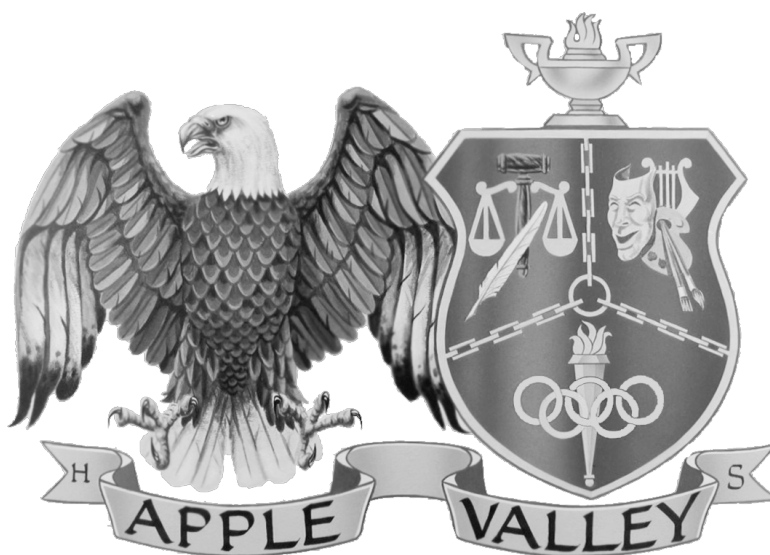


**2017 MINNEAPPLE  
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE**

**PRELIMINARY SESSIONS  
LEGISLATIVE DOCKET**



**CURATED BY ADAM J. JACOBI**

**[WWW.CONGRESSIONALDEBATE.ORG](http://WWW.CONGRESSIONALDEBATE.ORG)**

# 2017 MINNEAPPLE CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE



**Rules/Procedures:** The MinneApple uses NSDA rules for speeches and procedure. Students set agendas upon a majority vote in each preliminary chamber based on the items in the docket released on the tournament website. Legislation debated during a previous session may not continue into subsequent sessions (so, if there were three speeches on bill X toward the end of session 1, session 2 must start with bill Y).

**Advancement and Finals:** Students advance to elimination rounds based on cumulative rank totals from judges, using NSDA tournament procedures for tabulating ranks. We will break about one-third of the preliminary session field to semifinal chambers of 9-12 students, and a final session chamber of 10-14 students. **Semifinal and final round legislation** information will be released October 20. Direct questioning will be used for the final round.

## **Awards/TOC Bid Level:**

The top six students will receive MinneApple apple awards, the remaining final session participants will receive an award. The top PO from each preliminary chamber -- as well as the final session PO -- will receive a gavel. New in 2017: **all final round contestants** earn one bid/leg to the University of Kentucky Tournament of Champions.

## **Student Leadership Award:**

While student vote will not determine the outcome of the tournament, a special award modeled after the NSDA National Tournament "Leadership Bowl" will be conferred upon one final round debater who earns preferential ranking by his/her peers, in addition to final round observers. All observer ballots will be tallied at one-quarter strength of contestant ballots.

**Schedule:** Congressional Debate will be hosted at Falcon Ridge Middle School for all rounds. The break to semifinals will depend on the total number of entries. **Registration for each division will take place at Apple Valley HS.** Shuttle buses will be available to take competitors to Falcon Ridge Middle School Friday after the opening announcements (see schedule). Judges can report directly to each site but will not be allowed in the Middle School until 3:15pm. *Remember, all judges are obligated for the final session, regardless of whether their student(s) advance(s).*

## **FRIDAY**

The building opens at 3:00pm for debaters and judges.  
2:30 Announcements - Apple Valley High School  
3:00 Shuttles Depart for Falcon Ridge Middle School  
3:45 - 5:45 Session 1  
5:45 - 6:30 Dinner  
6:30 - 8:30 Session 2

## **SATURDAY**

The building will open at 7:00 am  
8:00-10:00 Session 3  
10:45-12:30 Semifinal Session  
12:30-1:00 Lunch  
1:00-2:40 Final Session  
3:15 Awards Ceremony at Falcon Ridge MS

**Twitter:** Follow [@CongressDebate](https://twitter.com/CongressDebate) for tournament updates.

## **A Bill to End Plan Colombia**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1.** The United States government shall cut all funding for the Plan Colombia program.
- SECTION 2.** Plan Colombia is a US military aid program to Colombia to fight drug cartels and insurgent groups
- SECTION 3.** This bill will be overseen by the US Department of State.
- SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented immediately.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
- Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hawken School.

## **A Bill to Raise the Excise Tax on Gasoline to Save the Highway Trust Fund**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Excise Taxes on gasoline are increased to 25 cents per gallon for gasoline and 30 cents per gallon on diesel fuel.

**SECTION 2.** All funds collected by the stated tax shall go to the Highway Trust Fund

**SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service will now collect excise taxes at the previously stated rate. The Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration shall oversee the allocation of funds from the Highway Trust Fund.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will be implemented immediately upon passage

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hawken School

## **A Bill to Administer Economic Sanctions on Venezuela to Promote Human Rights**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States will now cease all economic trade with the nation of Venezuela.

**SECTION 2.** Economic trade includes, but is not limited to, the sectors of petroleum, manufacturing, and food products.

**SECTION 3.** The Office of Foreign Assets Control, the Bureau of Industry and Security, and USAID will oversee the implementation of this legislation. If the economic sanctions are found to negatively impact the people of Venezuela, USAID will send \$25 million in food and health assistance to the people of Venezuela.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will be implemented one week after passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Hawken School

## A Resolution to Ban Bump-Stocks to Alleviate Preventable Gun Violence

1   **WHEREAS,**   Bump-stocks are modifications that allow semi-automatic weapons to fire  
2                   at higher rates that stimulate automatic weapons, which are illegal and  
3                   far more difficult to obtain; and

4   **WHEREAS,**   This is creating societal danger within the US as it it impacts more than 80  
5                   Americans killed in gun suicides and homicides every single day; and

6   **WHEREAS,**   Automatic weapons have been illegal in the United States for more than  
7                   30 years, bump-stocks provide a loophole to this restriction. Congress  
8                   needs to act to save the Americans who are also killed every day with  
9                   guns, not just the victims of rate and horrific mass shootings; and

10   **WHEREAS,**   Because the only reason to fire so many rounds so fast is to kill large  
11                   numbers of people, no one should be able to easily and cheaply modify  
12                   legal weapons into what are essentially machine guns; now, therefore, be  
13                   it

14   **RESOLVED,**   That the Congress here assembled ban bump-stocks to help end  
15                   preventable gun violence.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.*

## A Resolution to Sanction Myanmar to Reduce Violence to the Rohingyas

1   **WHEREAS,**   The Rohingya Muslims are being actively persecuted in Myanmar and the  
2                   government is refusing to recognize them as one of the country’s ethnic  
3                   groups; and

4   **WHEREAS,**   1.1 million Rohingya Muslims are currently living in southeast Asia and  
5                   over 500,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled to Bangladesh and around  
6                   1,000 may have been killed in Myanmar, meaning that a continuation of  
7                   the persecution may lead to more deaths and add to the immigration  
8                   crisis; and

9   **WHEREAS,**   the Rohingya rights to practice their own religion, study, travel and marry  
10                  have been restricted. They cannot get a citizenship as a Rohingya  
11                  Muslims, which makes it so they cannot enter certain professions such as  
12                  law or medicine; therefore, be it

13 **RESOLVED,**   That the Congress here assembled sanction Myanmar to reduce violence  
14                   to the Rohingyas.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.*

## A Resolution to Replace Nuclear Fission with Nuclear Fusion to Have a Cleaner and Stronger Energy Source

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Nuclear Fission poses a huge risk: long-lived radioactive nuclear waste,  
2 difficulty to control it, harmful health effects on the population, serious  
3 nuclear accidents and overall lack of safety; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** When over 30 countries rely on the use of nuclear power, they must  
5 make sure they are using the most efficient and less detrimental source.  
6 Because countries need a better alternative source than fossil fuels,  
7 nuclear fission is too risky. Nuclear fusion, on the other hand, produces  
8 four times as much energy as fission, is easier to control and stop, has  
9 shorter-lived nuclear waste, and is much safer; and
- 10 **WHEREAS,** Chernobyl and Fukushima have examples in the past of where these  
11 nuclear fission plants caused immediate deaths and long-term troubles  
12 where people are still facing those consequences today with infinite  
13 cases of cancer. Nuclear fusion serves as a safer, cleaner and more  
14 efficient tool, producing more power, and lasting longer.
- 15 **WHEREAS,** Nuclear fusion does produce radioactive waste, which is the one of the  
16 biggest problems. However, in contrast to fission produced wastes, they  
17 are short lived and decay to background levels in a very short time; and
- 18 **WHEREAS,** Nuclear fusion will replace fission by 2028; now, therefore, be it
- 19 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled replace nuclear fusion with nuclear  
20 fission for a more efficient and better source.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.*



## A Resolution to Increase THAAD missile defense in Japan to protect it from North Korea

1 **WHEREAS,** The increasing threat of nuclear war is impending upon us now more  
2 than ever; and we must take action to defend our ally.

3 **WHEREAS,** The THAAD system is one of our best defenses against nuclear weapons  
4 and increasing defense is our best option; and it will be used to defend  
5 our ally Japan.

6 **WHEREAS,** South Korea, Japan, and Guam have all been targeted by North Korea and  
7 it's our moral duty to protect the ally with a bigger population.

8 **WHEREAS,** The THAAD system is unreliable and adding more increases our chance of  
9 hitting the warheads before they strike our ally. Our allies populated  
10 areas also have a higher chance of survival.

11 **WHEREAS,** Japan is one of our strongest allies and we need to make sure they are  
12 well protected because of their strategic position against our enemies  
13 and our history; now, therefore, be it

14 **RESOLVED,** Increase missile defense in Japan to protect our ally.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Northland Christian School.*

## A Bill to Rev up Revenue

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will reduce the federal income tax rate for individuals  
3 and business by 5%. Furthermore, the United States tax code will be  
4 changed so that no individual or business can take deductions that result  
5 in their effective tax rate being more than 10% below their federal  
6 income tax rate.

7 **SECTION 2.** “Effective tax rate” will be defined as the total percent of taxable income  
8 that is paid to the government in axes. “Federal Income Tax Rate” will be  
9 defined as the tax rate that is assigned to the income bracket that the  
10 individual or business falls into.

11 **SECTION 3.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will be tasked with the  
12 implementation of this legislation.

13 A) The IRS will change current tax forms so that these forms include an  
14 effective tax rate box.

15 B) The IRS will publish an annual report that will study the effects of this  
16 legislation on the United States economy as well as the effect on the  
17 federal budget.

18 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be enacted for fiscal year 2020.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by William Naviaux.*

## A Resolution to Amend the Constitution by Changing the 13th Amendment

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:  
**RESOLVED**, By two-thirds of the 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 --

**SECTION 1:** The thirteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States shall strike the phrase, “except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.” It will now read, “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.”

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eagan High School.*

## A Bill to Require Body Cameras on All Law Enforcers

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** All law enforcers in the United States of America will hereby be required to have recording cameras on their persona at all times. Any law enforcers who fail to abide by these requirements will be excused from any and all duties through governmental law enforcement.

**SECTION 2.** “Law Enforcers” shall be defined as any body of government employee trained in methods of law enforcement and crime prevention and detection and authorized to maintain the peace, safety, and law over the community.

“Body Cameras” shall be defined as a live and functioning camera with audio capturing capabilities.

All footage will only be used in a court of law.

**SECTION 3.** The US Department of Justice will be responsible for making this change and ensuring businesses who sell these cameras comply

The US Department of Justice will be responsible for funding.

**SECTION 4.** This bill will be put into action one year after passing.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eagan High School*

## A Bill to Allow Cameras in Federal Courts

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** Any member in a federal courtroom in the United States shall be allowed to use a camera

**SECTION 2.** A camera will be defined as a device for recording visual images in the form of photographs, film, or video signals

**SECTION 3.** The US Department of Justice will be responsible for making this change and ensuring anyone in a federal court is allowed to bring a camera and record what they wish

**SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect be put into effect on January 1, 2020

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Eagan High School*

## A Bill to Provide Assistance to the Venezuelan Democratic Unity Roundtable

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States Congress here assembled shall sanction all trade with  
3 the Venezuelan government and allocate 1.5 Billion dollars to the  
4 Democratic Unity Roundtable.

5 **SECTION 2.** The Democratic Unity Roundtable shall receive all funding by fiscal year  
6 2019.

7 **SECTION 3.** The United States International Trade Commission and Department of  
8 State will jointly oversee the complete sanction of Venezuelan Trade. The  
9 U.S. Department of State shall ensure that the funds reach the  
10 Democratic Unity Roundtable.

11 A. If necessary, the United States shall call upon allies in order to  
12 prevent Venezuelan obstruction of allocated funds.

13 **SECTION 4.** This Bill shall take effect December 1, 2017.

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

15

16

17 *Respectfully Submitted,*

18 *Braden Johnson Chanhassen High School*

# A Bill to Amend the Constitution to Abolish the Electoral College and Provide for the Election of the President and Vice President Through Instant-Runoff Voting

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

## ARTICLE --

8           **SECTION 1:**    The President and Vice President shall be elected jointly by  
9           the vote of the citizens of these United States in accordance  
10          with the instant-runoff method of elections.

12          **SECTION 2:**   Instant-runoff voting shall be defined as a system in which  
13          all candidates are ranked numerically by each voter, and,  
14          should any candidate fail to gain over fifty percent of all first  
15          choice votes as indicated by (1), a runoff shall be held in  
16          which the candidate with the fewest votes is removed and  
17          their votes reallocated to the next ranked candidate of each  
18          voter. This process shall continue until one candidate has  
19          reached a majority.

21          **SECTION 3:**   The ballot for the President and Vice President shall be  
22          separate from the ballot for all other state and federal  
23          officials.

24          **SECTION 4:**   This amendment shall take effect on the date of the  
25          November 5, 2024.

26          **SECTION 5:**   The Federal Election Commission shall have power to  
            enforce this article by appropriate regulation.

## The BRIDGE Act of 2017

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The full text of the Bar Removal of Individuals who Dream and Grow our  
3 Economy Act (BRIDGE Act S.3542) is hereby enacted to protect DACA  
4 recipients from deportation.

5 **SECTION 2.** "DACA recipient" shall be defined as an alien who is deferred in action  
6 status on the date of the enactment of this section pursuant to the  
7 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ("DACA") Program.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Homeland Security shall be responsible for executing  
9 this legislation.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation shall be enacted upon its passing.

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

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Rep. Chris Raymond.*



## A Bill to Discourage Private Prisons

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1           **SECTION 1.**    The BOP (Bureau of Prisons) shall refrain from building any  
2           new prisons in states which contract with private or for-profit prisons. All  
3           current construction projects in affected states shall cease immediately.  
4           The BOP shall also relocate all federal prisoners from states which have  
5           such contracts by January 1, 2020.

6           **SECTION 2.**    Private or for-profit prisons are defined as private or publicly  
7           held corporations which contract with state and local governments to  
8           handle corrections services. They may own or lease the buildings in which  
9           the prisoners are housed.

10          **SECTION 3.**    The Bureau of Prisons shall oversee the terms of this  
11          legislation. The Director of the BOP shall determine which states are not in  
12          compliance.

13          **SECTION 4.**    This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dougherty Valley High School

## A Bill to Reallocate Funding for Military Operations

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall appropriate \$500 million for certain military
- 2 sub- organizations, specifically cybersecurity operations.
- 3 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Defense shall develop and execute a plan to phase out
- 4 the use of third-party defense contractors.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Defense shall oversee the enforcement of
- 6 this bill.
- 7 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect at the outset of the 2018 fiscal year.
- 8 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dougherty Valley High School

## A Bill to Support Kurdistan

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1     **SECTION 1.** One billion US dollars will be allocated to the procurement and distribution  
2     of military aid to Kurdish Peshmerga forces in Iraq for the sole purpose of combating the  
3     Islamic State terrorist group.

4             **A.** Five thousand special forces troops will be sent to the Kurdistan region in Iraq in  
5             order to ensure the effective distribution of the military aid, as well as to train  
6             Kurdish Peshmerga forces in the effective usage of the equipment given as military  
7             aid.

8     **SECTION 2.** “Military aid” shall be defined as ordnance, military equipment, military  
9     vehicles, and firearms.

10            **SECTION 3.** The United States Department of Defense shall oversee the  
11            implementation of this legislation.

12            **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect immediately upon passage.  
13

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dougherty Valley High School.

## A Resolution to Accept Ethnic Uighur Refugees

- 1   **WHEREAS,** The People’s Republic of China is persecuting members of the Uighur  
2                   minority group; and
- 3   **WHEREAS,** Xinjiang is home to millions of Uighurs, dozens of whom have been killed by  
4                   government forces; and
- 5   **WHEREAS,** These individuals often have no options besides joining extremist, militant  
6                   organizations; and
- 7   **WHEREAS,** The United States has the resources to take these individuals in, providing  
8                   shelter and welfare; and
- 9   **WHEREAS,** Taking in Uighurs would provide a powerful bargaining chip for dealing with  
10                  the Chinese government; now, therefore, be it
- 11 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled shall attempt to accept 5,000 asylum  
12                  seekers of Uighur descent from Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region in the  
13                  People’s Republic of China.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Dougherty Valley High School

**A RESOLUTION TO BRING AN END TO THE PERSECUTION OF THE ROHINGYA PEOPLE**

- 1   **WHEREAS,**    The Burmese government denies the Rohingya people citizenship, rendering  
2                    them stateless; and
- 3   **WHEREAS,**    The UN has described the human rights violations in Myanmar against the  
4                    Rohingya people as crimes against humanity; and
- 5   **WHEREAS,**    Ultra-nationalist Burmese buddhists are participating in illegal and systemic  
6                    religious discrimination against the Rohingyas; and
- 7   **WHEREAS,**    Extrajudicial killings, gang rapes, arsons, and other brutalities have become  
8                    commonplace offenses against the Rohingyas; and
- 9   **WHEREAS,**    There exists a substantial, international refugee crisis of Rohingya people fleeing  
10                  from Myanmar; thus
- 11 **RESOLVED,**   That the Student Congress here assembled make the following recommendation  
12                  to the UN to pursue heavy sanctions against Myanmar.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cupertino High School*