

## MODEL CONGRESS: SUGGESTED BILL TOPICS

\*The following list contains topics suitable for a Model Congress bill. These are merely suggestions, and you can certainly choose a topic not included below. In choosing a bill topic, you should also consider your party affiliation, political ideology and state/district.

### Animal Rights/Management

- Animal rescue/ adoption
- Animals testing/experimentation
- Endangered species
- Humane treatment of animals in agribusiness
- Invasive species
- Therapy/service animals

### Civil Liberties/ Rights

- Abortion/reproductive rights
- Eliminate birth right citizenship (14<sup>th</sup> Amendment)
- Gender identification
- Internet gambling
- Legalize prostitution
- LGBTQ rights (marriage, adoption, employment and accommodation discrimination)
- NSA/data mining/wire tapping
- Police brutality
- Racial profiling
- Right to die/euthanasia
- Sex offender registry

### Commerce, Business, Labor, Taxes

- Banking and finance regulation
- Consumer protection
- Corporate taxes/taxing off-shore accounts
- Ethical consumerism/fair trade
- Job creation
- Boost/compensate loss of manufacturing jobs
- Minimum wage
- National sales tax
- Elimination of the penny
- Trade barriers/ tariffs
- Unemployment
- Wall St. excesses and reform
- Worker rights/labor unions

### Criminal Law/Justice System

- Ban mandatory sentencing laws
- Death Penalty
- DNA database
- Eliminate Stand Your Ground laws
- Identity theft
- Juvenile justice reform
- Mandatory sentencing for drug crimes
- Marijuana legalization/ decriminalization
- Police brutality/use of force
- Prescription drug use and abuse
- Prison reform

- Prisoner education and training
- Racial profiling
- Rehabilitation for drug crime offenders
- Sex offender registry
- Three Strikes Sentencing for non-violent offenders

### Education/Youth Issues

- Adolescent anxiety and depression
- Binge drinking education
- Cyber bullying
- Education gap/ minorities
- Education reform/Common Core
- English as a second language
- Fine arts education
- Gang violence/membership
- High school drop out/graduation rates
- Home schooling
- Illiteracy
- Mandatory preschool education
- Pell grants/federal college loans
- Poverty among young people
- Rising cost of college
- School shootings
- Sexual assault on college campuses
- Standardized testing/effects on children
- Student loan debt
- Teacher training, certification, recruitment
- Technology in the classroom
- Teen pregnancy/sex education
- Textbook censorship
- Vocational education

### Environment/Energy/Agriculture

- Agribusiness v. family farms
- Air pollution, emissions from cars, power plants,
- Alternative energy/wind, solar
- Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and drilling
- Biofuels/ethanol subsidies
- Building green buildings
- Coal
- Contaminated water supply
- Electric/hybrid cars
- Energy producer regulation
- Forest management- fires
- Fracking
- Gas price regulation
- Global warming/climate change
- Mercury contamination
- Natural gas

- Nuclear waste/ power plants
- Oil exploration/off-shore drilling/spills
- Oil pipelines/XL Pipeline
- Recycling
- Trading rights for carbon emission
- Water pollution
- Water supply/drought

### Government Reform

- Abolish/reform Electoral College
- Affirmative action
- Bipartisan redistricting commissions
- Campaign finance reform/disclosure
- Cut/increase defense spending
- Outlaw private security companies in war
- Remove tax-exempt status for religious organizations
- Veterans Administration reform
- Voting reform/Voter ID laws

### Gun Rights/Gun Control

- Assault weapons ban
- Background checks for gun ownership
- Gun control/gun safety
- Gun violence
- Mental health check for gun registration
- Reduce the size of magazines
- Restricting ammunition purchases
- Second Amendment rights
- Mass shootings
- Trigger locks on guns

### Health

- Addiction/drug use
- Affordable Care Act
- Alzheimer's disease/research
- Asthma increase in poor areas
- Communicable Disease
- FDA drug approval process
- Food safety and inspection
- Genetically altered foods
- Increase in diabetes
- Junk food tax
- Mandatory child vaccination
- Mental health care
- Needle exchange
- Obesity
- Organic foods
- Rising healthcare costs
- Single payer healthcare
- Soda Tax
- Stem cell research
- Vitamin supplements regulation

**Immigration**

- Deportation
- Dream Act
- Guest worker program
- Health insurance for immigrants
- Illegal immigrant children
- Immigrant civil rights
- Immigration reform/path to citizenship
- Immigration close borders

**Military/National Security/Foreign Policy**

- Airport security
- Ban and destroy all landmines
- Relations with Russia, Iran, China, and/or North Korea
- Drone strikes
- International trade/globalization
- Guantanamo Bay Prison future
- Military readiness
- Nuclear proliferation
- Port security
- PTSD and soldiers/veterans
- War in Afghanistan/Syria
- War on Terror/ISIS
- Veterans' healthcare, benefits

**Social Welfare/ Social Issues**

- Domestic violence
- Equal pay for women
- Ethical Consumerism
- Homeless epidemic
- Food Stamps
- Human trafficking
- Income inequality
- Medicaid reform
- Medicare reform
- Mortgage relief
- Poverty
- Regulate pornography
- Same sex adoption
- Sex trafficking
- Social Security
- Workers compensation

**Sports**

- Compensation for college athletes
- Concussions in sports/NFL and CTE
- Mandatory drug testing of athletes
- Sports online gambling/fantasy leagues (Draft Kings)
- Random drug testing for high school student athletes
- Steroids in athletics
- Title IX and high school/college athletics

**Technology/Space**

- Cyber security
- Internet regulation
- Net neutrality
- Protecting privacy rights
- Space travel
- Next generation rockets
- Spam
- Technology research and development

**Transportation/Infrastructure**

- Bicycle friendly roads
- Deterioration of infrastructure
- High-speed rail
- Public transportation
- Transporting oil by rail
- Upgrade nation's power grid
- Urban/suburban sprawl