

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7026

Providing for a joint hearing of the Committees on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Senate to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2026

Mr. BARR (for himself and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

A BILL

Providing for a joint hearing of the Committees on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Senate to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch.

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 “Fiscal State of the
5 Nation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL JOINT HEARING OF BUDGET COMMITTEES**
2 **TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION BY THE COMP-**
3 **TROLLER GENERAL.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days (excluding
5 Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) after the date on which
6 the Secretary of the Treasury submits to Congress the au-
7 dited financial statement required under paragraph (1) of
8 section 331(e) of title 31, United States Code, on a date
9 agreed upon by the chairs of the Committees on the Budg-
10 et of the House of Representatives and the Senate (here-
11 after referred to as the “Budget Committees”) and the
12 Comptroller General of the United States, the chairs shall
13 conduct a joint hearing to receive a presentation from the
14 Comptroller General reviewing the findings of the audit
15 required under paragraph (2) of such section and pro-
16 viding, with respect to the information included by the
17 Secretary in the report accompanying such audited finan-
18 cial statement, an analysis of the financial position and
19 condition of the Federal Government, including financial
20 measures (such as the net operating cost, income, budget
21 deficits, or budget surpluses) and sustainability measures
22 (such as the long-term fiscal projection or social insurance
23 projection) described in such report.

24 (b) PRESENTATION OF STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE
25 WITH GAO STRATEGIES AND MEANS.—The Comptroller
26 General of the United States shall ensure that the presen-

1 tation at the joint hearing conducted under subsection (a)
2 is made in accordance with the Strategies and Means of
3 the Government Accountability Office, so that the presen-
4 tation will provide professional, objective, fact-based, non-
5 partisan, nonideological, fair, and balanced information to
6 the members attending the hearing.

7 (c) RULES APPLICABLE TO HEARING.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The joint hearing conducted
9 by the chairs of Budget Committees under sub-
10 section (a) shall be conducted in accordance with the
11 Rules of the House of Representatives and the appli-
12 cable Standing Rules of the Senate which apply to
13 such a hearing, including the provisions requiring
14 hearings conducted by committees to be open to the
15 public, including to radio, television, and still pho-
16 tography coverage.

17 (2) PERMITTING PARTICIPATION BY SENATORS
18 AND MEMBERS NOT SERVING ON BUDGET COMMIT-
19 TEES.—Notwithstanding any provision of the Rules
20 of the House of Representatives or the Standing
21 Rules of the Senate, any Senator and any Member
22 of the House of Representatives (including a Dele-
23 gate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress)
24 may participate in the joint hearing in the same
25 manner and to the same extent as a Senator or

1 Member of the House of Representatives who is a
2 member of either of the Budget Committees.

3 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The requirement under sub-
4 section (a) shall apply with respect to any audited finan-
5 cial statement submitted on or after the date of the enact-
6 ment of this Act.

