

Harvard Tournament Elimination Rounds

Following is legislation slated for each of the elimination rounds. This represents the full *docket*; each chamber will set its own *agenda* upon convening; anyone may seek the floor to deliver a *sponsorship* speech for these.

Round	Legislative Title
Quarterfinals	A Bill to Invest in Deep Sea Mining
	A Bill to Democratize Debate
	Nuclear Waste Act of 2019
	Sitting President Campaign Accountability Act
Semifinals	A Bill to Revoke JEDI
	A Resolution to Ban Travel from China
	Protecting America's Infrastructure Act
Finals	Judicial Independence Act of 2020
	Defender General Act of 2020
	Climate Leadership and Energy Action for our Nation's (CLEAN) Future Act
	A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Create a Fair and Independent Department of Justice

Adam Jacobi, on behalf of the Harvard Debate Council, approached several Congressional Debate alumni for assistance in drafting legislation, and the following answered the call:

- **Christina Baworowsky:** graduate of Loyola Academy, IL; Federal Affairs, Alliant Energy, Washington, DC
- **Elliot Mamet:** graduate of Denver East HS, CO; Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science, Duke University, Durham, NC
- **Abhi Sanka** (graduate of Adlai E. Stevenson HS, IL) Science Policy Fellow, Science and Technology Policy Institute (STPI), Washington, DC

We appreciate them for taking the time out of their schedules to write topics for engaging debate!

QF-1

A Bill to Invest in Deep Sea Mining

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A \$1 billion competitive grant program for research and development
3 into deep sea mining technology shall be established to advance U.S.
4 interests in the acquisition of critical minerals.

5 **SECTION 2.** Deep sea mining is the process of retrieving minerals from the ocean
6 floor.

7 **SECTION 3.** The National Science Foundation and the National Oceanic and
8 Atmospheric Administration shall jointly administer this competitive
9 grant program.

10 A. U.S. entities, including private companies, non-profits, and
11 universities, shall be eligible to receive grant funding.

12 B. Foreign entities applying for grant funding will be required to undergo
13 a national security review from the Committee on Foreign Investment
14 in the United States (CFIUS).

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect January 1, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Abhi Sanka.

QF-2

A Bill to Democratize Debate

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The National Speech and Debate Association shall be subsumed by the
3 U.S. Department of Education (ED).

4 **SECTION 2.** The ED will create a \$5 billion competitive grant funding program for
5 states to improve the geographic, racial, and socioeconomic diversity of
6 speech and debate. States will submit plans to the ED outlining their
7 strategy to create speech and debate programs at schools currently
8 without programs and to support schools whose existing programs are
9 underfunded.

10 A. An underfunded program is one whose funding is below 75% of the
11 funding level of the state's highest funded high school debate
12 program.

13 B. All schools, including public schools, private schools, and charter
14 schools, shall be eligible to receive funding.

15 **SECTION 3.** The ED will review state programs every two years to evaluate whether
16 states have achieved the goal of ensuring that participation in speech and
17 debate reflects the geographic, racial and socioeconomic diversity of
18 their respective state. States who have not achieved this goal will see
19 their funding revoked.

20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect January 1, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Abhi Sanka.

QF3

Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2019

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Energy has the authority to site, construct and
3 operate one or more interim storage sites that would consolidate spent
4 nuclear fuel (SNF) from decommissioned nuclear reactors. Further, the
5 program shall prioritize the transfer of SNF from seismically active areas,
6 and permit DOE to undertake “infrastructure activities” intended to
7 enable construction and operation of a permanent waste repository at
8 Yucca Mountain.

9 **SECTION 2.** The State of Nevada, under appropriate interstate commerce and
10 national security provisions, shall allow safety upgrades, site preparation,
11 construction, siting, and permitting of a rail line, and grid connection to
12 the Yucca Mountain facility.

13 **SECTION 3.** Further, the “Nuclear Waste Fund” funding mechanism is hereby
14 amended to have the collection of fees go immediately into DOE program
15 funds without an annual appropriations process approval.

16 **SECTION 4.** Whether for interim or permanent storage, five percent of the Nuclear
17 Waste Fund shall be accessible to benefit host communities spent nuclear
18 fuel, not limited to funding education and public services.

19 **SECTION 5.** All definitions are provided in the full text of H.R. 2699.

20 **SECTION 6.** This legislation will go into effect immediately upon passage.

21 **SECTION 7.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Reps. Jerry McNerney (D-CA) and John Shimkus (R-IL).

QF4

Sitting President Campaign Accountability Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** An incumbent President of the United States, while campaigning for the
3 office of President, or visiting a public campaign event or rally for any
4 federal, state, or local candidate for public office, shall be expected to
5 reimburse the federal government for the use of Air Force One or other
6 means of transportation; travel expenses for any federal employees who
7 accompany the President on such a trip; and state and local governments
8 burdened with providing law enforcement and other services related to
9 the President's visit.

10 **SECTION 2.** A campaign event or rally is defined as any public gathering for the
11 purpose of supporting an individual seek election or reelection to a
12 government office in the United States. Payment by the President may be
13 by a campaign committee or political action committee, but shall not use
14 public/taxpayer funds for campaign travel and business.

15 **SECTION 3.** The Office of Management and Budget shall annually provide to Congress
16 a report of expenses incurred in the manner described in §1, as well as
17 receipts of payments made in reimbursement for said expenses.

18 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect on January 1, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Harvard Debate Council.

SF1

A Bill to Revoke JEDI

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The \$10 billion Department of Defense Joint Enterprise Defense Infrastructure (JEDI) contract is hereby revoked.
- SECTION 2.** The Department of Defense shall re-administer the contract process, considering bids from each eligible U.S. entity.
- SECTION 3.** Bids involving collaborations between multiple companies shall be prioritized, to the extent possible without compromising cloud computing performance or national security safeguards.
- SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately upon passage.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Abhi Sanka.

SF2
A Resolution to Ban Travel from China

1

2 **WHEREAS,** The Wuhan coronavirus outbreak has spread rapidly across the globe and
3 has sickened several thousands of people; and

4 **WHEREAS,** The Wuhan coronavirus outbreak poses serious risks to the American
5 people’s health and national security; and

6 **WHEREAS,** Other nations have already acted to restrict or ban travel from China;
7 now, therefore, be it

8 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
9 for the White House to ban all travel from the People’s Republic of China
10 until the outbreak has ended.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Abhi Sanka.

SF3

Protecting America's Infrastructure Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** U.S. Critical Infrastructure Industries (CII) are hereby banned from using
3 and purchasing critical communications equipment made by foreign
4 adversaries. All prohibited equipment will be replaced with U.S. made
5 equipment in a time period not to exceed five years. The U.S.
6 Department of Commerce shall have \$500 million allocated to increase
7 U.S. manufacturing of telecommunications technology. Further, \$1 billion
8 will be directed to the Federal Communications Commission to offset
9 technology replacement costs.

10 **SECTION 2.** Critical Infrastructure Industries are those identified by the Department
11 of Homeland Security whose assets, systems, and networks, whether
12 physical or virtual, are considered so vital to the United States that their
13 incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security,
14 national economic security, national public health or safety, or any
15 combination thereof. Foreign adversaries are any foreign government or
16 foreign nongovernment person engaged in any activity adversely
17 impacting the national security of the United States or security and safety
18 of U.S. persons. Communications Equipment includes devices and
19 software used for 5G deployment and critical communications networks.

20 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Department of
21 Commerce and the Federal Communications Commission shall oversee
22 the implementation of this legislation. The U.S. Department of Homeland
23 Security shall define which CII industries and critical technology uses are
24 impacted. The Department of Commerce is responsible for identifying
25 new manufacturers of equipment for U.S. CII; and use allocated funds to
26 expedite manufacturing domestically.

27 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect one year after implementation.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Harvard Debate Council.

F2

Defender General Act of 2020

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** An Office of the Defender General shall be created within the
3 Department of Justice, with the mission of conducting criminal litigation
4 in the United States Supreme Court on behalf of the interests of criminal
5 defendants as a collective class.

6 **SECTION 2.** The Office shall be headed by a senior official, the Defender General, and
7 staffed with deputy and assistant defenders general. The Defender
8 General shall be appointed for a single, non-renewable, five-year term.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Defender General shall be selected by a Board of Commissioners,
10 appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States. The Board of
11 Commissioners shall consist of (i) an experienced member of the
12 Supreme Court bar, (ii) a formerly incarcerated person, (iii) a
13 representative of the federal defender service, (iv) a representative from
14 state public defense, and (v) a representative of the private criminal
15 defense bar.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect no later than January 1, 2021.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Elliot Mamet, based on Daniel Epps and William Ortman, "The Defender General," 168 University of Pennsylvania Law Review (forthcoming 2020).

F3 / Climate Leadership and Energy Action for our Nation's (CLEAN) Future Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall achieve a 100 percent clean energy economy by
3 no later than 2050. The United States shall: (1) Adopt a Clean Electricity
4 Standard to create a path to net-zero emissions from the electricity
5 sector by 2050 while minimizing costs to consumers; (2) Modernize its
6 transmission system to facilitate a decarbonized electricity supply to
7 enable GHG emissions reductions; (3) Establish a standard under the
8 Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) requiring states to
9 invest in energy storage systems; (4) Establish a program, under the
10 Department of Energy, to provide funding to eligible partners for projects
11 that improve resiliency, performance, or efficiency of the electricity grid;
12 (5) Reauthorize the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
13 (LIHEAP) through FY 2030; (6) Direct FERC to expedite hydropower
14 permitting by reducing maximum permitting time to 6 months; (7)
15 Require FERC to consider climate change in the natural gas pipeline
16 permitting process.

17 **SECTION 3.** The Clean Electricity standard requires retail electricity suppliers provide
18 an increasing percentage of clean electricity each year starting in 2022,
19 rising to 100 percent in 2050.

20 **SECTION 4.** The U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Environmental Protection
21 Agency, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Federal
22 Energy Regulatory Commission will oversee the enforcement of the bill
23 under their respective existing authority. FERC is directed to finalize their
24 rulemakings within six months.

25 **SECTION 5.** This legislation will go into effect immediately after passage.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ), Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY), and Rep.
Bobby Rush (D-IL)*

F4

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Create a Fair and Independent Department of Justice

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:

ARTICLE --

7 **SECTION 1:** The Attorney General shall be elected by a direct vote of
8 the American people concurrent to elections for the office
9 of President and Vice President.

10 **SECTION 2:** The Attorney General shall head the Department of Justice,
11 an independent branch of government whose budget shall
12 be determined by the President, but fully amendable by
13 Congress.

14 **SECTION 3:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by
15 appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by the Harvard Debate Council.