2016 IHSFA State Debate Tournament Congress Legislation

Preliminary Bills:

● A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Allow Citizens of Territories to Vote in Presidential Elections
● A Bill to Abolish the United States Postal Service
● A Bill to Implement a Cap and Trade Program
● A Bill to Suspend Yearly Funds to Israel Until Israel is Found in Compliance with International Law

Semifinal Bills:

● A Bill to Ban Affirmative Action
● A Resolution to Substantially Increase the Number of Syrian Refugees Allowed to Enter the United States
● A Bill to Incentivize Childhood Vaccination

Final Bills:

● A Bill to Reform Campaign Finance to Ensure Fair Elections
● A Resolution to Restrict Judicial Override
● A Bill to Declare War on ISIL
A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Allow Citizens of Territories to Vote in Presidential Elections

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

RESOLVED: By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

ARTICLE

SECTION 1: If a territory has a population greater than that of the smallest of the several states, then its citizens shall be granted three votes in the Electoral College, which shall be considered fully valid votes for all intents and purposes.

SECTION 2: For all territories with populations smaller than that of the smallest of the several states, three votes in the Electoral College shall be granted which shall represent the collective will of these territories and these votes shall be considered fully valid for all intents and purposes.

SECTION 3: Nothing in this amendment shall apply to the District of Columbia, which shall retain the voting rights granted to it under the twenty-third amendment.

SECTION 4: The Congress shall have the power to enforce this amendment with appropriate legislation.
A Bill to Abolish the United States Postal Service

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Postal Service shall be eliminated.

SECTION 2. The executive branch will oversee the enforcement of this bill.

A. Assets will be sold or distributed at the discretion of the executive branch.

B. The existing relationship with the Department of Defense will cease, and the Department of Defense will be responsible for its own postal service.

SECTION 3. This policy shall go into effect by July 31, 2017.

SECTION 4. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
A Bill to Implement a Cap and Trade Program

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, hereafter known as “Administrator”, is directed to institute a program to limit overall greenhouse gas emissions through the usage of caps and permits.

SECTION 2.

A. “Greenhouse gas” includes carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, methane, and sulfur hexafluoride.

B. “Permits” are defined as a set unit of allowable greenhouse gas emissions, initially sold by competitive auction to private organizations and resalable between private organizations. The Administrator shall determine the total number of permits and the volume of emissions covered on an annual basis.

SECTION 3. The Environmental Protection Agency shall oversee implementation of this legislation.

A. Any for-profit corporation or limited liability company emitting more than 25,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, but not holding permits allowing the emissions, shall be fined five times the market value of the permits that would cover their emissions.

B. The Administrator shall gradually decrease the total volume of emissions to be covered by available permits. Each reduction shall be announced at least three months before the next set of permits is offered for auction.

SECTION 4. This law will take effect on May 1st 2016.

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS ASSEMBLED HERE THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States Government will suspend all military aid to Israel until Israel is found to be in compliance with International Law.

SECTION 2. Compliance with International Law shall mean

A. The Israeli government will end its illegal occupation as denounced by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242.

B. Israel shall discontinue the Gaza Blockade.

C. Israel shall end its numerous violations of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

1. Laws that bar Palestinians from seeking equal job opportunities as compared to those available to Israeli citizens.

2. Laws that bar Palestinians from equal educational opportunities as those offered to Israeli citizens.

SECTION 3. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
A Bill to Ban Affirmative Action

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

SECTION 1: All affirmative action used in correlation with education and employment is hereby banned from the United States of America.

SECTION 2: “Affirmative Action” is defined as “positive discrimination” that favors minority groups in efforts to improve educational and employment opportunities for minors based on their race, color, sex, or religion.
   A. Race, color, sex, and religion will no longer contribute into college and employment admission decisions.
   B. Decisions for admission will be based purely on standardized testing and interviews.

SECTION 3: The United States Department of Labor shall oversee the enforcement of this bill. Any educational or employment related areas who are found in violation of this law will be subject to a minimum $1000 fine and can be fined more based on the magnitude of the violation.
   A. The United States Department of Labor will be given the power to determine the magnitude of any violation and the fine that correlates to it.

SECTION 4: This law shall take effect January 1, 2017.
A Resolution to Substantially Increase the Number of Syrian Refugees Allowed to Enter the United States

WHEREAS, The United States Federal Government has only allowed 1,500 Syrian refugees to enter the United States; and

WHEREAS, There are more than 6.5 million refugees who have been forced to leave their countries in the face of imminent danger; and

WHEREAS, An estimated amount of fifty percent of these refugees are children with families who are inherently more vulnerable than refugees of other countries; and

WHEREAS, Other countries such as Germany, France, and England have taken in more than 840,000 refugees; and

WHEREAS, A substantial number of refugees is considered to be, at a minimum, 400,000 refugees; and

WHEREAS, When the refugees arrive, they will only receive a limited amount of government aid; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled, that a substantial number of Syrian refugees be allowed to enter the United States.
A Bill to Incentivize Childhood Vaccination

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All children born in the United states are hereby required to be vaccinated following the vaccine schedule put forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

SECTION 2. An independant local review board composing of legitimately licensed doctors may exempt patients from certain vaccines if the patient is allergic to the vaccine, or has acquired an immunity of the disease for having contracted it. In the event of the exemption, the board must give reasoning for the exemption on the patient's vaccinations records.

SECTION 3. The Department of Health and Human Services will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

A. Parents who cannot supply a valid and current vaccination record for their children shall be subject to a revocation of the child’s or children's’ tax dependent exemption for the offending child or children.

B. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will receive $150 million for an awareness campaign through the means of, but not limited to, television advertisements, radio advertisements, and Billboard advertisements.

SECTION 4. This legislation will come into effect on January 1, 2017

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
A Bill to Reform Campaign Finance to Ensure Fair Elections

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. A system of public funding for Presidential campaigns is created and employed.

SECTION 2. Public funding shall come from a .05 percent of federal income tax revenue annually.

SECTION 3. Candidates must make public all campaign financial records.

SECTION 4. Candidate spending from private donations shall be limited to $50,000.

SECTION 5. To be eligible for public monies, candidates must have secured donations of up to $10.00 from 500 different people in each of 30 states by November 1 of the year preceding the election.

SECTION 6. After the November 1 deadline candidates may not use money from private donations.

SECTION 7. The department of Justice will oversee implementation of this legislation.

SECTION 8. This practice shall begin in tax year 2017, and the reforms will be implemented for the 2020 Presidential election.

SECTION 9. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
A Resolution to Restrict Judicial Override

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

WHEREAS Delaware, Alabama, and Florida allow use of judicial override to impose harsh punishments beyond the sentence agreed on by a jury; and,

WHEREAS 30 percent of all Alabama’s death sentences in 2008 were imposed through judicial override; and,

WHEREAS judicial override is disproportionately used to sentence minority defendants to death; now,

therefore, be it

RESOLVED that states continuing to impose judicial override will be at risk of a reduction in federal Department of Justice block grants beginning in FY 2018.
A Bill to Declare War on ISIL

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The United States of America is hereby at war with the organization referring to itself as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

SECTION 2. The President of the United States is authorized to engage in offensive and defensive military operations against ISIL.

SECTION 3. Congress will provide the funding necessary to carry out military operations against ISIL, subject to annual review by Congress.

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