



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

---

**FEBRUARY 2024**  
**LEGISLATION DOCKET**



## FEBRUARY 2024 DOCKET

A Bill to Require Speech & Debate Education in Secondary Schools .....	3
A Bill to Make Groundhog Day a Federal Holiday .....	4
A Bill to Halt the Transportation of Munitions through the Gulf of Aden .....	5
A Bill to Increase Fusion Funding .....	6
A Bill to Dismantle International Border Fortifications .....	7
A Bill to Set an Age Limit on the Purchase of Energy Drinks .....	8
A Bill to Remove Insurrectionists from the National Statuary Hall .....	9
A Resolution to Condemn Lunar Desecration.....	10
A Resolution to Call on the United Nations to Adopt a New Emblem and Flag .....	11
A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Clarify the Term “Officer” .....	12

## A Bill to Require Speech & Debate Education in Secondary Schools

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** All secondary schools that receive federal funding must henceforth make at least one full  
3 academic year of speech and debate education—that is, a two-semester course specifically  
4 and primarily devoted to the development of skills related to public speaking, rhetoric, and  
5 argumentation—a graduation requirement.

6 **SECTION 2.** A secondary school is defined as a school that matriculates students in grades 9-12, though  
7 the requirement may be satisfied as far back as grade 6.

8 **SECTION 3.** Failure to comply with this legislation shall result in reduction or suspension of federal  
9 funding until compliance is reached. The decision to suspend or reduce funding, and how  
10 much to reduce if applicable, shall be at the discretion of the Department of Education.

11 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Education shall oversee the implementation of this legislation, which  
12 shall include creating and managing a system for assessing, monitoring, and promoting  
13 compliance.

14 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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

## A Bill to Make Groundhog Day a Federal Holiday

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Groundhog Day (February 2) shall be recognized as a federal holiday. While Gobbler's  
3 Knob's position at the epicenter of this tradition shall not be questioned, other locales are  
4 encouraged to cultivate their own traditions inspired by those that have occurred in and  
5 around the Pennsylvania communities of Punxsutawney and Young Township for well over  
6 a century.

7 **SECTION 2.** When Groundhog Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, it shall be observed on the Friday  
8 preceding or the Monday following respectively.

9 **SECTION 3.** On the day Groundhog Day is observed, all non-essential federal government offices shall  
10 be closed, stock market trading shall be suspended, and every federal government  
11 employee shall be paid for a normal day's work. State and local governments and private  
12 businesses are strongly encouraged to observe Groundhog Day in similar fashion as they  
13 are able.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

## A Bill to Halt the Transportation of Munitions through the Gulf of Aden

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress orders an immediate halt of the transportation of any and all munitions through  
3 the Gulf of Aden for at least one year and until such time as the geopolitical situation in and  
4 around that area becomes more peaceful and amenable to such conduct. This halt shall  
5 apply to munitions manufactured in the United States being transported on any marine  
6 vessel and to all United States marine vessels carrying munitions, regardless of their origin.

7 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Defense, which shall act in  
8 conjunction with the President after one year to determine whether it is safe and  
9 appropriate to resume transportation of munitions through this seaway.

10 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

## A Bill to Increase Fusion Funding

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress shall begin diverting \$5 billion annually from the Department of Defense budget  
3 toward that of the Department of Energy for the express purpose of nuclear fusion  
4 research. Specifically, this funding is to be used to support the quick and safe development  
5 of nuclear fusion technology that can be utilized to produce vast amounts of electricity  
6 inexpensively, and then to the implementation of said technology as soon as is practicable.

7 **SECTION 2.** Nuclear fusion is defined as a process wherein two or more atomic nuclei combine to form  
8 a heavier atom, resulting in the release of energy.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy shall be tasked with the implementation of this legislation,  
10 which shall include conceiving of, developing, and executing the best systems for bringing  
11 about these goals.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year.

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

## A Bill to Dismantle International Border Fortifications

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** All walls and other fortifications existing along the United States' international land borders  
3 between ports of entry are to be dismantled within three years of the passage of this  
4 legislation. Any existing plans to expand this system of fortifications and walls shall be  
5 abandoned immediately.

6 **SECTION 2.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Department of Homeland Security, which is  
7 encouraged to contract out the demolition and removal in such a way that best mitigates  
8 unemployment and underemployment in the affected areas.

9 **SECTION 3.** This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

## A Bill to Set an Age Limit on the Purchase of Energy Drinks

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** The sale of energy drinks to any persons under the age of 21 is hereby banned.

3 **SECTION 2.** Energy drinks are defined as any beverage containing more than 150 milligrams of caffeine  
4 per liter.

5 **SECTION 3.** All states and territories as well as the Federal District are instructed to levy the same  
6 criminal penalties on violators of this law as would be applied for the sale of alcohol to  
7 minors in that jurisdiction. Any jurisdiction that fails to comply with this directive shall lose  
8 50% of federal highway funding until such time as compliance is reached.

9 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the Food and Drug Administration.

10 **SECTION 5.** This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

## A Bill to Remove Insurrectionists from the National Statuary Hall

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED:

2 **SECTION 1.** Any individual who has been convicted of insurrection or rebellion against the United  
3 States may no longer be honored or represented in the National Statuary Hall.

4 **SECTION 2.** The statues representing Jefferson Davis, Alexander Stephens, Joseph Wheeler, James Z.  
5 George, Wade Hampton III, Zebulon Baird Vance, John E. Kenna, and Edward Douglass  
6 White must be removed. The states responsible (Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, South  
7 Carolina, North Carolina, West Virginia, and Louisiana) are ordered to arrange for the  
8 removal of the offending statues within one year of the passage of this legislation and are  
9 encouraged to replace them with statues representing more positive figures as soon  
10 thereafter as is practicable. Congress urges these states to donate the removed statues to  
11 the Smithsonian Institution.

12 **SECTION 3.** In the future, should any statue representing an insurrectionist or rebel against the U.S. be  
13 furnished for inclusion in the National Statuary Hall, it shall be refused.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be overseen by the National Statuary Hall Collection.

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

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

## A Resolution to Condemn Lunar Desecration

1   **WHEREAS** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has contracted with private  
2                   companies United Launch Alliance (ULA) and Astrobotic to transport scientific instruments  
3                   to the lunar surface onboard the Peregrine lunar lander, which launched on January 8,  
4                   2024; and

5   **WHEREAS** ULA and Astrobotic also contracted with the companies Celestis and Elysium Space to  
6                   transport human remains to the moon onboard that same lander; and

7   **WHEREAS** No one nation has or should make a claim to the lunar surface, nor that of any other  
8                   celestial body; and

9   **WHEREAS** The depositing of human remains on the moon or any other celestial body is scientifically  
10                  unnecessary and not worth the offense such an act might cause to peoples all around the  
11                  world who share in the majesty of the heavens; now, therefore be it

12   **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that NASA’s recent association with lunar desecration is  
13                  roundly condemned as unnecessary and disrespectful; and be it

14   **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress implores ULA and Astrobotic to do their utmost to abandon or  
15                  reverse any aspect of the Peregrine mission that will result in the disposal of human  
16                  remains on the lunar surface, and further implores NASA to leverage its power to help  
17                  bring about this abandonment or reversal; and be it

18   **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress calls on all organizations, both public and private, to refrain from  
19                  engaging in such unnecessary and potentially offensive conduct in the future.

## A Resolution to Call on the United Nations to Adopt a New Emblem and Flag

- 1   **WHEREAS** The motto of the United Nations (UN), “Peace, dignity and equality on a healthy planet,”  
2                   alleges that the fair and unbiased representation of the interests of all the world’s nations  
3                   and peoples is central to the organization’s mission; and
- 4   **WHEREAS** The UN’s current emblem features a flag that centers on the Arctic, a part of the world that  
5                   is home to comparatively few nations and people; and
- 6   **WHEREAS** This North Pole-centered azimuthal equidistant projection disproportionately emphasizes  
7                   historically overpowered nations and peoples such as those of Europe and North America;  
8                   and
- 9   **WHEREAS** The use of this particular emblem on the UN’s flag runs contrary to sound vexillological  
10                  design theory, as represented in the North American Vexillological Association’s very first  
11                  principle of good flag design: Keep It Simple (“The flag should be so simple that a child can  
12                  draw it from memory.”); now, therefore be it
- 13   **RESOLVED** by the Congress here assembled that the UN is implored to design and adopt both a new  
14                  emblem and a new flag and to do so in a manner that neither privileges nor disadvantages  
15                  any particular nation or people and that adheres to principles of quality vexillological  
16                  design.

