students. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null  
23 and void.

*This bill is proposed by North Star Academy*

## A Bill to Set a Public Defender Quota

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1           **SECTION 1.** All municipalities in the United States must meet the  
2           minimum requirement for available public defenders working in the area.

3           **SECTION 2.** The minimum requirement will be based on the population  
4           of the area and its median household income. Socioeconomically weaker  
5           areas will have a higher minimum requirement.

6           **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice will be responsible for overseeing  
7           this legislation.

8           A. An audit of the effectiveness and number of public defenders will be  
9           conducted every three years.

10          B. \$2 billion will be allocated to grants to raise the salary of public  
11          defenders in low-coverage areas to incentivize them to enter the field.  
12          This money will be distributed across the country based on the DOJ's  
13          discretion.

14          **SECTION 4.** ~~In order to~~ ensure necessity, public defenders will only be  
15          offered to individuals whose annual income falls below the national  
16          median for individual income.

17          **SECTION 5.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2027. All laws in  
18          conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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## The Maritime Shield Initiative

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall establish the Maritime Shield INITIATIVE (MSI) to  
3 enhance protection of commercial and humanitarian vessels transiting  
4 the Red Sea and Bab el-Mandeb Strait through coordinated convoys,  
5 vessel-hardening grants, and a temporary federal war-risk insurance  
6 backstop.

7 **SECTION 2.** “Vessel-hardening” shall refer to the installation of non-lethal  
8 counter-unmanned-aerial-system technology, electronic decoys, and  
9 reinforced safe rooms for civilian crews. “War-risk insurance backstop”  
10 shall refer to a temporary federal reinsurance program that offsets excess  
11 premiums on vessels operating under U.S.-led security protocols. “Eligible  
12 vessel” shall include any U.S.-flag or allied-flag commercial humanitarian  
13 ship registered to transit through the designated Red Sea corridor.

14 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense and the Department of State shall implement  
15 this act.

16 A. The DoD shall establish scheduled convoy corridors through the Red  
17 Sea, providing naval escort and aerial surveillance support.

18 B. The Department of State shall coordinate with international partners  
19 and the International Maritime Organization to align corridor  
20 standards and minimize humanitarian impact.

21 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect in July 1, 2027, and remain in force for two  
22 fiscal years, after which Congress may review and reauthorize the  
23 program.

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

## **A Bill to Rebuild Rural Hospitals to Ensure Equal Access to Healthcare**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The federal government shall allocate \$30 billion over five fiscal years to  
3 direct grants to reopen, expand, or modernize hospitals and healthcare  
4 clinics in rural and medically underserved areas of the United States.

5 **SECTION 2.** “Rural” shall be defined as any county or census tract with a population of  
6 50,000 or fewer residents, as determined by the most recent U.S. Census.  
7 “Medically underserved area” refers to any region designated by the  
8 Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as lacking sufficient  
9 primary care, hospital, or emergency medical facilities.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in coordination  
11 with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), shall oversee  
12 the implementation of this program.

13 A. HHS will create a competitive grant application system for eligible  
14 hospitals and healthcare providers.

15 B. CMS will monitor compliance and publish annual reports on access  
16 and quality improvements in funded regions.

17 C. No less than 20% of total funding shall be reserved for emergency and  
18 maternity care units in regions experiencing hospital closures.

19 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on July 1, 2026.

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

## A Bill to Establish Free Trade with Pakistan

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall enter into and implement a comprehensive free  
3 trade agreement with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

4 **SECTION 2.** "Free Trade Agreement" (FTA) refers to an international treaty between  
5 two or more economies that reduces or eliminates barriers, like tariffs  
6 and regulatory requirements, to trade in goods and services, as well as  
7 investment.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) shall be the  
9 principal agency responsible for the negotiation, implementation, and  
10 oversight of this agreement.

11 A. The USTR shall establish a joint commission with its Pakistani  
12 counterparts to monitor compliance, resolve disputes, and consider  
13 modifications to the agreement as needed. The commission will meet  
14 at least once annually

15 B. The U.S. International Trade Commission and the Department of  
16 Commerce shall be tasked with monitoring the economic impact of  
17 the agreement on American industries and will produce a biennial  
18 report for Congress.

19 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be enacted, and negotiations shall be formally  
20 initiated, no later than September 1st, 2026, with a target for full  
21 implementation of the agreement by January 1, 2028.

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