



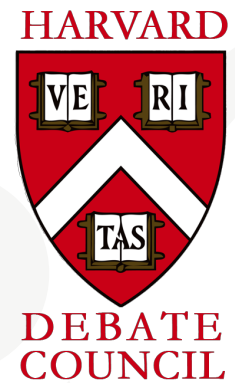
Congressional Debate Legislative Docket

January 2019

Presented by **Harvard Debate Council**

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Curated by HDCSW Congressional Coordinator Adam Jacobi with assistance from Dr. Alexandra Sencer and Joshua Wurzman.



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Congressional Debate



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A Bill to Create a Default Budget Policy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Automatic Continuing Appropriations Provisions: If Congress does not
3 amend or eliminate any existing appropriations on or before the
4 beginning of a new budget, all existing appropriations are in effect in the
5 new fiscal year and all subsequent fiscal years until amended or
6 eliminated.

7 **SECTION 2.** In absence of an approved budget, and when revenue is insufficient to
8 meet requirements of §1; to determine sequestration measures a Joint
9 Congressional Committee for Budgetary Priorities, consisting of three
10 members of each party from the Senate, and the same from the House,
11 shall be convened, and shall consult with the Office of Management and
12 Budget. In the event the committee cannot pass a proposal, or if the
13 President refuses to sign such a proposal, tax increases equivalent to lost
14 revenue shall take effect.

15 **SECTION 3.** Wages actively working federal employees shall not be discontinued at
16 any time; employees furloughed due to sequestration shall not be
17 compensated.

18 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect with the next fiscal year following passage.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket).

Presidential Conflicts of Interest Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Not later than 30 days after assuming the office of President or Vice
3 President, respectively, the President and Vice President shall submit to
4 Congress and the Director of the Office of Government Ethics a disclosure of
5 financial interests of their own, their spouse, and any minor children. For
6 any individual currently serving as President or Vice President on the date of
7 enactment of this Act, the disclosure of financial interests shall be submitted
8 not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

9 **SECTION 2.** At minimum, disclosure of financial interest shall include information
10 required for reports under section 102 of the Ethics in Government Act of
11 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), as well as tax returns filed for the three most recent
12 years and for each taxable year in which an IRS audit is pending.

13 **SECTION 3.** The President, the Vice President, the spouse of the President or Vice
14 President, and any minor child of the President or Vice President shall divest
15 of any financial interest posing a potential conflict of interest by transferring
16 such interest to a qualified blind trust. Within a reasonable period of time
17 after the date a financial interest is transferred to a qualified blind trust
18 under paragraph (1), the trustee of the qualified blind trust shall— (A) sell
19 the financial interest; and (B) use proceeds of the sale of the financial
20 interest to purchase conflict-free holdings.

21 **SECTION 4.** The Director of the Office of Government Ethics shall submit to Congress,
22 President, and Vice President an annual report of financial interests.

23 **SECTION 5.** 18 U.S.C. 208 shall be amended to require any Presidentially appointed
24 positions to recuse themselves from matters involving any interests held by
25 the President, Vice President, their spouses, or minor children.

26 **SECTION 6.** Information reported may be redacted to the extent the Director of the
27 Office of Government Ethics deems necessary for preventing identity theft,
28 such as social security or tax identification numbers.

29 **SECTION 7.** It is the sense of Congress that a violation of section 2 of this Act or the
30 Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) by the President or the
31 Vice President would constitute a high crime or misdemeanor under article
32 II, section 4 of the Constitution of the United States.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket); inspired by S.65/H.R.371- Presidential Conflicts of Interest Act of 2017; 115th Congress (2017-2018) by Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA).

Inaugural Fund Integrity Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 ([52 U.S.C. 30101](#) et
3 seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

4 **SEC. 325. INAUGURAL COMMITTEES**

5 (A). Inaugural committees may not accept donations from a person that is
6 not an individual, nor from a foreign national, nor by someone in the name
7 of another person.

8 (B). Donations to inaugural committees may not be converted to personal
9 use: to fulfill a commitment, obligation, or expense of a person that would
10 exist irrespective of the responsibilities of the committee under chapter
11 5 of title 36, U.S.C.

12 (C). It shall be unlawful for an individual to make donations exceeding
13 \$50,000. For each Presidential election beginning 2024, this amount shall
14 be increased by the cumulative percent difference determined in section
15 315(c)(1)(A) since the previous Presidential election year.

16 (D) An Inaugural Committee shall file with the Commission a report
17 disclosing any donation by an individual to the committee in an amount of
18 \$1,000 or more not later than 24 hours after the receipt of such donation.

19 (E). Not later than the date that is 90 days after the date of the Presidential
20 inaugural ceremony, the Inaugural Committee shall file with the
21 Commission a report containing the following information: (1). Itemized
22 individual donations, by amount, date, and for those in aggregate above
23 \$250, name/address of donors; (2). Total amount of disbursements for:
24 committee operating expenses, loan repayments, donation refunds and
25 offsets to donations, and whom any other disbursement in an aggregate
26 amount or value in excess of \$200 is made by the committee, together with
27 the date and amount of such disbursement.

28 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect for the 2021 Presidential Inauguration.

29 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket); adapted from H.R.7399, 115th Congress (2017-2018) by Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon (D-PA).*

Title IX Protection Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** 20 U.S.C. 3413 is amended by adding: Recipients of Federal financial
3 assistance shall comply with procedural requirements referenced in §2 to
4 respond to sexual harassment, including sexual violence, in order to
5 prevent and effectively respond to sex discrimination in alignment
6 with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Further, protections
7 for gender identity shall be formally codified in law as per §2.D.

8 **SECTION 2.** All procedural requirements to include in the amendment of 20 U.S.C.
9 3413 were in effect January 1, 2017 and outlined in:

10 **A.** Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by
11 School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties', issued January 19,
12 2001, by the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Education.

13 **B.** Dear Colleague letter issued April 4, 2011, by the Office for Civil Rights
14 of the Department of Education.

15 **C.** Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence' issued April 29,
16 2014, by the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Education.

17 **D.** Dear Colleague letter issued May 13, 2016, by the Office for Civil
18 Rights of the Department of Education and Civil Rights Division of the
19 Department of Justice.

20 **SECTION 3.** All laws in conflict with this act are hereby declared null and void; and the
21 Secretary of Education shall enforce this act.

22 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect upon passage.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket); inspired by H.R.4030, 115th Congress (2017-2018) by Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA).

A Bill to Remove “Black Identity Extremist” as a Domestic Terrorist Designation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Federal Bureau of Investigation (herein, the “Bureau”) shall not use the
3 designation “Black Identity Extremist,” (BIE, as initially defined by the
4 Bureau in August 2017) nor should it target individuals or groups described
5 by the designation for investigation without a specific, justifiable cause as
6 evidenced by specific violent action that has caused significant disruption
7 beyond peaceful protest.

8 **SECTION 2.** Funds equivalent to labor and resources used in investigating BIEs shall be
9 withheld from the Bureau, should it be found to be in violation of this act.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Attorney General and Director of the Bureau shall present to Congress
11 intelligence and training materials regarding investigation, surveillance, and
12 intelligence gathering that targets protected classes, modeled after its
13 review of anti-Muslim training materials in 2012.

14 **SECTION 4.** The Bureau shall implement a peer review system such as used by the
15 Department of Homeland Security to oversee production of intelligence
16 reports and training materials that include the FBI Office of General
17 Counsel, DOJ Privacy Officer, and DOJ Civil Rights Division. All intelligence
18 and training products must be made available for congressional review,
19 with all personally identifiable information (PII) properly redacted.

20 **SECTION 5.** The Bureau’s racial and ethnic mapping program is herewith abolished.

21 **SECTION 6.** Congress will commission an independent study to determine why diversity
22 gains have fallen over the last 18 years; focusing on bias in hiring,
23 promotion, and disciplinary processes. \$100,000 shall be allocated for this
24 study.

25 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect upon passage.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket); adapted from recommendations by the Brennan Center for Justice, March 20, 2018.

No Federal Funding for Confederate Symbols Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Except as provided in subsection (c), no Federal funds may be used for the
3 creation, maintenance, or display, as applicable, of any Confederate symbol
4 on Federal public land, including any highway, park, subway, Federal
5 building, military installation, street, or other Federal property.

6 **SECTION 2.** Confederate Symbol Defined.—The term “Confederate symbol” includes
7 the following: (1) A Confederate battle flag; (2) Any symbol or other
8 signage that honors the Confederacy; (3) Any monument or statue that
9 honors a Confederate leader or soldier or the Confederate States of
10 America.

11 **SECTION 3.** §1 does not apply— (1) if the use of such funds is necessary to allow for
12 removal of the Confederate symbol to address public safety; or (2) in the
13 case of a Confederate symbol created, maintained, or displayed in a
14 museum or educational exhibit.

15 **SECTION 4.** Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the
16 Secretary of Defense shall redesignate the following military installations
17 with such designation as the Secretary determines appropriate.
18 (1) Fort Rucker, Alabama; (2) Fort Benning, Georgia; (3) Fort Gordon,
19 Georgia; (4) Camp Beauregard, Louisiana; (5) Fort Polk, Louisiana; (6) Fort
20 Bragg, North Carolina; (7) Fort Hood, Texas; (8) Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia; (9)
21 Fort Lee, Virginia; (10) Fort Pickett, Virginia.

22 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect upon passage; all laws in conflict with this
23 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket); adapted from S.1460 and H.R.3660, 115th Congress (2017-2018) by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Rep. Adriano Espaillat (D-NY).

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Establish Rights of Nature

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

6 **ARTICLE --**

7 **SECTION 1:** Ecosystems, natural communities, and species possess
8 inherent, fundamental, and inalienable rights to naturally
9 exist, flourish, regenerate and evolve such as the right to
10 maintain, recover, and preserve their life cycles, structures
11 and functions, rights to a healthy climate system free from
12 human-caused global warming emissions, rights to the
13 defense, protection, and enforcement of their rights and
14 other such rights.

15 **SECTION 2:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by
16 appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket); adapted from a proposal to amend the constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation, passed at its General Council meeting, September 15, 2018 in Green Bay, Wisconsin; also inspired by Justice William O. Douglas, A Wilderness Bill of Rights (1965).

Energy Utility Accountability Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The U.S. federal government shall withhold subsidies from utilities or
3 other energy companies in states where gas and/or electricity markets
4 are deregulated.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Energy and Department of Commerce shall enforce
6 this legislation.

7 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect with the next fiscal year following passage; all
8 laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket).

Wild Horse Management Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Wild horse herd population shall be managed with the following fertility
3 control measures: (A). For mares— porcine zona pellucida (PZP) and
4 GonaCon; and (B). For stallions — chemical vasectomy.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Interior – Bureau of Land Management shall enforce
6 this legislation.

7 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect upon passage.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket).

Stopping Russian Nuclear Aggression Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds authorized to be
3 appropriated or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2019 and
4 subsequent fiscal years may be obligated or expended to extend the
5 implementation of the New START Treaty beyond the current expiration
6 date in 2021 unless the President certifies to the Armed Services and
7 Foreign Relations/Affairs congressional committees that—
8 (1) extending the New START Treaty is in the national security interest of
9 the United States; and
10 (2) the Russian Federation has— (A) agreed to include all
11 covered Russian systems under the limits set by the New START Treaty; and
12 (B) per paragraph (a)(12) of the Resolution of Ratification for the New
13 START Treaty adopted in the Senate on December 22, 2010 (Treaty
14 Document 111–5), entered into an agreement with the United States to
15 address the disparity between nonstrategic (tactical) nuclear weapons
16 stockpiles of the Russian Federation and of the United States by securing
17 and reducing in a verifiable manner Russian tactical nuclear weapons.

18 **SECTION 2.** New START Treaty” means the Treaty between the United States of
19 America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further
20 Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed at Prague,
21 April 8, 2010, and entered into force February 5, 2011..

22 **SECTION 3.** COVERED RUSSIAN SYSTEMS.—The term “covered Russian systems” means
23 the following: (A) The heavy intercontinental missile system known as
24 “Sarmat”, or otherwise identified; (B) An air-launched nuclear-powered
25 cruise missile known as “X–101”, or otherwise identified; (C) An unmanned
26 underwater vehicle known as “Status 6”, or otherwise identified; (D) The
27 long-distance guided flight hypersonic weapons system known by
28 “Avanguard”, or otherwise identified.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the National Speech & Debate Association (January 2019 docket); adapted from H.R.7180 and S.3662, 115th Congress (2017-2018) by Rep. Liz Cheney (R-WY) and Rep. Tom Cotton (R-AR).