



VMUN 2026

# The 103rd United States Senate

SENATORIAL PROCEDURE

### Message from the Secretariat

The Senatorial Procedure described in this document was created for the sole purpose of Vancouver Model United Nations 2026. It is in no way reflective of the various procedural rules of the real-world United States Senate. This Senatorial Procedure document was created by adapting elements of Vancouver Model United Nations' Rules of Procedure and real-world Senatorial procedure into a unique style and structure of parliamentary debate.

The United States Senate at Vancouver Model United Nations 2026 will represent the 103rd United States Senate, which sits from January 3, 1993 to January 3, 1995.

### Section I — General Rules

#### **SCOPE AND APPLICATION**

These rules of procedure ("Senatorial Procedure") are applicable to the United States Senate at Vancouver Model United Nations 2026, during all scheduled and extraordinary sittings. Senatorial Procedure shall apply to the United States Senate. No other rules of procedure apply.

The term "Senate" in the Senatorial Procedure refers to the entire upper house of the United States Congress. "Senators" refer to any member of the United States Senate, regardless of party. A "sitting" is the equivalent of a VMUN committee session.

These rules may be adapted by the Committee Staff at their discretion.

#### **CONDUCT OF MEMBERS OF SENATE**

Senators shall be courteous and respectful to all staff and delegates. The Presiding Officer or Chair will immediately call to order Members who do not abide by this rule. Members of the Senate who feel that they are not being treated respectfully are encouraged to discuss their concerns with the Presiding Officer or a member of the Secretariat.

English will be the only official and working language of the United States Senate. Senators may not use intentionally affected accents during committee. National costumes are not permitted; Members of the Senate must wear Western business attire during all sittings of the Senate.

Senators are expected to be present at the beginning of every scheduled committee session, at which point roll call will be taken. Senators who will not be present for part or all of a committee session should inform the Presiding Officer verbally or by email prior to any such absence; it is a delegate's responsibility to ensure their absence is duly noted.

### ELECTRONIC AIDS

During a sitting, internet resources and electronic devices, such as Google Docs and laptop computers, are permitted only to aid in the composition of bills; prior to the conference, delegates should ensure they have access to these platforms if they wish to use them during committee sessions. Delegates are highly encouraged to limit their use of internet and electronic devices to the specified substantive and academic purposes during the conference.

### GENERAL POWERS OF THE SECRETARIAT

The Secretary-General and other members of the Secretariat reserve the right to suspend or modify the noted Rules of Procedure at any time. Additionally, members of the Secretariat may also serve as Presiding Officer and allow any speaker to address the Senate.

## Section II — Presiding Officers & General Procedure

### PRESIDING OFFICERS

In the United States Senate, the presiding officer is the President of the Senate, as appointed by the Secretariat. In the 103rd Senate, the President of the Senate is Al Gore of the Democratic Party. The President of the Senate shall be referred to hereafter as the “Presiding Officer.”

The Presiding Officer has the authority to preside over debate in the Senate, grant the right for a Member of the Senate to speak, and rule and enforce on matters concerning Senatorial Procedure. The Presiding Officer may suspend, amend, or adapt Senatorial Procedure at any time. The Presiding Officer may propose the adoption of any procedural motion, given no significant objection, and may also interrupt the flow of debate to address the chamber, show a presentation, or bring in a guest speaker or expert witness. The Presiding Officer may also advise Members of the Senate on possible courses of action and debate.

### ADDRESSING THE CHAMBER

All speeches and motions in the Senate shall be addressed to the Presiding Officer. In the Senate, the form of address “Mister or Madam President” shall be used. The Presiding Officer may, at their discretion, impose time limits on speeches, but has the final decision on when to call a senator to order. Speeches that refer to documents not yet introduced to the Senate are dilatory.

Only the Presiding Officer may be directly addressed in a sitting of the Senate. All other senators must refer to their fellow Members in the third person, by state or district. For example, the junior Senator from Indiana must be referred to as the “junior Senator from Indiana.” Members of the Senate may also refer to each other by their chamber leadership position (e.g. Majority Leader, Minority Whip).

### **PARTIES AND CAUCUSES**

The sole two political parties represented in the United States Senate at Vancouver Model United Nations 2026 shall be the Republican Party and the Democratic Party. Independents may be represented in the Senate and may choose to caucus with a specific political party. No other political parties will be permitted.

A senator may apply to change their party or caucus affiliation if they can demonstrate that the views of their constituents no longer align with those of their party or caucus. All applications for party changes must be approved by the Presiding Officer and the destination party or caucus leader (e.g. Majority Leader, Minority Leader). At the discretion of the Presiding Officer, a party or caucus may vote to remove a Member of the Senate from the party or caucus if they can demonstrate that the Member does not align with the party or caucus' views.

## Section III — Rules of Senatorial Debate

### **QUORUM AND ROLL CALL**

Quorum denotes the minimum number of Members of the Senate who need to be present in order to open debate. The Presiding Officer may declare the chamber in session when at least one-third of the Members of the chamber are present. A quorum will be assumed to be present unless specifically challenged and shown to be absent. At the beginning of each committee session, the Presiding Officer will conduct roll call. Senators must state themselves as “present,” which the Presiding Officer will then record. Members of the Senate who are not recorded during roll call will not be recognized to speak nor permitted to vote on any matter. Members of the Senate who arrive after roll call should send a message to the Presiding Officer to be listed as present.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND AGENDA OF THE DAY**

Once the Presiding Officer has completed calling the roll and a quorum is present, the Presiding Officer shall recite the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

*“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”*

After the recitation of the Pledge at the beginning of each sitting, the Presiding Officer shall then publish the Agenda of the Day to all senators, listing the bills and other business on the floor which the chamber shall debate.

### **LEADER TIME**

Upon opening of debate at the beginning of each sitting, the Presiding Officer shall recognize the Majority and Minority Leader in the Senate to address the chamber for no longer than one minute. The Majority and Minority Leader may designate another Member to speak in their place. The Majority and Minority Leaders may speak on the business of the day, the topic at hand, or other important matters.

### GENERAL FLOOR DEBATE

Once the Majority and Minority Leader have addressed the chamber, the Presiding Officer shall open the floor to General Floor Debate. During General Floor Debate, the floor is open for all senators to speak on their beliefs towards the Topic Area currently being considered, address any bills on the floor, or any other Senatorial business. A Member of the Senate may raise their placard to be recognized by the Presiding Officer to speak or submit a request in writing to the Presiding Officer to speak. The time allocated to General Floor Debate is at the Presiding Officer's discretion. General Floor Debate is the default activity of the chamber; if no motions or other business are on the floor, the chamber shall return to General Floor Debate at the Presiding Officer's discretion.

### FLOW OF DEBATE

When General Floor Debate has concluded, the Presiding Officer may periodically open the floor to points or motions from senators. A Member of the Senate attempting to make a point or motion must wait to be recognized by the Presiding Officer, at which point they should rise. No Member should raise their placard or hand while a speaker is speaking. The chamber shall revert to General Floor Debate if no points or motions are on the floor.

### MODERATED CAUCUS

The purpose of a moderated caucus is to facilitate substantive discussion at critical junctures in the debate. During a moderated caucus, the Presiding Officer will temporarily depart from General Floor Debate and call on senators who raise their placards to speak. A motion for a moderated caucus is in order at any time when the floor is open. The Member making the motion must specify a time limit for the caucus, a time limit for the individual speeches, and a topic of discussion for the caucus. A motion for a moderated caucus requires a simple majority to pass. If a motion is passed, the senator making the motion will be called upon by the Presiding Officer to give the first speech of the moderated caucus. Alternatively, the Member making the motion may request last speaker's rights; in this case, the Presiding Officer will reserve a time period before a moderated caucus elapses for the Member to speak. No motions or yields are in order between speeches during a moderated caucus. If there are no senators wishing to speak during a moderated caucus, the caucus immediately ends. Speeches must address the set topic of the moderated caucus; senators whose remarks are not pertinent may be called to order by the Presiding Officer.

### UNMODERATED CAUCUS (FULL CHAMBER)

A senator may move for an unmoderated caucus at any time when the floor is open. The Member of the Senate making the motion must specify a time limit, not exceeding twenty minutes, and an intended topic of discussion or other purpose for the caucus. At the Presiding Officer's discretion, the motion will be put to a vote, requiring a simple majority to pass. In the case of multiple motions for unmoderated caucuses, the Presiding Officer will order the motions in ascending order of length. During an unmoderated caucus, senators may freely interact with all members of the chamber to lobby in a more informal setting or to collaborate on bills.



### PARTY CAUCUS

A senator may move for a party caucus at any time when the floor is open. A party caucus shall divide the chamber into two separate caucuses—the majority and minority party caucus. Members of the Senate of the same caucus may freely interact among their fellow caucus members to determine party or caucus strategy, exchange views within the party, or collaborate on bills in the chamber. The senator making the motion must specify a time limit, not exceeding twenty minutes, and an intended topic of discussion or other purpose for the caucus. At the Presiding Officer's discretion, the motion will be put to a vote, requiring a simple majority to pass. In the case of multiple motions for a party caucuses, the Presiding Officer will order the motions in ascending order of length.

### CLOTURE

When the floor is open, a senator may move to close debate on the substantive or procedural matter under discussion (which will be debate on a Topic Area, debate on a resolution on the floor, or debate on an amendment). At this point, the Presiding Officer may, at their discretion, recognize up to two speakers to speak against the motion; no speakers in favour will be recognized. Cloture of debate requires a three-fifths majority of the members present. Should a motion to close debate pass, the committee will move immediately into voting procedure on the procedural matter, bill, or amendment.

### SUSPENSION OR ADJOURNMENT OF THE CHAMBER

The suspension of the sitting of the chamber means the postponement of all chamber functions until the next scheduled sitting of the Senate. The adjournment of a sitting of the chamber means the postponement of all chamber functions for the duration of the conference. A motion for suspension of the sitting of the chamber is in order only when no more than ten minutes remain in the sitting. Either motion may be ruled out of order at the discretion of the Presiding Officer. Members of the Secretariat reserve the right to suspend the sitting of the chamber at any time.

### POSTPONEMENT (TABLING) & RESUMPTION OF DEBATE

Whenever the floor is open, a senator may move for the postponement of debate on a bill or amendment currently on the floor. This motion, otherwise known as “tabling,” requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, and will be debatable to the extent of two speakers in favour and two against. No debate or action will be allowed on any bill or amendment that has been postponed. A motion to resume debate on a tabled bill or amendment requires only a simple majority to pass and is not debatable. Resumption of debate on a draft resolution or amendment cancels the effects of postponement of debate.

### SPEECHES & TIME LIMITS

If practical, the Presiding Officer shall recognize a senator to speak, alternating between the majority and minority caucus. The Presiding Officer may suspend this practice during debate over bipartisan bills or amendments, or at their discretion whenever necessary.

No senator may address the committee without being first recognized by the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer may call a Member to order if their remarks are impertinent. The Presiding Officer will limit the time allotted to each speaker, and may entertain motions to set the speaking time. Speaking time begins as soon as the speaker begins their speech. If a senator exceeds their allotted time, the Presiding Officer will call the speaker to order; however, the Chair, at their discretion, may allow a Member to complete their thoughts beyond their speaking time.

## YIELDS

A senator recognized to speak from during General Floor Debate must yield the remainder of their time when they are finished speaking; note that Members should not yield in moderated caucuses. A senator who uses the entirety of their speaking time does not technically need to yield, but should yield the remainder of their time to the Presiding Officer as a courtesy. Unlike the four types of yields present in the standard Rules of Procedure of Vancouver Model United Nations, there are three different types of yields in the United States Senate.

- » **Yielding to the Presiding Officer:** The remaining speaking time of the delegate will be absorbed by the Presiding Officer. A delegate must yield to the Presiding Officer if they do not wish to yield to another delegate or have their speech open to questions or comments.
- » **Yielding to another senator:** A senator may yield the entirety or remainder of their speaking time to another Member. The Member of the Senate being yielded to is given the option to accept or decline the yield. Should the Member accept the yield, the Presiding Officer will recognize the delegate for the remaining time. It is not possible to yield on a yield.
- » **Yielding to questions:** Senators who wish to pose a question to the speaker will be selected by the Presiding Officer, unless the Presiding Officer grants that right to the speaker. Senators may only ask one question when they are selected by the Presiding Officer—follow-up questions are not permitted—though they may raise their hand multiple times if they have more than one question. The Presiding Officer will call to order delegates whose questions are rhetorical, leading, and/or not designed to elicit information. The speaker may refuse to answer a question at their discretion. Only the speaker may respond to questions, and only the speaker's answers count towards the time limit; the speaking time is paused in the time that the question is posed.

## Section IV — Senatorial Voting & Passage of Bills

### INTRODUCTION OF A BILL

A working paper must be formatted as a Senate resolution paper and must be approved by the Presiding Officer before delegates may refer to it in a speech. Bills or other documents which have not been formally submitted to the Presiding Officer cannot be formally or directly referred to during debate. The Presiding Officer shall ensure the working paper correctly follows the conventions outlined in Section VII of Senatorial Procedure. Subsequently, a number will be attached to the working paper, it will henceforth be known as a bill, and will be added by the Presiding Officer to the Agenda of the Day at the beginning of the next sitting; bills originating in the Senate will be known as a “Senate Resolution” (S.R.).

More than one bill may be on the floor at once. A bill will remain on the floor until it is tabled, until a bill on that Topic Area has been adopted, or until it is rejected during substantive voting procedure. Senators must refer to each draft resolution by its official title, including the origin chamber and designated number (e.g. “S.R. 1.2;” “Senate Resolution 1.2”). However, no Member of the Senate may refer to a bill until it is formally introduced.

Once the Presiding Officer has approved a bill, a sponsor of the bill may move that the chamber resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole by rising and saying “Mister/Madam President, I move to resolve this chamber into the Committee of the Whole.” Should the motion pass by simple majority, the chamber shall enter the Committee of the Whole and the Reading of the bill will begin.

The Presiding Officer will temporarily suspend Senatorial procedure in order to invite no more than five sponsors of the bill to read out the bill to the chamber and summarize the bill’s intent. At the discretion of the Presiding Officer, the chamber shall enter General Floor Debate to debate the bill on the floor for a limited period. This period of General Floor Debate should cover any proposals for amendments; amendments should be completed and ready for presentation during this time. After General Floor Debate, a Member of the Senate may motion that the chamber entertain amendments by saying: “Mister/Madam President, I move that the Clerk present amendments now.” If the motion passes with a simple majority, the bill shall enter Amendment Reading.

### AMENDMENT READING

In the Amendment Reading of the bill, the Presiding Officer or a designee will read out the title of each section of the bill to the chamber. If a senator wishes to offer an amendment to the bill, the Member must motion to offer an amendment once the title of the section which the amendment aim to alter is read; the Member will say: “Mister/Madam President, I move to introduce an amendment to Section [#].” A written copy of the amendment must then be submitted to the Presiding Officer. If a Member of the Senator is unable to motion to introduce an amendment at the appropriate time during the reading of the bill, they may submit a written copy of the amendment to the Presiding Officer for consideration.

After the Presiding Officer has read all of the titles of each section of a bill, the Presiding Officer will present the chamber with the amendments motioned for during Amendment Reading. In order of section affected, the Presiding Officer will read out each amendment to the chamber again.

When the amendment is read out to the chamber, the sponsors will be asked by the Presiding Officer to deem the amendment “friendly” or “unfriendly.” If the sponsors deem the amendment “friendly,” the amendment shall be adopted and inserted into the bill without a vote of the chamber.



If the amendment is deemed “unfriendly,” the Presiding Officer shall recognize two speakers each from the majority and minority caucus to debate for and against the amendment. After the committee has heard at least two speakers for and two speakers for and against the amendment, the Presiding Officer will put the amendment to a voice vote. The sponsor of the amendment may request a recorded vote if they deem the voice vote inconclusive. Alternatively, once debate on the amendment has concluded, a senator may move to close debate on the amendment via cloture, which will then move the chamber directly to substantive voting procedure on the bill.

Should the amendment garner a simple majority of the chamber via a placard vote, voice vote, or recorded vote, the amendment will be included in the bill and the chamber will return to the next amendment on the floor to repeat the process; if no amendments are on the floor, the floor shall be open to a motion to enter Voting Procedure. A Member of the Senate may motion that the chamber enter Voting Procedure by saying: “Mister/Madam President, I move that the Clerk move the committee to Voting Procedure now.” If the motion passes with a simple majority, the bill shall enter Voting Procedure.

### **VOTING PROCEDURE**

In Voting Procedure, the Presiding Officer shall read the full title of the bill to the chamber. The Presiding Officer will then order a vote on the final passage of the bill. The bill is adopted with a simple majority. Only one resolution may be adopted per Topic Area. If a bill has passed the Senate, it shall be sent to the House of Representatives, controlled by the Democrats, and then to the President of the United States for consideration. In the 117th United States Senate, the President of the United States is Joseph R. Biden of the Democratic Party.

### **SPONSORS & CO-SPONSORS**

Sponsors of a bill are the senators who write the content of the bill. Sponsors may be invited by the Presiding Officer to read out the bill to the chamber during the Introduction of a Bill. There is no limit to the number of Members who may be listed as sponsors of a bill.

Co-Sponsors of a bill are Members of the Senate who wish to see it put to a vote. Co-Sponsors are the rough equivalent of signatories in standard committees at Vancouver Model United Nations. In the Senate, 10 co-sponsors are required before a bill can be presented to and approved by the Presiding Officer. There is no limit to the number of Members who may be listed as co-sponsors of a bill, and senators may be listed as co-sponsors on multiple bills on the floor.

### **PROCEDURAL & SUBSTANTIVE VOTING**

Voting on all matters other than the final passage of a bill and amendments is considered procedural. Procedural votes may only be decided by unanimous adoption, a placard vote, or a voice vote. Substantive voting refers to voting on the final passage of a bill and the passage of unfriendly amendments. Substantive votes may be decided by unanimous adoption, voice vote, or recorded vote. Senators who do not vote are considered to have abstained. Senators may also vote “present” during recorded votes—the equivalent of an abstention. All senators have one vote.

## METHODS OF VOTING

Four methods of voting will be used in the United States Senate. Recorded votes are only in order for substantive votes.

- » **Unanimous adoption:** Upon voting on a motion, the Presiding Officer will ask the chamber “Does the chamber wish to adopt this motion?” If there are no dissenting voices, the motion is carried without vote. If there are dissenting voices, the Presiding Officer shall move to the voice vote or the recorded vote.
- » **Placard vote:** When voting on a motion, the Presiding Officer will ask all those in favour of the motion to raise their placard, or a virtual equivalent, and then ask all those against the motion to raise their placard, or a virtual equivalent. The Presiding Officer will count the number of votes in favour and the number of votes against, and announce the decision to the chamber. A so-called placard vote shall be the default method of voting for the majority of procedural votes or substantive vote, if voice votes are determined to be impractical.
- » **Voice vote:** When voting on procedural matters, the Presiding Officer shall say “All those in favour of adopting this motion say ‘aye,’ all those against say ‘nay.’” When voting on the final passage of a bill or an amendment, the Presiding Officer shall say: “does the chamber wish to adopt Senate resolution [#]? All those in favour say ‘aye,’ all those against say ‘nay.’” In both situations, the Presiding Officer will then decide whether the ayes or the nays are the majority opinion of the chamber and announce the decision to the chamber. If five or more Members of the Senate raise to object to the decision of the Presiding Officer by saying “Mister/Madam President, I demand a recorded vote,” a recorded vote will take place (only for substantive motions).
- » **Recorded vote:** The Presiding Officer will call for a two-minute caucus before a recorded vote. During this time, the majority and minority caucus may discuss voting strategy and party whips may perform their duties. After this two-minute period, the Presiding Officer will call the roll of senators in the chamber alphabetically. Senators will respond with their vote. Members may vote “aye,” “nay,” or “present.” A vote of “present” is equivalent to an abstention.

## TIED VOTES

In the United States Senate, if the votes are tied for a recorded vote, the President of the Senate, Al Gore of the Democratic Party will cast his vote to break the tie. The vote is at the discretion of the Presiding Officer, as appointed by the Secretariat.

## WHIPPING THE VOTE

All procedural votes are considered free votes; whipping procedural votes is not allowed.

Both the Majority and Minority Whips are permitted to “whip” the vote prior to the final passage of a bill or major amendment. The time allocated to the Whips to whip the vote is at the discretion of the Presiding Officer. If a senator votes against the majority of their party or caucus during a proven whipped vote, the Majority and Minority Whip may request that the Member be removed from their party or caucus, at the Presiding Officer’s discretion. Voting against a whipped vote does not automatically result in expulsion from a party or caucus.

## Section V — Points

### POINT OF ORDER

During the discussion of any matter, a senator may raise to a Point of Order to indicate an instance of improper procedure. The Presiding Officer will rule on the Point of Order in a manner that best facilitates debate, at their discretion; the Presiding Officer's ruling is not subject to appeal. A senator rising to a Point of Order may not speak on the substance of the matter currently under discussion. A Point of Order may not interrupt a speaker. Additionally, the Presiding Officer reserves the right to address a Member directly if proper procedure is not followed.

### POINT OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

When the floor is open, a senator may raise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry to ask the Presiding Officer a question regarding Senatorial Procedure. A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may not interrupt a speaker. Members with substantive questions should not raise to this point, but should rather approach the Presiding Officer during an unmoderated caucus or send a message.

### POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Whenever a senator experiences personal discomfort or danger, which impairs their ability to participate in the proceedings, they may raise to a Point of Personal Privilege to request that the discomfort be corrected. A Point of Personal Privilege may only interrupt a speaker if the Member is in dire discomfort or danger.

## Section VI — Crises

### CRISIS SITUATIONS

In the case of a domestic or international emergency, the Presiding Officer may call for a motion to lay on the table all Senatorial business currently on the floor. The Presiding Officer will then, at their discretion, suspend standard Senatorial procedure until a resolution for the crisis has been achieved.

### CRISIS MOTIONS

Written crisis motions that authorize government agencies to take actions must be made to resolve an emergency. This is the Senatorial equivalent of a crisis directive. In order to be considered for debate, they must be submitted in writing to the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer is responsible for ordering the motions for debate. As with all motions, they are debated upon when made and are voted upon when the Presiding Officer orders the vote.

## Section VII — Bills

After lobbying and debate, senators with similar stances and ideas will begin to come together to form working groups, in which Members will combine ideas and proposals to create bills. Bills are pieces of legislation passed in the United States Senate affecting all Americans.

### PREWRITTEN BILLS

All bills introduced on the floor should be written and compiled in their entirety during sittings of the Senate at Vancouver Model United Nations 2022. The use of content created prior to the conference is prohibited and will not be accepted by the Presiding Officer.

### BILL NUMBER, SPONSORS, & CO-SPONSORS

The name and title of a bill is determined by which chamber of Congress the bill originates in, as well as the number assigned to it by the Presiding Officer. Since all bills in Vancouver Model United Nations 2022 originate in the Senate, it is known as a “Senate Resolution” (S.R.). The Presiding Officer will assign a number to the bill once it has been approved and is on the floor (e.g. Senate Resolution 1.0; S.R. 1.0). The short form of the bill number (e.g. S.R. 1.0) is listed at the top of the bill document.

Sponsors and co-sponsors are listed in a sentence format with their surname and the appropriate prefix (e.g. Mr. McConnell, Ms. Murkowski), with sponsors being listed first (as having introduced the bill) and co-sponsors listed second. The name of each sponsor and co-sponsor should be followed by the party affiliation, state, and/or district in parentheses (e.g. D-NH, R-TX).

### BILL TITLES

The function of the bill must be described within the following template clause: “To \_\_\_\_, and for other purposes.” This sentence should briefly describe what goal the bill aims to achieve and how it aims to achieve this goal. A short title for the bill (e.g. Solar Energy Investment Act) should be included in Section 1 of the bill, within the following template sentence: “This Act may be cited as the “\_\_\_\_ Act.””

### BILL BODY CLAUSES

Body clauses are the substantive element of the bill—the specific actions which the bill takes, in accordance with the purpose described at the beginning of the bill. Body clauses should be specific and realistic, considering the material and legal capabilities of the United States federal government.

- » Always cite the appropriate federal departments or agencies to execute actions (e.g. the Department of the Interior will direct the National Park Service to... ).
- » When amending or repeating previous Acts of senators, specify the clauses of the Act affected (e.g. Section 103(a) of the Affordable Care Act of 2010 is replaced with... ).
- » All clauses are numbered or lettered and in full sentences (ending with a period).
- » Sub-clauses are also to be in full sentences and are listed alphabetically.

**S.R. #**

**For Authors:** Mr./Ms. [Last Name - R/D-State Abbr] introduced the following bill;

**For Sponsors:** Co-sponsored by Mr./Ms. [Last Name - R/D-State Abbr.]:

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## A BILL

To [explain reason here], and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “\_\_\_\_\_ Act.”

### SEC. 2. [\_\_\_\_\_].

- (a) [clause “A”].
  - (1) [sub-clause “A-1”].
- (b) [clause “B”].
  - (1) [sub-clause “B-1”].
    - (i) [sub-sub-clause “B-1-i”].
- (c) [clause “C”].

### SEC. 3. [\_\_\_\_\_].

- (a) [clause “A”].
  - (1) [sub-clause “A-1”].
- (b) [clause “B”].
  - (1) [sub-clause “B-1”].
- (c) [clause “C”].
  - (1) [sub-clause “C-1”].



**S.R. 1.0**

Mr. Inhofe (R-OK), Mr. Cornyn (R-TX), and Ms. Sinema (D-AZ) introduced the following bill; co-sponsored by Mr. Cruz (R-TX), Mr. Rubio (R-FL), Mr. Schumer (D-NY), Ms. Murkowski (R-AK), and Mr. Ossoff (D-GA):

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**A BILL**

To strengthen American immigration policy by restricting asylum and refugee claims to the United States to persons who can provide appropriate documentation, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Asylum and Refugee Review Act.”

**SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF ASYLUM AND REFUGEE REVIEW.**

(a) The United States federal government shall establish the Office of Asylum and Refugee Review (OARR), jointly administered by the Department of Justice and Department of Homeland Security.

(1) The OARR shall be allocated funding as determined by the Department of Justice and Department of Homeland Security on an annual basis.

(b) The Office of Asylum and Refugee Review (OARR) shall be the sole recipient of all asylum and refugee claims by persons entering or present in the United States.

**SEC. 3. REVIEW OF ASYLUM AND REFUGEE CLAIMS.**

(a) The Office of Asylum and Refugee Review (OARR) shall only consider and process cases of refugee or asylum claims if the claimant can provide proof of legal entry into the United States, proof of their identity, and adequate evidence that they are at risk of war, persecution, or violence if they return to their home country.

(b) Claimants who cannot prove legal entry into the United States will be deported to the safest country in which they hold legal status.

(1) The criteria for a “safe country” shall be defined by the Department of State. Criteria may include:

- (i) Adherence to the rule of law;
- (ii) Protection of basic rights and freedoms;
- (iii) Judicial independence;
- (iv) Reasonable capacity for law enforcement agencies to function normally.



