

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 563

To encourage Members of Congress and the executive branch to be honest with the public about true on-budget circumstances, to exclude the Social Security trust funds from the annual Federal budget baseline, to prohibit Social Security trust funds surpluses to be used as offsets for tax cuts or spending increases, and to exclude the Social Security trust funds from official budget surplus/deficit pronouncements.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 3, 1999

Mr. SMITH of Washington introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To encourage Members of Congress and the executive branch to be honest with the public about true on-budget circumstances, to exclude the Social Security trust funds from the annual Federal budget baseline, to prohibit Social Security trust funds surpluses to be used as offsets for tax cuts or spending increases, and to exclude the Social Security trust funds from official budget surplus/deficit pronouncements.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

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1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Honesty in Budgeting  
3 Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF HOUSE TO ENCOURAGE HONESTY FOR**  
5 **MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND EXECUTIVE**  
6 **BRANCH OFFICIALS.**

7       It is the sense of the House of Representatives that  
8 Members of Congress, executive branch officials, and their  
9 respective representatives should use on-budget numbers  
10 when making public statements regarding the Federal  
11 budget.

12 **SEC. 3. OFF-BUDGET STATUS OF OASDI TRUST FUNDS.**

13       Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the re-  
14 cepts and disbursements of the Federal Old-Age and Sur-  
15 vivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability  
16 Insurance Trust Fund shall not be counted as new budget  
17 authority, outlays, receipts, or deficit or surplus for pur-  
18 poses of—

- 19           (1) the budget of the United States Govern-  
20       ment as submitted by the President,  
21           (2) the congressional budget, or  
22           (3) the Balanced Budget and Emergency Defi-  
23       cit Control Act of 1985.

1 **SEC. 4. REMOVING SOCIAL SECURITY FROM BUDGET SUR-**  
2 **PLUS/DEFICIT PRONOUNCEMENTS.**

3 (a) REMOVING SOCIAL SECURITY FROM BUDGET  
4 SURPLUS/DEFICIT PRONOUNCEMENTS.—Title III of the  
5 Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by adding  
6 at the end the following section:

7 “REMOVING SOCIAL SECURITY FROM BUDGET SURPLUS/  
8 DEFICIT PRONOUNCEMENTS

9 “SEC. 316. (a) SURPLUS OR DEFICIT TOTALS.—Any  
10 official statement issues by the Office of Management and  
11 Budget or by the Congressional Budget Office of surplus  
12 or deficit totals of the budget of the United States Govern-  
13 ment as submitted by the President or of the surplus or  
14 deficit totals of the congressional budget, and any descrip-  
15 tion of, or reference to, such totals in any official publica-  
16 tion or material issued by either of such Offices, shall ex-  
17 clude the receipts and disbursements totals of the old-age  
18 survivors, and disability insurance program under title 2  
19 of the Social Security Act. The Office of Management and  
20 Budget and the Congressional Budget Office shall issue  
21 separate reports on the outlays and revenues of the Social  
22 Security trust funds.

23 (b) PRESENTATION OF BUDGETARY AGGREGATES.—  
24 For purposes of chapter 11 of title 31, United States  
25 Code, or the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, tables and  
26 other displays of budgetary aggregates for the United

1 States Government of the Director of the Office of Man-  
2 agement and Budget or the Director of the Congressional  
3 Budget Office shall not include receipts or disbursements  
4 referred to in subsection (a).

5 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
6 tents set forth in section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget  
7 and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by  
8 adding after the item relating to section 315 the following  
9 new item:

“Sec. 316. Removing Social Security from budget surplus/deficit pronounce-  
ments.”.

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