



2023-2024

ESC 18 Congress Legislation

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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.

We certify that the legislation submitted by this school for this Congress is the original work of the students of our school and its subject matter is approved by school administration.



A Bill to Raise the Federal Minimum Wage to Match the Current Standard of Living

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

2 **SECTION 1.** The federal minimum wage will be raised by 42% to accommodate for the increase
3 in inflation since 2009. This will set the new minimum wage for workers at \$10.30
4 and a tipped employee at \$3.02. This bill will be known as the Fair Labor Standards
5 Act (FLSA) of 2024.

6 **SECTION 2.** A Tipped Employee is an employee who receives tips as a part of their service. A
7 tipped employee must make a combination of \$10.30 an hour with their wages and
8 tips; otherwise, the employer must make up the difference. Student Learners are
9 employees at least 16 years old enrolled in vocational education. Workers with
10 Disabilities are employees that have physical or mental disability that impairs their
11 productive earning capacity. Full-time student workers are employees who are
12 taking at least twelve hours of credit.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division administers and enforces the
14 federal minimum wage law.
15 A. Minimum wage exceptions established by the Fair Labor Standards Act of 2009
16 will be maintained. Those exceptions may include but are not limited to full-
17 time students, workers with disabilities or student learners.
18 B. Current exceptions for workers under the age 20 in their first days will be
19 Eliminated.

20 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be enacted at the beginning of the third quarter of 2024.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Grady High School.

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A Resolution to Promote Safe Use of CRISPR Technology

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Using Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats
2 (CRISPR) technology in an unsafe atmosphere can cause many problems
3 for adjacent genes; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** Nonprofessionals can substitute hundreds of thousands of base pairs that
5 were not originally there; and
- 6 **WHEREAS,** Many uses of CRISPR can weaken a person's ability to fight off tumors
7 and causes a cell's p53 gene to be dysfunctional and can give rise to
8 cancer; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** The lack of proper equipment can lead to offshoots which may cause
10 genetic mutations and malfunctions; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** The wrong usage of equipment can lead to unwanted gene deletions that
12 slip by undetected; and
- 13 **WHEREAS,** An out-of-control gene drive could drastically alter or threaten a species;
14 now, therefore, be it
- 15 **RESOLVED,** By the UIL Congress here assembled that any persons pursuing work in
16 the field of CRISPR technology must first seek approval and licensing from
17 the Federal Food and Drug Administration.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Big Spring 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 its subject matter is approved by school administration.



A Bill to Increase Funding for Low-Income Schools to Minimize the Wealth Achievement Gap

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The federal government shall distribute \$200 Billion from federal grants to low-income
3 schools across the nation. The money must be spent on technology, facility renewal or
4 replacement, and infrastructure projects.

5 **SECTION 2.** Low-income schools will be defined as schools in which 25% of the population is below
6 the poverty line. Infrastructure will be defined as high-speed internet and facilities.
7 Facilities will be defined as a public school in a low-income neighborhood. Technology
8 will be defined as wifi, Chromebooks, smartboards, desktops for teachers, and other
9 hardware and software that will progress educational learning.

10 **SECTION 3.** The state and federal government's Departments of Education, Civil Engineers, and the
11 Office of Civil Rights will help oversee this bill.

12 A. Civil Engineers will rate the school facilities and structure on a scale ranging from
13 "Excellent", "Good", "Fair", and "Poor".

14 B. The Departments of Education will distribute the funds based on the report by the
15 Civil Engineers.

16 C. The DOE in conjunction with the Office of Civil Rights will ensure that all funds are
17 being distributed equitably and ensure the funds are supporting low-income
18 schools properly.

19 D. The funding will be lowered to \$50 billion when all low-income schools are
20 categorized as "Excellent" or "Good" by the Civil Engineers.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Young Women's Leadership Academy at Booker T. Washington.

We certify that the legislation submitted by this school for this Congress is the original work of the students of our school and its subject matter is approved by school administration.



A Resolution to Encourage States to Set Their Minimum Marriage Age to 18 to Ensure the Safety of Children

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Child marriage remains a prevalent issue faced by many minors in
2 America; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** Only 10 states have set their minimum age requirement for marriage to
4 18, with major states having no minimum age requirement at all; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** The lack of a minimum age requirement as well as allowing minors to
6 marry adults has been proven to cause severe emotional distress as well
7 as vulnerability to violence, discrimination, abuse of the minor in the
8 marriage. It is also proven that minors in child marriages are less likely to
9 remain in school and that they will have worse economic and health
10 outcomes than their peers; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** It is vitally important for us to protect the future of this country and
12 allow all of America's children to grow up in safe and secure
13 environments that are being threatened by child marriage; now,
14 therefore be it
- 15 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following
16 recommendation to all the states of America to set their minimum age
17 limit for marriage to 18.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Stanton High School.

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A Resolution to Reschedule Psychedelics to Increase Research and Treatment of Mental Health

- 1 **WHEREAS,** The United States Federal Government Schedules psychedelics as a
2 ‘Schedule 1’, under the Controlled Substances Act, meaning research, let
3 alone treatment through psychedelics, is highly limited because it is
4 determined to be of no medical use and at high risk for abuse; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** The National Institutes of Health states that possession of psychedelics,
6 even for research is illegal; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** The Mental Health America estimates 93.5% of Americans do not receive
8 any form of treatment for substance use disorders, and The Journal of
9 Clinical Psychiatry states 30.9% of those suffering with depression have
10 treatment-resistant depression; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** Hallucinogens such as DMT, MDMA, LSD, and psilocin have shown
12 measurable progress in treating depression, anxiety, substance use
13 disorders, and PTSD, therefore proving evidence of medical use; and be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following
15 recommendation to amend the Controlled Substances Act to reschedule
16 DMT, MDMA, LSD, and psilocin to allow for increased research and access
17 of treatment.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Big Spring High School.

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A Bill to Set the Minimum Age to Purchase Energy Drinks to 18 Years of Age

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

2 **SECTION 1.** A minimum age to purchase energy drinks will be set at 18 years old to
3 mitigate health concerns energy drinks can cause in children.

4 **SECTION 2.** An energy drink is defined as a type of beverage that is considered a
5 source of energy, typically containing high percentages of sugar or
6 caffeine among other stimulants. A stimulant is defined as a substance
7 that raises the level of physiological and nervous activity in the body. This
8 includes, but is not limited to, taurine, guarana, and L-carnitine.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Drug Administration will oversee the implementation of this
10 bill in conjunction with state agencies.

11 A. Penalties will align with current standards for tobacco products and
12 Alcohol.

13 **SECTION 4.** This law will be implemented in September of 2024.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Grady High School.

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the students of our school and its subject matter is approved by school administration.*



A Bill to Require Congress Members to Pass Mini Mental Health Examinations

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

2 **SECTION 1.** All members of Congress must pass the Mini Mental State Examination,
3 also known as a Folstein Test, every year in order to stay or become a
4 member of Congress.

5 **SECTION 2.** Mini Mental State Examinations/Folstein tests are 30-point
6 questionnaires used to assess the cognitive abilities of an individual
7 under the five main areas of: recall, attention, calculation, orientation,
8 and the ability to follow directions.

9 **SECTION 3.** The Senate and House of Representatives Rules Committee will be
10 charged with overseeing the implementation of this bill.

11 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect on December 2, 2024.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Stanton High School.

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the students of our school and its subject matter is approved by school administration.*



A Bill to Cease the Production of \$1 Bills

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The U.S. Mint will stop the production of \$1 dollar bills. \$1 dollar bills will
3 remain in circulation and serve as legal tender until the natural end of
4 their lifespan. In the place of the bill, the U.S. Mint will enhance and
5 recommence the production of the dollar coin.

6 **SECTION 2.** Cease will be defined as “to come to an end.” Legal tender will be defined
7 as “banknotes and coins that are valid forms of payment and that must
8 be accepted if offered in payment of monetary debts.”

9 **SECTION 3.** The U.S. Mint, U.S. Treasury, and the Federal Reserve Bank will oversee
10 enacting this bill by ending dollar bill production.

11 A. The Federal Reserve Bank will ensure that production will promptly
12 cease within a week of the implementation of this bill.

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

*Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Young Women’s Leadership Academy at
Booker T. Washington.*

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the students of our school and its subject matter is approved by school administration.*



A Resolution to Increase Nuclear Power to Mitigate Climate Change Caused by Fossil Fuel Use

1 **WHEREAS,** The World Health Organization (WHO) quantifies climate change as the
2 single largest threat facing humanity – exacerbated by increasing electric
3 demand; and,

4 **WHEREAS,** The WHO reports in 2018, air pollution from fossil fuels caused \$2.9 -
5 \$2.09 trillion in health and economic costs, while NASA explains 420,000
6 –7.04 million deaths could be prevented by midcentury through
7 expansion of nuclear energy over fossil fuels; and

8 **WHEREAS,** The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has stated that at least
9 80% of the world’s electricity must be low carbon by 2050 in order to
10 keep global warming within 2 °C of pre-industrial levels; now, therefore,
11 be it

12 **RESOLVED,** That the UIL Congress here assembled make the following
13 recommendation that the United States federal government increase
14 oversight and resources to expand construction projects, funding, and
15 research for nuclear energy.

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Big Spring High School.

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A Resolution to Adopt Universal Healthcare to Increase Access to Healthcare



A Bill to Create Youth Programs to Prevent Juvenile Delinquency

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

2 **SECTION 1.** This bill will create beneficiary programs for troubled or at-risk youth in
3 an effort to reduce and prevent delinquency.

4 **SECTION 2.** This bill will create programs including after school programs, activities,
5 mental health resources, college or career readiness and rehabilitative
6 programs. These programs will be designed to give American youth the
7 opportunity to achieve long term success.

8 **SECTION 3.** These programs will be funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and
9 Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

10 A. OJJDP will earmark 2 million dollars each year to be awarded in
11 discretionary grants through a competitive process to states, units of local
12 government, tribal jurisdictions, and organizations to administer a variety of
13 juvenile justice and child protection programs.

14 **SECTION 4.** This bill will be enacted on January 1, 2025.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Grady High School.

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A Bill to Introduce a New Tax Bracket to Combat National Debt

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

2 **SECTION 1.** All Individuals with an income above or equal to 600k a year shall
3 enter a new tax bracket with a 50% tax rate that shall be redistributed to
4 government budgets as a means to combat debt. The redistributed funds
5 will be transferred equally to budgets which are currently deficit
6 spending.

7 **SECTION 2.** Tax Bracket is defined as a range of incomes taxed at a given rate.

8 Deficit Spending is defined as the amount by which spending.

9 exceeds revenue over a particular period of time.

10 **SECTION 3.** The IRS will be charged with the enforcement of this legislation.

11 **SECTION 4.** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2025.

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

Introduced for UIL Congressional Debate by Stanton High School.

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