

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6139

To amend chapter 31 of title 31 of the United States Code and title IV of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to automatically suspend the debt limit for the fiscal year of a budget resolution.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 3, 2021

Mr. ARRINGTON (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Ms. BOURDEAUX) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend chapter 31 of title 31 of the United States Code and title IV of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to automatically suspend the debt limit for the fiscal year of a budget resolution.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Responsible Budgeting  
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRESIDENTIAL REQUEST TO SUSPEND THE DEBT**  
2 **LIMIT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 31, United States Code, is  
4 amended by striking section 3101A and inserting the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 **“§ 3101A. Modification of statutory limit on the public**  
7 **debt**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon adoption by Congress of  
9 a concurrent resolution on the budget under section 301  
10 or 304 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C.  
11 632, 634) that satisfies the required ratio, as determined  
12 by the Congressional Budget Office, the Clerk of the  
13 House of Representatives shall prepare an engrossment of  
14 a joint resolution in the form prescribed in subsection (b)  
15 suspending the statutory limit on the public debt until the  
16 last day of the fiscal year of that concurrent resolution.  
17 Upon engrossment of the joint resolution, the vote by  
18 which the concurrent resolution on the budget was adopt-  
19 ed by the House of Representatives shall also be consid-  
20 ered as a vote on passage of the joint resolution in the  
21 House of Representatives, and the joint resolution shall  
22 be considered as passed by the House of Representatives  
23 and duly certified and examined. The engrossed copy shall  
24 be signed by the Clerk of the House of Representatives  
25 and transmitted to the Senate. Upon receipt of the House  
26 of Representatives joint resolution in the Senate, the vote

1 by which the concurrent resolution on the budget was  
2 adopted in the Senate shall also be considered as a vote  
3 on passage of the joint resolution in the Senate, and the  
4 joint resolution shall be considered as passed by the Sen-  
5 ate, duly certified and examined, and transmitted to the  
6 House of Representatives for enrollment.

7 “(b) FORM OF JOINT RESOLUTION.—The form of the  
8 joint resolution described in this subsection is a joint reso-  
9 lution—

10 “(1) which does not have a preamble;

11 “(2) the title of which is only as follows: ‘Joint  
12 resolution suspending the debt limit, as prepared  
13 under section 3101A of title 31, United States Code,  
14 on \_\_\_\_\_’ (with the blank containing the  
15 date on which the joint resolution is prepared); and

16 “(3) the matter after the resolving clause which  
17 is only as follows: ‘Section 3101(b) of title 31,  
18 United States Code, shall not apply for the period  
19 beginning on the date of enactment and ending on  
20 September 30, \_\_\_\_\_.’ (with the blank being  
21 filled with the fiscal year of the concurrent resolu-  
22 tion on the budget).

23 “(c) INCREASE OF DEBT LIMIT.—Effective on the  
24 date on which the authority of a joint resolution described

1 in subsection (b) terminates, the limitation in effect under  
2 section 3101(b) shall be increased to the extent that—

3 “(1) the face amount of obligations issued  
4 under this chapter and the face amount of obliga-  
5 tions whose principal and interest are guaranteed by  
6 the United States Government (except guaranteed  
7 obligations held by the Secretary of the Treasury)  
8 outstanding on such date, exceeds

9 “(2) the face amount of such obligations out-  
10 standing on the date the debt limit was last in ef-  
11 fect.

12 “(d) RESTORING CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORITY OVER  
13 THE NATIONAL DEBT.—

14 “(1) EXTENSION LIMITED TO NECESSARY OBLI-  
15 GATIONS.—An obligation shall not be taken into ac-  
16 count under subsection (c)(1) unless the issuance of  
17 such obligation was necessary to fund a commitment  
18 incurred pursuant to law by the Federal Government  
19 that required payment before the date on which the  
20 authorization of the joint resolution described in  
21 subsection (b) terminates.

22 “(2) PROHIBITION ON CREATION OF CASH RE-  
23 SERVE DURING EXTENSION PERIOD.—The Secretary  
24 of the Treasury shall not issue obligations during  
25 the period specified in the matter after the resolving

1 clause of a joint resolution, as described in sub-  
2 section (b)(3), for the purpose of increasing the cash  
3 balance above normal operating balances in anticipa-  
4 tion of the expiration of such period.

5 “(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
6 tion shall be construed as limiting or otherwise affecting—

7 “(1) the power of the House of Representatives  
8 or the Senate to consider and pass bills or joint res-  
9 olutions, without regard to the procedures under  
10 subsection (a), that would change the statutory limit  
11 on the public debt; or

12 “(2) the rights of Members, Delegates, the  
13 Resident Commissioner, or committees with respect  
14 to the introduction, consideration, and reporting of  
15 such bills or joint resolutions.

16 “(f) DEFINITION.—In this section and section  
17 3101B—

18 “(1) the term ‘required ratio’ means the ratio  
19 that—

20 “(A) reduces by not less than 10 percent-  
21 age points the projected ratio under current law  
22 of debt held by the public to Gross Domestic  
23 Product in the tenth fiscal year after the cur-  
24 rent fiscal year; and

1           “(B) reduces such projected ratio by 50  
2           percent of the total reduction required under  
3           subparagraph (A) not later than the fifth fiscal  
4           year after the current fiscal year; and

5           “(2) the term ‘statutory limit on the public  
6           debt’ means the maximum face amount of obliga-  
7           tions issued under authority of this chapter and obli-  
8           gations guaranteed as to principal and interest by  
9           the United States (except such guaranteed obliga-  
10          tions as may be held by the Secretary of the Treas-  
11          ury), as determined under section 3101(b) after the  
12          application of section 3101(a), that may be out-  
13          standing at any one time.

14   **“§ 3101B. Presidential modification of the debt ceil-**  
15           **ing**

16          “(a) IN GENERAL.—

17           “(1) WRITTEN NOTIFICATION.—If, for a fiscal  
18          year, Congress does not adopt a concurrent resolu-  
19          tion on the budget that satisfies the required ratio  
20          by the covered date, the President may submit a  
21          written notification to Congress, including a debt re-  
22          duction proposal with legislative language that satis-  
23          fies the required ratio, that the President is sus-  
24          pending the statutory limit on the public debt sub-

1       ject to limit in section 3101(b) and that further bor-  
2       rowing is required to meet existing commitments.

3               “(2) EFFECT OF NOTIFICATION.—

4               “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
5       graph (C), upon the submission of a written no-  
6       tification by the President under paragraph (1),  
7       including a debt reduction proposal comprised  
8       of legislative text that the Director of the Office  
9       of Management and Budget has determined  
10      satisfies the required ratio, the statutory limit  
11      on the public debt shall be suspended until the  
12      end of the fiscal year beginning in the calendar  
13      year in which the President submits a request.

14              “(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as pro-  
15      vided in subparagraph (C), a suspension of the  
16      statutory limit on the public debt under sub-  
17      paragraph (A) shall take effect on the date that  
18      is 30 calendar days after the date on which the  
19      written notification is submitted by the Presi-  
20      dent under paragraph (1).

21              “(C) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—The  
22      statutory limit on the public debt shall not be  
23      suspended under this paragraph if, during the  
24      30-calendar-day period beginning on the date  
25      on which Congress receives a notification under

1           this paragraph, Congress enacts into law a joint  
2           resolution of disapproval in accordance with  
3           subsection (b).

4           “(3) COVERED DATE DEFINED.—For purposes  
5           of paragraph (1), the term ‘covered date’ means the  
6           earlier of—

7                   “(A) April 15 of the calendar year in  
8                   which the fiscal year of the applicable concur-  
9                   rent resolution on the budget begins; or

10                   “(B) 60 days before the date on which the  
11                   statutory limit on the public debt will be  
12                   reached, as described in the congressional noti-  
13                   fication submitted by the Secretary of the  
14                   Treasury.

15           “(4) INCREASE OF DEBT LIMIT.—Effective on  
16           the date the debt limit extension pursuant to the  
17           written notification under paragraph (1) terminates,  
18           the limitation in effect under section 3101(b) shall  
19           be increased to the extent that—

20                   “(A) the face amount of obligations issued  
21                   under this chapter and the face amount of obli-  
22                   gations whose principal and interest are guar-  
23                   anteed by the United States Government (ex-  
24                   cept guaranteed obligations held by the Sec-



1           retary of the Treasury) outstanding on such  
2           date, exceeds

3           “(B) the face amount of such obligations  
4           outstanding on the date the debt limit was last  
5           in effect.

6           “(5) RESTORING CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORITY  
7           OVER THE NATIONAL DEBT.—

8           “(A) EXTENSION LIMITED TO NECESSARY  
9           OBLIGATIONS.—An obligation shall not be taken  
10          into account under paragraph (4)(A) unless the  
11          issuance of such obligation was necessary to  
12          fund a commitment incurred pursuant to law by  
13          the Federal Government that required payment  
14          before the date on which the debt limit exten-  
15          sion pursuant to the written notification under  
16          paragraph (1) terminates.

17          “(B) PROHIBITION ON CREATION OF CASH  
18          RESERVE DURING EXTENSION PERIOD.—The  
19          Secretary of the Treasury shall not issue obliga-  
20          tions during the period beginning on the effec-  
21          tive date described in paragraph (2)(B) and  
22          ending on the last day of the fiscal year de-  
23          scribed in paragraph (2)(A) for the purpose of  
24          increasing the cash balance above normal oper-

1           ating balances in anticipation of the expiration  
2           of such period.

3           “(b) JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—

4                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If a joint resolution of dis-  
5           approval has not been enacted by the end of the 30-  
6           calendar-day period beginning on the date on which  
7           the presidential notification to which the joint reso-  
8           lution relates was received by Congress under sub-  
9           section (a), the statutory limit on public debt shall  
10          be suspended as specified in the presidential notifi-  
11          cation.

12                 “(2) CONTENTS OF JOINT RESOLUTION.—For  
13          the purpose of this section, the term ‘joint resolu-  
14          tion’ means only a joint resolution—

15                         “(A) that is introduced between the date  
16           the written notification is received and 3 cal-  
17           endar days after that date (or if the House of  
18           Representatives or Senate is not in session, the  
19           next calendar date in which it is in session);

20                         “(B) which does not have a preamble;

21                         “(C) the title of which is only as follows:

22           ‘Joint resolution relating to the disapproval of  
23           the President’s exercise of authority to suspend  
24           the debt limit, as submitted under section  
25           3101B(a) of title 31, United States Code, on

1 \_\_\_\_\_’ (with the blank containing the  
2 date of such submission); and

3 “(D) the matter after the resolving clause  
4 of which is only as follows: ‘That Congress dis-  
5 approves of the President’s exercise of authority  
6 to suspend the debt limit, as exercised pursuant  
7 to the written notification under section  
8 3101B(a) of title 31, United States Code.’.

9 “(c) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN THE HOUSE OF  
10 REPRESENTATIVES.—

11 “(1) RECONVENING.—Upon receipt of a written  
12 notification described in subsection (a)(1), the  
13 Speaker of the House of Representatives, if the  
14 House of Representatives would otherwise be ad-  
15 journed, shall notify the Members of the House of  
16 Representatives that, pursuant to this section, the  
17 House of Representatives shall convene not later  
18 than the second calendar day after receipt of such  
19 written notification.

20 “(2) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—A joint  
21 resolution introduced under paragraph (1) shall be  
22 referred to the Committee on Ways and Means of  
23 the House of Representatives and such committee  
24 shall report the joint resolution to the House of Rep-  
25 resentatives without amendment not later than 5

1 calendar days after the date on which the joint reso-  
2 lution is introduced. If the Committee on Ways and  
3 Means fails to report the joint resolution within the  
4 5-day period, the Committee on Ways and Means  
5 shall be discharged from further consideration of the  
6 joint resolution and it shall be referred to the appro-  
7 priate calendar.

8 “(3) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—Upon  
9 report or discharge from the Committee on Ways  
10 and Means of the House of Representatives, and not  
11 later than 6 days after the date on which the joint  
12 resolution is introduced under paragraph (1), it shall  
13 be in order to move to proceed to consider the joint  
14 resolution in the House of Representatives. All  
15 points of order against the motion are waived. Such  
16 a motion shall not be in order after the House of  
17 Representatives has disposed of a motion to proceed  
18 on a joint resolution addressing a particular submis-  
19 sion. The previous question shall be considered as  
20 ordered on the motion to its adoption without inter-  
21 vening motion. The motion shall not be debatable. A  
22 motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion  
23 is disposed of shall not be in order.

24 “(4) CONSIDERATION.—The joint resolution  
25 shall be considered as read. All points of order

1 against the joint resolution and against its consider-  
2 ation are waived. The previous question shall be con-  
3 sidered as ordered on the joint resolution to its pas-  
4 sage without intervening motion except two hours of  
5 debate equally divided and controlled by the pro-  
6 ponent and an opponent. A motion to reconsider the  
7 vote on passage of the joint resolution shall not be  
8 in order.

9 “(d) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE IN SENATE.—

10 “(1) RECONVENING.—Upon receipt of a written  
11 notification under subsection (a)(1), if the Senate  
12 has adjourned or recessed for more than 2 days, the  
13 majority leader of the Senate, after consultation  
14 with the minority leader of the Senate, shall notify  
15 the Members of the Senate that, pursuant to this  
16 section, the Senate shall convene not later than the  
17 second calendar day after receipt of such message.

18 “(2) PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.—Upon intro-  
19 duction in the Senate, the joint resolution shall be  
20 immediately placed on the calendar.

21 “(3) FLOOR CONSIDERATION.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding Rule  
23 XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is  
24 in order at any time during the period begin-  
25 ning on the day after the date on which Con-

1       gress receives a written notification under sub-  
2       section (a) and ending on the sixth day after  
3       the date on which Congress receives a written  
4       notification under subsection (a) (even though a  
5       previous motion to the same effect has been dis-  
6       agreed to) to move to proceed to the consider-  
7       ation of the joint resolution, and all points of  
8       order against the joint resolution (and against  
9       consideration of the joint resolution) are  
10      waived. The motion to proceed is not debatable.  
11      The motion is not subject to a motion to post-  
12      pone. A motion to reconsider the vote by which  
13      the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not  
14      be in order. If a motion to proceed to the con-  
15      sideration of the resolution is agreed to, the  
16      joint resolution shall remain the unfinished  
17      business until disposed of.

18           “(B) CONSIDERATION.—Consideration of  
19      the joint resolution, and on all debatable mo-  
20      tions and appeals in connection therewith, shall  
21      be limited to not more than 10 hours, which  
22      shall be divided equally between the majority  
23      and minority leaders or their designees. A mo-  
24      tion further to limit debate is in order and not  
25      debatable. An amendment to, or a motion to

1           postpone, or a motion to proceed to the consid-  
2           eration of other business, or a motion to recom-  
3           mit the joint resolution is not in order.

4           “(C) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—If the Senate  
5           has voted to proceed to a joint resolution, the  
6           vote on passage of the joint resolution shall  
7           occur immediately following the conclusion of  
8           consideration of the joint resolution, and a sin-  
9           gle quorum call at the conclusion of the debate  
10          if requested in accordance with the rules of the  
11          Senate.

12          “(D) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCE-  
13          DURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair  
14          relating to the application of the rules of the  
15          Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure re-  
16          lating to a joint resolution shall be decided  
17          without debate.

18          “(e) AMENDMENT NOT IN ORDER.—A joint resolu-  
19          tion of disapproval considered pursuant to this section  
20          shall not be subject to amendment in either the House  
21          of Representatives or the Senate.

22          “(f) COORDINATION WITH ACTION BY OTHER  
23          HOUSE.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—If, before passing the joint  
2 resolution, one House receives from the other a joint  
3 resolution—

4           “(A) the joint resolution of the other  
5 House shall not be referred to a committee; and

6           “(B) the procedure in the receiving house  
7 shall be the same as if no joint resolution had  
8 been received from the other house until the  
9 vote on passage, when the joint resolution re-  
10 ceived from the other house shall supplant the  
11 joint resolution of the receiving House.

12           “(2) TREATMENT OF JOINT RESOLUTION OF  
13 OTHER HOUSE.—If the Senate fails to introduce or  
14 consider a joint resolution under this section, the  
15 joint resolution of the House shall be entitled to ex-  
16 pedited floor procedures under this section.

17           “(3) TREATMENT OF COMPANION MEASURES.—  
18 If, following passage of the joint resolution in the  
19 Senate, the Senate then receives the companion  
20 measure from the House of Representatives, the  
21 companion measure shall not be debatable.

22           “(4) CONSIDERATION AFTER PASSAGE.—

23           “(A) IN GENERAL.—If Congress passes a  
24 joint resolution, the period beginning on the  
25 date the President is presented with the joint



1 resolution and ending on the date the President  
2 signs, allows to become law without the signa-  
3 ture of the President, or vetoes and returns the  
4 joint resolution (but excluding days when either  
5 House is not in session) shall be disregarded in  
6 computing the appropriate calendar day period  
7 described in subsection (b)(1).

8 “(B) DEBATE ON VETO MESSAGE.—De-  
9 bate on a veto message in the Senate under this  
10 section shall be 1 hour equally divided between  
11 the majority and minority leaders or their des-  
12 ignees.

13 “(C) VETO OVERRIDE.—If, within the 30-  
14 calendar-day period described in subsection  
15 (b)(1), Congress overrides a veto of a joint reso-  
16 lution, the limitation in effect under section  
17 3101(b) shall not be suspended.

18 “(g) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND  
19 SENATE.—This section and section 3101A are enacted by  
20 Congress—

21 “(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of  
22 the Senate and House of Representatives, respec-  
23 tively, and as such it is deemed a part of the rules  
24 of each House, respectively, but applicable only with  
25 respect to the procedure to be followed in that

1 House in the case of a joint resolution, and it super-  
 2 sedes other rules only to the extent that it is incon-  
 3 sistent with such rules; and

4 “(2) with full recognition of the constitutional  
 5 right of either House to change the rules (so far as  
 6 relating to the procedure of that House) at any time,  
 7 in the same manner, and to the same extent as in  
 8 the case of any other rule of that House.”.

9 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
 10 of subchapter I of chapter 31 of title 31, United States  
 11 Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section  
 12 3101A and inserting the following:

“3101A. Modification of statutory limit on the public debt.  
 “3101B. Presidential modification of the debt ceiling.”.

13 **SEC. 3. CONSIDERATION OF THE DEBT REDUCTION PRO-**  
 14 **POSAL SUBMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part A of title IV of the Congres-  
 16 sional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2  
 17 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section  
 18 406 the following:

19 **“SEC. 407. CONSIDERATION OF THE DEBT REDUCTION PRO-**  
 20 **POSAL SUBMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT.**

21 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Any debt reduction proposal  
 22 submitted by the President under section 3101B(a)(2)(A)  
 23 of title 31, United States Code, is required to satisfy the

1 required ratio as determined by the Office of Management  
2 and Budget.

3 “(b) CONSIDERATION OF THE PRESIDENT’S PRO-  
4 POSAL IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

5 “(1) INTRODUCTION.—Any debt reduction pro-  
6 posal submitted by the President under section  
7 3101B of title 31, United States Code, shall be in-  
8 troduced by the majority or minority leader of the  
9 House of Representatives or their designees. Upon  
10 introduction, the Chair of the Committee on the  
11 Budget shall within 3 days submit the proposal to  
12 the Congressional Budget Office to be scored.

13 “(2) REFERRAL.—Any proposal introduced  
14 under paragraph (1) shall be referred to the Com-  
15 mittee on the Budget of the House of Representa-  
16 tives.

17 “(3) REQUESTS BY BUDGET COMMITTEE.—Not  
18 later than 3 days after the date on which a proposal  
19 is referred under paragraph (2), the Chair of the  
20 Committee on the Budget of the House of Rep-  
21 resentatives shall submit to each appropriate com-  
22 mittee of the House a request that, during the 30-  
23 day period beginning on the date on which the re-  
24 quest is made, the appropriate committee submit to  
25 the Committee on the Budget of the House—

1           “(A) a general assessment of the proposal  
2 introduced under paragraph (1); and

3           “(B)(i) any recommendations related to  
4 the proposal; or

5           “(ii) any alternative recommendation to re-  
6 duce the deficit within the jurisdiction of the  
7 committee.

8           “(4) REPORTED LEGISLATION BY BUDGET COM-  
9 MITTEE.—

10           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee on the  
11 Budget of the House of Representatives shall  
12 report a bill that meets the required ratio not  
13 later than 60 days after the date on which the  
14 President submits a debt reduction proposal  
15 under this section.

16           “(B) CONTENTS OF LEGISLATION.—The  
17 bill reported under subparagraph (A) may in-  
18 clude—

19           “(i) the debt reduction proposal sub-  
20 mitted by the President under this section;  
21 and

22           “(ii) any recommendations submitted  
23 to the Committee on the Budget of the  
24 House of Representatives under paragraph  
25 (3), including any modifications to such

1 proposals by the Committee on the Budget  
2 of the House of Representatives.

3 “(C) CBO SCORE.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—No bill may be re-  
5 ported under subparagraph (A) unless the  
6 Chair of the Committee on the Budget—

7 “(I) submits to the Director of  
8 the Congressional Budget Office such  
9 bill for a cost estimate to be prepared  
10 under section 402; and

11 “(II) receives from the Director a  
12 cost estimate described in subclause  
13 (I) that includes a statement that  
14 such bill meets the required ratio.

15 “(ii) TIME PERIOD.—The 60-day pe-  
16 riod described in subparagraph (A) shall  
17 not include the period beginning on the  
18 date on which the Chair of the Committee  
19 on the Budget of the House of Representa-  
20 tives submits to the Director of the Con-  
21 gressional Budget Office the bill under  
22 clause (i)(I) and ending on the date on  
23 which the Chair receives the cost estimate  
24 under clause (i)(II).

25 “(5) DISCHARGE.—

1           “(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Committee on  
2           the Budget of the House of Representatives  
3           fails to report a bill within 60 days after the re-  
4           ferral of the proposal submitted under section  
5           3101B of title 31, United States Code, and  
6           such proposal has been determined by the Di-  
7           rector to satisfy the required ratio, then the  
8           committee shall be discharged from further con-  
9           sideration of the bill that embodies the debt re-  
10          duction proposal of the President and it shall  
11          be referred to the appropriate calendar.

12          “(B) CONSIDERATION.—In the House of  
13          Representatives, if the Committee on Rules fails  
14          to report a rule within 7 legislative days of the  
15          bill being placed on the Calendar for the consid-  
16          eration of a bill reported by the Committee on  
17          the Budget under paragraph (4) or discharged  
18          under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph  
19          which has been determined by the Director to  
20          satisfy the required ratio, then any Member  
21          may offer a privilege resolution providing for  
22          the consideration of the bill. Such resolution  
23          shall provide that upon its adoption it shall be  
24          in order to consider in the House of Represent-  
25          atives the bill. The bill under the procedure set

1           forth in section 408(c) shall be debatable for  
2           two hours equally divided and controlled by a  
3           proponent and opponent of thereof. The pre-  
4           vious question shall be considered as ordered on  
5           the bill of final passage without intervening mo-  
6           tion except 1 motion to recommit.

7           “(c) CONSIDERATION OF THE PRESIDENT’S PRO-  
8   POSAL IN THE SENATE.—

9           “(1) INTRODUCTION.—Any debt reduction pro-  
10          posal submitted by the President under section  
11          3101B of title 31, United States Code, shall be in-  
12          troduced by the majority or minority leader of the  
13          Senate or their designees. Upon introduction, the  
14          Chair of the Committee on the Budget shall within  
15          3 days submit the proposal to the Congressional  
16          Budget Office to be scored.

17          “(2) REFERRAL.—Any proposal introduced  
18          under paragraph (1) shall be referred to the Com-  
19          mittee on the Budget of the Senate.

20          “(3) REQUESTS BY BUDGET COMMITTEE.—

21                 “(A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES.—Not  
22                 later than 3 days after the date on which a pro-  
23                 posal is referred under paragraph (2), the Chair  
24                 of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate  
25                 shall submit to each appropriate committee of

1 the Senate a request that, during the 30-day  
2 period beginning on the date on which the re-  
3 quest is made, the appropriate committee sub-  
4 mit to the Committee on the Budget of the  
5 Senate—

6 “(i) a general assessment of the pro-  
7 posal introduced under paragraph (1); and

8 “(ii)(I) any recommendations related  
9 to the proposal; or

10 “(II) any alternative recommendation  
11 to reduce the deficit within the jurisdiction  
12 of the committee.

13 “(B) OTHER PROPOSALS.—Any Member of  
14 the Senate may introduce a bill that meets the  
15 required ratio, as determined by the Congres-  
16 sional Budget Office, which shall be referred to  
17 the Committee on the Budget of the Senate if  
18 the proposal is sponsored by not less than one-  
19 fifth of the Members, duly chosen and sworn,  
20 including—

21 “(i) not fewer than 10 Members who  
22 are members of or caucus with the mem-  
23 bers of the political party of the majority  
24 leader of the Senate; and



1 “(ii) not fewer than 10 Members who  
2 are members of or caucus with any other  
3 political party that is not the political  
4 party of the majority leader of the Senate.

5 “(4) REPORTED LEGISLATION BY BUDGET COM-  
6 MITTEE.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee on the  
8 Budget of the Senate shall report a bill that  
9 meets the required ratio not later than 60 days  
10 after the date on which the President submits  
11 a debt reduction proposal under this section.

12 “(B) CONTENTS OF LEGISLATION.—The  
13 bill reported under subparagraph (A) may in-  
14 clude—

15 “(i) the debt reduction proposal sub-  
16 mitted by the President under this section;  
17 and

18 “(ii) any proposal submitted to the  
19 Committee on the Budget of the Senate  
20 under paragraph (3), including any modi-  
21 fications to such proposals by the Com-  
22 mittee on the Budget of the Senate.

23 “(C) CBO SCORE.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—No bill may be re-  
2 ported under subparagraph (A) unless the  
3 Chair of the Committee on the Budget—

4 “(I) submits to the Director of  
5 the Congressional Budget Office such  
6 bill for a cost estimate to be prepared  
7 under section 402; and

8 “(II) receives from the Director a  
9 cost estimate described in subclause  
10 (I) that includes a statement that  
11 such bill meets the required ratio.

12 “(ii) TIME PERIOD.—The 60-day pe-  
13 riod described in subparagraph (A) shall  
14 not include the period beginning on the  
15 date on which the Chair of the Committee  
16 on the Budget of the Senate submits to the  
17 Director of the Congressional Budget Of-  
18 fice the bill under clause (i)(I) and ending  
19 on the date on which the Chair receives the  
20 cost estimate under clause (i)(II).

21 “(5) DISCHARGE.—If the Committee on the  
22 Budget of the Senate has not reported a bill under  
23 paragraph (4) before the end of the 60-day period  
24 described in that paragraph, the Committee on the

1 Budget of the Senate shall be automatically dis-  
 2 charged from further consideration of—

3 “(A) the proposal introduced under para-  
 4 graph (1), which shall be placed on the appro-  
 5 priate calendar; and

6 “(B) any proposal submitted under para-  
 7 graph (3)(B), which shall be placed on the ap-  
 8 propriate calendar.

9 “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section and section 408,  
 10 the term ‘required ratio’ means the ratio that reduces by  
 11 not less than 5 percentage points the projected ratio under  
 12 current law of debt held by the public to Gross Domestic  
 13 Product in the tenth fiscal year after the current fiscal  
 14 year.

15 **“SEC. 408. CONSIDERATION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENT-**  
 16 **ATIVES OF ALTERNATIVE DEBT REDUCTION**  
 17 **PROPOSALS.**

18 “(a) INTRODUCTION.—In the House of Representa-  
 19 tives, any bill that satisfies the required ratio as deter-  
 20 mined by the Congressional Budget Office and does not  
 21 contain any matter that is unrelated to debt reduction may  
 22 be introduced by the majority leader, the minority leader,  
 23 or by any other Member (if that Member’s proposed bill  
 24 is cosponsored by at least 145 other Members or by at

1 least 20 Members of the majority party and 20 Members  
2 of the minority party).

3 “(b) REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE ON RULES.—Any  
4 bill introduced under subsection (a) shall be referred to  
5 the Committee on Rules. Each such bill shall be scored  
6 by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office to de-  
7 termine if such bill satisfies the required ratio. If such bill  
8 achieves the required ratio, it shall be reported without  
9 amendment to the House for its consideration within 30  
10 calendar days of the date of introduction of the bill.

11 “(c) QUEEN-OF-THE-HILL RULE FOR CONSIDER-  
12 ATION.—In the House of Representatives, any bill de-  
13 scribed in section 407 and any bill reported under sub-  
14 section (b) shall be considered in the House of Representa-  
15 tives pursuant to a special order of business if the text  
16 of the bill provides that the text of all such bills reported  
17 under subsection (b) may be offered as amendments in  
18 the nature of a substitute and if more than one such  
19 amendment is adopted then the one receiving the greater  
20 number of affirmative recorded votes shall be considered  
21 as finally adopted.

22 **“SEC. 409. CONSIDERATION ON THE FLOOR OF THE SEN-**  
23 **ATE.**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding Rule XXII of  
25 the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order, not later

1 than 5 days of session after the date on which a bill meet-  
2 ing the requirements of section 407(c)(4) is reported from  
3 the Committee on the Budget of the Senate or the date  
4 on which any proposal is placed on the calendar after dis-  
5 charge under section 407(c)(5), as applicable, for the ma-  
6 jority leader of the Senate or a Member of the Senate des-  
7 ignated by the majority leader of the Senate to move to  
8 proceed to the consideration of the bill. It shall also be  
9 in order, notwithstanding Rule XXII of the Standing  
10 Rules of the Senate, for any Member of the Senate to  
11 move to proceed to the consideration of the bill at any  
12 time after the conclusion of such 5-day period. A motion  
13 to proceed is in order even though a previous motion to  
14 the same effect has been disagreed to. All points of order  
15 against the motion to proceed to the bill are waived. The  
16 motion is not subject to a motion to postpone. A motion  
17 to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to  
18 or disagreed to shall not be in order. Consideration of the  
19 motion to proceed shall be limited to not more than 10  
20 hours equally divided between the majority leader and the  
21 minority leader or their designees. A motion to proceed  
22 shall require an affirmative vote of three-fifths of Senators  
23 duly chosen and sworn.

24 “(b) EXTRANEOUS PROVISIONS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—When the Senate is consid-  
2           ering a bill under subsection (a), upon a point of  
3           order being made by any Senator against a extra-  
4           neous material contained in the joint resolution, and  
5           the point of order is sustained by the Chair, the pro-  
6           vision that contains the extraneous material shall be  
7           stricken from the joint resolution.

8           “(2) EXTRANEOUS MATERIAL DEFINED.—In  
9           this subsection, the term ‘extraneous material’  
10          means—

11           “(A) a provision that does not produce a  
12           change in outlays or revenue, including changes  
13           in outlays and revenues brought about by  
14           changes in the terms and conditions under  
15           which outlays are made or revenues are re-  
16           quired to be collected (but a provision in which  
17           outlay decreases or revenue increases exactly  
18           offset outlay increases or revenue decreases  
19           shall not be considered extraneous by virtue of  
20           this subparagraph); or

21           “(B) a provision producing changes in out-  
22           lays or revenues which are merely incidental to  
23           the non-budgetary components of the provision.

24           “(3) FORM OF THE POINT OF ORDER.—A point  
25           of order under paragraph (1) may be raised by a

1 Senator as provided in section 313(e) of the Con-  
2 gressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 644(e)).

3 **“SEC. 410. CONSIDERATION BY OTHER HOUSE.**

4 “If a House of Congress receives a bill passed by the  
5 other House under section 408 or 409 and has not yet  
6 passed a bill under section 408 or 409, the following pro-  
7 cedures for consideration shall apply:

8 “(1) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN THE  
9 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

10 “(A) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—

11 “(i) IN GENERAL.—It shall be in  
12 order, not later than 30 days after the  
13 date on which the House of Representa-  
14 tives receives a bill passed by the Senate  
15 under section 409, to move to proceed to  
16 consider the bill in the House of Rep-  
17 resentatives.

18 “(ii) PROCEDURE.—For a motion to  
19 proceed to consider a bill under this sub-  
20 paragraph—

21 “(I) all points of order against  
22 the motion are waived;

23 “(II) such a motion shall not be  
24 in order after the House of Represent-

1                   atives has disposed of a motion to  
2                   proceed on the bill;

3                   “(III) the previous question shall  
4                   be considered as ordered on the mo-  
5                   tion to its adoption without inter-  
6                   vening motion;

7                   “(IV) the motion shall not be de-  
8                   batable; and

9                   “(V) a motion to reconsider the  
10                  vote by which the motion is disposed  
11                  of shall not be in order.

12                 “(B) CONSIDERATION.—If the House of  
13                 Representatives proceeds to consideration of a  
14                 bill under this paragraph—

15                 “(i) the bill shall be considered as  
16                 read;

17                 “(ii) all points of order against the  
18                 bill and against its consideration are  
19                 waived;

20                 “(iii) the previous question shall be  
21                 considered as ordered on the bill to its pas-  
22                 sage without intervening motion except  
23                 three hours of debate equally divided and  
24                 controlled by the proponent and an oppo-  
25                 nent;



1 “(iv) an amendment to the bill shall  
2 not be in order; and

3 “(v) a motion to reconsider the vote  
4 on passage of the bill shall not be in order.

5 “(2) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN THE SEN-  
6 ATE.—

7 “(A) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—

8 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding  
9 rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the  
10 Senate, it is in order, not later than 30  
11 days after the date on which the Senate re-  
12 ceives a bill passed under section 408 by  
13 the House of Representatives, to move to  
14 proceed to consider the bill in the Senate.

15 “(ii) PROCEDURE.—For a motion to  
16 proceed to the consideration of a bill under  
17 this paragraph—

18 “(I) all points of order against  
19 the motion are waived;

20 “(II) the motion is not debatable;

21 “(III) the motion is not subject  
22 to a motion to postpone;

23 “(IV) a motion to reconsider the  
24 vote by which the motion is agreed to

1 or disagreed to shall not be in order;  
2 and

3 “(V) if the motion is agreed to,  
4 the bill shall remain the unfinished  
5 business until disposed of.

6 “(B) FLOOR CONSIDERATION GEN-  
7 ERALLY.—If the Senate proceeds to consider-  
8 ation of a bill under this paragraph—

9 “(i) all points of order against the bill  
10 (and against consideration of the bill) are  
11 waived;

12 “(ii) consideration of the bill, and all  
13 debatable motions and appeals in connec-  
14 tion therewith, shall be limited to not more  
15 than 20 hours, which shall be divided  
16 equally between the majority and minority  
17 leaders or their designees;

18 “(iii) a motion further to limit debate  
19 is in order and not debatable;

20 “(iv) an amendment to, a motion to  
21 postpone, or a motion to recommit the bill  
22 is not in order; and

23 “(v) a motion to proceed to the con-  
24 sideration of other business is not in order.

1           “(C) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—The vote on  
 2           passage of a bill under this paragraph shall  
 3           occur immediately following the conclusion of  
 4           the consideration of the bill, and a single  
 5           quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if  
 6           requested in accordance with the rules of the  
 7           Senate, and shall require an affirmative vote of  
 8           three-fifths of the Members of the Senate duly  
 9           chosen and sworn.

10          “(3) CONFERENCES.—If the Senate and the  
 11         House of Representatives have both passed the bill  
 12         in different forms, then a conference committee on  
 13         the bill shall be considered as ordered and the  
 14         Speaker of the House of Representatives and the  
 15         majority leader of the Senate shall immediately ap-  
 16         point Managers to such conference committee to re-  
 17         solve any disagreement between the Houses.”.

18          (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
 19         in section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget and Impound-  
 20         ment Control Act of 1974 is amended by inserting after  
 21         the item relating to section 406 the following:

“Sec. 407. Consideration of the debt reduction proposal submitted by the Presi-  
 dent.

“Sec. 408. Consideration in the House of Representatives of alternative debt re-  
 duction proposals.

“Sec. 409. Consideration on the floor of the Senate.

“Sec. 410. Consideration by other house.”.

