

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 1

A Bill to Eliminate Luxury Tax on Feminine Hygiene Products

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Feminine hygiene products will be exempted from any and all sales and use taxes, or any other consumption-based tax, to eliminate unnecessary costs and promote equality.

SECTION 2. Feminine hygiene products are defined as menstrual tampons and pads categorized as such by the FDA.

SECTION 3. Local, state, and federal governments will oversee the enforcement of the bill along with the specific enforcement mechanism.

A. No state or local unit of government, nor the Federal government, may adopt or enforce a consumption tax or sales tax on feminine hygiene products.

B. States in noncompliance with this bill will be forced to pay twice the amount collected in feminine product tax to the federal government.

C. Fines will be collected every fiscal year for five years. If the violation has not been fixed within that five-year period, then the fine will triple the original amount until the violation is permanently fixed.

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect immediately but states and local units of government will have one year from passage to implement before fines would be applicable.

SECTION 5. All legal provisions in conflict with this legislation are hereby severed and declared null and void.

Introduced by Wayland Union High School

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 2

A Resolution to Expand Gender Designation Change Policy

WHEREAS, in 2015, one-third of surveyed transgender people said they were harassed, assaulted, or denied service because their ID did not match their “gender presentation”; and

WHEREAS, Oregon, the District of Columbia, California, and New York have or are in the process of expanding gender designations allowed on state issued identification; and

WHEREAS, at least eight other countries including Pakistan have recognized more than two genders on passports or national ID cards; and

WHEREAS, the procedure for gender designation changes is already established by the Department of State; and WHEREAS, this would serve as a model for international recognition of non-binary individuals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the United States expand gender designation on passports to include “X” as an option in addition to “M” and “F”

Submitted for debate by the National Speech and Debate Association, August docket.

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 3

A Bill to Expand Gigabit Access

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1. Funds in the amount of \$20 billion shall be made available to companies for the purpose of providing high speed broadband internet to areas designated by the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission as an “Area of Need.”
- SECTION 2. An “Area of Need” shall be considered any area which meets the following criteria:
- A. The median income of the area is no more than 130% of the federal poverty level, and
 - B. Less than half of the households in the area currently have access to, or subscribe to, internet service with consistent speeds of 100 Mbps or greater.
- SECTION 3. The FCC shall oversee implementation and funding of this legislation. The FCC shall also set procedures by which contractors shall apply for funding and standards to determine whether a company has met requirements for providing service to an “Area of Need.” Funding shall be provided in the 2019 FCC budget through the standard appropriations process.
- SECTION 4. This shall take effect upon passage. The Chairman shall make the designation of “Areas of Need” no later than October 1, 2018.
- SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Submitted for debate by the National Speech and Debate Association, September docket.

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 4

A Resolution to Permit Japan to Defend Itself

WHEREAS, since World War II, Japan's military capabilities have been limited to defensive forces; and

WHEREAS, the Japanese Self-Defense Forces are currently supplemented and supported by United States Military personnel; and

WHEREAS, there has been growing tension between United States and Japanese military forces, particularly with regard to Okinawa; and

WHEREAS, the threat to Japan posed by North Korea has been increasing; and

WHEREAS, the recent North Korean missile test violated Japan's air space; and

WHEREAS, Chinese claims in the South China Sea infringe on the territorial rights of Japan and the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, the United States is committed to defend Japan against threats; and

WHEREAS, United States military action in defense of Japan will contribute to destabilization of the region; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Congress here assembled that the United States shall support Japan's efforts to build an offensive military force to protect itself against all threats, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Congress shall support a change to Japan's constitution to allow the establishment of a permanent Japanese military

Submitted for debate by the National Speech and Debate Association, September docket.

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 5

A Bill to Pass the Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act (H.R. 1439) of the 114th Congress is hereby reintroduced.

SECTION 2. The Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act:

A. Provides workers up to 12 weeks of partial income when they take time off for their serious health condition (including pregnancy and childbirth) or for the serious health condition of a child, parent, spouse, or domestic partner,

B. Is funded by a payroll tax of .2%

C. Creates a new office of Paid Family and Medical Leave in the Social Security Administration.

SECTION 3. The Social Security Administration shall oversee the enforcement of this legislation.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

Introduced by the Valley Forge District, NSDA National Tournament

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 6

A Resolution to Recognize Taiwan

- WHEREAS** Refusal to recognize Taiwan's autonomy prevents sustainable and peaceful diplomatic solutions between Taiwan and People's Republic of China; and
- WHEREAS** Taiwan's existing constitutional framework makes the eventual rejection of a One-China-policy inevitable; and
- WHEREAS** The United States should not condone the absorption of one state by another; and
- WHEREAS** Committing to a definitive stance regarding Taiwan's autonomy would affirm the United States' stable power in the Asia-Pacific region; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation to recognize Taiwan as an autonomous nation.

Introduced by the Arizona District, NSDA National Tournament

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 7

A Bill to Ensure Consumer Data Security

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

- SECTION 1** Every company that records or stores any consumer data will be required to satisfy a bare minimum level of encryption and follow proper data breach notification procedures.
- SECTION 2.** "Bare minimum level of encryption" will be defined as a level of encryption that protects consumer data, the specific types or levels of encryption will be determined by the Department of Homeland Security on a case by case basis. "Proper data breach notifications" will be defined as notifying the consumer immediately after any data is in any way transferred off a company server without prior knowledge and written consent from the consumer.
- SECTION 3.** The DHS will oversee implantation of this bill and will create encryption standards for companies to follow.
- A. \$100,000 of the DHS budget shall be made available to companies that do not have adequate funds or infrastructure for this encryption. Usage of these funds will be left to the DHS.
- B. Failure to do so will result in a \$500,000 fine.
- SECTION 4.** The standards for data breach notification will go into effect immediately, and the encryption standards will come into effect 6 months after passage.
- SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 8

A Resolution to Form a Kurdish State

- WHEREAS** the Kurdish people have a distinct culture; and
- WHEREAS** this group has faced countless human rights abuses; and
- WHEREAS** Kurds have been allies in our Middle East policy; and
- WHEREAS** a Kurdish state would usher in regional stability; and
- WHEREAS** Kurds have sought independence for years; and
- WHEREAS** a Kurdish state would serve US strategic interests; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States will use diplomatic and economic means to promote the formation of a state separate from Iraq, Syria, and Turkey for the Kurdish peoples, known as Kurdistan.

Introduced for national debate by the NSDA Sunflower District

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 9

The Justice in Pharmaceutical Pricing Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED, THAT:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of Health and Human Services has the power to negotiate drug prices with pharmaceutical companies.

SECTION 2. This legislation overrides subsection (6)(B) of section 222 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act (MMA), which prohibits the Secretary of State from negotiating drug prices.

A. Brand name and generic drug makers must offer Medicaid and Medicare at a lower price, if their drug prices rise by more than double the national inflation rate.

B. In the event that such a price increase is not avoidable by the company, the company may file a request with the Department of Health and Human Services to waive this requirement. Unavoidable price increases include:

(1) The manufacturing costs of the drug has increased significantly.

(2) The company cannot make a profit on the drug at the current price.

(3) The company is close to bankruptcy, and must increase the price of the drug to pay for company debts.

SECTION 3. As outlined above, the Department of Health and Human Services is charged with the implementation of this legislation. 16

SECTION 4. This legislation will come into effect on January 8th, 2018.

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

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 10

A Resolution to Increase Deployment of a Missile Defense System in the Yellow Sea

- 1 **WHEREAS**, North Korea is developing nuclear weapons; and
- 2 **WHEREAS**, North Korea has aggressively pursued the capability to launch a nuclear
3 strike on other nations and has threatened said nations multiple times; and
- 4 **WHEREAS**, This has led to regional tensions and uncertainty and increased the risk of
5 nuclear war; and
- 6 **WHEREAS**, US allies are threatened by this state of affairs, and the US has an
7 obligation to protect them; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, The US has the capability to protect the region with a Missile Defense
9 System placed in the Yellow Sea; now, therefore, be it
- 10 **RESOLVED**, That the Congress here assembled make the following recommendation that
11 the US military ought to increase the deployment of missile defense system
12 in the Yellow Sea.
- 13

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Garland High School.

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 11

A Resolution to Increase Charter School Accountability

1 **WHEREAS,** The charter school concept was created to utilize innovative practices in
2 order to maximize student achievement and to provide an alternative to
3 failing public schools for underserved populations; and

4 **WHEREAS,** A lack of consistent regulation has allowed the development of a charter
5 school private industry that puts profit above student achievement; and

6 **WHEREAS,** Charter schools often divert public education funds to schools run by
7 private industry with little transparency or accountability; and

8 **WHEREAS,** Fraud in the charter school industry has been widespread across the
9 country; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Many of these publicly funded schools have failed to improve academic
11 performance; and

12 **WHEREAS,** Many of these schools fail to address the needs of special needs
13 populations and/or refuse admission for these students; and

14 **WHEREAS,** Changes in federal education policy are expected to substantially expand
15 the use of charter schools across the nation; now, therefore, be it

16 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that federal guidelines should be
17 established for the regulation of charter schools which include standards
18 for academic performance, equal opportunity, non-discrimination, student
19 safety, financial transparency, and financial solvency.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by James E. Taylor High School.

OKEMOS INVITATIONAL 2017

Congressional Debate Docket

Item 12

A Bill to Establish Fair Legislative Districts

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Congressional districts shall be drawn exclusively by independent
3 redistricting commissions every ten years for federal elections.

4 **SECTION 2.** Independent Redistricting Commissions shall be defined as nonpartisan
5 groups of appointed officials that determine the boundaries of
6 Congressional districts. A Commission shall be considered to be
7 nonpartisan if under law the agency is required to provide services on a
8 nonpartisan basis, is required to maintain impartiality, and is independent
9 from legislative dealings during the redistricting period.

10 **SECTION 3.** State legislatures will appoint the members of said Commissions.

11 A. Four members of the majority party, four members of the minority
12 party, and one independent shall be appointed for the sole purpose of
13 drawing fair lines.

14 B. The Commission will publicly reveal Census information used in the
15 process.

16 C. The Department of Justice will oversee compliance and accountability
17 of districts.

18 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall take effect immediately upon passage and will apply to any
19 Congressional election after the 2020 Census.

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

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Seven Lakes High School.