



Spring and State 2024 TFA Congressional Debate Docket

1	Bellaire	A Bill to Place Limits on the Strategic Petroleum Reserve
2	Anderson	The Defending from Existential Threats to Eastern Republics (D.E.T.E.R.) Act of 2024
3	James Taylor	A Bill to Amend the Voting Rights Act
4	Lake Travis	A Bill to Eradicate Chemical and Nuclear Capabilities
5	Amarillo	The Suspension of Work Exploitation in the Enterprise of Treats (S.W.E.E.T.) Act
6	Winston Churchill	A Bill to Strengthen Patent Protections to Protect Innovation and Competitiveness
7	Tascosa	Climate Change Risk Mitigation and Preparation Act of 2024
8	Chapin	The Social Security Solvency Act
9	Saint Mary's Hall	A Resolution to Eliminate the 'Wolf Amendment' to Increase Space Cooperation with the People's Republic of China
10	Plano West	A Bill to Set Standard Dental, Pediatric Dental, and Orthodontic Prices in the United States in Order to Allow Increased Access to Needed Services
11	Buda Jack C. Hays	A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Require a Balanced Federal Budget
12	R.C. Clark	A Resolution to Lower the Voting Age for All Federal, State, and Local Elections
13	San Antonio Reagan	A Resolution to Ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty to Strengthen US Leadership Over Nuclear Technology
14	Caprock	A Bill to Counter Teen Substance Abuse
15	James Taylor	A Resolution to Revoke India's MFN Trade Status
16	Pflugerville Hendrickson	A Resolution to End Economic Sanctions on the Taliban to Remedy Afghanistan's Humanitarian Crisis
17	Plano West	A Bill to Invest in Kenya to Extract Rare Earth Elements
18	Seven Lakes	The Making American Neighborhoods Accessible and Sustainable (MANAS) Act
19	Houston Memorial	The Compassionate Housing Act of 2024
20	Plano Senior	The Property Reform and Affordable Non-Corporate Acquisition with Viable Mortgage Rates (P.R.A.N.A.V.) Act



Item 1 - A Bill to Place Limits on the Strategic Petroleum Reserve

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Withdrawals from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve shall now be limited.

3 A. Oil may not be removed from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve for the purpose
4 of lowering consumer gas prices.

5 B. Oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve may not be sold to any other
6 country, including but not limited to Russia, China, Iran, or North Korea.

7 C. Withdrawals from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve will only be allowed in the
8 event of supply disruption of oil imports.

9 **SECTION 2.** Supply disruption of oil imports will be defined as an event in which US domestic
10 production of oil cannot offset the usage of domestic oil.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Energy will oversee this legislation and ensure that the
12 proper requirements are met before oil is taken from the Strategic Petroleum
13 Reserve.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on April 1, 2024. All laws in conflict with this
15 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bellaire High School



Item 2 - The Defending from Existential Threats to Eastern Republics (D.E.T.E.R.) Act of 2024

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Recognizing the growing threat to Taiwan’s security,

3 A. The United States shall hereby establish military bases in Taiwan.

4 B. The United States shall deploy 10,000 troops to Taiwan.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. “Military Bases” are hereby defined as permanent facilities built to house US troops and
6 military equipment for sustained operations of at least one year.

7 B. This can include airfields, barracks, garrisons, navy bases, radar stations, and other
8 infrastructure.

9 C. “Taiwan” for the purposes of this bill encompasses the island of Taiwan and 167 outlying
10 islands under the control of the Republic of China (ROC).

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense will oversee the implementation of this bill.

12 A. The US Department of State shall draft a Status of Forces Agreement for ratification by the
13 US Senate and the Taiwanese Legislative Yuan. If the agreement is not mutually ratified
14 within six (6) months, no action will be taken under this bill.

15 B. The US Army Corps of Engineers will estimate the costs of constructing and operating new
16 bases and shall report these costs to Congress by the beginning of FY 2026. These costs will
17 be met through future National Defense Authorization Acts.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by L.C. Anderson High School



Item 3 - A Bill to Amend the Voting Rights Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act will be reinstated and amended to require
3 preclearance for changes to state voting laws in all 50 states.

4 **SECTION 2.** Preclearance is defined prohibiting jurisdictions from implementing any change
5 affecting voting without first receiving confirmation from the U.S. Attorney
6 General or the U.S. District Court for D.C. that the change does not discriminate
7 against constitutionally protected groups.

8 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Justice will oversee the following changes to Section 5 of
9 the Voting Rights Act.

10 A. Any changes in state voting laws or redistricting maps must have approval
11 from the US Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, or the US
12 District Court for DC prior to implementation.

13 B. It will be the affirmative duty of the states to prove changes to voting laws or
14 congressional maps do not negatively impact minority voters.

15 C. Any legislation passed since 2013 will be subject to review for impacts on
16 minority voters. Any of these laws which is determined to violate the rights
17 of minority voters may be rescinded.

18 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by James E. Taylor High School



Item 4 - A Bill to Eradicate Chemical and Nuclear Capabilities

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will dispose of all chemical and nuclear weapons currently in
3 our possession.

4 **SECTION 2.** The following definitions are provided:

5 A. "Nuclear weapons" are defined as munitions or devices specifically designed
6 to inflict harm or cause death through the energy harnessed by the splitting of
7 atomic nuclei.

8 B. "Chemical weapons" are defined as munitions or devices specifically designed
9 to inflict harm or cause death through the release of toxic or otherwise
10 hazardous chemicals.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense shall oversee the disposal of all chemical weapons
12 within two years of the legislation's implementation and the disposal of all
13 nuclear weapons within five years of the legislation's implementation.

14 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect at the start of the fiscal year 2024.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lake Travis High School



Item 5 - The Suspension of Work Exploitation in the Enterprise of Treats (S.W.E.E.T.) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress finds that foreign assistance to, or imports from, nations allowing slave labor
3 in the chocolate industry are opposed to the national goals and beliefs of the United
4 States, therefore this Congress will direct the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border
5 Protection to reform foreign assistance and trade import guidelines.

6 **SECTION 2.** By January 1st of each year, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection
7 shall submit a report to the President certifying which nations allow the use of slave
8 labor in chocolate production. In compiling this report the Commissioner shall take into
9 account multiple factors, including compensation for workers in the host country,
10 working conditions, and collusion between the country and chocolate companies.

11 **SECTION 3.** Nations identified by the Commissioner under Section 2 of this Act are ineligible to
12 receive foreign assistance from the United States, and shall be barred from importing
13 chocolate products to the United States. The President shall direct the heads of each
14 cabinet level agency to end foreign assistance to and importing of chocolate products
15 from the nations identified.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect one year after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Amarillo High School



Item 6 - A Bill to Strengthen Patent Protections to Protect Innovation and Competitiveness

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** To strengthen the United States patent system, the United States congress shall:

3 A. Clarify patent eligibility requirements under Title 35 of the United States Code to resolve uncertainty over requirements
4 following the U.S. Supreme Court's 2014 decision *Alice v. CLS Bank* decision.

5 B. Return to a "first to invent" system for determining rights to the grant of a patent.

6 C. Legislatively overrule *eBay v. MercExchange, L.L.C.* to make injunctions the default response when patent theft is proven.

7 **SECTION 2.** Clarification of above mandates:

8 A. Clarification of patent eligibility includes eliminating all judicial exceptions to patent eligibility and adding language such
9 that "any invention or discovery that can be claimed as a useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter,
10 or any useful improvement thereof, is eligible for patent protection except for 1) any mathematical formula not part of an
11 invention; 2) a mental process performed solely in the mind of a human being; 3) an unmodified human gene; 4) an
12 unmodified natural material.

13 B. A "first to invent" patent system an inventor who has diligently worked on bringing his or her invention to practice and/or
14 filing a patent application is entitled to the date of conception as the "priority date" for determining the awarding of patent
15 rights so long as that inventor did not abandon, suppress or conceal the invention. This is contrasted with the current "first
16 to file" patent system which was adopted in 2013.

17 C. *eBay v. MercExchange, L.L.C.* is a 2006 Supreme Court case which established a precedent that an injunction should not
18 automatically be issued against an individual or company found guilty of patent infringement.

19 **SECTION 3.** The above legislation will be enforced by the United States Department of Commerce and the Federal Judiciary.

20 A. Patent claims and appeals will be handled by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office which is an agency of the U.S. Department
21 of Commerce.

22 B. Federal District Courts have jurisdiction over all patent infringement claims.

23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect one year after passage. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and
24 void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Winston Churchill High School



Item 7 - Climate Change Risk Mitigation and Preparation Act of 2024

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Secretary of Homeland Security shall compile a list designating areas likely to face significant
3 flooding events due to climate change in the next century as “districts of significant climate
4 flooding threat potential.”

5 **SECTION 2.** Districts of significant climate flooding threat potential shall include:

6 A. Areas threatened by rising sea levels.

7 B. Areas facing at least a 15% increased risk of major flooding events due to increased intensity
8 of tropical storm systems.

9 C. Areas likely to face increased violent rainfall events due to atmospheric warming, which allows
10 for increased moisture retention in the air.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security shall be in charge of administering this bill.

12 A. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit an updated report on which areas qualify as
13 districts of significant climate flooding threat potential every two years. The first report shall be
14 submitted 18 months from the passage of this bill.

15 B. New buildings constructed in districts of significant climate flooding threat potential after six
16 months from the time the area receives the designation shall be ineligible for flood insurance
17 coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Tascosa High School



Item 8 - The Social Security Solvency Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** In order to maintain the solvency of the Social Security System, the existing cap
3 on wages subject to the Social Security tax shall be eliminated.

4 **SECTION 2.** Section 230 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 430) is amended for purposes of
5 determining wages and self-employment income under sections 209, 211, 213,
6 and 215 of this Act and sections 1402, 3121, 3122, 3125, 6413, and 6654 of the
7 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, so that the 'contribution and benefit base' with
8 respect to remuneration paid shall be eliminated. From the date of enactment,
9 all remuneration paid shall be subject to the Social Security Tax.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service shall enforce this provision, and ensure the
11 collection of the full Social Security Tax.

12 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Chapin High School



Item 9 - A Resolution to Eliminate the ‘Wolf Amendment’ to Increase Space Cooperation with the People’s Republic of China

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The ‘Wolf Amendment’ is a section added to federal appropriations bills that prohibits the
2 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Office of Science and Technology
3 Policy (OSTP), and/or the National Space Council (NSC) from cooperating with the People’s
4 Republic of China and/or Chinese-owned companies; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** While the amendment provides provisions for allowing some cooperation with China after
6 obtaining approval from the FBI and Congress, the yearly addition of this amendment has had a
7 substantial chilling-effect on United States cooperation with China in outer space; and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** The amendment has not prevented China from becoming a space power nor has it had a
9 productive effect on changing Chinese behavior in outer space and/or on Earth; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** The policy of isolating China has resulted in an alienated China forming alternate coalitions for
11 outer space exploration and development that have undermined the United States’ leadership
12 and interests; and,
- 13 **WHEREAS,** Many other United States allies, such as the European Union, already cooperate with China
14 outside of working with the United States further weakening our space leadership; now,
15 therefore, be it
- 16 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled repeal Section 526, colloquially known as the ‘Wolf
17 Amendment,’ of the 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act; and, be it
- 18 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this Congress refuse to include the Wolf Amendment or other similar amendments that
19 prohibit bilateral cooperation with China over outer space in future legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Saint Mary’s Hall



Item 10 - A Bill to Set Standard Dental, Pediatric Dental, and Orthodontic Prices in the United States in Order to Allow Increased Access to Needed Services

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** This bill shall set standardized prices for certain adult dental, pediatric dental, and orthodontic
3 procedures for uninsured patients.

4 A. This bill shall lead to the creation of the Office of the Regulator of the Department of Health
5 and Human Services (ORHHS), an agency within the Department of Health and Human
6 Services.

7 **SECTION 2.** A. Adult dental procedures shall be defined as dental cleanings, silver amalgam tooth fillings,
8 tooth extractions, crown procedures, and root canals when delivered to a patient aged 18 or
9 older.

10 B. Pediatric dental procedures shall be defined as the procedures listed in Section 2A when
11 delivered to a patient under the age of 18.

12 C. Orthodontic procedures shall be defined as the series of procedures involving braces.

13 **SECTION 3.** This bill shall provide the ORHHS with the responsibility of levying a \$2,450 fine on each and any
14 violation of this bill, adjusted for inflation, increasing by \$560 after every five violations by a
15 specific practice of this bill, adjusted for inflation.

16 A. The ORHHS will conduct a study to determine adequate prices for the dental, pediatric dental,
17 and orthodontic procedures defined in Section 2. It will be released to the public on January 1,
18 2025.

19 B. The ORHHS will begin enforcing this bill on March 1, 2025.

20 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano West Senior High School



Item 11 - A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Require a Balanced Federal Budget

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

6 **ARTICLE --**

7 **SECTION 1:** Total expenditures for any fiscal year will not exceed total
8 revenue, unless approved by two-thirds of Congress.

9 **SECTION 2:** Any bill that imposes a new tax must be approved by two-thirds of
10 Congress.

11 **SECTION 3:** Congress may waive the provisions of sections 1 and 2 by a
12 three-fifths vote in any fiscal year in which the United States is engaged in a
13 military conflict that poses an imminent and serious military threat to national
14 security.

15 **SECTION 4:** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by
16 appropriate legislation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Jack C. Hays High School



Item 12 - A Resolution to Lower the Voting Age for All Federal, State, and Local Elections

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The principles of our democracy are founded on the fundamental right of citizens to
2 participate in the electoral process and have a say in the governance of our nation; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Civic and political engagement play a crucial role in shaping the future of a democratic
4 society; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** 16 and 17-year-olds have a great interest in the policies and decisions made by their
6 governments, as these decisions directly impact their lives, education, employment, and
7 well-being; and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** The current failure to lower the voting age to 16 has resulted in underrepresentation
9 and diminished civic engagement among younger individuals, leading to their exclusion
10 from critical decisions affecting their lives; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** Denying 16 and 17-year-olds the right to vote has perpetuated taxation without
12 representation, as they are already subject to various taxes, including sales tax and
13 payroll tax, without the right to influence the allocation of these tax revenues; and
- 14 **WHEREAS,** The lack of political involvement among younger citizens is resulting in policies and
15 decisions that do not adequately address their unique concerns, needs, and aspirations;
16 now, therefore, be it
- 17 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled acknowledges the unintended repercussions of the
18 current voting age, including underrepresentation and diminished civic engagement
19 among younger individuals; and be it
- 20 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled introduces and passes a legislation that will
21 lower the voting age to 16 for all federal, state, and local elections following the
22 principles of democracy and equal representation.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by R.C. Clark High School



Item 13 - A Resolution to Ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty to Strengthen US Leadership Over Nuclear Technology

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States signed the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) in 1996,
2 the treaty itself has never been formally ratified by the United States; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** The United States was one of only eight of the forty-four ‘Annex 2’ or “nuclear-capable
4 countries” countries that have not ratified the treaty along with China, Egypt, India, Iran,
5 Israel, North Korea, and Pakistan and is undoubtedly the most influential of the
6 countries that have not ratified the treaty; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** Lack of United States ratification of the CTBT hurts international efforts to curb nuclear
8 testing and hinders the legitimacy of the treaty; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** Lack of United States’ ratification of the treaty has been repeatedly cited by Iran and
10 North Korea as justifications for their continued expansion and testing of nuclear
11 technology; and
- 12 **WHEREAS,** Russia just recently voted to withdraw from the CTBT citing lack of the United States
13 ratification as a justification for their withdrawal; now, therefore, be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled vote to demand Senate ratification of the
15 Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Reagan High School



Item 14 - A Bill to Counter Teen Substance Abuse

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congress finds underage consumption of intoxicants has a severe deleterious effect on this nation's minors,
3 and thus mandates that any state receiving federal funds used in law enforcement activities develop and
4 enforce criminal penalties for the parents/guardians of any minor in possession of a drug, controlled
5 substance, or intoxicant.

6 **SECTION 2.** A minor is any person under the age of 18 years.

7 The following definitions are adopted from the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 33, Chapter I, Subchapter
8 F, Part 95, §95.010.

9 A. Drug means any substance (other than alcohol) that has known mind or function-altering effects on a
10 person, specifically including any psychoactive substance, and including, but not limited to, controlled
11 substances.

12 B. Controlled Substance has the same meaning assigned by 21 U.S.C. 802 and includes all substances
13 listed on Schedules I through V as they may be revised from time to time (21 CFR Part 1308).

14 C. Intoxicant means any form of alcohol, drug or combination thereof.

15 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Justice shall enforce this bill.

16 A. By January 1 of each year, the Attorney General shall publish a list of states found to be out of
17 compliance with Sections 1 and 2 of this bill.

18 B. Federal funds used in law enforcement activities for any state listed by the Attorney General to be out
19 of compliance with Sections 1 and 2 of this bill shall be reduced by 15% for the following fiscal year.

20 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on the 1st day of July, 2024.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Caprock High School



Item 15 - A Resolution to Revoke India's MFN Trade Status

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Contrary to popular rhetoric, India has never been a US ally; and
- 2 **WHEREAS,** Since the election of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has steadily regressed
- 3 from democratic principles; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** India has failed to honor UN initiatives sanctioning the actions of Russia, Iran,
- 5 and Myanmar and continues trade and maintain normalized relations with those
- 6 countries; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** India's continued trade relations with Russia and Iran make it an unreliable
- 8 partner for the trade of dual-use technologies; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** India continues to purchase Russia oil and sell it on the open market, allowing
- 10 Russia to evade sanctions; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** The last decade has seen a marked increase in the persecution of religious
- 12 minorities including the alleged extrajudicial murder of a Canadian citizen on
- 13 Canadian soil; and
- 14 **WHEREAS,** Human rights abuses including caste discrimination, honor killings, detention of
- 15 political prisoners and members of the press, and the use torture have
- 16 skyrocketed during Modi's tenure; now, therefore, be it
- 17 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States should revoke India's
- 18 Most Favored Nation trade status until India implements significant democratic
- 19 reforms.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by James E. Taylor High School



Item 16 - A Resolution to End Economic Sanctions on the Taliban to Remedy Afghanistan's Humanitarian Crisis

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Economic sanctions imposed by the United States since its withdrawal from
2 Afghanistan have created a desperate humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** The incapacity of the Taliban to access its currency reserves since its takeover
4 has left half of its population food insecure; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** The United States seized \$7 billion from Afghanistan's central bank reserves; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** The desperation of Afghan people has permitted a rise in recruitment for
7 terrorist organizations such as the Islamic State in Khorasan; and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** A humanitarian crisis which empowers terrorist groups will endanger the
9 stability of Afghanistan and the Middle East; now, therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled urge the President to use his executive
11 authority to end all economic sanctions on Afghanistan.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hendrickson High School



Item 17 - A Bill to Invest in Kenya to Extract Rare Earth Elements

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A. The United States shall build ten solar panel manufacturing plants in Kenya to
3 produce solar panels for the country, in exchange for benefits for US companies and
4 partnerships with local Kenyan miners.

5 B. This will reinforce the US national security mission to diversify its rare earth elements
6 supply chains while developing the Kenyan economy and building US-Kenya relations.

7 **SECTION 2.** A. The solar panel manufacturing plants shall be American owned and employ local
8 Kenyan workers. \$1 billion of US aid will be directed toward infrastructure improvement
9 and construction of facilities, and \$500 million will fund a program to install solar panels
10 in local Kenyan homes.

11 B. In return, US companies shall receive priority access to partnership opportunities with
12 local miners in the rare earth elements industry, in that US-offered contracts shall take
13 precedence over business opportunities from other foreign countries.

14 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Agency for International Development will work to implement this legislation.
15 The agency will submit an annual report for additional funding.

16 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2025.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano West Senior High School



Item 18 - The Making American Neighborhoods Accessible and Sustainable (MANAS) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A. The United States shall make reforms to major cities to increase walkability by allocating \$5
3 Billion every year for 20 years to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

4 B. Reforms shall include investment in commuter and public transportation, bicycle
5 infrastructure, pedestrian infrastructure, subways, and other means of transportation intended
6 to reduce reliance on cars.

7 C. The \$5 billion will be taken out of the U.S. Federal Highway Administration each year.

8 **SECTION 2.** A. Walkability shall be defined as the ability to safely walk to services and amenities within a
9 maximum 40-minute walk.

10 B. Major cities shall be defined as any city with a population over 500,000.

11 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will work in collaboration with local
12 city authorities to implement the necessary changes to improve walkability.

13 A. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will oversee the disbursement of the
14 cumulative \$100 Billion. Money will be allocated to local municipalities in the form of block
15 grants.

16 B. The United States Treasury and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will
17 oversee the audits that will take place.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1st, 2025. All laws in conflict with this legislation are
19 hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Seven Lakes High School



Item 19 - The Compassionate Housing Act of 2024

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Commercial buildings in states of long-term disuse or abandonment shall be
3 requisitioned by the federal government. Once acquired, these buildings shall be
4 converted into free housing for those in need.

5 **SECTION 2.** “Commercial buildings” shall be defined as any privately-owned location built for
6 commercial leasing purposes, including office buildings, strip malls, or malls. “Long-term
7 disuse” shall be defined as rentable properties having leasing rates which fall
8 consistently below 10% of units for a given fiscal year.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Housing and Urban Development shall implement this legislation, in
10 collaboration with the Department of Health.

11 A. The Department of Housing and Urban Development shall offer payments to the
12 owners of said unused buildings in exchange for the requisitioning of their properties. If
13 property owners reject the terms of purchase, the buildings may be seized under
14 eminent domain if deemed necessary.

15 B. The Department of Health shall establish and enforce standards of cleanliness and
16 safety in the housing facilities during their construction and after their completion.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on June 1, 2024

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Memorial High School



Item 20 - The Property Reform and Affordable Non-Corporate Acquisition with Viable Mortgage Rates (P.R.A.N.A.V.) Act

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Federal Government shall create the Affordable Home Mortgage Program
3 (AHMP) which shall include the following provisions:

4 A. The Affordable Home Mortgage Program (AHMP) shall provide government-backed mortgage
5 loans at a fixed interest rate of 3 percent to eligible first-time single-family homebuyers.

6 B. The AHMP shall be funded through tax-free bonds purchased by investors, with the backing of
7 the U.S. Government.

8 C. The U.S. Federal Government shall guarantee mortgages provided through the AHMP.

9 **SECTION 2.** A. "First-time single-family homebuyer" shall be defined as an individual or household that has
10 not previously owned a residential property and intends to use the purchased property as their
11 primary residence.

12 B. "Government-backed mortgage loans" shall be defined as mortgage loans that are guaranteed
13 or insured by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA).

14 C. "Tax-free bonds" shall be defined as bonds issued by the United States Department of Treasury
15 where the interest earned by the bondholder is exempt from federal income tax.

16 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Housing Administration, Federal Housing Finance Agency, US Department of Treasury,
17 Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Internal Revenue Service shall oversee
18 the implementation of this legislation.

19 A. The US Department of Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service shall oversee implementation
20 of Section 1B and 1C of this legislation.

21 B. The Federal Housing Administration, Federal Housing Finance Agency, and the Department of
22 Housing and Urban Development shall oversee Section 1A of this legislation.

23 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on March 11, 2024. All laws in conflict with this legislation are
24 hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Plano Senior High School