



# Congressional Debate Legislation

March 2026 Online Speech Festival  
Celebrating Women's History Month

1. A Resolution to Protect Virtual and Augmented Reality Users
2. A Resolution to Encourage the Curtailing of Excessive Absentee Voting
3. A Bill to Require Transparency in Forced Arbitration Claims of Sexual Harassment and Retaliation
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*This New Jersey Speech & Debate League (NJSDL) legislation packet includes significant portions of legislation from the National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA) [2021 Diversity and Inclusion Congressional Legislation Docket](#) which are part of the NSDA Diversity and Inclusion collection of resources as well as some legislation from the NSDA National Finals and monthly legislation packets produced by the NSDA. The NJSDL would like to acknowledge and thank the NSDA staff, author of the NSDA monthly dockets Coach John Russell, and members of the speech and debate community who contributed to the original legislation packets.*

## **A Resolution to Protect Virtual and Augmented Reality Users**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **WHEREAS,** Virtual and augmented reality blurs the line between the digital and  
3 physical worlds creating a sense of being present in the virtual world; and

4 **WHEREAS,** Global virtual reality is steadily growing and the market size is expected to  
5 reach \$450.5 billion by the end of 2030, with an estimated 77 million  
6 Americans using virtual reality 6. in some capacity; and

7 **WHEREAS,** The demand for virtual reality applications is increasing in the healthcare  
8 sector, gaming, and entertainment media, automotive, manufacturing, and  
9 other industries; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Virtual reality offers the potential to revolutionize education and training  
11 in numerous professional fields; and

12 **WHEREAS,** Without established community norms and regulations, virtual reality  
13 can become an area for increased virtual assault and harassment; and

14 **WHEREAS,** According to a 2024 study, 35 percent of youth were subjected  
15 to harassing behavior online, while 19 percent experienced sexual  
16 harassment; now, therefore, be it

17 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that Congress will create a commission  
18 comprised of representatives from the Entertainment Software Rating  
19 Board, Federal Communications Commission, and the Federal Bureau of  
20 Investigation to oversee the establishment of codes of conduct for virtual  
21 and augmented reality users in the United States.

**A Resolution to Encourage the Curtailing of  
Excessive Absentee Voting**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **WHEREAS** Absentee voting was originally designed with a very limited scope to  
3 protect the right to vote when intractable extenuating circumstances, in  
4 particular military service, made physical presence at a polling place  
5 unduly challenging; and

6 **WHEREAS** Absentee voting has since been abused in many jurisdictions to allow  
7 citizens to vote absentee for less legitimate reasons or even without  
8 providing any reason whatsoever; and

9 **WHEREAS** The sanctity of our elections is indisputably crucial for the ongoing viability  
10 of our republic, and so we must do all we can to prevent opportunities for  
11 voter fraud as well as to eliminate the space for conspiracies to fester  
12 around perceptions thereof; now, therefore be it

13 **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that all States and Territories are  
14 encouraged to eliminate no-excuse absentee voting; and be it

15 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress encourages all States and Territories to be  
16 conscientious and conservative in determining which situations truly  
17 justify absentee voting and to accept no others.

**A Bill to Require Transparency in Forced Arbitration Claims of  
Sexual Harassment and Retaliation**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Employers are prohibited from requiring confidentiality clauses in forced  
3 arbitration pertaining to sexual harassment, sexual assault, or retaliation  
4 due to the reporting thereof.

5 **SECTION 2.** Forced arbitration is an agreement to forgo the rights to settle disputes  
6 through civil or class action as a condition of employment. Sexual  
7 harassment is written, verbal, or physical requests for sexual favors  
8 whose rejection would adversely affect a person's standing. Sexual  
9 assault is physical contact against a person's will with the intent to coerce  
10 a person into a sexual act. Retaliation is punitive action by an employer  
11 against an employee for reporting or filing a claim pertaining to a  
12 protected activity.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission will oversee the  
14 enforcement of this bill.

15 A. Results of these forced arbitration claims must be reported to the  
16 EEOC within 30 days of completion.

17 B. Companies must make public the results of previously settled forced  
18 arbitration pertaining to sexual harassment, sexual assault, or retaliation  
19 due to the reporting of sexual harassment from 2020 forward.

20 **SECTION 4.** This shall take effect on May, 31st 2026.

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

## **A Bill to Reform the Federal Judiciary to Reflect Gender Equality**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 SECTION 1.       A. 28 U.S.C. §1 be amended to state: “the Supreme Court of the United  
3 States shall consist of a Chief Justice of the United States and eight  
4 associate justices, five of whom shall be women, and any six of whom  
5 shall constitute a quorum.”

6 B. A Gender Equality Bench Protocol be implemented to guide the federal  
7 judiciary in adjudication.

8 SECTION 2.       The Gender Equality Bench Protocol will promote awareness of ways in  
9 which gender intersects with other social statuses to affect the justice  
10 system, provide tools to help judicial officers achieve gender-sensitive  
11 adjudication, and will be modeled after comparable protocols in place  
12 around the world, such as Belize’s “Justice Through a Gender Lens:  
13 Gender Equality Protocol for Judicial Officers” and Mexico’s “Judicial  
14 Decision-Making with a Fender Perspective: A Protocol.”

15 SECTION 3.       The United States House Judiciary Committee and Department of Justice  
16 will be tasked with developing, implementing, and monitoring the progress  
17 of the Gender Equality Bench Protocol.

18 SECTION 4.       This legislation will go into effect immediately. The Supreme Court will  
19 have until December 31, 2034 to meet parity requirements.

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

## The Federal Red Flag Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 SECTION 1. If a person's family member or a police officer believes that person may  
3 be a danger to themselves or others, their local or territorial court must  
4 provide that family member or police officer an opportunity to file a petition  
5 to have the dangerous person's firearms and any other deadly weapons  
6 temporarily seized until such time as the court deems there is no longer  
7 any danger.

8 SECTION 2. Details concerning how petitions are to be filed, how weapons are to be  
9 seized, and under what circumstances they are to be restored shall be  
10 determined at the unique discretion of each state or territorial court with  
11 the oversight of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and  
12 Explosives (ATF) and the federal Department of Justice (DOJ).

13 SECTION 3. This legislation shall be overseen by the ATF and the DOJ.

14 SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect on December 1, 2026.

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