

Region Clerk Checklist

FIRST THINGS FIRST:

Familiarize yourself with the specific contest rules and read through the directions for hosting the meet preceding this checklist.

A regional committee of five individuals is mandated under contest rules, with the Region Clerk serving as the Chair. Have the ESC participating schools select four other participating coaches to serve on the committee. Clerks should include the committee when determining decisions concerning the contest.

Familiarize yourself with the UIL Congress webpage in order to be able to navigate other coaches to contest information on the UIL website (deadlines, legislation template, contest dates, rules, ballots and additional forms).

Use your Regional Educational Service Center resource page (on your particular ESC website) to find the list of schools in your ESC region. Then, distribute your contact information to other coaches in your ESC.

Encourage coaches to use the Congress Guide, available on the UIL website.

Examine contest materials online to be familiar with the intent of each form.

All schools wishing to participate in Congress must submit the electronic Intent to Participate Form via the UIL website. Do not honor verbal confirmations; insist the coaches submit the form.

NOTE: The Intent to Participate form and the due date for submitting legislation are the same. The UIL State Office will be forwarding you an Excel spreadsheet with all schools that have submitted their intent. If there are discrepancies in the spreadsheet and local list, contact the State Office.

BEFORE THE CONTEST:

- Has the committee decided on a fee structure and a registration process to officially register students for the contest? The region clerk is responsible for giving receipts for payment of fees.
- Has the committee decided on a procedure to procure judges, either hired or school-sponsored?
- Has a contest site been determined? Do you have enough rooms?
- Has the region clerk procured all forms necessary to conduct the contest? (ballots, parliamentary ranking form, amendment forms, etc.) All contest materials are downloadable from the UIL website. No materials will be shipped hard copy. Double check the number of ballots and judge forms needed before the contest begins.
- If you have been notified of schools dropping, did you inform the State Office?
- Has the region procured trophies and awards (if necessary)?
- Have placards been generated for all contestants, once entries are final?
- Have you given specific jobs to each member of the committee?
- Have you made a decision on hospitality for both judges and coaches?

EVALUATING LEGISLATION:

Did they use the UIL Format Template?

- Is there a header?
- Is there a footer?
- Are there line numbers?
- Is the authorship included near the bottom of the legislation? (should be the name of school and NOT the name of student)

- Is the original work statement included at the bottom of the legislation?
- Is the title of the legislation short, concise, and easy to understand? (similar to a tagline in a debate case)
- Did they use the appropriate template?
 - Is it a bill? If so, it has sections.
 - Is it a resolution? If so, it has “*whereas*” clauses and a “*be it resolved*” clause.
- Is it an amendment to the Constitution?
- Is it punctuated correctly? Look at the sample template. Are periods at the ends of sentences?
- Has it been spell checked by a human? Only a human knows the difference between “over see” and “oversea.”
- Is the subject matter acceptable for your community standards?
- Does it make sense—including full, grammatically correct sentences?
- If using an acronym, is it presented as a **full title** in the **first use**? (United Nations/UN)
- Is it federal? Federal legislation affecting Texas is permissible and encouraged, but legislation cannot be “Texas-only.”
- Has the topic already been covered? Multiple pieces of legislation on the same topic from the Region Meet should not be submitted to the State Office.

CREATING A DOCKET FOR DEBATE:

- Do you have a procedure in place for ranking legislation submitted by the schools? The ideal size of the docket should be approximately 20 pieces of legislation, but some regions use less.
- Pull legislation that does not meet the UIL requirements. Send it back for revision, with a new deadline for proper submission.
- Email the legislation to your committee members for the purposes of ranking.
- Create a docket with the understanding chambers will set their own order of the docket.
- Email the final docket and all pieces of legislation to the State Office, so all schools in your ESC will have access via the UIL website.

AT THE 10-DAY CONTESTANT ENTRY DEADLINE:

- Have you received official UIL contestant entry forms via UIL for all schools? (even if you are having schools register in Joy of Tournament) The UIL form serves as official eligibility.
- Do you have contestant entry forms for all the schools that sent Intent to Participate forms?
- Does your list match the State Office? If not, why?
- If you have been notified of schools dropping their entries, did you inform the State Office?

DURING THE CONTEST:

- Have you established a verification process? Open or closed tabulation? Committee or everyone? Make sure you have a particular amount of time for an official verification period/coaches challenge, and that you announce the location so all schools know where it will be conducted.
- Have you returned ballots to the competitors by the end of the meet?

AFTER THE CONTEST:

- Have you selected an appropriate piece of legislation to send to the State Office for each individual conference? This should be decided by the end of the meet or a designated plan/deadline is in place should your state qualifiers wish to draft new legislation for the state meet. The region clerk is responsible for emailing the chosen legislation from each conference to the State Office.
- Results form: Have you entered the state qualifiers on the website? This should be done by the prescribed deadline on the UIL website. If there are more than three state qualifiers, a separate email **MUST** be submitted to the State Office with the names of the additional qualifiers. The region clerk must also designate the parliamentarian who will serve on behalf of your ESC at the state meet. This information is required on the results form when entering the state qualifiers.
- Have you made certain that you have entered qualifier names correctly with accurate spelling? This is critical for speaker placards and the program at the State Meet.
- Have you notified the coaches that have advancing students to fill out the required state judge forms on the UIL website by the prescribed deadline?
- Have you told yourself and your committee “GOOD JOB?”



2017-2018

1A Congress PRELIM Legislation		
Item	Legislation	Authoring School
P1		
P2		
P3		
P4		
P5		
P6		
P7		
P8		
P9		
P10		

1A Congress FINALS Legislation		
Item	Legislation	Authoring School
F1		
F2		
F3		
F4		
F5		
F6		
F7		
F8		
F9		
F10		

Chambers may set the agenda of their docket. Legislation does not belong to the chamber until it has first been introduced by the author or sponsor. School authorship is designated.



A Resolution to Amend the Constitution [to...]

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

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

8 **ARTICLE --**

9 **SECTION 1:** State the first part.

10 **SECTION 2:** The UIL Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate
11 legislation.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by _____ (school name).



A Resolution to [Action Word] [article] [Object] to [Summarize the Solution Specifically]

- 1 **WHEREAS,** State the current problem (this needs to be accomplished in one brief
2 sentence); and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Describe the scope of the problem cited in the first whereas clause (this
4 clause needs to flow logically from the first) and the inherent need for a
5 solution; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** Explain the impact and harms perpetuated by the current problem (once
7 again, the clause needs to flow in a logical sequence); and
- 8 **WHEREAS,** Use additional “whereas” clauses to elaborate rationale for the problem
9 that needs to be solved; now, therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following
11 recommendation for solution (a call for action); and, be it
- 12 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That (this is an *optional* additional recommendation; if not used,
13 end the previous “resolved” clause with a period).

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by ____ (school name).



A Bill to [Action Word] [article] [Object] to [Summarize the Solution Specifically]

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** State the new policy in a brief declarative sentence, or in as few
3 sentences as possible.

4 **SECTION 2.** Define any ambiguous terms inherent in the first section.

5 **SECTION 3.** Name the government agency that will oversee the enforcement of the
6 bill along with the specific enforcement mechanism.

7 A. Go into further details if necessary.

8 B. Go into further details if necessary.

9 **SECTION 4.** Indicate the implementation date/timeframe.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by _____ (school name).



A Bill to Raise the Conscription age to 21

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Currently to enlist for Conscription you must register between the ages of 18-25
but after this bill it will be from 21-25.

SECTION 2. Conscription: Also known as the Draft.

SECTION 3. The Department of Defense will be responsible for making the above changes.

SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect by January 2017

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by High School.

Missing line numbers, "Age" should be capitalized & period
missing after 2017.

Poorly worded Section 1



A Bill to amend the 16th Amendment and repeal income taxes on the incomes of citizens under the age of 18

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The constitution will be amended and working citizens under the age of
3 18 will not be taxed. The idea of “no taxation without representation”
4 was what our country was founded upon and since citizens under the age
5 of 18 can be taxed but can’t vote, this is ultimately contradictory.

6 **SECTION 2.** Income tax is defined as tax levied by a government directly on income,
7 especially an annual tax on personal income.

8 **SECTION 3.** The congress shall have the power to enforce this Bill.

9 A. As soon as this bill is enacted, all income taxes on citizens ages 17 and
10 under will be removed

11 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented on January 1, 2017.

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

13

14 *Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by High School*

Really should be an
amendment instead of a Bill.

Capitalization in title incorrect.

Title too long

Line numbers extend too far.



A Bill to Remove Gender Discriminatory Pricing

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** All stores and distributors selling “men’s” and “women’s”
2 products or services are required to sell said gendered products or services of
3 similar or like kind at the same price between genders.

4 **SECTION 2.** Gendered products shall be defined as products with similar
5 versions marketed towards men and women, typically with only or mostly
6 only differences in packaging, commonly known as the Pink “Tax”.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Trade Commission will oversee the enforcement
8 of this legislation, and will oversee all complaints and reports under this bill.
9 Violators of this Act will be fined \$15,000 for each noticeable offense. The
10 FTC also retains the right to determine all products and/or services covered
11 by Section 2. They will be given \$40 Million out of the United States Air Force
12 Budget to oversee this change.

13 **SECTION 4.** This will take effect starting one hundred and eighty days
14 after passage.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by High School

No footer. Spacing wrong. Actually a table.
Consider topic area selection.



A Bill to Establish Independent State Commissions to End Gerrymandering

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. An independent commission shall be established in each state in accordance with Section 4 of the Let People Draw the Lines Act (HR 2978) to oversee and enact redistricting.

SECTION 2. Each district created by state commissions must accomplish the following:

- A. Have as equal of population as practicable.
- B. Comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
- C. Minimize divisions of municipalities.
- D. Be geographically compact and contiguous.

SECTION 3. The Election Assistance Commission shall provide payments to states in order to carry out redistricting.

SECTION 4. If states fail to carry out the creation of a committee or implementation of redistricting, state courts and/or the federal district court will be responsible for taking on alternate procedures as stipulated in Section 6 of the Let People Draw the Lines Act.

SECTION 5. This act and all amendments made shall apply to the redistricting carried out preceding the upcoming 2020 census.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by High School.

**No line numbers. Header in middle of title.
Spacing for Section 3, 4, 5 wrong.**

We certify that the legislation submitted by this school for this Congress is the original work of the students of our school and has permission to be presented.



A Bill to Amend the Every Student Succeeds Act to Decrease the Prevalence of Standardize Testing in American Public Schools

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Every Student Succeeds Act shall be amended to decrease the
3 amount and importance of standardize testing in American public
4 schools.

5 **SECTION 2.** A **standardized test** is any form of **test** that (1) requires all **test** takers to
6 answer the same questions, or a selection of questions from common
7 bank of questions, in the same way, and that (2) is scored in a “standard”
8 or consistent manner, which makes it possible to compare the relative
9 performance of individuals. A public school is a school that is federally
10 funded.

11 **SECTION 3.** The US Department of Education will oversee the amendment of the
12 Every Student Succeeds Act by assisting the schools in the transition to
13 fewer and less weighted standardized tests.

14 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be fully implemented by the fall of 2022.

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

Excessively long title. No school authorship line.



A Bill to Provide Paid Maternity Leave for the First Twelve Weeks of Parenthood

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Paid Family Leave Program (PFLP), a family leave insurance program,
3 will provide income replacement to eligible workers for family caregiving
4 or bonding with a new child.

5 **SECTION 2.** PFLP will only be provided within the first twelve weeks.

6 Family members will include but not be limited to: parent, spouse,
7 registered domestic partners, parents- in -law, grandparents, siblings, or
8 other registered guardians. Paid Family Leave Insurance will be based on
9 employee contribution to the Texas State Disability Insurance
10 Program(TSDIP). Leave will be defined as 12 weeks of recovering and/or
11 bonding times beginning either at birth or when the child enters the
12 home due to adoption or foster care.

13 New child will be defined as newborn child, adoptive child, or foster child
14 placed in guardian or adoptive care under the age of 18.

15 **SECTION 3.** Texas Department Of Insurance (TDI) will oversee this bill.

16 The Texas State Disability Insurance Program (TSDIP) will be created
17 by this passage of this bill.

18 **SECTION 4.** January 1, 2018 will be the date this bill is implemented.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by High School.

We certify that the legislation submitted by this school for this Congress is the original work of the students of our school and has permission to be presented.



A Resolution to Limit Profit Seeking by Pharmaceutical Companies.

1. **WHEREAS,** Profit seeking by Pharmaceutical companies through privatization of drug
2. patents is risking lives by allowing the patent holder to monopolize the market and set
3. pricing, and
- 4.
5. **WHEREAS,** Thousands of lives can be saved worldwide through reducing the window
6. of profit seeking and creating competition in the market, and
- 7.
8. **WHEREAS,** profit seeking by patent holders risk the lives of economically
9. disadvantaged persons, and
- 10.
11. **WHEREAS,** in order to save lives the U.S. must take action now; therefore be it
- 12.
13. **RESOLVED,** by the Student Congress here assembled that, exclusionary
14. pharmaceutical patents shall only be valid for a period of one year once the drug is FDA
15. approved and reaches the market.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by High School.

Line numbers wrong. Used bullet type instead of template which allowed for extra numbers and weird spacing. No period at end of Title.

A Bill to replace EOC testing with PBAT

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED AT:
- 2.
3. **Section 1.** This act will replace End of Course test with Performance Based Assessment
4. Tasks. The PBAT will more effectively assess the performance of student learning through
5. project based assignments. A Consortium will decide the parameters. Testing will be
6. administered throughout the school year. Teachers and the school districts will be allowed to
7. decide what the PBAT will encompass, and how the students are to present them. The amount
8. of PBATs required to graduate shall be four, one every year of high school. Each year a different
9. PBAT will assess the necessary skills learned during the previous school years. Schools shall
10. create a basic set of standards.
- 11.
12. **Section 2.** Definitions:
13. PBAT: Performance Based Assessment Tasks, these are used in the State of New York as a less
14. stressful alternative to "High Stakes" standardized testing.
15. A. STAAR: The State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness, the most current
16. installment of Texas' standardized testing.
17. B. Consortium: also called a League or Association, is a group of schools that have agreed
18. to use the PBAT and have also agreed on a set of standards to use in the testing process.
19. C. "High-Stakes" Testing: Any testing that has important consequences for the test taker.
20. Texas requires 16 STAAR tests during a student's high school tenure, if one test is failed you are
21. required to retake it. If you don't pass after the first attempt you receive only two extra
22. attempts if those other tests are failed, you will not be able to graduate.
- 23.
24. **Section 3.** The Department of Education will oversee and enforce this bill. Failure to
25. comply shall result in:
- 26.
27. 1st Offense: Discretization of the School District
- 28.
29. 2nd Offense: Temporary closing of school and temporary suspension of government funding until
30. compliance standards are met
- 31.
32. **Section 4.** This bill will come into effect for the 2017-2018 school year
- 33.
34. **Section 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby null and void

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by

Did not use UIL Template. No header or footer,
Line numbers are bullet points, spacing is all wrong
and they listed the student not the school for
authorship. EOC should be spelled out in title.



Line numbers extend
Title poorly worded

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38

A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Solve Issues on How to Officially Address the National Anthem

BE IT ENACTED BY THIS UIL CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

RESOLVED, By two-thirds of the UIL 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 --28 National Anthem

SECTION 1:

We will stand in honor of our nation, not to promote those in elected positions, but to unify the nation as one people.

36 U.S. Code § 301 - National anthem

(a) Designation.— The composition consisting of the words and music known as the Star-Spangled Banner is the national anthem.

(b) Conduct During Playing.—During a rendition of the national anthem—

(1) when the flag is displayed—

(A) individuals in uniform (**MUST**) give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;

(B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform or act as a civilian ; and

(C) all other persons present (**MUST**) face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart; and

(2) when the flag is not displayed, all present (**MUST**) face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by High School.

We certify that the legislation submitted by this school for this Congress is the original work of the students of our school and has permission to be presented.



Prelims 7. A Resolution to Formally End the Korean War

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, and The
2 Republic of South Korea, have yet to formally end the Korean War;
- 3 **WHEREAS,** The Korean Armistice Agreement currently maintains a Ceasefire as well
4 as the DMZ between the North and South Korea;
- 5 **WHEREAS,** The United States keeps 28,000 troops on the South Korean side of the
6 DMZ,
- 7 **WHEREAS,** Heavy tensions have led to increasing militarization and nuclearizations
8 of the peninsula as well as increasingly unstable leadership; and
9 the Korean War is the cause of much aggression between the United
10 States and China;
- 11 **WHEREAS,** A treaty ending the Korean War would alleviate escalating tensions
12 between North and South Korea, the United States, and China;
13
- 14 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation
15 for solution to formally end the Korean War; and, be it
16
- 17 **FURTHER RESOLVED,** that following the passage of this resolution, a treaty concluding
18 the Korean War will be complete before or by June 26, 2017.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by High School

No "and" after each phrase