

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 4

To grant the power to the President to reduce budget authority.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 1995

Mr. DOLE (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. COATS, Mr. KYL, Mr. HELMS, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. BOND, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. GREGG, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. WARNER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred jointly pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, to the Committees on the Budget and Governmental Affairs, with instructions that if one committee reports, the other committee have thirty days to report or be discharged

A BILL

To grant the power to the President to reduce budget authority.

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 “Legislative Line Item
5 Veto Act of 1995”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENT OF SPENDING CONTROL BY THE**
 2 **PRESIDENT.**

3 The Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended
 4 by adding at the end thereof the following new title:

5 **“TITLE XI—LEGISLATIVE LINE**
 6 **ITEM VETO RESCISSION AU-**
 7 **THORITY**

8 **“PART A—LEGISLATIVE LINE ITEM VETO**
 9 **RESCISSION AUTHORITY**

10 **“GRANT OF AUTHORITY AND CONDITIONS**

11 **“SEC. 1101. (a) IN GENERAL.—**Notwithstanding the
 12 provisions of part B of title X and subject to the provisions
 13 of part B of this title, the President may rescind all or
 14 part of any budget authority, if the President—

15 **“(1) determines that—**

16 **“(A) such rescission would help balance**
 17 **the Federal budget, reduce the Federal budget**
 18 **deficit, or reduce the public debt;**

19 **“(B) such rescission will not impair any**
 20 **essential Government functions; and**

21 **“(C) such rescission will not harm the na-**
 22 **tional interest; and**

23 **“(2)(A) notifies the Congress of such rescission**
 24 **by a special message not later than twenty calendar**
 25 **days (not including Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays)**
 26 **after the date of enactment of a regular or supple-**

1 mental appropriations Act or a joint resolution mak-
2 ing continuing appropriations providing such budget
3 authority; or

4 “(B) notifies the Congress of such rescission by
5 special message accompanying the submission of the
6 President’s budget to Congress and such rescissions
7 have not been proposed previously for that fiscal
8 year.

9 The President shall submit a separate rescission message
10 for each appropriations bill under paragraph (2)(A).

11 “(b) RESCISSION EFFECTIVE UNLESS DIS-
12 APPROVED.—(1)(A) Any amount of budget authority re-
13 scinded under this title as set forth in a special message
14 by the President shall be deemed canceled unless during
15 the period described in subparagraph (B), a rescission dis-
16 approval bill making available all of the amount rescinded
17 is enacted into law.

18 “(B) The period referred to in subparagraph (A) is—

19 “(i) a congressional review period of twenty cal-
20 endar days of session under part B, during which
21 Congress must complete action on the rescission dis-
22 approval bill and present such bill to the President
23 for approval or disapproval;

24 “(ii) after the period provided in clause (i), an
25 additional ten days (not including Sundays) during

1 which the President may exercise his authority to
2 sign or veto the rescission disapproval bill; and

3 “(iii) if the President vetoes the rescission dis-
4 approval bill during the period provided in clause
5 (ii), an additional five calendar days of session after
6 the date of the veto.

7 “(2) If a special message is transmitted by the Presi-
8 dent under this section during any Congress and the last
9 session of such Congress adjourns sine die before the expi-
10 ration of the period described in paragraph (1)(B), the
11 rescission shall not take effect. The message shall be
12 deemed to have been retransmitted on the first day of the
13 succeeding Congress and the review period referred to in
14 paragraph (1)(B) (with respect to such message) shall run
15 beginning after such first day.

16 “DEFINITIONS

17 “SEC. 1102. For purposes of this title the term ‘re-
18 scission disapproval bill’ means a bill or joint resolution
19 which only disapproves a rescission of budget authority,
20 in whole, rescinded in a special message transmitted by
21 the President under section 1101.

22 **“PART B—CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF**
23 **LEGISLATIVE LINE ITEM VETO RESCISSIONS**

24 “PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL MESSAGE

25 “SEC. 1111. Whenever the President rescinds any
26 budget authority as provided in section 1101, the Presi-

1 dent shall transmit to both Houses of Congress a special
2 message specifying—

3 “(1) the amount of budget authority rescinded;

4 “(2) any account, department, or establishment
5 of the Government to which such budget authority
6 is available for obligation, and the specific project or
7 governmental functions involved;

8 “(3) the reasons and justifications for the de-
9 termination to rescind budget authority pursuant to
10 section 1101(a)(1);

11 “(4) to the maximum extent practicable, the es-
12 timated fiscal, economic, and budgetary effect of the
13 rescission; and

14 “(5) all facts, circumstances, and considerations
15 relating to or bearing upon the rescission and the
16 decision to effect the rescission, and to the maxi-
17 mum extent practicable, the estimated effect of the
18 rescission upon the objects, purposes, and programs
19 for which the budget authority is provided.

20 “TRANSMISSION OF MESSAGES; PUBLICATION

21 “SEC. 1112. (a) DELIVERY TO HOUSE AND SEN-
22 ATE.—Each special message transmitted under sections
23 1101 and 1111 shall be transmitted to the House of Rep-
24 resentatives and the Senate on the same day, and shall
25 be delivered to the Clerk of the House of Representatives
26 if the House is not in session, and to the Secretary of

1 the Senate if the Senate is not in session. Each special
 2 message so transmitted shall be referred to the appro-
 3 priate committees of the House of Representatives and the
 4 Senate. Each such message shall be printed as a document
 5 of each House.

6 “(b) PRINTING IN FEDERAL REGISTER.—Any special
 7 message transmitted under sections 1101 and 1111 shall
 8 be printed in the first issue of the Federal Register pub-
 9 lished after such transmittal.

10 “PROCEDURE IN SENATE

11 “SEC. 1113. (a) REFERRAL.—(1) Any rescission dis-
 12 approval bill introduced with respect to a special message
 13 shall be referred to the appropriate committees of the
 14 House of Representatives or the Senate, as the case may
 15 be.

16 “(2) Any rescission disapproval bill received in the
 17 Senate from the House shall be considered in the Senate
 18 pursuant to the provisions of this section.

19 “(b) FLOOR CONSIDERATION IN THE SENATE.—

20 “(1) Debate in the Senate on any rescission dis-
 21 approval bill and debatable motions and appeals in
 22 connection therewith, shall be limited to not more
 23 than ten hours. The time shall be equally divided be-
 24 tween, and controlled by, the majority leader and the
 25 minority leader or their designees.

1 “(2) Debate in the Senate on any debatable mo-
2 tion or appeal in connection with such a bill shall be
3 limited to one hour, to be equally divided between,
4 and controlled by, the mover and the manager of the
5 bill, except that in the event the manager of the bill
6 is in favor of any such motion or appeal, the time
7 in opposition thereto shall be controlled by the mi-
8 nority leader or his designee. Such leaders, or either
9 of them, may, from the time under their control on
10 the passage of the bill, allot additional time to any
11 Senator during the consideration of any debatable
12 motion or appeal.

13 “(3) A motion to further limit debate is not de-
14 batable. A motion to recommit (except a motion to
15 recommit with instructions to report back within a
16 specified number of days, not to exceed one, not
17 counting any day on which the Senate is not in ses-
18 sion) is not in order.

19 “(c) POINT OF ORDER.—(1) It shall not be in order
20 in the Senate or the House of Representatives to consider
21 any rescission disapproval bill that relates to any matter
22 other than the rescission of budget authority transmitted
23 by the President under section 1101.

1 “(2) It shall not be in order in the Senate or the
2 House of Representatives to consider any amendment to
3 a rescission disapproval bill.

4 “(3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) may be waived or sus-
5 pended in the Senate only by a vote of three-fifths of the
6 members duly chosen and sworn.”.

