

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 493

Reducing the annual rate of pay of Senators if a Government shutdown occurs during a year.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 10, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

RESOLUTION

Reducing the annual rate of pay of Senators if a Government shutdown occurs during a year.

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. NO PAY FOR SENATORS DURING GOVERNMENT**
3 **SHUTDOWNS.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

5 (1) the term “Government shutdown” means a
6 lapse in appropriations for 1 or more Federal agen-
7 cies or departments; and

8 (2) the term “Secretary of the Senate” means
9 the Secretary of the Senate, or an employee of the
10 Office of the Secretary of the Senate who is des-

1 ignated by the Secretary to carry out the require-
2 ments of this section.

3 (b) REQUIRING REDUCTION OF PAY OF SENATORS
4 IF GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN OCCURS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—If on any day during a pay
6 period a Government shutdown is in effect, the Sec-
7 retary of the Senate shall exclude from the payments
8 otherwise required to be made with respect to that
9 pay period for the compensation of each Senator an
10 amount equal to the product of—

11 (A) an amount equal to one day’s worth of
12 pay under the annual rate of pay of the Senator
13 under section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorga-
14 nization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501); and

15 (B) the number of 24-hour periods during
16 the pay period during which the Government
17 shutdown is in effect.

18 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall
19 apply with respect to days occurring after the date
20 of the regularly scheduled general election for Fed-
21 eral office held in November 2026 (in this section
22 referred to as the “pay reduction effective date”).

23 (c) SPECIAL RULE FOR SENATORS BEFORE GEN-
24 ERAL ELECTION.—

1 (1) HOLDING SALARIES IN ESCROW.—If on any
2 day before the pay reduction effective date a Govern-
3 ment shutdown is in effect, the Secretary of the Sen-
4 ate shall—

5 (A) withhold from the payments otherwise
6 required to be made with respect to a pay pe-
7 riod for the compensation of each Senator an
8 amount equal to the product of—

9 (i) an amount equal to one day's
10 worth of pay under the annual rate of pay
11 applicable to the Senator under section
12 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization
13 Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501); and

14 (ii) the number of 24-hour periods
15 during which the Government shutdown is
16 in effect which occur during the pay pe-
17 riod; and

18 (B) deposit in an escrow account all
19 amounts withheld under subparagraph (A).

20 (2) RELEASE OF AMOUNTS AT END OF THE
21 CONGRESS.—In order to ensure that this subsection
22 is carried out in a manner that shall not vary the
23 compensation of Senators in violation of the 27th
24 Amendment to the Constitution of the United
25 States, the Secretary of the Senate shall release for

1 payments to Senators any amounts remaining in any
2 escrow account under this subsection on the pay re-
3 duction effective date.

4 (3) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall
5 apply with respect to days during the period begin-
6 ning on the date of adoption of this resolution and
7 ending on the pay reduction effective date.

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