Sarasota Military Academy December 7, 2024

Student Congress Docket

This docket contains all of the legislation that was approved for this tournament; it also contains two supplemental items drafted by the League. Each chamber should consider its own members' legislation first, followed by other student-drafted legislation, with the supplemental items debated last. With the amount of time allotted for floor debate, it is likely that chambers will exhaust their own members' agendas. Hence, it will be to legislators' advantage to prepare to debate ALL of the legislation on this docket.

Remember: Legislation may still be approved for the docket if it is unconstitutional, unworkable, or illadvised. These are legitimate issues to address in floor debate. The publication of a bill or resolution on the docket DOES NOT constitute a "clean bill of health" from the League!

Legislation Not Approved

The items listed below were not approved for debate for the reasons given:

- R for More Congressional Oversight written with bill text in a resolution format
- **B to Eliminate Use of the Penny** stale topic (see p. 23 of the manual)
- **B to Eliminate Capital Punishment** stale topic; not written with FGCCFL template
- B to Enact a Temporary Excess Profits Tax on Firms not in FGCCFL bill format

Reminder: 2024-2025 Congress Changes

Revision 24.11 of the <u>FGCCFL Student Congress Manual</u> contains the following key changes from past seasons' manuals (highlighted items differ from Revision 24.08):

- 1. There will be **four sessions, each 90 minutes long**. PO service counts as the **first speech** of the session and is scored on one ballot (1-6 scale). All POs will receive gavels.
- 2. All questioning periods will use "direct questioning," in which a questioner is recognized for 30 seconds and may ask multiple questions during that questioning period. You should review § 9 of the FGCCFL Student Congress Manual, especially if you plan to preside.
- 3. The PO may use her **phone as a timer** if it is silenced and in airplane mode.
- 4. New **standards for evidence**, citations, plagiarism, and the use of generative AI.

There is a <u>Presiding Officer script</u> available on the League website. If you are interested in serving as a PO, you are encouraged to download the script and the manual and review them both before the tournament.

Good luck and happy researching!

A Bill to Mandate the Use of Sodium-Ion Batteries in Hybrid Electric Vehicles

1	BE IT ENACTED	BY TI	HE STUDENT	CONGRESS	HERE.	ASSEMBLED	THAT:

- 2 **SECTION 1.** Sodium-ion batteries are hereby required for use as the primary regenerative fuel source in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (hereafter "HEVs").
- SECTION 2. As used herein, a "Hybrid Electric Vehicle" shall be defined as a motor vehicle utilizing both combustion and regenerative braking to power the vehicle but not connecting to an external source of electricity.
- SECTION 3. A. The Department of Transportation shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of
 this bill.
- B. Fines of \$20,000 per HEV produced which does not comply with this legislation shall be imposed.
- SECTION 4. The provisions of this bill shall take effect August 1, 2025.
- SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Garrett Senzon Robinson High School 1

A Bill to Preserve the Civil Service System

		BE IT ENACTED	BY T	HE STUDENT	CONGRESS	HERE A	ASSEMBLED	THAT:
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2	SECTION 1.	Federal entities seeking to relocate their premises are hereby required to follow all
3		Government Accountability Office leading practices for the relocation of federal entities.
4		The stripping of protections, qualifications, or requirements attributed to federal
5		positions on the basis of those positions' confidential, policy-determining, policy-making
6		or policy-advocating character is henceforth prohibited, and the Civil Service Reform Act
7		of 1978 shall be amended to reflect this.
8	SECTION 2.	A. As used herein, "federal entities" shall be defined as any executive federal agency,
9		office, or department.
10		B. All federal positions which are politically appointed shall not be subject to the civil
11		service protections assured under Section 1.
12	SECTION 3.	A. The Office of Personnel Management and the Government Accountability Office shall
13		be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill.
14		B. The Government Accountability Office shall ensure compliance with its leading
15		practices in regards to the relocation of premises by federal entities and shall have
16		independent authority to seek declaratory and injunctive relief for violations of the
17		provisions of this bill.
18		C. The Office of Personnel Management shall annually compile and publish on the
19		Federal Register annually a list of positions which fall under Section 2, Subsection B of
20		this bill.
21	SECTION 4.	The provisions of this bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.
22	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

John Joura Robinson High School

A Resolution to Regulate Artificial Intelligence in the Workforce

1	WHEREAS,	Artificial intelligence (AI) research is rapidly growing, and AI is being integrated and
2		expanded into several professions; and
3	WHEREAS,	The integration of AI into various professions poses a significant threat to job security;
4		and
5	WHEREAS,	The expansion of AI into certain job sectors can lead to widespread displacement of
6		human workers, leading to issues such as unemployment and economic inequality; and
7	WHEREAS,	AI integration could lead to job losses across multiple sectors, impacting millions of
8		workers globally; and
9	WHEREAS,	It is crucial to guarantee that AI is implemented into the economy in a manner that
10		complements human labor rather than replacing it entirely to protect economic stability;
11		now, therefore, be it
12	RESOLVED,	That the Congress here assembled calls for the formation of regulatory bodies tasked with
13		overseeing AI implementation across professions, ensuring ethical AI usage, and
14		prioritizing job security.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Buiko Pine View School

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A Bill to Protect the Privacy of Individuals' Digital Footprints

1	BE IT ENACT	ED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2	SECTION 1.	The digital footprint of an individual will not be subject to distribution by companies or
3		other users, and will instead remain the private property of the consumer who released it
4		unless the individual chooses to lawfully distribute it under will or consent.
5	SECTION 2.	A. "Digital footprint" will be defined as any comment, post, like, or physical interaction
6		to the platform that the individual has made.
7		B. Companies will be defined as any commercial business, government institution, or
8		private entity, including the platform in which the individual left a digital footprint.
9	SECTION 3.	A. The Department of Justice shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill.
10		B. Any individual who chooses to distribute or use an individual's personal data against
11		them or for their own use will be imprisoned for a minimum of 5 and up to 15 years if
12		found guilty.
13		C. Any company who chooses to distribute or use an individual's personal data against
14		them or for their own use will be fined up to \$5,000 per individual.
15	SECTION 4.	The provisions of this bill shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

> Mariann Segura Mejia Carrollwood Day School

A Resolution to Regulate Social Media Algorithms

WHEREAS, In the United States social media platforms have been rising in popularity and influence; 1 2 and 3 WHEREAS, Social media platforms are used by children as young as 13; and WHEREAS, Many social media algorithms are created to stimulate addictive behavior in its users; and 4 WHEREAS, This stimulation has several negative side-effects, such as shortened attention spans, 5 6 changes in mood and behaviors, and mental health struggles; and 7 WHEREAS, It is the duty of the United States to protect its constituents from dangers to their health, including their mental health; now, therefore, be it 8 **RESOLVED,** That the Congress here assembled calls for the regulation of social media algorithms to 9 minimize their addictive effects. 10

Respectfully submitted,

Devin Escobedo Sarasota High School

A Bill to Promote the Plugging of Abandoned Oil and Gas Wells

1	BE IT ENACTED	BY TI	HE STUDENT	CONGRESS	HERE.	ASSEMBLED	THAT:

- 2 **SECTION 1.** State, tribal, and territorial governments will be incentivized to plug orphaned oil wells through government subsidies ranging from \$5,000,000 to \$25,000,000 per state.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** "Orphaned wells" shall herein be defined as an oil or natural gas well that has been abandoned by the company that operated it.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** A. The Department of the Interior shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill.
- B. Funding shall be delegated based on how many abandoned oil wells reside in a state and will be distributed in phases as states fulfill their commitments to plugging wells.
- 10 C. Funding for these subsidies shall come from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021

 11 and shall expire after five years unless renewed by Congress.
- 12 **SECTION 4.** The provisions of this bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.
- SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Light Sarasota High School

A Bill to Mandate Water Breaks for Workers

1	BE IT ENACT	ED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2	SECTION 1.	Covered employers shall provide employees with access to potable water within 50 feet
3		of the worksite and at least one water break every two hours for shifts lasting four hours
4		or more.
5	SECTION 2.	A. A "covered employer" is any private or public employer engaged in interstate
6		commerce or employing 10 or more employees.
7		B. A "water break" is a designated pause in work for employees to hydrate, lasting no
8		less than five minutes.
9	SECTION 3.	A. The Department of Labor shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill.
10		B. The Department shall enforce this Act through regular workplace inspections and
11		review of employer policies.
12		C. Employers found in violation of this Act may be fined up to \$5,000 per violation per
13		employee.
14	SECTION 4.	The provisions of this bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.
15	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Arya Agarwal Strawberry Crest High School

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A Bill to Incentivize Green Roof and Urban Garden Installation

1	BE IT ENACT	ED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2	SECTION 1.	Cities, businesses, and private residences that install green roofs or urban gardens shall
3		receive a small tax deduction of up to 10% of installation costs, capped at \$5,000 per
4		property.
5	SECTION 2.	A. As used herein, "green roof" shall be defined as a roof that is partially or completely
6		covered with vegetation, soil, or a growing medium, planted over a waterproof
7		membrane.
8		B. As used herein, "urban garden" shall refer to any garden or green space cultivated
9		within urban areas, including rooftop gardens or ground-level gardens dedicated to
10		plants, food crops, or native vegetation.
11		C. Qualifying properties must meet standards set by the Environmental Protection
12		Agency including but not limited to minimum requirements for size, environmental
13		impact, and water management.
14	SECTION 3.	A. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Treasury
15		shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill.
16		B. The EPA shall establish guidelines and verification processes for qualifying green roof
17		and urban garden installations, including inspections or photo/documentation
18		submissions by property owners.
19	SECTION 4.	The provisions of this bill shall take effect January 1, 2025.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Hemish Mora Strawberry Crest High School

A Bill to Abolish Private Prisons

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT		BE IT ENACTED	BY THE	STUDENT	CONGRESS HERE	ASSEMBLED	THAT
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- SECTION 1. The United States shall cease use of private prisons to house federal prisoners and shall
 not fund construction of any new private prisons.
- 4 **SECTION 2.** As used herein, "private prisons" shall be defined as prisons run by third parties contracted by the United States federal government.
- 6 **SECTION 3.** A. The Department of Justice shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill.
- B. An initial appropriation of \$30 billion shall fund the implementation of this bill. These
- funds shall go toward the training of prison staff, construction of new prison facilities,
- 9 safe transfer of inmates, legal costs, and prisoner monitoring
- SECTION 4. The provisions of this bill shall take effect July 1, 2029.
- SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Moylan Newsome High School

A Bill to Mandate Financial Literacy Courses for Public Secondary School

1	BE IT ENACT	ED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2	SECTION 1.	All public schools will be required to implement financial literacy courses for grades 9-
3		12.
4	SECTION 2.	Financial literacy is defined as knowledge of taxes, credit scores, investing, and
5		understanding other financial management. This also includes education on tax credits,
6		debt management, insurance, budgeting, and money management.
7	SECTION 3.	The Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor will oversee the
8		enforcement of this bill.
9		A. All courses or clubs that were previously in action before this bill will receive
10		increased support from the Department of Education through allocated federal funding.
11		The creation of these courses shall be funded by the Department of Education, which will
12		allocate \$3 billion annually to public schools.
13		B. The U.S. Department of Labor will amplify offers of programs such as "My Next
14		Move" and "Youth Employment Program." This will further opportunities for American
15		teens' financial education.
16	SECTION 4.	This legislation will take effect on August 1, 2025
17	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

Aidan Lopez Wharton High School Sarasota Military Academy December 7, 2024

A Bill to Restore Chevron Deference

1	BE IT ENACT	ED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2	SECTION 1.	In any legal proceeding brought pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, courts
3		shall defer to a federal agency's reasonable interpretation of an ambiguous Act of
4		Congress.
5	SECTION 2.	A. As used herein, an agency's interpretation is "reasonable" if (1) it is consistent with
6		the intent of the Act of Congress being interpreted and (2) Congress has not directly
7		addressed the matter in question.
8		B. The provisions of this bill shall not apply to any agency interpretation relating to a
9		matter that Congress could not be expected to have contemplated.
10	SECTION 3.	A. The federal courts shall have jurisdiction over all cases and controversies arising under
11		the provisions of this bill.
12		B. The opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States in <i>Loper Bright Enterprises v</i> .
13		Raimondo is hereby vacated.
14	SECTION 4.	The provisions of this bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.
15	SECTION 5.	All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

FGCCFL

A Resolution to Repeal the Religious Freedom Restoration Act

WHEREAS,	Congress passed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) in 1993 to protect
	individual religious liberty from government intrusion; and
WHEREAS,	Since then, activist groups have twisted RFRA's meaning by claiming a religious need to
	violate other people's rights, an argument validated by the U.S. Supreme Court in <i>Hobby</i>
	Lobby v. Burwell; and
WHEREAS,	Congress intended RFRA to be a shield, not a sword; and
WHEREAS,	RFRA was found unconstitutional as applied to state and local governments,
	necessitating passage of a more limited law applicable only to zoning and prisons; and
WHEREAS,	What is left of RFRA likely violates the First Amendment by favoring religious
	motivations over secular ones; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED,	That the Student Congress here assembled calls the repeal of the Religious Freedom
	Restoration Act of 1993.
	WHEREAS, WHEREAS,

Respectfully submitted,

FGCCFL