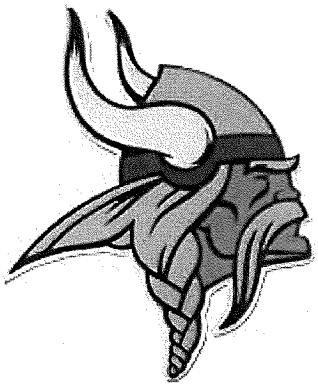
Barton Classic
2026



Congressional Debate
Preliminary Round Docket

N26-08

A Bill to Provide Pre-Trial Detention Mental Health Services

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Any and all people awaiting trial in pre-trial detention will be granted access to professional mental health help resources.

SECTION 2. Pre-trial detention is to be defined as the holding period of a person awaiting trial. Professional mental health help resources include but are not limited to: therapists, counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists, or clinicians.

SECTION 3. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will oversee the implementation of this bill.

A. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shall grant funds as it sees fit for each specific situation.

B. Any institution found in violation of this bill will be subject to a fine of $5,000 per instance found.

SECTION 4. This bill shall be implemented in the fiscal year of 2028.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by New Philadelphia High School

N26-09

A Bill to Establish a National Wildlife Crossing Program

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Department of Transportation shall establish a National Wildlife Crossing Program to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and reconnect wildlife habitats divided by major roadways.

SECTION 2. A wildlife crossing shall be defined as a structure designed to allow wildlife to safely cross a roadway, including wildlife overpasses, underpasses, tunnels, and associated fencing.

SECTION 3. The Department of Transportation, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and appropriate state wildlife agencies, shall identify areas of the federal highway system with the greatest need for wildlife crossings. Priority shall be given to locations that:

A. Experience high rates of wildlife-vehicle collisions

B. Divide significant wildlife habitats or migration corridors; or

C. Threaten the survival or movement of endangered or threatened species.

SECTION 4. Congress shall appropriate $500 million annually for ten years to construct, maintain, and evaluate wildlife crossings in locations identified under Section 3.

A. States may apply for federal funding for qualifying wildlife crossing projects.

B. Federal funds may cover up to 90% of the cost of an approved project.

C. The Department of Transportation shall collect data on wildlife-vehicle collisions and wildlife use of funded crossings to evaluate the effectiveness of the program

SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Mentor High School

N26-10

A Bill to Support Our Immigration Courts

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Department of Justice and the Executive Office for Immigration Review will require that all removal, asylum, and other immigration proceedings under Title 8 of the U.S. Code be adjudicated in an immigration court before a qualified judge.

A. A grant program shall be established by the DOJ for accredited law schools to develop a specialized Immigration Judiciary Track, including coursework in immigration law.

B. Advanced bilingual certification will be made mandatory by law schools that offer immigration law concentrations.

C. Government-funded interpreters and low-cost legal representation programs shall be expanded by the EOIR for indigent respondents. Graduates of approved tracks who pass the bar examination and complete a 1-year mentorship under an experienced immigration judge will receive priority consideration for appointment as immigration judges by the Executive Office for Immigration Review.

SECTION 2. Congress will allocate $500 million annually every year from fiscal year 2027 to FY 2031 to support scholarships and partnerships with organizations experienced in immigration law.

SECTION 3. This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2027.

SECTION 4. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Olentangy High School

N26-12

A Bill to Require Transparency from Data Centers Receiving Federal Incentives

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All data centers receiving federal grants or tax incentives shall be required to disclose their projected water and electricity consumption to the federal government before receiving such benefits.

SECTION 2. For the purposes of this legislation:

A. "Data Center" shall be defined as a facility containing computer servers and related equipment used to store, process, or distribute digital information.

B. "Federal Incentives" shall refer to financial assistance or tax benefits provided by the federal government.

SECTION 3. The United States Department of Energy shall oversee the implementation of this legislation and establish reporting requirements for eligible data centers. Facilities that fail to submit accurate reports shall receive a warning and 90 days to comply. Continued noncompliance may result in the suspension of federal incentives until compliance is achieved.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2027.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Poland Seminary High School

Barton Classic
2026



Congressional Debate
Final Round Docket

N26-07

A Bill to Ban Super PACs

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Super PACs are hereby banned from operation and will be disbanded in the US.

SECTION 2. Super PAC is defined as: independent expenditure-only political committees that may receive unlimited contributions from individuals, corporations, labor unions and other political action committees for the purpose of financing independent expenditures and other independent political activity. Disbanded shall be defined as completely defunct and no longer operational.

SECTION 3. The Federal Election Commission (FEC) will enforce this legislation through investigation and the Department of Justice will collect the fines defined in this Section.

A. All those found as continuing operation as a super PAC will pay a fine equal to all donations they collected that fiscal year and then promptly disbanded.

B. If a super PAC is found to be funding any political candidate during an election season at the local, state, or federal level that candidate will no longer be eligible for any public office positions in that election cycle.

SECTION 4. This legislation will go into effect 3 years after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Kent Roosevelt High School

N26-11

A Bill to Allocate Nuclear Energy Subsidies

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. In Title V of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R 1 of the 119th congress) all Fossil Fuel Subsidies will be hereby terminated, and savings allocated to nuclear energy.

SECTION 2. For this legislation, "Fossil Fuel Subsidies" is the combined estimated value of drilling cost deductions, special bonus depreciation allowances, and royalty reductions extended to oil, coal, and natural gas companies under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act(H.R 1 of the 119th congress).

SECTION 3. The US Department of energy, with assistance from the US Department of the Treasury, will oversee the allocation of these funds to accelerate commercial SMR integration. The total amount of savings, estimated to be 4 billion dollars annually, will be allocated for the Gen III+ Small Modular Reactor (SMR) Pathway to Deployment Program in additional funding. This additional funding will last until the end of the original 10 year funding Period.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on October 1, 2028, at the beginning of fiscal year 2029.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Sylvania Northview High School