

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4883

To amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to establish a sequestration to reduce all nonexempt programs, projects, and activities by 2 percent each fiscal year in which the Federal budget is in deficit, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 18, 2010

Mr. BARTON of Texas (for himself, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. SOUDER, and Mr. OLSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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

A BILL

To amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to establish a sequestration to reduce all nonexempt programs, projects, and activities by 2 percent each fiscal year in which the Federal budget is in deficit, 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 “STRONG Budget Act
5 of 2010”.

1 **SEC. 2. SEQUESTRATION TO ACHIEVE A BALANCED FED-**
2 **ERAL BUDGET.**

3 (a) SEQUESTRATION TO ACHIEVE A BALANCED FED-
4 ERAL BUDGET.—Part C of the Balanced Budget and
5 Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 is amended by
6 adding after section 253 the following new section:

7 **“SEC. 253A. SEQUESTRATION TO ACHIEVE A BALANCED**
8 **FEDERAL BUDGET.**

9 “(a) SEQUESTRATION.—Notwithstanding sections
10 255 and 256, within 15 days after Congress adjourns to
11 end a session, and on the same day as sequestration (if
12 any) under section 5 of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act
13 of 2010, but after any sequestration required by that sec-
14 tion, there shall be a sequestration equivalent to 2 percent
15 of the budget baseline for the fiscal year beginning on Oc-
16 tober 1 of the calendar year during which such sequestra-
17 tion occurs.

18 “(b) APPLICABILITY.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by
20 paragraph (2), each account of the United States
21 shall be reduced by a dollar amount calculated by
22 multiplying the level of budgetary resources in that
23 account at that time by the uniform percentage nec-
24 essary to carry out subsection (a). All obligational
25 authority reduced under this section shall be done in
26 a manner that makes such reductions permanent.

1 “(2) EXEMPT ACCOUNTS.—(A) No order issued
2 to carry out this section may—

3 “(i) reduce benefits payable under the old-
4 age, survivors, and disability insurance program
5 established under title II of the Social Security
6 Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.), and benefits pay-
7 able under section 231b(a), 231b(f)(2), 231c(a),
8 and 231c(f) of title 45, United States Code,
9 shall be exempt from reduction under any order
10 issued under this part;

11 “(ii) reduce benefits payable under any
12 program administered by the Department of
13 Veterans Affairs or Special Benefits for Certain
14 World War II Veterans (28–0401–0–1–701);

15 “(iii) reduce benefits payable under part A
16 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395c et
17 seq.) (relating to hospital insurance benefits for
18 the aged and disabled); or

19 “(iv) reduce payments for net interest (all
20 of major functional category 900).

21 “(B) The following Federal retirement and dis-
22 ability accounts and activities shall be exempt from
23 reduction under any order issued to carry out this
24 section:

1 “Black Lung Disability Trust Fund (20–
2 8144–0–7–601).

3 “Central Intelligence Agency Retirement
4 and Disability System Fund (56–3400–0–1–
5 054).

6 “Civil Service Retirement and Disability
7 Fund (24–8135–0–7–602).

8 “Comptrollers general retirement system
9 (05–0107–0–1–801).

10 “Contributions to U.S. Park Police annu-
11 ity benefits, Other Permanent Appropriations
12 (14–9924–0–2–303).

13 “Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Re-
14 tirement Fund (95–8290–0–7–705).

15 “Department of Defense Medicare-Eligible
16 Retiree Health Care Fund (97–5472–0–2–551).

17 “District of Columbia Federal Pension
18 Fund (20–5511–0–2–601).

19 “District of Columbia Judicial Retirement
20 and Survivors Annuity Fund (20–8212–0–7–
21 602).

22 “Energy Employees Occupational Illness
23 Compensation Fund (16–1523–0–1–053).

24 “Foreign National Employees Separation
25 Pay (97–8165–0–7–051).

1 “Foreign Service National Defined Con-
2 tributions Retirement Fund (19-5497-0-2-
3 602).

4 “Foreign Service National Separation Li-
5 ability Trust Fund (19-8340-0-7-602).

6 “Foreign Service Retirement and Dis-
7 ability Fund (19-8186-0-7-602).

8 “Government Payment for Annuitants,
9 Employees Health Benefits (24-0206-0-1-
10 551).

11 “Government Payment for Annuitants,
12 Employee Life Insurance (24-0500-0-1-602).

13 “Judicial Officers’ Retirement Fund (10-
14 8122-0-7-602).

15 “Judicial Survivors’ Annuities Fund (10-
16 8110-0-7-602).

17 “Military Retirement Fund (97-8097-0-
18 7-602).

19 “National Railroad Retirement Investment
20 Trust (60-8118-0-7-601).

21 “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
22 ministration retirement (13-1450-0-1-306).

23 “Pensions for former Presidents (47-
24 0105-0-1-802).

1 “Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits
2 Fund (24–5391–0–2–551).

3 “Public Safety Officer Benefits (15–0403–
4 0–1–754).

5 “Rail Industry Pension Fund (60–8011–
6 0–7–601).

7 “Retired Pay, Coast Guard (70–0602–0–
8 1–403).

9 “Retirement Pay and Medical Benefits for
10 Commissioned Officers, Public Health Service
11 (75–0379–0–1–551).

12 “Special Benefits for Disabled Coal Miners
13 (16–0169–0–1–601).

14 “Special Benefits, Federal Employees’
15 Compensation Act (16–1521–0–1–600).

16 “Special Workers Compensation Expenses
17 (16–9971–0–7–601).

18 “Tax Court Judges Survivors Annuity
19 Fund (23–8115–0–7–602).

20 “United States Court of Federal Claims
21 Judges’ Retirement Fund (10–8124–0–7–602).

22 “United States Secret Service, DC Annuity
23 (70–0400–0–1–751).

24 “Voluntary Separation Incentive Fund
25 (97–8335–0–7–051).

1 “(c) SEQUESTRATION REPORT.—Not later than 14
2 days (excluding weekends and holidays) after Congress ad-
3 journs to end a session, OMB shall make publicly available
4 and cause to be printed in the Federal Register an annual
5 deficit reduction report. The report shall include the
6 amount of reductions required under section 253A and the
7 deficit remaining after those reductions have been made,
8 and the sequestration percentage necessary to achieve the
9 required reduction in accounts under section 253A(b). The
10 report shall also include a determination of whether the
11 budget of the Government is in deficit.

12 “(d) SEQUESTRATION ORDER.—If the annual report
13 issued at the end of a session of Congress under sub-
14 section (c) requires a sequestration, OMB shall prepare
15 and the President shall issue and include in that report
16 a sequestration order that, upon issuance, shall reduce all
17 nonexempt accounts by enough to eliminate the deficit,
18 but no such reduction shall exceed two percent.

19 “(e) SUSPENSION OF SEQUESTRATION PROCE-
20 DURES.—Upon a determination by OMB that the budget
21 of the Government is not in deficit, the subsequent
22 issuance of any sequestration report or sequestration
23 order is precluded and this section is suspended.

24 “(f) RESTORATION OF SEQUESTRATION PROCE-
25 DURES.—Effective with regard to the first fiscal year be-

1 ginning after OMB determines that the budget of the Gov-
 2 ernment is in deficit, the provisions of subsection (e) are
 3 no longer effective and this section is no longer sus-
 4 pended.”.

5 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Notwithstanding section
 6 275(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit
 7 Control Act of 1985, the expiration date set forth in that
 8 section shall not apply to the amendment made by sub-
 9 section (a).

10 **SEC. 3. PASSAGE OF EXEMPTIONS FROM SEQUESTRATIONS**
 11 **TO ACHIEVE A BALANCED BUDGET.**

12 Rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representa-
 13 tives is amended by adding at the end the following new
 14 clause:

15 “ **Passage of exemptions from sequestrations to**
 16 **achieve a balanced budget**

17 “11. A bill or joint resolution, amendment, or con-
 18 ference report carrying an additional exemption to section
 19 253A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit
 20 Control Act of 1985 may not be considered as passed or
 21 agreed to unless so determined by a vote of not less than
 22 three-fifths of the Members voting, a quorum being
 23 present.”.

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