Templates for creating Student Congress legislation for WASDL tournaments.

Schools should submit one piece of legislation for every two students registered. On pages 2 and 3 below, we've created templates students can use to help format legislation. Each piece of legislation should fit on a single page. Student legislation can either be a Bill or a Resolution. Here's the difference:

- **Bills** enumerate specific provisions which, if enacted, will have the force of law.
- **Resolutions** express a conviction or idea, used when Congress does not have jurisdiction to legislate. Debate on a resolution generally centers on broad principles about the concept presented.

Ensure you number the legislation appropriately, using a number within the range assigned to your school. (Contact WACFL if your school doesn't have a number range).

Full legislation packets will be uploaded in Tabroom.com by 12 noon the Wednesday before each tournament. We will notify coaches by email when legislation packets are available. Students and judges can download packets directly from Tabroom. Printed legislation packets will not be available at the tournament.

Microsoft Word and Google Docs have the capability to create line numbers automatically. For it to work correctly (meaning, you don't want line numbers at the top and bottom of your legislation) you need to create section breaks.

- **Microsoft Word**: Create section breaks by going to **Layout > Breaks > Section Breaks Continuous**. Add line numbers by going to **Layout > Line Numbers > Restart Each Section**.

  To see your section breaks, Go to the Home tab and enable **Show/Hide ¶.** This shows all the invisible formatting of your document, including the section breaks.
- **Google Docs**: Create section breaks by going to **Insert > Break > Section break (continuous.)** Add line numbers, make sure your document is set to paged mode by heading to **File > Page setup** and choosing **Pages**. Then go to **Tools > Line numbers > Show line numbers** to add numbered lines. To see section breaks, go to **View > Show non-printing characters**.

Would it help to see some legislation previously created by WASDL competitors? Each submission isn't perfect, but these will show you what other students have previously submitted. Here's the legislation packet from the WACFL 2024 Congress MetroFinals. Here is the February 2024 Congress legislation packet.

Bill number (D, E or I plus assigned number)

A Bill to [Action Word] [article] [Object] to [Summarize the Solution Specifically]

SECTION 1. State the new policy in one or a few brief declarative sentence(s).

SECTION 2. Define any ambiguous or technical terms in Section 1.

SECTION 3. Name the government agency(ies) that will oversee enforcement along with the specific enforcement mechanism.

A. Subsections may be used to elaborate further details, but only needed if you need to have more than one subsection.

B. This would be a second subsection.

SECTION 4. State that "All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void."

Respectfully submitted,

Student name(s)

High school name

Resolution # (D, E or I plus assigned number)

A Resolution to [Action Word] [article] [Object] to [Summarize the Solution Specifically]

WHEREAS, State the current problem (this needs to be accomplished in one brief sentence); and

WHEREAS, Describe the scope of the problem cited in the first whereas clause (this clause needs to flow logically from the first) and the need for a solution; and

WHEREAS, Explain the impact and harms perpetuated by the current problem (once again, the clause needs to flow in a logical sequence); and

WHEREAS, Use additional "whereas" clauses to elaborate rationale for the problem that needs to be solved; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Congress here assembled [describe recommendation for solution/call for action]; and, be it

THEREFORE Be it resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that: state your recommendation for dealing with the problem. (The resolution should be a clear call for action).

Respectfully submitted,

Student name(s)

High school name