Here is some insight regarding the Federal Debate Paper:

1. This assignment is scheduled early in the semester to help us see one aspect of the federal government in health care. It is good for nurses to be aware that this site,*Library of Thomas* is available to all.

2. Since this is an on-line program, we do not meet in a F2F classroom. Therefore, you are tasked with an academic exercise of a written debate. Instead of verbally debating, you have to write both the pro and con stance yourself. Traditionally, in a debate you would be on one side or the other. In a collegiate level debate, a member of one side would be aware of what the other side might say and be prepared to rebut.

3. It is not easy to write in a neutral position manner but do not let your emotions bleed through until part three, the conclusion. We all know that one would select a bill that they have an opinion on. Remember....part 1 is a proponent stance, part 2 is the opponent stance and part 3 is where you can express your own opinions.

4. When I review this assignment, I look highly on a paper where I cannot tell which side you are on to the part 3. This should not be written as an editorial but be well cited with professional articles and websites. Keep me guessing!

**Rubric for Federal Debate Paper**

Please explore the Library of Congress - Thomas Website at <http://thomas.loc.gov/>. It provides information on all health care bills currently open in the U.S. Congress.

1. Submit your choice by the specified due date in the designated discussion forum and include the bill number, (i.e. S.55 or HR.95), the sponsor and relevance to healthcare. 2. The debate paper must contain an introduction, a proponent statement followed by an opponent statement and a conclusion. 3. Relevant data from journals or professional websites should be used to support both stances. I should not be able to determine which side of the issue you are on until the conclusion, where you should then express your side. This is an academic exercise, not an editorial assignment. Often, students treat this as a personal view assignment. This belongs in the conclusion only.

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| **Criteria** |  |  | **Score** |
| Selection of topic relevant to public health | **0 pts**  Not relevant to public health | **1 pt** Current relevance to national healthcarewith supporting rationale |  |
| **Introduction**  | **0 pts**Vague | **1 -2 pts**Introduction is clear, concise the reader understands the objective of the assignment.  |  |
| **Proponent Stance** | **0-2 pts**Proponent stance is weakly supported with multiple evidence | **3 - 5 pts**Proponent stance is supported with multiple sources of evidence |  |
| **Opponent Stance** | **0-2 pts**Opponent stance is weakly supported with multiple evidence | **3 - 5 pts**Opponent stance is supported with multiple sources of evidence  |  |
| **Conclusion** | **0 pts**Conclusion only includes student’s opinion | **1 pts**Conclusion summarizes stances and critiques data. It includes student’s opinion  |  |
| **APA Grammar, Punctuation, Vericite Degree of Similarity**  | **0.0 – 0.9 pts**Errors in grammar, punctuation, APA and/or Vericite ≥ 15% | **1 pts**Few grammar, punctuation, APA mistakes and Vericite ≤ 15% |  |

This assignment addresses the NLN competency of:

Professional Identity (PI) as it relates to public health nurses role in national health care legislation and advocacy. *Spirit of Inquiry* as demonstrated in the research of health care journals and professional websites.

This assignment addresses the *Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing* competencies:

V. *Healthcare Policy, Finance and Regulatory Environments* as it relates to health care legislation.

\*\*\*\*\*approved topic\*\*\*\*\*

2. H.R.2897 — 116th Congress (2019-2020

 Animal Freedom from Testing, Experiments, and Research Act of 2019 or the AFTER Act of 2019
This bill requires federal research facilities to facilitate the adoption or nonlaboratory placement of certain warm-blooded animals (e.g., dogs, cats, monkeys, guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits) with animal rescue organizations, animal sanctuaries, animal shelters, or individuals. In order to be adopted or placed, the animals must (1) no longer be needed for research; (2) be suitable for release; (3) not be birds, rats, or mice.

I'm thinking of using this bill to segue into animal testing.  This needs to focus on the environmental aspect of public health