

## Elimination Round Format and Rules

*Seventy (70) contestants will advance to a Semifinal Round, which will feature four chambers of competition. Each of these chambers will be adjudicated by a panel of two Scorers and a Parliamentarian.*

At the conclusion of the Semifinal Round, each of the two *Scorers* and the *Parliamentarian* in each chamber will independently rank the top six students in the session on the basis of *Best Legislator*. The rankings by the *Scorers* and the *Parliamentarian* will be converted by the Tabulation Staff using a credit system as in the Preliminary Competition, with 1<sup>st</sup> place earning 6 credits, 2<sup>nd</sup> place earning 5 credits, and so on through the 6<sup>th</sup> place legislator who will receive 1 credit. The eight legislators whose names do not appear on a given rank form receive zero (0) credits from that *Scorer*. Two students will be selected for the Super Session from each Semifinal chamber on the basis of these judge credits. One student will also advance to the Super Session on the basis of the *Parliamentarian's* preference for *Best Legislator* in each chamber.

Independent of the above process, a *preferential ballot* election will be held from a slate of six candidates as determined by the rankings of the *Scorers*. Each legislator will cast one vote in this election, as will the *Parliamentarian* (whose ballot will be weighted at 2 student votes and will also serve as a tie-breaker). The top two students in the preferential balloting will advance to the Super Session.

Thus, five students will advance to the Super Session from each Semifinal Chamber as follows:

1. 2 students on the basis of *preferential balloting*
2. 2 students on the basis of *total judge credits*
3. 1 student selected as *Best Legislator* by the *Parliamentarian*

*Twenty (20) students will advance to the Yale Invitational Super Congress.*

A panel of five *Scorers* and one *Parliamentarian* will evaluate the Super Congress. At the conclusion of the Super Congress, each will independently complete a ranking form for *Best Legislator* listing a maximum of ten competitors. The ranking forms of the *Scorers* will be converted by the Tabulation Staff into a credit system as outlined in the section on the Semifinal Round above. Those ten legislators who receive the highest number of credits will comprise the top ten contestants at the Yale Invitational. Each legislator as well as the *Parliamentarian* will complete a blind preferential ballot at the conclusion of the Super Congress that includes the names of each competitor in the Super Congress. The Tabulation Staff will also convert each *Scorer's* ranking form into a preferential ballot; along with the *Parliamentarian's* ballot, each of these will carry a weight of 3 student votes. These preferential ballots will then be used to determine the Champion of the Yale Invitational, with the *Parliamentarian's* ballot being a tie-breaker.

**B/R #1101-S**

**A BILL TO SUBSIDIZE URBAN AGRICULTURE TO CREATE SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** \$1.2 billion over the next five years shall be allocated to fund urban agricultural subsidies  
3 in order to provide resources to urban populations and peri-urban areas to implement the  
4 practice of cultivating, processing and distributing food from locally sourced animal  
5 husbandry, aquaculture, agroforestry, urban beekeeping, and horticulture.

6 **SECTION 2.** A. “Urban Agriculture” shall be defined the practice of cultivating, processing, and  
7 distributing food in or around a village, town or city.

8 B. “Urban populations” shall be people living in urban areas as defined by national  
9 statistical offices.

10 C. “Peri-urban areas” shall be defined as areas resulting from the landscape interface  
11 between town and country, or also as the rural-urban transition zone where urban and  
12 rural uses mix and often clash.

13 D. “Locally sourced” shall be defined as local ingredients that come from within a 150-  
14 mile radius.

15 **SECTION 3.** A. The Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall be  
16 responsible for implementing this legislation.

17 B. The FDA shall enforce food quality standards and develop Food Defense plans in  
18 urban areas.

19 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented at the start of FY 2016.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Yale Invitational Congressional Debate Tab Staff*

**B/R #1102-S**  
**A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE LEBANON TO SHIFT FROM THE CURRENT MAJORITY SYSTEM TO A  
PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION SYSTEM FOR FUTURE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS TO ENSURE MIDDLE  
EASTERN STABILITY**

- 1    **WHEREAS,**    Lebanon – with a population of four million people before the Syrian crisis – has accepted more  
2                    than one-million Syrian refugees; and
- 3    **WHEREAS,**    Lebanon has stopped registering refugees and has not allowed the UN to set up permanent refugee  
4                    camps with running water and sewers; and
- 5    **WHEREAS,**    Thousands of refugees find themselves in “informal tented settlements” – shanty towns of plastic,  
6                    canvas, and wood; and
- 7    **WHEREAS,**    Hezbollah is deeply submerged in the Syrian quagmire, and despite a substantial interest in  
8                    avoiding confrontation with Israel, over the past year the organization’s leadership has been  
9                    preparing for the Third Lebanon War; and
- 10   **WHEREAS,**    The country’s recent trash crisis highlights the public’s disaffection with the country’s ruling  
11                    class; and
- 12   **WHEREAS,**    Recent protests have been as much about the country’s dysfunctional and corrupt political classes;  
13                    now, therefore, be it
- 14   **RESOLVED,**    That the Student Congress here assembled make the following recommendation that the Salam  
15                    national unity government immediately being to craft a transition plan for Lebanon’s government  
16                    away from the current majority system to a proportional representation system for parliamentary  
17                    elections, which includes a voice for the Syrian refugees and, be it
- 18   **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That if this plan is not implemented and new elections are not called within six months,  
19                    then the international community shall suspend all foreign aid to the Lebanese government with  
20                    the exception of UN sponsored programs that shall help assist the resettlement Palestinian and  
21                    Syrian refugees.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*The Yale Congressional Debate Tabulation Staff*

**B/R #1103 – S**  
**A BILL TO PROTECT THE MINING INDUSTRY IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO BY**  
**ESTABLISHING EQUITABLE MINERAL LABELING PRACTICES**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** \$1.3 billion shall be allocated to USAID to coordinate with the Congolese government  
3 and the ITRI Tin Supply Chain Initiative to endure equitable labeling of minerals in the  
4 North Kivu province of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

5 **SECTION 2.** A. “Equitable Labeling” shall refer to the fair and impartial inspection and labeling of all  
6 minerals mined by all mining cooperatives in the North Kivu province.

7 B. “Labeling Standards” shall be defined as guidelines governing the inspection and  
8 labeling process for minerals, ores, and metals including tin, coltan ore, tantalum,  
9 wolframite, tungsten, and gold ore.

10 **SECTION 3.** USAID shall dispatch observers to the DRC to establish and maintain labeling standards  
11 in the North Kivu province.

12 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented at the beginning of FY 2016.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*The Yale Invitational Congressional Debate Tab Staff*

**B/R #1201-F**  
**A BILL TO PROHIBIT PERMAFROST DRILLING TO**  
**PREVENT THE RELEASE OF A MEGAVIRUS OR PANDORAVIRUS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A. All permafrost drilling and core sampling shall cease immediately.  
3 B. All government agencies responsible for funding permafrost research programs (U.S.  
4 Geological Survey, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Science Foundation,  
5 National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Oceanic and Atmosphere  
6 Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Natural  
7 Resources Conservation Service, the State of Alaska, and the National Research Council)  
8 shall cease and desist all current projects and funding will be reallocated to the Center for  
9 Disease Control to fund research into rapid responses to the megavirus and  
10 pandorviruses.

11 **SECTION 2.** A. "Permafrost" shall be defined as permanently frozen soil, sediment, or rock that  
12 remains at or below 0°C for at least two years.  
13 B. "Permafrost Drilling" shall refer to the act of drilling into continuously frozen  
14 subsurface layers of soil for purposes of scientific research or oil prospecting.  
15 C. "Core Sampling" shall be defined as the act of drilling into the permafrost with the  
16 intent to remove subsurface soil samples.

17 **SECTION 3.** The National Science Foundation and Environmental Protection Agency shall enforce  
18 this legislation.

19 A. The National Science Foundation shall levy a fine not exceeding five hundred  
20 thousand dollars (\$500,000) against any research facility, laboratory, or scientific  
21 expedition that violates this bill.

22 B. The Environmental Protection agency shall levy a fine no less than five million  
23 dollars (\$5,000,000) against any and all corporations found violating this bill.

24 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*The Yale Invitational Congressional Debate Tab Staff*

**B/R #1202 – F**  
**A BILL TO PROVIDE A SAFE HAVEN FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** The United States shall accept 300,000 Syrian refugees, which shall be processed and  
3 relocated to temporary residences in the United States Minor Outlying Islands.

4 **SECTION 2.** A. “Process” shall refer to the creation and implementation of a taskforce to review and  
5 expedite all Syrian asylum applications. Applications must be reviewed within one month  
6 of the date of filing or applicants will be granted automatic citizenship.

7 B. “Relocated” shall mean that Syrians shall be able to create a permanent home. Within  
8 six months of acceptance of the 300,000 refugees and physical relocation of the refugees  
9 to the United States Minor Outlying Islands, the Executive Office for Immigration  
10 Review shall hold elections for a constitutional drafting committee. This committee shall  
11 be composed of thirteen (13) members who shall be given six months to draft laws of  
12 governance for the Minor Outlying Islands. The United States Supreme Court shall ratify  
13 the new constitution. Upon ratification, the new government shall have three years of  
14 United States financial support before a mandatory referendum occurs for the citizens to  
15 vote on either application for statehood or independence.

16 C. “Temporary Residences” shall be defined as mobile homes.

17 D. “United States Minor Outlying Islands” shall include Baker Island, Howland Island,  
18 Jarvis Island, Johnston Atoll, Kingman Reef, Midway Islands, and Navassa Island.

19 **SECTION 3.** A. The Executive Office for Immigration Review for the creation and implementation of a  
20 taskforce to review and expedite all Syrian asylum applications.

21 B. FEMA shall be responsible for establishing temporary residences for  
22 refugees relocated to the Minor Outlying Islands.

23 C. The United States Federal Government shall award a private contract to a construction  
24 company to being building permanent housing for refugees by 2017.

25 **SECTION 4.** This bill shall be implemented immediately upon passage.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*

*The Yale Invitational Congressional Debate Tab Staff*

**B/R #1203 - F**  
**A BILL TO ENSURE A SECURE GUATEMALAN ELECTION**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** A peacekeeping taskforce shall be assembled to assist Guatemalan Security Forces in  
3 providing security for the runoff election.

4 **SECTION 2.** A. The taskforce shall include twenty (20) Secret Service Agents responsible for properly  
5 training divisions of the Presidential Honor Guard to ensure candidates' safety during the  
6 election process.

7 B. An additional fifty (50) military observers from the United States Marine Corps shall  
8 oversee the training of the *Policia Militar Ambulante* (PMA) in less-lethal crowd control  
9 methods including but not limited to less-lethal defense tactics, the establishment of free  
10 speech zones, and perimeter security.

11 **SECTION 3.** The taskforce shall be dispatched on September 25, 2015, and shall remain in Guatemala no  
12 later than November 25, 2015.

13 **SECTION 4.** The Department of State and Joint Special Forces Command (JSOC) shall ensure the  
14 implementation of this legislation.

15 A. The Department of State shall coordinate with the Guatemalan government to  
16 provide support for the taskforce.

17 B. JSOC shall be responsible for selecting taskforce members, creating a  
18 comprehensive election defense strategy, and exit strategy for the peacekeeping  
19 taskforce.

20 C. The taskforce shall be dispatched upon Guatemalan approval

21 **SECTION 5.** This bill shall go into effect immediately upon passage.

22 **SECTION 6.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Yale Invitational Congressional Debate Tab Staff*