



2022 Team Policy Debate Intent of the Resolution

CCA develops its Team Policy Debate Resolution with the expectation that debates conducted under it will address the specific policy area covered by the selected topic. The language of the resolution has been crafted to make clear the intent of the CCA Debate Rules Committee as to what are, and what are not, acceptable grounds for debate. In an attempt to clarify the intent of the resolution, refine student research, and avoid confusion and the disappointment of losing topicality rulings, this letter of clarification is provided.

The CCA Team Policy Debate Resolution for the 2022 tournament season is as follows:

Resolved, The United States Federal Government should reform its policy or policies for financing the purchase of single-family dwellings, excluding policies enacted for COVID-19 pandemic relief.

"Homeownership lies at the heart of the American Dream. It is a key to upward mobility for low and middle income Americans. It is an anchor for families and a source of stability for communities. It serves as the foundation of many people's financial security and it is a source of pride for people who have worked hard to provide for their families."
President George Bush, June 2001

The real estate and housing markets play an important role in the U.S. economy and the federal government has supported these activities for nearly one hundred years. More than half of single-family dwellings are occupied by the owner and these homes are a substantial source of wealth for many U.S. citizens. The economic benefits of expanding homeownership are well documented and real estate and mortgage holdings can be valued in the trillions of dollars.

Special note:

The resolution is not intended to include debate about every form of housing assistance provided by the federal government but only those housing policy(s) for financing the purchase of single-family dwellings. Housing finance policies enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic are specifically excluded from debate. Examples of other federal policy(s) for housing assistance that would be excluded include but are not limited to direct monetary assistance, rental subsidies, multiunit housing finance programs, public housing projects, military housing benefits, housing assistance grants to state and local governments, and FEMA disaster response housing assistance.

Judge Instructions:

Judges will be instructed in the following manner regarding topicality:

The affirmative team must satisfy the following regarding **topicality**. (Whether or not the plan's reforms succeed is a question of solvency, significance, or inherency.)

- ***The United States Federal Government***
- ***should reform***
- ***its policy or policies for financing the purchase of single-family dwellings***
- ***excluding policies enacted for COVID-19 pandemic relief***

The affirmative case must satisfy these points to be a topical case. If the affirmative case does not satisfy these points, it is not topical. The affirmative team should enter the round prepared to show how and why their case fulfills the resolution. In the event of a topicality challenge, the affirmative must *convince the judge* that their case is topical. It is not enough that you believe it to be so.

Debaters are encouraged to study closely the "*Policy Debate Criteria & Competitor Standards*" regarding the terms "Extra Topicality" and "Effects Topicality" to ensure that they apply these terms and the competition criteria described in this document appropriately as needed.