ISSDA
Indiana Schools
Speech and Debate Association

ISSDA 2026 November/December Congress Docket

1. A Bill to Ban Police-Tracking Apps
2. A Bill to Set a Maximum on the Caseload for Public Defenders
3. A Bill to Provide Federal Funding for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
4. A Bill to Bar Bite Mark Evidence
5. A Resolution to Support the Syrian Arab Republic
6. The War Transparency Act
7. A Bill to Invest in Haiti's Infrastructure to Encourage Economic Growth and Stability
8. A Bill to Recognize the Republic of Somaliland as an Independent Nation
9. A Bill to Limit Overdraft Fees
10. The Better Seed Initiative Act
11. A Bill to Require American Companies to Produce at Least 60% of their products in the U.S.
12. The Wind Investment and Development (W.I.N.D.) Act

REMINDER: Each school may submit up to two pieces of legislation for consideration to be in the State Tournament docket. These must be submitted to the COO by December 1.

A Bill to Provide Federal Funding for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Congress hereby commits to funding Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Congress will operate a 50/50 matching model for states and territories that are willing and able to contribute to the program and will pay 100% of costs for states and territories that are not.

SECTION 2. Congress directs the Department of Education to ensure that this program becomes and remains available to all children under the age of 5 residing in a U.S. zip code, regardless of citizenship status.

SECTION 3. Funding for this legislation shall be sourced from a commensurate reduction in the Department of Defense budget.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Education.

SECTION 5. This legislation shall take effect on Dolly Parton's next birthday: January 19, 2027.

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

A Bill to Bar Bite Mark Evidence

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Federal Rules of Evidence shall be amended such that any evidence related to or stemming from bite marks, namely the effort to connect a suspect to a victim by comparing the suspect's teeth to the shape of a bite mark on the victim, shall be deemed wholly inadmissible in a federal court of law.

SECTION 2. Continued funding to states and territories from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) shall be conditioned on the enactment of similar legislation within one (1) year of passage.

SECTION 3. Federal cases that were decided in whole or in part based on bite mark evidence may be appealed and overturned if a guilty verdict is not upheld with bite mark evidence thrown out. States and territories are strongly encouraged to enact legislation allowing for similar review.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Justice.

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.

The War Transparency Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. To preserve constitutional checks and balances and ensure democratic accountability in war, the President of the United States may deploy U.S. Armed Forces into hostilities or situations where hostilities are imminent for a period not exceeding 45 days with prior authorization from Congress. Any deployment exceeding this limit shall require a specific Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF).

SECTION 2. For the purposes of this legislation:

A. "Hostilities" shall refer to armed conflict involving the U.S. Armed Forces.

B. "Imminent threat" shall mean credible and specific intelligence indicating an immediate or near immediate risk of armed attack again the United States, its citizens, military personnel, diplomatic facilities, or treaty bound allies.

C. "Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF)" shall refer to a formal act of Congress approving military action.

SECTION 3. This act shall be enforced by the Department of Defense, in coordination with the Executive Office of the President, through mandatory reporting to Congress regarding troop deployments, mission objectives, geographic scope, and duration. Failure to comply with reporting requirements shall result in immediate Congressional Review.

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

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

A Bill to Limit Overdraft Fees

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All banks and financial institutions are hereby prohibited from charging overdraft fees or nonsufficient funds (NSF) fees that exceed five dollars ($5) per incident, unless said institution can provide clear documentation that their processing fees related to a specific transaction exceeded this amount, in which case they may charge enough to cover those costs plus an additional five dollars ($5).

SECTION 2. Any bank or financial institution found to be in violation of this legislation shall be fined one thousand dollars ($1,000) for each violating transaction, with funds raised from these fines to be turned over to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to support consumer financial protection initiatives.

SECTION 3. This legislation shall be overseen by the CFPB.

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.