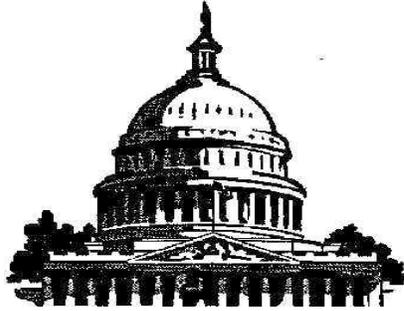


The Fundamentals of a Firce and Fabulous Congress



The First Continental Congress appointing George Washington as
Commander in Chief.



By: Maddie Hall

Have you ever dreamed of changing the world and making a difference? Do you want to improve your life and the lives of your fellow Americans?

If so then JSA Winter Congress is the place you need to be!

Winter Congress is:
An exciting congressional simulation that allows you and your friends to **SHAPE AMERICA** into the beacon of hope and prosperity it was meant to be.



At Winter Congress:
YOU are the senators and Representatives!
YOU write the bills!
YOU make the speeches!
YOU cast the votes!
YOU make the valuable laws that transform America!

Congress this year is bound to be amazing but in order to maximize your experience we have some helpful tips that will assist you in preparation and bills writing.

Before you go to congress, there are a couple of important things to note:

- ★ 1/3 of your JSA chapter will be Senators and the other 2/3 representatives.
- ★ Sponsoring legislation is much easier than you would think and very rewarding.
- ★ One bill must be submitted for around every five delegates.
- ★ Congress is a super fun platform to raise awareness for an issue you care about.



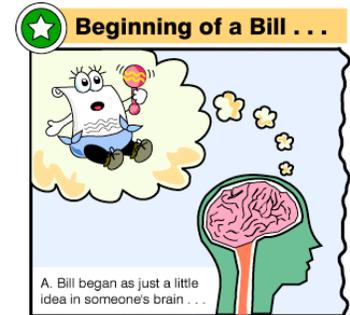
How to Write a Bill!

Everyone is capable of writing a fantastic bill!

Every JSAer already has the two basic things needed to write a bill!

1. A opinion about a political issue
2. A friend

After you come up with an idea and a friend, you are already on your way to writing an awesome bill.



3. The next step is to choose a topic; you can select one from our list or choose one of your own. For examples see the attached list.

4. Take a stance on your topic, for example, if your topic is, cloning decide if you want to expand cloning rights, or prevent future cloning.

5. Ask yourself, "How do I want to change the current legislation to fit my opinion?" For example, if you want to prevent the public from consuming GMOs, you might want to write a bill that requires GMOs to be labeled or outlawed. **MAKE SURE YOU APPROACH YOUR ISSUE THROUGH A MEANS THAT THE FEDERAL GOV CAN CONTROL.** Take a look at what the constitution says the federal government has power to do and Supreme Court precedent.

Types of Legislation:

- a. Bill-creates a new law
- b. Constitutional Amendment- adds a new amendment to the constitution.
- c. Congressional Resolution-describes an opinion or sentiment of the congress.

6. To begin, draft the purpose of your bill, in 5-15 words. What is it you want your bill to accomplish? This will acts as part of your bill's title. For example if you are writing about, cap and trade, your purpose might be, to create a successful environmental policy and curb greenhouse gas emission.

7. Next you need to write a short paragraph that will describe the rationale for proposing your bill. The paragraph should answer questions like, "Why is you bill needed? How would your bill fix the current problem? Why is your bill important?"

8. If you are writing a congressional resolution you will want to include "whereas" statements. They are statements that give additional reasons, for congress to pass the resolution. They are often opinion.

Whereas, drilling in ANWR is hazardous to the surrounding wildlife.

Whereas, drilling in ANWR could release tons of harmful methane frozen under the artic tundra.

Whereas, the United States should diverge from relying on oil as an energy source.

9. After you provide reasons and facts, to persuade congress to pass your bill, you must write the body of your legislation.
 - a. The body of your legislation should be divided into sections.
 - b. The first section should be the main change that you are implementing. For example, “This bill bans the use the animals for cosmetic testing.”
 - c. The next sections should establish any exceptions and restrictions of your bill.
 - d. You may also include subsections if you wish to be more specific about a particular limitation or enforcement.

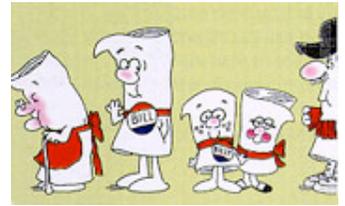
Formatting your Bill

1. Place the title of your bill in the center at the top of the page. The title should read “A Bill to...” The purpose of your bill that you drafted in the beginning should come after the words “A Bill to...” Make sure your title is catchy and informative because it will be the first thing that people will read when they are debating your piece legislation. For example, A Bill to Create a Flat Tax, A Bill to Protect Minors by Illegalizing the Use of Tanning Beds.
2. Then type the names of the sponsors, under the title; make sure to state which student will be a senator and which a representative and the school each sponsor attends.
3. Next write out the rationale paragraph.
4. After the rationale, type the standard first line of all bills, “BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that:”
5. Lastly, write out the different numbered sections of your legislation.
6. Don’t forget to proof read your bill and put the contact information for each student that the bottom of the page!
7. CONGRATULATIONS! YOU HAVE JUST WRITTEN A FIRECE PIECE OF LEGISALTION!! BRAVO!!

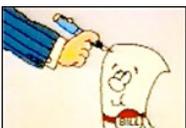


Some JSAers meeting Congressman Jim McDermott at a JSA Summer

How a Bill Becomes JSA Law!



1. The first day of Congress, students will be divided into Senate Committees and House Committees. One bill sponsor will be a Senator and one will be a Representative. Each will debate the bill in their committee.
2. Each bill sponsor will give a 6-minute opening speech. The goal of the speech is to persuade the committee to pass your bill.
3. Then the committee will debate the bills. After the sponsor's speech, there will be an impromptu main negative speech (against the bill) and 3-minute subsequent speeches alternating affirmative (for the bill) and negative (against the bill.)
4. Students may add amendments to others bills, by writing them down on a piece of paper and proposing them to the committee. The sponsor of the bill is then able to decide if the amendment is friendly (in favor of the main point of the bill) or unfriendly (against the main point of the bill.) If an amendment is deemed unfriendly then the committee must debate it and vote. If the amendment is friendly, then the amendment becomes part of the bill.
5. After the bill has been adequately debated, a student will make a motion "to move to previous question." The committee will vote on this motion with a simple vocal vote. If the motion is passed subsequent speeches are over the committee will move to closing speeches.
6. The main negative speaker will give a 3-minute or less closing speech and the bill sponsor will close the debate with a 3-minute or less closing speech.
7. Now debating is over and the committee chair will call for a standing vote to decide if the bill is passed. In order for a bill to be passed, the number of affirmative votes (votes for the bill), must be greater than the number of negative votes (votes against the bill) and withstanding votes (undecided votes for neither the affirmative nor negative) combined.
8. If a bill is passed on the first day of congress, in identical form in both the Senate and the House Committees, then the will move on to Full House and Full Senate.
9. On the next day of Congress, all Senate Committees will move to Full Senate and Full House Committees will move to the Full House.
10. During the Full House and the Full Senate Committees, students will debate the bills that were previously passed identically, in both committees. The House and Senate will both debate each bill in the same style they were debated in the committees.
11. If a Bill passes identically again in Full House and Full Senate it becomes JSA LAW!!!!



A BILL TO RESTORE THE POWERS OF THE REGULATION OF CURRENTLY
CONROLLED SUBSTANCES, NOT CROSSING THE BORDERS OF STATES, TO
THE RESPECTIVE STATES OF PRODUCTION/CONSUMPTION

Sponsored by: Senator X of Garfield High School
Representative Y of Garfield High School

Over the last century, many acts have been passed to prevent the distribution, irresponsible usage, and abuse of drugs in America. In 1970, the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 was passed, re-enforcing the government's control of drugs. This act, as well as parts of preceding and subsequent acts, addressed the issue of the legality of drugs in the United States of America. Though this act was passed by the legislative and executive branches of the federal government, it is direct contradiction with the tenth amendment of the constitution, which states that "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people". Unlike the prohibition of alcohol, for which the 18th amendment was passed, the prohibition of the "Schedule I" substances of the Controlled Substances Act (which is Title II of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act) and the regulation of "Schedule II," "Schedule III," "Schedule IV," and "Schedule V" substances are not powers granted to the federal government by the constitution.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled that:

Section 1. Within one year of the passing of this bill by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, the Federal government of the United States of America shall cease all actions and investigations specifically concerning the production, distribution, or consumption of all controlled substances, narcotics, or other intoxicating substances where there exists an absence of evidence of interstate smuggling or the intent of interstate smuggling.

Section 2. Within one year of the passing of this bill by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, the Federal government shall free any person currently in federal prison of charges specifically concerning the production, distribution, or consumption of all controlled substances, narcotics, or other intoxicating substances where there exists an absence of evidence of interstate smuggling or the intent of interstate smuggling

Section 3. The Federal Government shall reserve the right to regulate, prohibit, and prosecute interstate trade to all previously granted extents.

A Bill to Protect Children by Banning the Use of the Chemical Bisphenol A

Sponsored By: Senator X from Holy Names Academy
Representative Claire Y from Holy Names Academy

The chemical bisphenol A (BPA) is a hormone disrupting chemical that can have health effects at extremely low levels. Laboratory studies have linked BPA to cancer, miscarriage, obesity, reproductive problems, hyperactivity, early onset of puberty in females and lowered sperm count in males. Originally developed as a synthetic sex hormone, BPA is now used in some clear, rigid plastic water bottles, baby bottles, reusable food containers, food cans, and other household products. As one of the highest-volume chemicals produced in the world, the harms of BPA must be addressed.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and the House of the Representative of the United States of America in Congress assembled that:

Section 1. This act bans the use of the chemical bisphenol A in baby bottles, children's food containers, children's toys and water bottles.

Section 2. This act ensures that other harmful chemicals will not be used as a substitute for bisphenol A.

Section 3. This act allows for further state action on containers using bisphenol A if necessary,

TABLE OF PARLIAMENTARY MOTIONS

<u>MOTION TO USE</u>	<u>PURPOSE OF MOTION</u>	<u>INTERRUPT SPEAKER?</u>	<u>SECOND NEEDED?</u>	<u>DEBATABLE</u>	<u>VOTE REQUIRED TO PASS</u>
A POINT OF ORDER	To correct an error in Parliamentary Procedure	YES	NO	NO	Decision of the Chair
POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE	To make a personal request during the proceedings	YES	NO	NO	Decision of the Chair
POINT OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY	To ask a question about the proceedings	YES	NO	NO	Answer from Chair
MOVE TO ADJOURN	To dismiss the meeting	NO	YES	NO	Majority
MOVE TO RECESS	To dismiss the meeting for a specific length of time	NO	YES	NO	Majority
CALL FOR DIVISION	Request for a hand count instead of a voice count	YES	NO	NO	Decision of the Chair
MOVE TO TABLE	Postpone debate on a motion until a later time	NO	YES	NO	Majority
MOVE THE PREVIOUS QUESTION	End debate	NO	YES	NO	2/3rds
MOVE TO AMEND	To add, delete, or modify provisions of legislation	NO	YES	YES	Majority
MOVE TO LIMIT DEBATE	To set a time limit on debating the legislation or amendment	NO	YES	NO	2/3rds
MOVE TO SUSPEND THE RULES	To take action contrary to established rules or set time limits	NO	YES	NO	2/3rds
MOVE TO CHANGE THE ORDERS OF THE DAY	To change the agenda to move a piece of legislation up on the agenda	NO	YES	NO	2/3rds
MOVE TO EXTEND THE SPEAKER'S TIME	To give the current speaker a specific amount of extra time.	NO	YES	NO	2/3rds