



Tarheel East District Tournament
2018 Congressional Debate Qualifier
Legislation Packet

Saturday, February 24, 2018

Massey Hill Classical HS
Fayetteville, NC

Running the District Congressional Debate Tournament

General Rules and Instructions

1. **Legislation.** Chapters are encouraged to submit at least two bills or resolutions no later than 24 days prior to the scheduled Congress. All legislation presented shall meet Association formatting criteria (see rules section), and must be the original work of students from the submitting school. Non-original work shall not be considered for the agenda. It shall be the affirmative duty of each coach and each student entered in the District Congress to determine absolutely that material submitted is original.
 - A. The District Committee shall attempt to accept at least one bill or resolution from each school submitting bills or resolutions, provided the legislation is submitted by the deadline.
 - B. At least 14 days before the official Congress date, the district chair should send to each participating school a copy of not fewer than six bills or resolutions, which shall constitute the agenda for each chamber per day.
 - C. If the District Committee allows for a suspension of the rules, bills or resolutions not submitted may be considered only after the district's officially established legislative agenda has been considered (debated).
 - D. A District Committee may deny bills or resolutions from being offered from the floor at the District Congress.
2. **Time Allowance and Sessions.** Districts should allow seven hours for a one-day tournament to include two sessions, breaks, and meals. For a two-day tournament, ten hours to allow for at three sessions (one of which may be finals), breaks, and meals. A minimum of two sessions of debate must be held, one of which may be the final chamber. Each session is three hours and includes:
 - A. Election of a presiding officer
 - B. New seating chart (necessary accommodations for students with special needs may be made)
 - C. Resetting of precedence/recency
 - D. New legislation that has not been debated in a previous session at that tournament
3. **District Congress Officials**
 - A. The District Committee will determine the manner in which judges are procured: whether from participating schools, or from the community (such as local legislators, legislative staff, attorneys, law students, civic organization members, chamber of commerce professionals, etc.). **Unaffiliated judges and parliamentarians are required.** College-age judges are permitted at the discretion of the District Committee. Current high school students may not judge any portion of the district tournament series.
 - B. A parliamentarian supervises each chamber and remains throughout all preliminary sessions: to call roll and ensure students are in assigned seats, to monitor timekeeping by the presiding officer, to intervene in case a student officer becomes too deeply involved in parliamentary rules, to correct gross errors in procedure, to record session start and end times, and to record actions taken. Ordinarily one should remain in the background, but step forward firmly when one's presence is required. The purpose of Congress is to debate legislation; the parliamentarian ensures this is done. *The parliamentarian is also considered a judge in the chamber and will rank all participants at the end of the session (or in the case of a multiple session preliminary round, at the end of the last session).*
 - C. Scorers: In addition to the parliamentarian, at least two scorers must be used for each session in each chamber, **and those scorers must not be affiliated with students in that chamber.** The District Committee can decide to assign different judges each session, or keep the same judges, as well as whether to use one scorer in preliminary sessions preceding a final session (which must have at least three, including a parliamentarian).
 - 1) Assign up to eight (8) points per speech, considering answers to questions in the awarding of points.
 - 2) Presiding officers shall receive not less than four (4) or more than eight (8) speaker credit points for each full hour of presiding (fractions of an hour are not scored).

- 3) Points – No more than 40 points may be awarded a day per student. A total of the average of the scorer panel’s points for each speech and complete hour of presiding shall be reported by the chair as merit points for the tournament, but points no longer have bearing on advancement.
 - D. At the end of each scorer’s and parliamentarian’s judging commitment, they rank their **eight most preferred legislators** (which may include presiding officers); the parliamentarian also ranks all students in the chamber.
 - E. All judge/parliamentarian ballots must be checked carefully by tournament officials to ensure eight names were listed, and that names were not repeated.
4. **Protests.** Judges assigned by the tournament committee shall be final unless protested before the tournament has begun. If a judge(s) is added to the judge pool after the tournament has begun, any protests must be made prior to the session in which that individual(s) is assigned to judge. If protested, the District Committee shall hear the protest, and its decision shall be final. Members of the District Committee involved in the protest should recuse themselves.
 5. **Setting up the District Congress.**
 - A. Rooms must allow for all contestants to be seated appropriately as to be seen by the presiding officer, with no barriers between.
 - B. Seating charts should be prepared in advance based on the entry forms received from the schools. Assign alternate students to the seats assigned to the non-attending delegates.
 - C. The district chair and/or designated District Congress Director should create a time schedule to facilitate the minimum number of floor debate hours enumerated above in item 2.
 - D. Obtain gavels. The national office will send National Qualifier Plaques for the District Congress. Additional Congress plaques may be ordered from the national office or online at <http://store.speechanddebate.org>.
 - E. Obtain needed materials/supplies:
 - 1) Seating charts: a minimum of five (presiding officer, parliamentarian, and scorers) for each chamber on which the names of legislators are written in the pattern of seating as one faces the assembly
 - 2) Timers or stopwatches
 - 3) Ballots for voting (generate an official form or have slips of paper)
 - 4) Table of Parliamentary Motions, amendment forms, and recency charts
 6. **Disqualification.** In the case of a disqualification of a contestant in a district tournament series event, all previous scores, ranks, and decisions of other contestants stand and no revision of past sessions will take place.
 7. **Harassment.** Harassment in any National Speech & Debate Association event will not be permitted.
 8. **Scouting.** Scouting is discouraged at the District Congress tournament.
 9. **Petitions.** Protests of District Committee decisions may be filed, *in writing*, with the Executive Director who shall issue a decision. The director’s decision may be appealed to the Board of Directors, whose decision shall be final.

Assigning Students to Chambers

1. All participating schools can choose to enter zero, one, or two students to participate in the Senate. The request of specific students to be entered in the Senate shall be honored. A minimum of eight (8) schools must participate in the Senate for a District Senate to be held.
2. When entering students in the House, schools shall determine the grouping of individual students from their schools, as long as the number of entries in each house is approximately equal (i.e., three houses 3-3-2 or two houses 4-3). Placement of a school's groups into specific chambers shall be done by blind draw, but the tournament director may adjust placement of individual school groupings, so that chambers are approximately equal in size.
3. A chamber shall seat no more than 29 contestants.
4. Chamber assignments shall be made at registration and are final. At registration, students who are members and have a star next to their name indicating they are a registered member, may be seated in the chamber replacing an absent student from the same school.

- No changes in the District Congress entry or in those seated in the Congress may be made once a chamber has convened.

Presiding Officers

Presiding officers will be nominated from the floor with either a parliamentarian and/or District Committee member/coach to conduct the election. A District Committee may appoint adult presiding officers with no affiliation to any participants.

Note the new rule that before precedence is established, the presiding officer should recognize speakers fairly and consistently. They may not link recognition of speakers to previous recognition of students asking questions, moving motions, or longest standing (standing time).

National Qualification

A. Senate

A district with eight (8) or more schools represented in the Senate will qualify two (2) senators to the National Senate. If fewer than eight (8) schools are represented, **no Senate may be seated**; however, a district may still conduct a House with sufficient entries. When 31 or more students are entered, two Senates, or a final session Senate, shall be conducted to determine national qualifiers.

B. House of Representatives

Use this table to determine number of chambers, final session requirements, and advancement to the National Congress (note that the number of students in the far left column is based on *participation*—speaking or presiding at least once):

<i>Participating Students (must give a speech or preside)</i>	<i>Preliminary Chambers (if no final session, one student per chamber qualifies to the National Congress)</i>	<i>Students who Advance to Final Session from each Preliminary Chamber</i>	<i>Students Advancing to the National Congress from the Final Session</i>
16-29	1	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
30-60	2	8-12	2
61-90	3	6-8	3
91 or more	4	4-6	4

A chamber shall seat no more than 30 Congress contestants. A district may have no Senate or one or two Senate Chambers and up to four House Chambers as determined by the above formula. Non-qualifying (Non-District Congress) Houses may also be held for regular merit points. No more than four (4) students from a district may qualify to the national House of Representatives.

Contestants qualify to the national House of Representatives according to the number of *actual participants* in each chamber (number of students giving at least one speech). No district shall state or imply that if a student qualified in a previous event, that student may not enter the District Congress or imply that a student previously qualified cannot qualify for the National Congress.

C. Tabulating Ranks

To tabulate Congressional Debate, the district must use either Tabroom.com, The Joy of Tournaments, or the tabulation spreadsheets available with other district forms online. The data files must be sent to the national office. (Note: In 2018-2019, all NSDA districts will be required to use either Tabroom.com or The Joy of Tournaments for the registration and tabulation of their NSDA district tournament.)

Scorers' ranks are inputted, with **non-ranked** students considered as **ranks of 9 (Tabroom.com and The Joy of Tournaments does this automatically, but 9s must be entered manually on the spreadsheet)**. The parliamentarian's ranks, up to eighth are inputted as well, with **subsequent ranks** considered as **ranks of 9**.

Each individual chamber is tabulated independent of the others. Legislators with the lowest cumulative rank total advance to the next level of competition, employing the following tiebreakers:

1. Judges' preference (or students' preference for the student rank option, below)
2. Reciprocal fractions
3. Adjusted cumulative rank total after dropping highest and lowest ranks
4. Reciprocals of adjusted cumulative rank total
5. Rank by the parliamentarian

D. Student Rank Option

Districts have the **option** of allowing **student cumulative rank totals** (not to be confused with student preferential redistribution of ballots) to determine placement. If a district exercises this option, it must do so for *all chambers* (inclusive of both Senate and House). After judge cumulative rank totals have **determined the top eight students in the chamber**, students shall write their rank order of preference next to each student's name. Each individual rank for all participating students will be inputted, and totaled to determine the lowest cumulative rank total. **Again, the district must use Tabroom.com, The Joy of Tournaments, or the student rank tabulation spreadsheet available. If a student completes a ballot incorrectly (duplicate or missing rank), it must be discarded, and shall not count in tabulation at all.** Tournament officials in each chamber should ensure that students complete their ballots *carefully*.

E. Qualifiers and Alternates

The top contestants, up to 14th place in each chamber, are qualifiers and alternates in order of finish. Alternates may attend if qualifiers withdraw before June 1 regardless of whether or not the qualifier has entered the tournament. After June 1, alternates can only replace qualifiers that have been officially entered into the tournament. **No alternate (who is replacing an officially entered qualifier) may enter the National Tournament after 4:00 p.m. on registration day of the National Tournament.** National Tournament alternates are determined as follows:

1. Alternates are first determined by order of placement, whether by cumulative rank total by judges, or by students.
2. If student ranking was used and additional alternates are necessary beyond those ranked by the students, the original judge cumulative rank total, using appropriate tiebreakers through the parliamentarian's rank, shall be used.

A Resolution to Assist in Controlling Drug Addiction and Assist in Recovery

Introduced by the National Speech and Debate Association

1 **WHEREAS,** Overdoses from heroin, prescription drugs and opioid pain relievers last
2 year surpassed car accidents as the leading cause of injury-related death
3 in America, according to the Centers for Disease Control; and

4 **WHEREAS,** Deaths have reached their highest levels of the 21st century in 2014, the
5 most recent year for which data is available, according to the National
6 Institute for Drug Abuse; and

7 **WHEREAS,** Heroin overdoses have more than tripled in the last five years; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that 1) The United States shall improve
10 prescription drug monitoring programs to help states monitor and track
11 prescription drug diversion and to help at-risk individuals access services,
12 because inefficiencies and loopholes. 2) The United States shall improve
13 prescription drug monitoring programs to help states monitor and track
14 prescription drug diversion and to help at-risk individuals access services,
15 because inefficiencies and loopholes. 3) Shift resources towards
16 identifying and treating incarcerated people who are suffering from
17 addiction, rather than just punishment as is often the case currently. 4)
18 Prohibit the Department of Education from including questions about the
19 conviction of an applicant for the possession or sale of illegal drugs on
20 the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) financial aid form.

A Resolution to Oppose Oppressive Voter ID Laws

Introduced by the National Speech and Debate Association

- 1 **WHEREAS,** Voter ID Laws are used in many states to restrict the right to vote “to
2 those who can show appropriate picture identification”; and
- 3 **WHEREAS,** This identification can often be difficult or expensive to obtain; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** Those impacted by these laws are disproportionately people of color; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** These laws limit the ability of all people to participate in the democratic
6 process; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** A democracy is supposed to be a government for, by, and of the people;
8 and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** Representation cannot effectively occur if individuals are unjustly
10 silenced; now, therefore, be it
- 11 **RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that we reject all oppressive voter
12 identification laws in the United States.



A Bill to Fund Research and Development of Countermeasures for Chemical and Biological Threats

Introduced by Cumberland International Early College High School

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Defense Chemical and biological Defense Program
3 shall receive \$6 Billion USD to be used for research and development of
4 countermeasures against chemical and biological threats domestically,
5 and for United States soldiers in combat.

6 **SECTION 2.** Research and development shall be defined as work directed toward the
7 innovation, introduction, and improvement of products and processes.

8 Countermeasures shall be defined as an action taken to counteract a
9 danger or threat. Chemical and biological threats shall be defined as a
10 threat that consists of chemical and/or biological material planned to be
11 deployed to produce casualties in personnel, animals, or damage plants.

12 This includes biological warfare as pandemics and epidemics.

13 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Defense will oversee the implementation of this
14 legislation. The \$6 Billion USD will be reallocated from the F-35 Joint
15 Strike Fighter Budget as of the 2018 Fiscal Year.

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

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

A Bill to Provide Aid to Bangladesh and Support Rohingya Refugees

Introduced by William G Enloe High School

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** To ensure that refugees fleeing Myanmar are resettled, and to end the
3 Rohingya genocide, the United States shall send short term aid to
4 Bangladesh to aid in the creation of refugee camps, cut off aid to
5 Myanmar, and take in additional refugees affected by the Rohingya crisis.

6 **SECTION 2.** A. The United States shall provide \$250 million USD in temporary aid to
7 the government of Bangladesh to maintain and create new refugee
8 camps. The United States shall provide \$200 million USD to the
9 Bangladeshi Government, for the next five years following the year of
10 passage, if and only if Bangladesh provides a pathway of citizenship for
11 Rohingya refugees.

12 **B.** All humanitarian aid money given to the country of Myanmar will
13 hereby be cut off, to ensure that Myanmar ends the genocide and
14 discrimination against the Rohingya people.

15 **C.** The United States shall accept 15,000 additional Rohingya refugees.

16 **SECTION 3.** The implementation of this aid will be overseen by the Department of
17 State and USAID.

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

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

A Bill to Mandate Universal Paid Parental Leave

Introduced by Durham Academy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall mandate that every employer offer at least 10
3 weeks of paid parental leave to every employee.

4 **SECTION 2.** Paid Parental Leave shall be defined as at least 10 weeks of leave where
5 the employee will declare maternity, paternity, or adoption leave in
6 connection with the birth of placement of a child and continue to be paid
7 their full salary by their employer. In addition, the employer must
8 provide the same job/occupation when the employee returns from their
9 paid parental leave.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Labor will enforce this legislation. If an employer is
11 found in violation of the aforementioned mandates, they will be fined
12 upwards of 4100,000 for each infraction (for each employee not
13 compensated properly). The USDOL will conduct quarterly investigations
14 to ensure the proper implementation of this bill.

15 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect eight months after passage.

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

A Bill to Allow the Intentional Creation or Modification of Heritable Genetics in Human Embryos

Introduced by Jack Britt High School

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States will reverse restrictions on intentional creation or
3 modification of human embryos to include a heritable genetic
4 modification.

5 **SECTION 2.** The intentional creation or modification of human embryos is defined as
6 modification or replacement of human gametes, zygotes, or embryos, or
7 components thereof, prior to implantation. Heritable genetic
8 modification is defined as the modification of any gene that can be
9 passed down to future generations.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services will enforce this
11 legislation.

12 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect on January 1, 2019.

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



A Bill to Limit Chain Migration in the United States

Introduced by Gray's Creek High School

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The US may not prioritize any foreign nationals with foreign relatives in
3 the US for citizenship or visas.

4 **SECTION 2.** Chain migration is defined as the process in which the US prioritizes
5 foreign nationals who have foreign relatives already living in the country.

6 **SECTION 3.** The US Citizenship and Immigration Services shall oversee the
7 implementation, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall
8 enforce this bill.

9 **A.** The visas shall last for 3 months, then must be renewed by showing
10 proof that you are in the citizenship process.

11 **B.** Recipients of the temporary visas will have to check in once a week
12 and show where they are currently staying, show they haven't
13 committed any crimes and that they are working towards citizenship.

14 **C.** If they do not show up for weekly check-ins twice without a valid
15 reason for visas shall be declared null and void and will be removed
16 from the country and may not be allowed to re-apply for citizenship.

17 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect within 6 months of passage.

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

A Bill to Promote the Safe Use of Video Games to Reduce Death and Negative Consequences of Excessive Video Gaming by Teens

Introduced by Cape Fear Academy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** Video game manufacturers will include built-in timers on their consoles
3 so that teenagers cannot play video games for extended periods of time.

4 **SECTION 2.** Video game consoles include any external game systems that works with
5 a monitor such as a television or computer. Examples include, but are
6 not limited to: Playstation, Xbox, Wii, Nintendo Switch. Extended periods
7 of time are playing times longer than 2 hours.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Federal Communications Commission will oversee the
9 implementation of this legislation.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will go into effect within 6 months of passage.

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

A Bill to Sanction Ecuador to Ensure United States Security

Introduced by Cary Academy

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The Congress moves to place economic sanctions on Ecuador until such
3 time that the Ecuadorian government hands over Wiki Leaks founder
4 Julian Assange from his current asylum at the British Ecuadorian Embassy
5 for extradition to the United States.

6 **SECTION 2.** Handed over is defined as transmitting the subject to the custody of the
7 American law enforcement directly or through an intermediary.

8 **SECTION 3.** The Department of State will oversee the implementation of this
9 legislation.

10 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will be implemented 6 months after passage unless
11 Ecuador has already complied with the demands specified above.

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