

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2853

To establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action, to assure the long-term fiscal stability and economic security of the Federal Government of the United States, and to expand future prosperity and growth for all Americans.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 9, 2009

Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. GREGG, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BAYH, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. LEMIEUX, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. BROWNBACK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CORKER, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. BOND, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. JOHANNES, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. CORNYN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Budget

A BILL

To establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action, to assure the long-term fiscal stability and economic security of the Federal Government of the United States, and to expand future prosperity and growth for all Americans.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Bipartisan Task Force
3 for Responsible Fiscal Action Act of 2009”.

4 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE.**

5 Title III of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974
6 (2 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
7 the following new section:

8 “ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE FOR RESPONSIBLE
9 FISCAL ACTION

10 “SEC. 316. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 “(1) TASK FORCE.—The term ‘Task Force’
12 means the Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible
13 Fiscal Action established under subsection (b)(1).

14 “(2) TASK FORCE BILL.—The term ‘Task
15 Force bill’ means a bill consisting of the proposed
16 legislative language of the Task Force recommended
17 under subsection (b)(3)(B) and introduced under
18 subsection (e)(1).

19 “(3) FISCAL IMBALANCE.—The term ‘fiscal im-
20 balance’ means the gap between the projected reve-
21 nues and expenditures of the Federal Government.

22 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE.—

23 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in
24 the legislative branch a task force to be known as
25 the ‘Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal
26 Action’.

1 “(2) PURPOSES.—

2 “(A) REVIEW.—The Task Force shall re-
3 view the fiscal imbalance of the Federal Govern-
4 ment, including—

5 “(i) analyses of projected Federal ex-
6 penditures;

7 “(ii) analyses of projected Federal
8 revenues; and

9 “(iii) analyses of the current and
10 long-term actuarial financial condition of
11 the Federal Government.

12 “(B) IDENTIFY FACTORS.—The Task
13 Force shall identify factors that affect the long-
14 term fiscal imbalance of the Federal Govern-
15 ment.

16 “(C) ANALYZE POTENTIAL COURSES OF
17 ACTION.—The Task Force shall analyze poten-
18 tial courses of action to address factors that af-
19 fect the long-term fiscal imbalance of the Fed-
20 eral Government.

21 “(D) PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS AND
22 LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE.—The Task Force
23 shall provide recommendations and legislative
24 language that will significantly improve the
25 long-term fiscal imbalance of the Federal Gov-

ernment, including recommendations address-
ing—

“(i) Federal expenditures;

“(ii) Federal revenues; and

“(iii) the current and long-term actu-
arial financial condition of the Federal
Government.

“(3) DUTIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Task Force shall
address the Nation’s long-term fiscal imbal-
ances, consistent with the purposes described in
paragraph (2), and shall submit the report and
recommendations required under subparagraph
(B).

“(B) REPORT, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND
LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than
November 3, 2010, and not later than No-
vember 9, 2010, the Task Force shall vote
on a report that contains—

“(I) a detailed statement of the
findings, conclusions, and rec-
ommendations of the Task Force;

“(II) the assumptions, scenarios,
and alternatives considered in reach-

1 ing such findings, conclusions, and
2 recommendations; and

3 “(III) proposed legislative lan-
4 guage to carry out such recommenda-
5 tions as described in paragraph
6 (2)(D).

7 “(ii) APPROVAL OF REPORT.—The re-
8 port of the Task Force submitted under
9 clause (i) shall require the approval of not
10 fewer than 14 of the 18 members of the
11 Task Force.

12 “(iii) ADDITIONAL VIEWS.—A member
13 of the Task Force who gives notice of an
14 intention to file supplemental, minority, or
15 additional views at the time of final Task
16 Force approval of the report under clause
17 (ii), shall be entitled to not less than 3 cal-
18 endar days in which to file such views in
19 writing with the staff director of the Task
20 Force. Such views shall then be included in
21 the Task Force report and printed in the
22 same volume, or part thereof, and their in-
23 clusion shall be noted on the cover of the
24 report. In the absence of timely notice, the
25 Task Force report may be printed and

transmitted immediately without such views.

“(iv) TRANSMISSION OF REPORT.—No later than November 15, 2010, the Task Force shall submit the Task Force bill and final report to the President, the Vice President, the Speaker of the House, and the majority and minority leaders of both Houses.

“(v) REPORT TO BE MADE PUBLIC.—Upon the approval or disapproval of the Task Force report pursuant to clause (ii), the Task Force shall promptly make the full report, and a record of the vote, available to the public.

“(4) MEMBERSHIP.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Task Force shall be composed of 18 members designated pursuant to subparagraph (B).

“(B) DESIGNATION.—Members of the Task Force shall be designated as follows:

“(i) The President shall designate 2 members, one of whom shall be the Secretary of the Treasury, and the other of

1 whom shall be an officer of the executive
2 branch.

3 “(ii) The majority leader of the Sen-
4 ate shall designate 4 members from among
5 Members of the Senate.

6 “(iii) The minority leader of the Sen-
7 ate shall designate 4 members from among
8 Members of the Senate.

9 “(iv) The Speaker of the House of
10 Representatives shall designate 4 members
11 from among Members of the House of
12 Representatives.

13 “(v) The minority leader of the House
14 of Representatives shall designate 4 mem-
15 bers from among Members of the House of
16 Representatives.

17 “(C) CO-CHAIRS.—

18 “(i) IN GENERAL.—There shall be 2
19 Co-Chairs of the Task Force. The Presi-
20 dent, majority leader of the Senate, and
21 Speaker of the House shall designate one
22 Co-Chair among the members of the Task
23 Force. The minority leader of the Senate
24 and minority leader of the House shall des-
25 ignate the second Co-Chair among the

1 members of the Task Force. The Co-
2 Chairs shall be appointed not later than 14
3 days after the date of enactment of this
4 section.

5 “(ii) STAFF DIRECTOR.—The Co-
6 Chairs, acting jointly, shall hire the staff
7 director of the Task Force.

8 “(D) DATE.—Members of the Task Force
9 shall be designated by not later than 14 days
10 after the date of enactment of this section.

11 “(E) PERIOD OF DESIGNATION.—Members
12 shall be designated for the life of the Task
13 Force. Any vacancy in the Task Force shall not
14 affect its powers, but shall be filled not later
15 than 14 days after the date on which the va-
16 cancy occurs in the same manner as the origi-
17 nal designation.

18 “(F) COMPENSATION.—Members of the
19 Task Force shall serve without any additional
20 compensation for their work on the Task Force.
21 However, members may be allowed travel ex-
22 penses, including per diem in lieu of subsist-
23 ence, in accordance with sections 5702 and
24 5703 of title 5, United States Code, while away

from their homes or regular places of business
in performance of services for the Task Force.

“(5) ADMINISTRATION.—

“(A) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH RULES
AND REGULATIONS.—The Co-Chairs, in consultation with the other members of the Task Force, may establish rules and regulations for the conduct of Task Force business, if such rules and regulations are not inconsistent with this section or other applicable law.

“(B) QUORUM.—Fourteen members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum for purposes of voting, meeting, and holding hearings.

“(C) VOTING.—

“(i) PROXY VOTING.—No proxy voting shall be allowed on behalf of the members of the Task Force.

“(ii) REPORT, RECOMMENDATIONS
AND LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE.—

“(I) DATES.—The Task Force may not vote on any version of the report, recommendations, or legislative language before the timing provided for in paragraph (3)(B)(i).

1 “(II) CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET
2 OFFICE AND JOINT COMMITTEE ON
3 TAXATION ESTIMATES.—The Congres-
4 sional Budget Office and Joint Com-
5 mittee on Taxation shall provide esti-
6 mates of the Task Force report and
7 recommendations (as described in
8 subsection (b)(2)(D)) in accordance
9 with section 308(a) and 201(f) of the
10 Congressional Budget Act of 1974.
11 The Task Force may not vote on any
12 version of the report, recommenda-
13 tions, or legislative language unless a
14 final estimate is available for consider-
15 ation by all the members at least 72
16 hours prior to the vote.

17 “(D) MEETINGS.—

18 “(i) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later
19 than 45 days after the date of enactment
20 of this section, the Task Force shall hold
21 its first meeting.

22 “(ii) MEETINGS.—The Task Force
23 shall meet at the call of the Co-Chairs or
24 at least 10 of its members.

1 “(iii) AGENDA.—An agenda shall be
2 provided to the Task Force members at
3 least 1 week in advance of any meeting.
4 Task Force members who want to have
5 items placed on the agenda for consider-
6 ation shall notify the staff director as early
7 as possible, but not less than 48 hours in
8 advance of a scheduled meeting.

9 “(E) HEARINGS.—

10 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to sub-
11 paragraph (G), the Task Force may, for
12 the purpose of carrying out this section,
13 hold such hearings, sit and act at such
14 times and places, take such testimony, re-
15 ceive such evidence, and administer such
16 oaths the Task Force considers advisable.

17 “(ii) HEARING PROCEDURES AND RE-
18 SPONSIBILITIES OF CO-CHAIRS.—

19 “(I) ANNOUNCEMENT.—The
20 Task Force Co-Chairs shall make
21 public announcement of the date,
22 place, time, and subject matter of any
23 hearing to be conducted at least 1
24 week in advance of such hearing, un-
25 less the Co-Chairs determine that

1 there is good cause to begin such
2 hearing at an earlier date.

3 “(II) WRITTEN STATEMENT.—A
4 witness appearing before the Task
5 Force shall file a written statement of
6 proposed testimony at least 2 days
7 prior to appearance, unless the re-
8 quirement is waived by the Co-Chairs,
9 following their determination that
10 there is good cause for failure of com-
11 pliance.

12 “(F) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Upon
13 written request of the Co-Chairs, a Federal
14 agency shall provide technical assistance to the
15 Task Force in order for the Task Force to
16 carry out its duties.

17 “(G) INFORMATION.—

18 “(i) RESOURCES.—

19 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Notwith-
20 standing section 1108 of title 31,
21 United States Code, the Task Force
22 shall have authority to access assist-
23 ance, materials, resources, statistical
24 data, and other information the Task
25 Force determines to be necessary to

1 carry out its duties directly from an
2 officer or employee of any executive
3 department, bureau, agency, board,
4 commission, office, independent estab-
5 lishment, or instrumentality of the
6 Government, including the Library of
7 Congress, the Chief Actuary of the
8 Social Security Administration, the
9 Chief Actuary of the Centers for
10 Medicare & Medicaid Services, the
11 Congressional Budget Office, the De-
12 partment of the Treasury, the Depart-
13 ment of Health and Human Services,
14 the Office of Management and Budg-
15 et, the Government Accountability Of-
16 fice, and the Joint Committee on Tax-
17 ation. Each agency or instrumentality
18 shall, to the extent permitted by law,
19 furnish such information to the Task
20 Force upon written request of the Co-
21 Chairs.

22 “(II) COPIES SUPPLIED.—Copies
23 of written requests and all written or
24 electronic responses provided under
25 this clause shall be provided to the

1 staff director and shall be made avail-
2 able for review by all members of the
3 Task Force upon request.

4 “(ii) RECEIPT, HANDLING, STORAGE,
5 AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—
6 Information shall only be received, han-
7 dled, stored, and disseminated by members
8 of the Task Force and its staff consistent
9 with all applicable statutes, regulations,
10 and Executive orders.

11 “(iii) LIMITATION OF ACCESS TO TAX
12 INFORMATION.—Information accessed
13 under this subparagraph shall not include
14 tax data from the United States Internal
15 Revenue Service, the release of which
16 would otherwise be in violation of law.

17 “(H) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Task Force
18 may use the United States mails in the same
19 manner and under the same conditions as other
20 departments and agencies of the Federal Gov-
21 ernment.

22 “(I) ASSISTANCE FROM FEDERAL AGEN-
23 CIES.—

24 “(i) GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRA-
25 TION.—Upon the request of the Co-Chairs

1 of the Task Force, the Administrator of
2 General Services shall provide to the Task
3 Force, on a reimbursable basis, the admin-
4 istrative support services necessary for the
5 Task Force to carry out its responsibilities
6 under this section. These administrative
7 services may include human resources
8 management, budget, leasing, accounting,
9 and payroll services.

10 “(ii) OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND
11 AGENCIES.—In addition to the assistance
12 prescribed in clause (i), departments and
13 agencies of the United States may provide
14 to the Task Force such services, funds, fa-
15 cilities, staff, and other support services as
16 they may determine advisable and as may
17 be authorized by law.

18 “(J) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—The Task
19 Force is authorized to enter into contracts with
20 Federal and State agencies, private firms, insti-
21 tutions, and individuals for the conduct of activ-
22 ity necessary to the discharge of its duties and
23 responsibilities. A contract, lease, or other legal
24 agreement entered into by the Task Force may

1 not extend beyond the date of the termination
2 of the Task Force.

3 “(c) STAFF OF TASK FORCE.—

4 “(1) APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION OF
5 SHARED STAFF.—The Co-Chairs may appoint and
6 fix the compensation of a staff director and such
7 other personnel as may be necessary to enable the
8 Task Force to carry out its functions, without re-
9 gard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code,
10 governing appointments in the competitive service,
11 but at rates not to exceed the daily rate paid a per-
12 son occupying a position at level III of the Executive
13 Schedule under section 5314 of title 5, United
14 States Code.

15 “(2) ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR TASK FORCE
16 MEMBERS.—Each member of the Task Force may
17 appoint up to 2 additional dedicated staff and fix
18 the compensation of such dedicated personnel with-
19 out regard to the provisions of title 5, United States
20 Code, governing appointments in the competitive
21 service, but at rates not to exceed the daily rate paid
22 a person occupying a position at level III of the Ex-
23 ecutive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5,
24 United States Code. Dedicated staff shall report to
25 each appointing member.

1 “(3) PERSONNEL AS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The staff director and
3 any personnel of the Task Force who are em-
4 ployees shall be employees under section 2105
5 of title 5, United States Code, for purposes of
6 chapters 63, 81, 83, 84, 85, 87, 89, and 90 of
7 that title.

8 “(B) MEMBERS OF TASK FORCE.—Sub-
9 paragraph (A) shall not be construed to apply
10 to members of the Task Force.

11 “(4) OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS.—No outside con-
12 sultants or other personnel, either by contract, de-
13 tail, volunteer, or through a remunerative agree-
14 ment, may be hired without the approval of the Co-
15 Chairs.

16 “(5) DETAILEES.—With the approval of the
17 Co-Chairs any Federal Government employee may be
18 detailed to the Task Force with or without reim-
19 bursement from the Task Force, and such detailee
20 shall retain the rights, status, and privileges of his
21 or her regular employment without interruption. Re-
22 imburseable amounts may include the fair value of
23 equipment and supplies used by the detailee in sup-
24 port of the Task Force’s activities. For the purpose

1 of this paragraph, Federal Government employees
2 shall include employees of the legislative branch.

3 “(6) CONSULTANT SERVICES.—The Co-Chairs
4 of the Task Force are authorized to procure the
5 services of experts and consultants in accordance
6 with section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but
7 at rates not to exceed the daily rate paid a person
8 occupying a position at level III of the Executive
9 Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United
10 States Code.

11 “(7) TEMPORARY AND INTERMITTENT SERV-
12 ICES.—The Co-Chairs of the Task Force may pro-
13 cure temporary and intermittent services under sec-
14 tion 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates
15 for individuals which do not exceed the daily equiva-
16 lent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for
17 level III of the Executive Schedule under section
18 5316 of such title.

19 “(8) VOLUNTEER SERVICES.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the
21 provisions of section 1342 of title 31, United
22 States Code, the Co-Chairs of the Task Force
23 are authorized to accept and utilize the services
24 of volunteers serving without compensation.
25 The Task Force may reimburse such volunteers

1 for local travel and office supplies, and for
2 other travel expenses, including per diem in lieu
3 of substance, as authorized by section 5703 of
4 title 5, United States Code.

5 “(B) EMPLOYEE STATUS.—A person pro-
6 viding volunteer services to the Task Force
7 shall be considered an employee of the Federal
8 Government in the performance of those serv-
9 ices for the purposes of Chapter 81 of title 5,
10 United States Code, relating to compensation
11 for work-related injuries, chapter 171 of title
12 28, United States Code, relating to tort claims
13 and chapter 11 of title 18, United States Code,
14 relating to conflicts of interests.

15 “(C) ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR STAFF.—
16 In the absence of statutorily defined coverage,
17 the staff, including staff director, shall follow
18 the ethical rules and guidelines of the Senate.
19 Staff coming from the private sector or outside
20 public government may petition the Co-Chairs
21 for a waiver from provisions of Senate Ethics
22 rules.

23 “(9) ADVISORY PANEL.—The Task Force may
24 establish an advisory panel consisting of volunteers
25 with knowledge and expertise relevant to the Task

1 Force's purpose. Membership of the Advisory Panel,
2 and the scope of the Panel's activities, shall be de-
3 cided by the Co-Chairs in consultation with the other
4 members of the Task Force.

5 “(d) TERMINATION.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Task Force shall ter-
7 minate on the date that is 90 days after the Task
8 Force submits the report required under paragraph
9 (b)(3)(B).

10 “(2) CONCLUDING ACTIVITIES.—The Task
11 Force may use the 90-day period referred to in
12 paragraph (1) for the purpose of concluding its ac-
13 tivities, including providing testimony to committees
14 of Congress concerning its report and disseminating
15 the final report.

16 “(e) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF TASK FORCE
17 RECOMMENDATIONS.—

18 “(1) INTRODUCTION.—

19 “(A) RECONVENING.—

20 “(i) IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
21 TIVES.—Upon receipt of a report under
22 subsection (b)(3)(B), the Speaker, if the
23 House would otherwise be adjourned, shall
24 notify the Members of the House that,
25 pursuant to this section, the House shall

1 convene not later than November 23,
2 2010.

3 “(ii) IN THE SENATE.—

4 “(I) CONVENING.—Upon receipt
5 of a report under subsection
6 (b)(3)(B), if the Senate has adjourned
7 or recessed for more than 2 days, the
8 majority leader of the Senate, after
9 consultation with the minority leader
10 of the Senate, shall notify the Mem-
11 bers of the Senate that, pursuant to
12 this section, the Senate shall convene
13 not later than November 23, 2010.

14 “(II) ADJOURNING.—No concur-
15 rent resolution adjourning the Senate
16 for more than 3 days shall be in order
17 until the Senate votes on passage of
18 the Task Force bill under paragraph
19 (2)(B)(iv).

20 “(B) INTRODUCTION OF TASK FORCE
21 BILL.—The proposed legislative language con-
22 tained in the report submitted pursuant to sub-
23 section (b)(3)(B), upon receipt by the Congress,
24 shall be introduced not later than November 23,
25 2010, in the Senate and in the House of Rep-

1 representatives by the majority leader of each
2 House of Congress, for himself, the minority
3 leader of each House of Congress, for himself,
4 or any member of the House designated by the
5 majority leader or minority leader. If the Task
6 Force bill is not introduced in accordance with
7 the preceding sentence in either House of Con-
8 gress, then any Member of that House may in-
9 troduce the Task Force bill on any day there-
10 after. Upon introduction, the Task Force bill
11 shall be referred to the appropriate committees
12 under subparagraph (C).

13 “(C) COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION.—A
14 Task Force bill introduced in either House of
15 Congress shall be jointly referred to the com-
16 mittee or committees of jurisdiction and the
17 Committee on the Budget of that House, which
18 committees shall report the bill without any re-
19 vision and with a favorable recommendation, an
20 unfavorable recommendation, or without rec-
21 ommendation, not later than 7 calendar days
22 after the date of introduction of the bill in that
23 House, or the first day thereafter on which that
24 House is in session. If any committee fails to
25 report the bill within that period, that com-

mittee shall be automatically discharged from consideration of the bill, and the bill shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.

“(2) EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—

“(A) FAST TRACK CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

“(i) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—It shall be in order, not later than 2 days of session after the date on which a Task Force bill is reported or discharged from all committees to which it was referred, for the majority leader of the House of Representatives or the majority leader’s designee, to move to proceed to the consideration of the Task Force bill. It shall also be in order for any Member of the House of Representatives to move to proceed to the consideration of the Task Force bill at any time after the conclusion of such 2-day period. All points of order against the motion are waived. Such a motion shall not be in order after the House has disposed of a motion to proceed on the Task Force bill. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the mo-

1 tion to its adoption without intervening
2 motion. The motion shall not be debatable.
3 A motion to reconsider the vote by which
4 the motion is disposed of shall not be in
5 order.

6 “(ii) CONSIDERATION.—The Task
7 Force bill shall be considered as read. All
8 points of order against the Task Force bill
9 and against its consideration are waived.
10 The previous question shall be considered
11 as ordered on the Task Force bill to its
12 passage without intervening motion except
13 100 hours of debate equally divided and
14 controlled by the proponent and an oppo-
15 nent, and any motion to limit debate. A
16 motion to reconsider the vote on passage of
17 the Task Force bill shall not be in order.

18 “(iii) APPEALS.—Appeals from deci-
19 sions of the chair relating to the applica-
20 tion of the Rules of the House of Rep-
21 resentatives to the procedure relating to a
22 Task Force bill shall be decided without
23 debate.

24 “(iv) APPLICATION OF HOUSE
25 RULES.—Except to the extent specifically

1 provided in paragraph (2)(A), consider-
2 ation of a Task Force bill shall be gov-
3 erned by the Rules of the House of Rep-
4 resentatives. It shall not be in order in the
5 House of Representatives to consider any
6 Task Force bill introduced pursuant to the
7 provisions of this subsection under a sus-
8 pension of the rules pursuant to Clause 1
9 of House Rule XV, or under a special rule
10 reported by the House Committee on
11 Rules.

12 “(v) NO AMENDMENTS.—No amend-
13 ment to the Task Force bill shall be in
14 order in the House of Representatives.

15 “(vi) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—Imme-
16 diately following the conclusion of consider-
17 ation of the Task Force bill, the vote on
18 passage of the Task Force bill shall occur
19 without any intervening action or motion,
20 requiring an affirmative vote of three-fifths
21 of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. If
22 the Task Force bill is passed, the Clerk of
23 the House of Representatives shall cause
24 the bill to be transmitted to the Senate be-
25 fore the close of the next day of session of

1 the House. The vote on passage shall occur
2 not later than December 23, 2010.

3 “(vii) VOTE.—The House Committee
4 on Rules may not report a rule or order
5 that would have the effect of causing the
6 Task Force bill to be approved by a vote
7 of less than three-fifths of the Members,
8 duly chosen and sworn.

9 “(B) FAST TRACK CONSIDERATION IN SEN-
10 ATE.—

11 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding
12 Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the
13 Senate, it is in order, not later than 2 days
14 of session after the date on which a Task
15 Force bill is reported or discharged from
16 all committees to which it was referred, for
17 the majority leader of the Senate or the
18 majority leader’s designee to move to pro-
19 ceed to the consideration of the Task
20 Force bill. It shall also be in order for any
21 Member of the Senate to move to proceed
22 to the consideration of the Task Force bill
23 at any time after the conclusion of such 2-
24 day period. A motion to proceed is in order
25 even though a previous motion to the same

1 effect has been disagreed to. All points of
2 order against the motion to proceed to the
3 Task Force bill are waived. The motion to
4 proceed is not debatable. The motion is not
5 subject to a motion to postpone. A motion
6 to reconsider the vote by which the motion
7 is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in
8 order. If a motion to proceed to the consid-
9 eration of the Task Force bill is agreed to,
10 the Task Force bill shall remain the unfin-
11 ished business until disposed of.

12 “(ii) DEBATE.—All points of order
13 against the Task Force bill and against
14 consideration of the Task Force bill are
15 waived. Consideration of the Task Force
16 bill and of all debatable motions and ap-
17 peals in connection therewith shall not ex-
18 ceed a total of 100 hours. Debate shall be
19 divided equally between the majority and
20 minority leaders or their designees. A mo-
21 tion further to limit debate on the Task
22 Force bill is in order, shall require an af-
23 firmative vote of three-fifths of the Mem-
24 bers duly chosen and sworn, and is not de-
25 batable. Any debatable motion or appeal is

1 debatable for not to exceed 1 hour, to be
2 divided equally between those favoring and
3 those opposing the motion or appeal. All
4 time used for consideration of the Task
5 Force bill, including time used for quorum
6 calls and voting, shall be counted against
7 the total 100 hours of consideration.

8 “(iii) NO AMENDMENTS.—An amend-
9 ment to the Task Force bill, or a motion
10 to postpone, or a motion to proceed to the
11 consideration of other business, or a mo-
12 tion to recommit the Task Force bill, is
13 not in order.

14 “(iv) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—The vote
15 on passage shall occur immediately fol-
16 lowing the conclusion of the debate on a
17 Task Force bill, and a single quorum call
18 at the conclusion of the debate if re-
19 quested. Passage shall require an affirma-
20 tive vote of three-fifths of the Members,
21 duly chosen and sworn. The vote on pas-
22 sage shall occur not later than December
23 23, 2010.

24 “(v) ADJOURNMENT.—If, by Decem-
25 ber 23, 2010, either House has failed to

1 adopt a motion to proceed to the Task
2 Force bill, paragraph (1)(A)(ii)(II) shall
3 not apply.

4 “(vi) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON
5 PROCEDURE.—Appeals from the decisions
6 of the Chair relating to the application of
7 the rules of the Senate, as the case may
8 be, to the procedure relating to a Task
9 Force bill shall be decided without debate.

10 “(C) RULES TO COORDINATE ACTION WITH
11 OTHER HOUSE.—

12 “(i) REFERRAL.—If, before the pas-
13 sage by 1 House of a Task Force bill of
14 that House, that House receives from the
15 other House a Task Force bill, then the
16 Task Force bill of the other House shall
17 not be referred to a committee and shall
18 immediately be placed on the calendar.

19 “(ii) PROCEDURE.—If the Senate re-
20 ceives the Task Force bill passed by the
21 House of Representatives before the Sen-
22 ate has voted on passage of the Task
23 Force bill—

24 “(I) the procedure in the Senate
25 shall be the same as if no Task Force

1 bill had been received from House of
2 Representatives; and

3 “(II) the vote on passage in the
4 Senate shall be on the Task Force bill
5 of the House of Representatives.

6 “(iii) TREATMENT OF TASK FORCE
7 BILL OF OTHER HOUSE.—If 1 House fails
8 to introduce or consider a Task Force bill
9 under this section, the Task Force bill of
10 the other House shall be entitled to expedited floor procedures under this section.

12 “(iv) TREATMENT OF COMPANION
13 MEASURES IN THE SENATE.—If following
14 passage of the Task Force bill in the Senate,
15 the Senate then receives the Task
16 Force bill from the House of Representatives,
17 the House-passed Task Force bill
18 shall not be debatable. The vote on passage
19 of the Task Force bill in the Senate shall
20 be considered to be the vote on passage of
21 the Task Force bill received from the
22 House of Representatives.

23 “(v) VETOES.—If the President vetoes
24 the Task Force bill, debate on a veto message
25 in the Senate under this section shall

1 be 1 hour equally divided between the ma-
2 jority and minority leaders or their des-
3 ignees.

4 “(3) SUSPENSION.—No motion to suspend the
5 application of this subsection shall be in order in the
6 Senate or in the House of Representatives.”.

7 **SEC. 3. FUNDING.**

8 From the amounts appropriated or made available
9 and remaining unobligated under division A (other than
10 under title X of division A) of the American Recovery and
11 Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–5), there is
12 rescinded pro rata an aggregate amount equal to
13 \$9,000,000, which amount shall be made available without
14 need for further appropriation to the Bipartisan Task
15 Force for Responsible Fiscal Action to carry out the pur-
16 poses of the Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal
17 Action, and which shall remain available through fiscal
18 year 2011. Not later than 14 days after the date of enact-
19 ment of this section, the Director of the Office of Manage-
20 ment and Budget shall administer the rescission and make
21 available such amount to the Bipartisan Task Force for
22 Responsible Fiscal Action.

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