LEGISLATIVE SEMESTER

Student Preparation

Short Form Issue Analysis
Long Form Issue Analysis
Deliberation Instructions
Deliberation Graphic Organizer
Parliamentary Procedure Points and Motions (aka Basic House Rules)

Possible Day 1 Intro Resolutions

Prohibit Cell Phone Use
Resolution Teen Passengers.docx
Age Limits for Federal Public Officials.docx
Your choice… write a resolution on a topic that is current, and that students have a lot of background info to have a somewhat informed opinion. The goal is something that they can jump into and get exposed to the format of the class, and parliamentary procedure.

Resolutions and Bills with associated background readings and pro/con charts

*The Last Word Activity, focusing on the Pew Public Opinion Topic Briefs, makes a good companion to build discussion skills in a small group format before or after the debate of a resolution.

1. Resolution: 2nd Amendment Age Limits
    a. Background: 2nd Amendment Age Limits
    b. PEW public opinion on Age Limits

2. Resolution: Marijuana (and Federalism)
   Sample Bill: Legalize Marijuana in WI
    a. Background: Marijuana (and Federalism)
    b. PEW public opinion on Legalization

3. Resolution: 1st Amendment & the Establishment Clause
   Sample BILL: Ten Commandments in the Classroom
    a. Background: Freedom of Religion & the Establishment Clause
    b. PEW public opinion on prayer in schools

4. Resolution: Due Process for Teens in School
    a. Background: Due Process for Teens in School

5. Resolution: Repeal Voter ID Laws

Sample Voter ID Bill

a. Background: Voter ID Laws
b. Background: Voter ID Laws (2 pages)

6. Resolution: Affirmative Action in College Admissions
    a. Background: Affirmative Action
    b. Background: Affirmative Action (2 pages)
    c. PEW public opinion on affirmative action for college admissions

7. Resolution: 1st Amendment Speech by Student Journalists Stop Censorship
    a. Background: 1st Amendment Speech by Student Journalists
    b. PEW Public Opinion on press freedom
    c. Retro Report video on Tinker v DesMoines (8 minutes)

8. Resolution: Due Process & Immigrant Rights
    a. Background: Due Process & Immigrant Rights
    b. PEW Public Opinion on aid to immigrants

9. Resolution: Warrantless Search
    a. Background: Warrantless Search

10. Resolution: Repeal the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force
    a. Background: Repeal the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force

11. Resolution: Lower the voting age
    a. Background: Lower the Voting Age

Sample Bills that can be used to introduce the bill format

These bills are not perfect. Students can critically look at how the bill is written and how it could be improved as they prepare to write their own bills.

1. Ban Sugary Drinks (teacher written)
2. Prayer in Public School (teacher written)
    a. video RE 2025 bill in Alabama -HB231 Constitutional Amendment
3. Flat Tax
4. Regulate Factory Farms (student written)
5. Legalize Marijuana in WI (student written)
6. **Constitutional Amendment** to Repeal Photo ID for Voting (teacher written- updated 10/15/25)

Election Related Resolutions

Lower the Voting Age

EG West High School Resolution for 16 year old voting in School Board Elections

Background Reading for Lower the Voting Age

WORT Radio Interview of Madison West Students Proposal to Lower the Age to Vote
Voter ID Laws
Abolish the Electoral College

Other Topics
Raise the Minimum Wage
Resolution 15 week abortion ban.docx
Resolution Assault Weapons Ban.docx
Resolution Opt Out LGBTQ Instruction.docx
Resolution Mandatory National Service

Authentic Examples
Civics Education as a Requirement for HS Graduation– (written by the WI Legislature) WI Bill to require civics to be a required class for graduation in all WI high schools. This bill would be interesting to debate after students have had a semester of civic education.