



Harvard Model Congress

Boston 2024

House of Representatives Financial Services Committee

Dear House Financial Services Delegates,

Our names are Stephen, Ian, Hayden, Rohan, and Natania and we are your chairs for Harvard Model Congress Boston!

My name is Stephen Norris and I am a junior from Nashua, New Hampshire studying Applied Mathematics to Economics! This is my seventh HMC conference, and I could not be more excited to meet you all! Outside of HMC, I am a part of the Harvard Financial Analysts Club, the Harvard Sports Analytics Collective, and I play multiple intramural and club sports. In my free time, you can usually find me outside surfing, hiking, mountain biking, or doing carpentry projects around the house.

My name is Ian Svetkey, and I'm a junior from Belmont, Massachusetts, studying Physics and Biology. This is my second HMC conference, and I'm so excited to meet everyone! Outside of HMC, I sing with the Harvard University Choir and write for The Harvard Crimson's editorial board. When I'm not doing work for some organization, you can find me playing the piano (badly) in my house's dining hall, or taking unnecessarily long walks along the Charles River.

Howdy! My name is Hayden Bennett and I am a sophomore from Millican, Texas studying economics and education. This is my first year in HMC and I am so excited to meet all of y'all. Along with HMC, I am involved in club volleyball and Harvard Texas Club. Outside of class, you can catch me riding my bike, leather-working, or continuing my tireless search for the best matcha latte on Harvard's campus.

Hey there! My name is Rohan Malik and I am a freshman from Parkersburg, West Virginia studying economics and statistics. This is my first conference in HMC, and I'm ecstatic about working with all of you! Other than HMC I am involved with Harvard Model United Nations, Harvard Financial Analysts Club, Harvard Alternative Investments, and Harvard South Asian Association. When I want to escape school work, I love hiking, reading, going on walks through the yard, and listening to music.

Hi! My name is Natania Elias and I am a sophomore from Fairfax, Virginia studying Economics and Government. This is my first-year in HMC and I am so excited to meet you all! Outside of HMC, I am part of Harvard Undergraduate Capital Partners, the Women's Initiative in Leadership, and Harvard Eritrean and Ethiopian Students Association. In my free time, I love to discover a new album, thrift, or explore Cambridge and Boston.

The Financial Services Committee, led by Congresswoman Patrick McHenry, holds authority over vital areas like housing, banking, and insurance. Its oversight extends to key federal departments, including the Treasury, Federal Reserve, and Securities and Exchange Commission. The committee has a crucial role in the Nation's economy and thus impacts nearly every American citizen.



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Our first briefing deals with the regulation of the banking industry. In early 2023, First Republic Bank, Signature Bank, and Silicon Valley Bank all failed as a result of their lack of risk mitigation protocols, resulting in a run on their bank. These failures highlight the fact that despite the banking industry having the reputation of being heavily regulated, some aspects of their operations remain largely unchecked, leading to this crisis. Not only do these failures impact the banks themselves, but employees and consumers around the world are affected. As members of the House Financial Services Committee, you will have to use your unique jurisdiction to address these issues quickly and effectively.

Our second briefing deals with the issue of housing policy in America. The housing crisis is a multifaceted issue that boils down to a simple inequality between the number of people who are in search of housing and the number of houses that are available. You will be tasked with finding best-fit solutions that address this complex problem through multiple lenses, including both short-term and long-term solutions and historical background. This issue is also unique in that congressional positions are not as polarized along party lines as the majority of issues discussed in the current Congress, meaning you will need to pay close attention to nuance.

We hope that you come away from HMC Boston feeling that you were intellectually challenged and fulfilled; we also want you to have an absolute blast! If you have any questions beforehand, please feel free to reach out to us and introduce yourself.

See you in February,
Stephen, Ian, Hayden, Rohan, and Natania