

Calendar No. 334

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**S. 3158**

To require Congress to lead by example and freeze its own pay and fully offset the cost of the extension of unemployment benefits and other Federal aid.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 23, 2010

Mr. COBURN introduced the following bill; which was read the first time

MARCH 24, 2010

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

A BILL

To require Congress to lead by example and freeze its own pay and fully offset the cost of the extension of unemployment benefits and other Federal aid.

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. NO INCREASE IN PAY OF MEMBERS OF CON-**
 4 **GRESS.**

5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the
 6 “The No Pay Raise for Congress Until the Budget is Bal-
 7 anced Act”.

1 (b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
2 ings:

3 (1) Article I, section 9, of the United States
4 Constitution makes Congress responsible for all
5 money drawn from the United States Treasury.

6 (2) The United States national debt now ex-
7 ceeds \$12,600,000,000,000.

8 (3) The Federal budget deficit is projected to
9 amount to \$1,300,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2010
10 and the annual deficits will average nearly
11 \$1,000,000,000,000 for the next decade, according
12 to the Congressional Budget Office.

13 (4) Each American's share of the United States
14 national debt amounts to more than \$41,000.

15 (5) The United States national debt increases
16 more than \$4,000,000,000 each day.

17 (6) Foreign investors held 48 percent of the
18 United States' outstanding public debt at the end of
19 2009, including \$776,400,000,000 the United States
20 owes to Communist China.

21 (7) For the first time ever, the Federal budget
22 deficit has been singled out as the most important
23 issue facing the future of the country, according to
24 a Gallup poll conducted between March 4 and March
25 7, 2010.

1 (8) In the last six months, Congress has passed
2 4 major extension bills, costing taxpayers nearly
3 \$30,000,000,000.

4 (9) Eighty-three percent of Americans say the
5 size of the Federal budget deficit is due to the un-
6 willingness of politicians to cut Government spend-
7 ing and just 11 percent think the Government
8 spends taxpayers' money wisely, according to a na-
9 tional survey conducted between February 2 and
10 February 3, 2010, by Rasmussen Reports.

11 (10) More than twice as many United States
12 adults (58 percent) say that debt owed to China is
13 a more serious threat to the long-term security and
14 well-being of the United States than is terrorism
15 from radical Islamic terrorists (27 percent), accord-
16 ing to a Zogby Interactive survey conducted between
17 February 17 and February 19, 2010.

18 (11) For the reasons specified in paragraphs
19 (1) through (10)—

20 (A) Congress should make balancing the
21 Federal budget an urgent priority to protect the
22 national security, financial stability, and stand-
23 ard of living of the United States;

24 (B) because Congress has long refused to
25 make the tough decisions necessary to cut

wasteful spending, reducing the national debt limit is the only sure way to force Congress to live within its means;

(C) the pay for members of Congress, who are constitutionally responsible for the money drawn from the United States Treasury and the debt that results from excessive spending, should not be increased until Congress has balanced the Federal budget; and

(D) Congress should no longer approve irresponsible legislation that adds to the deficit and burdens future generations with more debt.

(c) RESTRICTIONS ON PAY OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—

(1) RESTRICTION ON COLA ADJUSTMENTS.—

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no adjustment shall be made under section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) (relating to cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress) during fiscal year 2011 or any succeeding fiscal year, until the fiscal year following the first fiscal year that the annual Federal budget deficit is \$0 as determined in the report submitted under paragraph (2).

(2) DETERMINATIONS AND REPORTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal year, the Secretary of the Treasury shall—

(i) make a determination of whether or not the annual Federal budget deficit was \$0 for that fiscal year; and

(ii) if the determination is that the annual Federal budget deficit was \$0 for that fiscal year, submit a report to Congress of that determination.

(B) RESTRICTION OF COLA ADJUSTMENTS.—Not later than the end of each calendar year, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit a report to the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives on—

(i) any determination made under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) whether or not the restriction under paragraph (1) shall apply to the succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 2. REPEAL OF INCREASE OF THE OFFICE BUDGETS OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

Of the funds made available under Public Law 111–68 for the legislative branch (except for any account under

1 the heading “CAPITOL POLICE”), \$100,000,000 in un-
 2 obligated balances are rescinded: *Provided*, That none of
 3 the funding available for the legislative branch be available
 4 for any pilot program for mailings of postal patron post-
 5 cards by Senators for the purpose of providing notice of
 6 a town meeting by a Senator in a county (or equivalent
 7 unit of local government) at which the Senator will person-
 8 ally attend.

9 **SEC. 3. RESCISSION OF UNSPENT AND UNCOMMITTED FED-**
 10 **ERAL FUNDS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
 12 sion of law, of all available unobligated Federal funds,
 13 \$9,200,000,000 in discretionary, unexpired funds are re-
 14 scinded.

15 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 60 days after
 16 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Of-
 17 fice of Management and Budget shall—

- 18 (1) identify the accounts and amounts rescinded
 19 to implement subsection (a); and
- 20 (2) submit a report to the Secretary of the
 21 Treasury and Congress of the accounts and amounts
 22 identified under paragraph (1) for rescission.

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