

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 690

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to curtail the growth
of Government programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 16, 2006

Mr. CONAWAY (for himself, Mr. AKIN, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. FLAKE, Ms. FOXX, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOODE, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JINDAL, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. MCHENRY, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. POE, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHADEGG, and Mr. SODREL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to
curtail the growth of Government programs.

Whereas Congress must be committed to slowing the growth
of Government spending, reforming inefficient Government
programs, and removing burdensome Government
regulations in order to lower the Federal budget deficit;

Whereas Congress must pledge to hold the line on spending
and the growth of Government for the remainder of this
fiscal year and beyond;

Whereas Congress needs to demonstrate to the people of the
United States that it will not return to the failed fiscal

policies of the past by attempting to solve budgetary problems by raising taxes to pay for new programs and more spending;

Whereas a real solution to the Federal budget deficit must consist of the curtailment of unnecessary Federal programs, which are currently costing taxpayers billions of dollars;

Whereas it is time to reduce the Federal budget deficit by demonstrating a strong commitment to reforming and eliminating inefficient and wasteful Government programs;

Whereas to reduce the Federal budget deficit, Congress must do a better job of establishing priorities for Federal programs and spending; and

Whereas to limit the growth of Government, Congress should only enact a new Federal program if Congress considers the program to be a higher priority than one or more current Federal programs of equal or greater cost: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That rule XXI of the Rules of the House
2 of Representatives is amended by adding at the end the
3 following new clause:

4 ***“Limitation on bills establishing new programs***

5 “7. (a) It shall not be in order to consider a bill, joint
6 resolution, amendment, or conference report containing a
7 provision that establishes a new program, unless the bill,
8 resolution, amendment, or conference report contains a
9 provision that eliminates one or more existing programs
10 of equal or greater total cost.

1 “(b) In this clause, the term ‘provision that estab-
2 lishes a new program’ includes a provision that modifies
3 an existing program by adding a new function.

4 “(c) For purposes of this clause, the cost of a pro-
5 gram shall be the amount authorized to be appropriated
6 for the program, or, if the amount authorized to be appro-
7 priated is not specified, an estimate of the cost of the pro-
8 gram.

9 “(d) This clause does not apply to a provision that
10 establishes a new defense, homeland security, or emer-
11 gency program.”.

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