

Model Senate Policy Proposal Template Worksheet

Students assigned to the role of **Co-Chair, Senator, or Expert Witness** should complete the following worksheet as preliminary preparation for the **Model Senate**. One of the principal goals of the Model Senate program is to draft policy solutions to persistent issues confronting American citizens and people around the world. Co-Chairs, Senators, and Expert Witnesses will be instrumental in drafting policies that are well-researched, reasonable, and capable of bipartisan support. For this program, the proposed policy should be limited in scope, tackling specific aspects of the larger subcommittee topic issue. For example, for a subcommittee hearing focused on the American healthcare system, the subcommittee members might consider policies aimed at a narrower issue, such as lowering the price of insulin.

Instructions:

First, take a look at the Sample Policy Proposal below for a better understanding of what the final product should look like at the conclusion of your subcommittee's meeting. Take note of the Sample Policy Proposal structure and the order in which the proposal presents critical information and proposed solutions to the reader. Next, utilizing your research, write a draft policy proposal aimed at solving a part of your subcommittee topic issue. Remember that you are writing from the perspective of your assigned role, seeking to propose a solution to the subcommittee topic issue that aligns with your assigned character's experiences and viewpoints related to the topic.

Sample Policy Proposal *(Example - Subcommittee on Health Care)*

I. Description of Problem

Approximately 35 million Americans live with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes. Insulin is a critical, life-saving medical product that allows millions to live comfortable lives managing these harmful diseases. From 2014 to 2019, insulin prices rose 47%, and can cost upwards of 300\$ per vial. Only 3% of Americans receiving Medicaid, and only 9% of Americans on private insurance pay the full price for insulin. 68% of Americans who do not have insurance pay full price for insulin.

II. Proposed Solution(s)

This committee proposes that the maximum out-of-pocket cost for all Americans purchasing insulin is capped at 200\$ per vial.

III. Affected Stakeholders

The primary affected stakeholders are the millions of Americans who rely on insulin to survive. Without access to affordable insulin, these citizens face difficult choices between critical medical supplies and life's other necessities. Additional affected stakeholders are pharmaceutical companies, insurance providers, hospitals, pharmacies and urgent care providers who would be directly affected by this policy change.

IV. Budgetary/Political Considerations

This policy proposal would have no budgetary effect on federal, state, or local governments. Costs will be incurred by pharmaceutical and insurance companies. Significant pushback should be expected from parts of the medical community. Specifically, legislators should be wary of pushback from pharmaceutical companies who would be most affected by the price caps associated with this policy.

Create Your Own Policy Proposal:

Based on your research and from the perspective of your assigned role, draft a policy proposal for your subcommittee topic. In Section II (Proposed Solutions), be sure to provide realistic and actionable solutions to the issues presented in Section I (Description of the Problem).

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II. Proposed Solutions

III. Affected Stakeholders

IV. Budgetary/Political Considerations