

Sample Committee Session Script

Chair: [Bangs gavel three times.] The Committee on Government Affairs & National Security will now come to order. Before I open the floor for debate, I'd like to give a gentle reminder that delegates should raise their placard and hold still to be recognized. Also delegates need to identify themselves by delegate number, name, and school each time they rise to speak. When delegates use the podium for speech, please place your placard on the nameplate to display your delegate number.

One of the Vice Chairs will use the gavel to give time signals during all speeches: one tap at half way through a speech; two taps at 30 seconds left; and three taps at 10 second left.

Delegates will be voting by school, and now I need to designate head delegate for each school. How many schools are present in this committee and who would like to serve as head delegate for counting and reporting votes? OK, what's your name and you'll be representing what school? Thank you; so whenever this committee votes, you state your school's name, votes in favor, votes opposed, and abstentions. And then one of the Vice Chairs will record votes.

This committee considers bills on the agenda, which was distributed to all delegates earlier. We'll be debating the bills in the order they appear, starting with the first one on the list. Are there sponsors of Bill # 5 present?

[Delegate 11 raises placard.]

Chair: Yes, Delegate 11 has the floor to read the bill and give an authorship speech. You're recognized for 8 minutes.

Delegate 11: Delegate 11, Adlai Stevenson of Westfield Regional School. Thank you, Mr. Chairman! I rise today to bring this committee's attention to ... [Vice Chair taps once at about four minutes through the speech, and speech continues for seven minutes]. I yield the remainder of my time to points/questions.

Chair: Are there any points or questions for the speaker?

[Delegate 24 raises placard.]

Chair: Yes, Delegate 24.

Delegate 24: Delegate 24, Lori Dewey of Mountain Regional High School. Why the speaker believes that it is necessary to impose such heavy penalties for violating the provisions of section 8 of the legislation?

Delegate 11: Heavy penalties are warranted by the gravity of the situation that justifies the legislation of this bill, so that potential violation is discouraged and even avoided.

Chair: Are there any other questions for the speaker?

[Delegate 27 raises placard.]

Chair: Delegate 27

Delegate 27: Delegate 27, Ella Luxemburg of Cairo-Durham High School. Why does the speaker believe that small businesses should be exempted from this act?

Delegate 11: As the Preamble states, this legislation is intended to regulate “big” enterprises and as such should not apply to... I close myself to all questions.

Chair: The speaker is closed to all questions now and thanked.

Delegate 11: Thank you Mr. Chairman! [Returns to seat.]

Chair: Are there any points or motions on the floor at this time? [No placard’s raised.] Seeing none, the Chair will now entertain a six-minute con speech on this bill. Are there any speakers against the bill?

[Delegate 24 raises placard]

Chair: Delegate 24 is recognized for six minutes.

Delegate 24: Delegate 24, Lori Dewey of Mountain Regional High School. Thank you Mr. Chairman! While.... I yield the remainder of my time to the Chair.

Chair: The speaker is thanked. Are there any points on the floor?

Delegate 17: [Raises placard]. Point of Inquiry! Permission to preface?

Chair: On inquiry Delegate 17, preface granted

Delegate 17: Delegate 17, Joachim Camacho of Frankfurt High School. In 2023 the federal deficit reached \$900 billion. What is the delegate’s proposal to secure funding for the legislation?

Delegate 11: Delegate 11, Adlai Stevenson of Westfield Regional School. This legislation is intended to be “cost-neutral,” as it secures funding by imposing a new tax on high-income earners.

Chair: Thank you! Are there any points or questions at this time? [No placard is raised.] Seeing none, I open the floor for second pro-speech. [Delegate 41 raises placard.] Yes Delegate 41 is now recognized for 8 minutes.

Delegate 41: Delegate 41, Jane Kim, Westfield Regional School. Thank you Mr. Chairman! As my colleague emphasized in his authorship speech, this Act is essential.... [Vice Chair taps once at about four minutes left, and Delegate 41 wraps up her speech.] Now I open myself to questions.

Chair: Are there any questions for the speaker? [No placard’s raised.] Seeing none, the rest of the speaker’s time is absorbed and the speaker is thanked. [Delegate 41 returns to seat.] Are there any questions or points at this time? [No placard is raised.] Without any questions, the floor is now open for second con-speech. [Delegate 36 raises placard.] Yes, Delegate 36 is recognized for six minutes to give a second con-speech.

Delegate 36: Delegate 36, Jordan Patel, Greensborough Public School. Thank you Mr. Chairman! Although this bill has good rationale, this delegate still believes that the problem

under consideration can be better addressed by.... [Vice Chair taps three times at about 10 seconds left, and the speaker finishes his speech.]

Chair: The speaker's time has elapsed, and the speaker is thanked. With that, the committee concludes structured debate. We'll now move into general debate. Are there any points or motions on the floor?

[Delegate 32 passes a written note for amendment to the Chair and raises placard.]

Chair: Yes, Delegate 32.

Delegate 32: Delegate 32, Jackie Luna of Santa Fe Regional High School. Motion to Amend?

Chair: Delegate 32 proposes the following amendment: Delete Section C... and Change Section A to read.... Does the author find this amendment friendly or unfriendly?

Delegate 11: Unfriendly.

Chair: Is there a second for considering this amendment?

Delegate 27: Second!

Chair: With a second, the committee votes to decide whether to debate the amendment. All those in favor of debating the amendment, please raise your placard; all those opposed, raise your placard.

Chair: By a vote of 16 to 3, the committee agrees to debate and now proceeds to structured debate on the amendment proposed by Delegate 32. Delegate 32 is now recognized for two minutes for pro-speech.

Delegate 32: Delegate 32, Jackie Luna, Santa Fe Regional High School. Thank you Mr. Chairman! The bill does not go far enough to protect small businesses and its definition of small business is too narrow. In order for me to support this bill, the sections I mentioned need to be amended so that...

Chair: [Vice Chair bangs gavel three times at about 10 seconds left, as Delegate 32 uses up her two minutes.] The speaker's time has elapsed and the speaker is thanked. Are there any points on the floor?

[No placard is raised.]

Chair: Seeing none, the author of the bill is now recognized for two minutes for con-speech.

Delegate 11: Delegate 11, Adlai Stevenson of Westfield Regional School. Thank you Mr. Chairman! The bill is carefully crafted to achieve its objectives stated in the Preamble, while protecting small businesses. I believe the proposed amendment would do nothing but to undermine the bill's effectiveness in regulating big corporations and only harm small businesses unintentionally. [Delegate 11 speaks for 1 minute and says.] I yield the reminder of my time to the Chair.

Chair: The speaker is thanked. Are there any points on the floor? [Seeing Delegate 24 raise placard,] Yes, Delegate 24!

Delegate 24: Point of Information!

Chair: On Information, Delegate 24.

Delegate 24: Delegate 24, Lori Dewey of Mountain Regional High School. Through the Chair, how much is the US budget for the Small Business Administration in 2024-25?

Chair: According to my quick research, the US budget for fiscal year 24-25 is about \$260 billion. Are there any other points at this time?

Chair: [No placard is raised] Seeing none, we move into general debate on amendment and the floor is open. [Delegate 27 raises placard.] Delegate 27 is now recognized for one minute.

Delegate 27: Delegate 27, Ella Luxemburg of Cairo-Durham High School. Thank you, Mr. Chairman! I believe this bill should contain the proposed amendment in order to serve American public better...[Vice Chair taps three times at 50 seconds and Delegate 27 ends speech at one minute.]

Chair: The speaker's time has elapsed and the speaker is thanked. Are there any points or motions at this time?

Chair: [Delegate 17 raises placard.] Yes Delegate 17.

Delegate 17: Delegate 17, Joachim Camacho of Frankfurt High School. I move to the previous question on the amendment.

Chair: We have a motion for the previous question on the amendment. Is there a second?

Delegate 11. Second!

Chair: We'll now vote on whether to move to the previous question on the amendment. This motion does not entail a vote on the amendment itself. The vote we're taking now is about whether to end debate on the amendment. This vote requires a two-thirds majority, and you may not abstain. All those in favor of moving to the previous question on the amendment, please raise your placard.

[17 delegates raise placards.]

Chair: All those opposed? [6 delegates raise placards.] By a vote of 17 and 6, the previous question is so moved. We'll now vote on the amendment. You may abstain in this vote. All those in favor, please raise your placards.

Chair: [15 delegates raise their placards.] All those opposed? [6 delegates raise placards.] By a vote of 15 to 6, the amendment is adopted. We'll now move back into general debate on the bill as a whole, with the new amendment included. Are there any points or motions at this time?

Delegate 36: [Raises placard.] Delegate 36, Jordan Patel of Greensborough Public School. Motion for an unmoderated caucus!

Chair: On what grounds?

Delegate 36: To discuss possible amendments for five minutes.

Chair: This motion requires a second. Is there a second for considering this motion?

Delegate 24: Second!

Chair: With a second for an unmoderated caucus, we now vote on this motion. Those in favor, please raise placard? [5 delegates raise their placards.] Those opposed? [15 delegates raise their placards.] By a vote of 5 to 15, this motion is rejected.

[The committee continues general debate on the bill.]

Chair: Are there any points or motions at this time? [No placard is raised.] Seeing none, are there any speeches? [General debate continues with multiple speeches.]

Chair: The speaker is thanked. Are there any points or motions at this time?

Delegate 11: [Raises placard.] Delegate 11, Adlai Stevenson of Westfield Regional School. I move to the previous question on the bill.

Delegate 17: Second!

Chair: We'll now vote on moving to the previous question on the bill. A gentle reminder: this is not a vote on the bill itself; this is a vote to decide whether or not to terminate debate and it requires a two-thirds majority. All those in favor of moving to the previous question, please raise and hold your placard high? [15 delegates raise their placards.] All those opposed? [4 delegates raise placards.]

Chair: By a vote of 15 to 4, the previous question is so moved. We'll now vote on the bill. All those in favor, please raise your placards? [14 delegates raise placards.] All those opposed? [7 delegates raise placards.] All those abstaining? [2 delegates raise placards.]

Chair: By a vote of 14 to 7, this bill is adopted. Are there any points or motions at this time? [Seeing Delegate 36 raise placard,] Yes, Delegate 36!

Delegate 36: Delegate 36, Jordan Patel, Greensborough Public School. Motion to recess!

Chair: For what length of time?

Delegate 36: For 15 minutes.

Chair: Is there a second?

Delegate 27: Second

Chair: With a second, we now vote on a motion to recess for 15 minutes. [Vote is taken.] By a vote of 14 and 9, this motion is passed and the committee will return to session after 15 minutes. [Bangs gavel three times.]

[Delegates return to seats after a 15-minute recess and session is resumed]

Chair: [Bangs gavel three times.] The Committee on National Security and Foreign Affairs will come to order. This committee now considers the second bill on the agenda, Bill # 8. Are there sponsors of Bill # 8 present?