

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 329

To provide that pay for Members of Congress shall be reduced whenever total expenditures of the Federal Government exceed total receipts in any fiscal year, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 13, 1997

Mr. ABRAHAM introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To provide that pay for Members of Congress shall be reduced whenever total expenditures of the Federal Government exceed total receipts in any fiscal year, and for other purposes.

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 “Congressional Fiscal  
5       Responsibility Incentive Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROVISIONS RELATING TO MEMBERS' PAY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 601(a) of the Legislative  
3 Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) is amended by  
4 adding at the end the following:

5 “(3)(A) For purposes of this paragraph, any  
6 determination as to whether total receipts of the  
7 Federal Government are greater than, less than, or  
8 equal to its total expenditures in a fiscal year shall  
9 be determined using total public expenditures, re-  
10 spectively, as indicated in the report submitted by  
11 the Secretary of the Treasury to the Congress under  
12 section 331(c) of title 31, United States Code, for  
13 such year.

14 “(B) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2)  
15 of this subsection, whenever the total expenditures of  
16 the Federal Government exceed its total receipts for  
17 a fiscal year, the annual rate of pay for each posi-  
18 tion under paragraph (1) (A) through (C) shall be  
19 reduced by 10 percent, effective as of the first appli-  
20 cable pay period beginning on or after the date as  
21 of which Congress receives the report (referred to in  
22 subparagraph (A)) relating to such fiscal year.

23 “(C) Effective as of the first applicable pay pe-  
24 riod beginning on or after the date as of which Con-  
25 gress receives a report (referred to in subparagraph  
26 (A)) indicating that total receipts of the Federal

1 Government are greater than or equal to its total ex-  
 2 penditures for a fiscal year—

3 “(i) all reductions under subparagraph (B)  
 4 then in effect shall be disregarded; and

5 “(ii) pay for each position under paragraph  
 6 (1) (A) through (C) shall be restored to the  
 7 level which would then be in effect for such po-  
 8 sition if this paragraph had never been enacted.

9 “(D) A pay adjustment under subparagraph  
 10 (B) or (C) shall be made before any other adjust-  
 11 ment otherwise scheduled to take effect on the same  
 12 day for the same position.”.

13 (b) PROCEDURES.—(1) It shall not be in order in ei-  
 14 ther the House of Representatives or the Senate to con-  
 15 sider any bill or resolution which would increase the rate  
 16 of basic pay for the Members of Congress (excluding any  
 17 bill or resolution to which section 225(i) of the Federal  
 18 Salary Act of 1967 (2 U.S.C. 359) applies) unless that  
 19 bill or resolution deals with no subject matter other than  
 20 a pay increase for Members.

21 (2) Any bill or resolution which is subject to para-  
 22 graph (1) may be passed or adopted, as the case may be,  
 23 by the House of Representatives or the Senate only by  
 24 a vote recorded so as to reflect the vote of each Member  
 25 voting.

1       (3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) are enacted by Con-  
2 gress—

3           (A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of  
4       the House of Representatives and the Senate, re-  
5       spectively, and such rules shall supersede other rules  
6       only to the extent that they are inconsistent there-  
7       with; and

8           (B) with full recognition of the constitutional  
9       right of each House to change such rules (so far as  
10      relating to such House) at any time, in such man-  
11      ner, and to the same extent as in the case of any  
12      other rule of such House.

13      (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—(1) This Act and the amend-  
14      ments made by this Act shall—

15           (A) take effect on October 1 of the first fiscal  
16      year following the fiscal year in which this Act is en-  
17      acted; and

18           (B) shall first apply to the first fiscal year fol-  
19      lowing the fiscal year in which this Act is enacted.

20      (2) This Act shall have no force or effect on and after  
21      the date of passage by both Houses of the Congress of  
22      a proposed amendment to the United States Constitution

1 that requires that the total budgetary outlays of the Unit-  
2 ed States in any fiscal year may not exceed the total re-  
3 ceipts in such fiscal year.

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