To amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to establish joint resolutions on the budget, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the “Legally Binding Budget Act of 2011”.
SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

Section 3 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(4) The term ‘joint resolution on the budget’ means—

“(A) a joint resolution setting forth the budget for the United States Government for a fiscal year as provided in section 301; and

“(B) any other joint resolution revising the budget for the United States Government for a fiscal year as described in section 304.”.

SEC. 3. REVISION OF TIMETABLE.

Section 300 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 631) is amended to read as follows:

“TIMETABLE

“Sec. 300. (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by subsection (b), the timetable with respect to the congressional budget process for any Congress (beginning with the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress or a subsequent Congress, as applicable) is as follows:

On or before: Action to be completed:
First Monday in February .......... President submits budget recommendations.
February 15 .............................. Congressional Budget Office submits report to Budget Committees.
Not later than 6 weeks after budget submission. Committees submit views and estimates to Budget Committees.
April 1 .................................. Budget Committees report joint resolution on the budget.
April 15 ................................. Congress completes action on joint resolution on the budget.”
May 15 ....................................... Appropriation bills may be considered in the House of Representatives.

June 10 ..................................... House Appropriations Committee reports last appropriation bill.

June 30 ..................................... House completes action on appropriation bills.

October 1 ................................. Fiscal year begins.

“(b) SPECIAL RULE.—In the case of any first session of Congress that begins in any year during which the term of a President (except a President who succeeds himself) begins, the following dates shall supersede those set forth in subsection (a):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On or before:</th>
<th>Action to be completed:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Monday in April ..........</td>
<td>President submits budget recommendations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20 .............................</td>
<td>Committees submit views and estimates to Budget Committees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15 ................................</td>
<td>Budget Committees report joint resolution on the budget.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1 ...............................</td>
<td>Congress completes action on joint resolution on the budget.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1 ...............................</td>
<td>Appropriation bills may be considered in the House of Representatives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1 ...............................</td>
<td>House Appropriations Committee reports last appropriation bill.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 20 .............................</td>
<td>House completes action on appropriation bills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1 ...........................</td>
<td>Fiscal year begins.”.</td>
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SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 303 AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 303 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended—

(1) by striking “(a) IN GENERAL.—”, by striking “has been agreed to” and inserting “takes effect”, and by striking subsections (b) and (c); and

(2) by striking its section heading and inserting the following new section heading: “CONSIDERATION
OF BUDGET-RELATED LEGISLATION BEFORE BUDGET BECOMES LAW”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 303 in the table of contents set forth in section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 303. Consideration of budget-related legislation before budget becomes law.”.

SEC. 5. PERMISSIBLE REVISIONS OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS.

Section 304 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended to read as follows:

“PERMISSIBLE REVISIONS OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

“Sec. 304. At any time after the joint resolution on the budget for a fiscal year has been enacted pursuant to section 301, and before the end of such fiscal year, the two Houses and the President may enact a joint resolution on the budget which revises or reaffirms the joint resolution on the budget for such fiscal year most recently enacted, and for purposes of the enforcement of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the chairman of the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives or the Senate, as applicable, may adjust levels as needed for the enforcement of the budget resolution.”.
SEC. 6. LIMITATION ON THE CONTENT OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS.

Section 305 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) LIMITATION ON CONTENTS.—(1) It shall not be in order in the House of Representatives or in the Senate to consider any joint resolution on the budget or any amendment thereto or conference report thereon that contains any matter referred to in paragraph (2).

“(2) Any joint resolution on the budget or any amendment thereto or conference report thereon that contains any matter not permitted in section 301(a) or (b) shall not be treated in the House of Representatives or the Senate as a budget resolution under subsection (a) or (b) or as a conference report on a budget resolution under subsection (c) of this section.”.

SEC. 7. DEEMING OF BUDGETARY AGGREGATES, ALLOCATIONS, AND RECONCILIATION INSTRUCTIONS IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE UPON VETO OF JOINT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET.

(a) In General.—Title III of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by adding after section 315 the following new section:
“AUTOMATIC STANDING ORDER UPON VETO OF JOINT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET

“Sec. 316. If the President vetoes a joint resolution on the budget, the aggregates, allocations, and any other matters that pertain solely to the Congress set forth in that joint resolution shall, for all purposes of titles III and IV, be deemed to operate and be enforceable in the House of Representatives and the Senate as if the joint resolution had been enacted.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents set forth in section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 315 the following new item:

“Sec. 316. Automatic standing order upon veto of joint resolution on the budget.”.

SEC. 8. PUBLIC DEBT LIMIT.

Section 301(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (8), by striking the period and inserting “; and” at the end of paragraph (9), and by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new paragraph:

“(10) set forth the public debt limit.”.
SEC. 9. ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974 TO EFFECT JOINT RESOLUTIONS ON THE BUDGET.

(a) ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET AND IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL ACT OF 1974.—(1)(A) Sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 308, 310, 311, 312, 314, 405, and 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) are amended by striking “concurrent” each place it appears and inserting “joint”.

(B)(i) Sections 302(d), 302(g), 308(a)(1)(A), and 310(d)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are amended by striking “most recently agreed to concurrent resolution on the budget” each place it occurs and inserting “most recently enacted joint resolution on the budget”.

(ii) The section heading of section 301 of such Act is amended by striking “ANNUAL ADOPTION OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION” and inserting “JOINT RESOLUTIONS”;

and

(C) Sections 302, 303, 304, 310, and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are amended by striking “agreed to” each place it appears and by inserting “enacted”.

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(2) The table of contents set forth in section 1(b) of
the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act
of 1974 is amended—

(A) in the item relating to section 301, by strik-
ing “Annual adoption of concurrent resolution” and
inserting “Joint resolutions”; and

(B) by striking “concurrent” and inserting
“joint” in the item relating to section 305.

(b) Conforming Amendments to Section 310
Regarding Reconciliation Directives.—(1) The side
heading of section 310(a) of the Congressional Budget Act
of 1974 is amended by inserting “JOINT EXPLANATORY
STATEMENT ACCOMPANYING CONFERENCE REPORT ON”
before “JOINT”.

(2) Section 310(a) of the Congressional Budget Act
of 1974 is amended by striking “A” and inserting “The
joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference
report on a”.

(3) The first sentence of section 310(b) of the Con-
gressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by striking “If”
and inserting “If the joint explanatory statement accom-
ppanying the conference report on”.

(4) Section 310(c)(1) of the Congressional Budget
Act of 1974 is amended by inserting “the joint explana-
tory statement accompanying the conference report on”  
after “pursuant to”.

SEC. 10. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES TO EFFECTUATE JOINT  
BUDGET RESOLUTIONS.

Clauses 1(d)(1), 4(a)(4), 4(b)(2), 4(f)(1)(A), and  
4(f)(2) of rule X, clause 10 of rule XVIII, clause 10 of  
rule XX, and clauses 7 and 10 of rule XXI of the Rules  
of the House of Representatives are amended by striking  
“concurrent” each place it appears and inserting “joint”.

SEC. 11. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO THE BALANCED  
BUDGET AND EMERGENCY DEFICIT CONTROL  
ACT OF 1985.

Section 258C(b)(1) of the Balanced Budget and  
Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C.  
907d(b)(1)) is amended by striking “concurrent” and in-  
serting “joint”.

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