

## SENATE SIMULATION TOPICS 2020

**Directions:** Gather information for the bill topic you chose in class. Take notes on the title article (background), a pro article, and a con article by making a key point sheet for each on a separate piece of paper which you will later turn in. Later, you will take note on how the state that you represent stands on the issues. In the end we will send 6 bills to three committees (5 from your class and one from the other).

1.) [Immigration Reform](#): Should Congress adopt Obama's sweeping Immigration [reform](#) executive order that Trump rejected? The deadline has passed already and the supreme court may decide to kick out the [dreamers](#). If so what would it [look like](#)? With over 11 million immigrants in the United States illegally, the issue of illegal immigration continues to divide Americans. Some people say that illegal immigration benefits the US economy through additional tax revenue, expansion of the low-cost labor pool, and increased money in circulation. Opponents of illegal immigration say that people who break the law by crossing the US border without proper documentation or by overstaying their visas should be deported and not rewarded with a path to citizenship and access to social services. Here are some notes on a [recent bill](#) passed by the senate and the president's [proclamation](#). [How each state stands on immigration](#).

2. [GENDER PAY DISPARITY](#) Women do not make as much as men doing the same work. Both in terms of apples to apples and apples to oranges women make [less](#). Women also do more cleaning in the workplace, advance less in companies, and get paid less right out of college for the same jobs as their male counterparts. Can the Federal government do more to guarantee equal treatment of employees by employers? This would prohibit an employer from paying its employees less than employees of the opposite sex for equal work. Should there be a provision to have women on company boards like the California requirement? Do **NOT** cover paid family leave in this bill.

[PRO I](#) [Pro II](#) [Pro III](#)

[CON I](#) [Kind of \(con\)](#)

3.) [CONCEALED WEAPONS LAW](#) (based on H.R. 38 Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of '17) Should congress pass a gun carry act expanding the ability of citizens to carry concealed weapons for protection? Deterrence may be the most powerful protection of a criminal doesn't know that an individual is carrying a gun for protection. To counter this position, however, the number of mass shootings in the recent past creating a push for more gun control. Or, should this bill consider banning bump stocks, require background checks, and consider the elimination of assault rifles based on the Brady Bill of 20014?. [Bill considerations](#):

[PRO I](#) [Pro II](#) [Pro III](#) [Pro IV \(at schools\)](#)

[CON](#) [Con II](#) [Con III](#) [Con IV](#)

4.) [Child Care/Family Leave](#) : The United States and Papua New Guinea are the only countries in the world that do not provide any paid time off for new mothers. Only California, New Jersey and Rhode Island offer paid family and medical leave. Federal law allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid time off without losing their job to care for a new child, recover from illness or care for a sick family member, but the time off is unpaid. Should the US provide 6 weeks of paid leave to workers?

[Yes 1](#): [Yes 2](#): [Yes 3](#): [No 1](#):

5.) [Covid-19](#) Government Response: How should the federal government respond to health and economic crisis caused by the coronavirus? Covid-19 is causing havoc to the world's health care system and the USA is [woefully unprepared](#). South Korea has 12.3 hospital beds per 1,000 people. The US has 2.8 How can con-

gress prepare for the onslaught of new patients and also insure that our economic system doesn't have a [complete breakdown](#) as people shelter at home and business collapse. Is it the government's responsibility to act, limit people's freedom, boost the economy, and rescue the hospitals or not? [No, free market will prevail](#) Yes, government needs to act swiftly and decisively. [NZ Example 1](#) [NZ Example 2](#)

6.) [Infrastructure](#): America's infrastructure is failing. Well, almost. The American Society of Civil Engineers this month reiterated its *nearly* failing grade for the country's vital infrastructure: a [D+](#). This includes airport maintenance and our hospitals as demonstrated in the Covid-19 dilemma. Here is a pro-con from 2010. <https://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2010/09/pros-and-cons-of-spending-50-billion-on-infrastructure/344278/> and another more recent [source](#).

7.) [MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE](#) For the past decade wages have not kept up with increases in the cost of living and the is growing disparity between the rich and poor. In some areas, making the minimum wage places a worker at the poverty level. Should the minimum wage be increased?

[Stats](#) [Pro](#) [Pro II](#) [Con I](#) [ConII](#)

8.) [Sanctity of Human Life](#)- There are several options for this bill. A new bill in Ohio prohibits abortion as soon as the fetal heartbeat is detected. Should there be a federal mandate requiring women who want an abortion to have a 24-hour waiting period, doctor notification? Another option before congress would declare that: (1) the right to life guaranteed by the Constitution is vested in each human and is a person's most fundamental right; (2) each human life begins with fertilization, cloning, or its equivalent, at which time every human has all the legal and constitutional attributes and privileges ... [S 231](#) (prohibits abortions) [Pro I](#) [Pro II](#) [Con I](#) [Con III](#).. [Pro and Con I](#) [Pro Con II](#)

[9. Tariff Bill and Outsourcing Act](#): Exporting Americas Jobs. Between 2001 and 2013, the expanded trade deficit with China cost the U.S. 3.2 million jobs, and three quarters of those jobs were in manufacturing, Millions more U.S. jobs have been lost overseas by 2020 and the Trump tax cut of 2017 encouraged more to leave. With companies outsourcing they do not need to maintain as many facilities in the US and thus they are not taxed and thus the government does not make get money for the services it supplies. President Trump has called for a border tax adjustment (BTA) scheme. Some of the ideas for implementing the BTA include imposing an import tax equivalent to the taxes remitted by the country exporting to the US, or to have an import tax of a specified percentage. A border adjustment tax would give tax breaks to American companies that ship products to other countries, and it would strip away tax breaks from American companies that import goods from other countries. See both sides [here](#) and on the border adjustment tax [here](#) or watch a funny yet someone informative clip [here](#).. In addition, Trump has just signed tariffs on steel and aluminum.. Would this be helpful or start a trade war?. Former senator Jeff Flake said we need to stop [Trump's proposal](#). Info on [Corporate Taxes Reduction](#)

10.) [Climate Security Act](#): A bill to establish the position of Climate Security Envoy within the Department of State, who shall develop policies to address security concerns with climate change and serve as a liaison with other Federal agencies and international partners on climate security issues, to express concern with, and improved preparedness for, growing security issues in the Arctic, to establish the position of Special Representative for the Arctic, and for other purposes. It will also direct the President to develop a plan for the United States to meet its nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement, and for other purposes. [Climate Change is Good](#) - [Cost of Climate Change](#) - [Global Cost of Climate Change](#) - [Trump Climate Tsar](#)

