

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 897

To limit Federal spending to 20 percent of GDP.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 24, 2009

Mr. HATCH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Budget

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## A BILL

To limit Federal spending to 20 percent of GDP.

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 “Limitation on Govern-  
5 ment Spending Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. LIMIT ON FEDERAL SPENDING.**

7 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 3 of the Congressional  
8 Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 622) is amended by insert-  
9 ing at the end the following:

10 “(11) FEDERAL SPENDING LIMIT.—The term  
11 ‘Federal spending limit’ means—

1           “(A) with respect to fiscal year 2011, out-  
2           lays not exceeding 22 per cent of the GDP;

3           “(B) with respect to fiscal year 2012, out-  
4           lays not exceeding 21 per cent of the GDP; and

5           “(C) with respect to fiscal year 2013 and  
6           fiscal years thereafter, outlays not exceeding 20  
7           per cent of the GDP.

8           “(12) GDP.—The term ‘GDP’ means the gross  
9           domestic product for the relevant fiscal year as most  
10          recently estimated by CBO.”

11          (b) FEDERAL SPENDING LIMIT POINT OF ORDER.—  
12          Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2  
13          U.S.C. 642) is amended by inserting at the end the fol-  
14          lowing:

15          “(d) FEDERAL SPENDING LIMIT POINT OF  
16          ORDER.—

17                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—It shall not be in order in  
18                 the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution,  
19                 amendment, or conference report that includes any  
20                 provision that would result in a deficit for a fiscal  
21                 year that exceeds the maximum deficit amount or  
22                 Federal spending limit, as applicable, for such fiscal  
23                 year.

24                 “(2) WAIVER OR SUSPENSION.—This subsection  
25                 may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by

1 the affirmative rollcall vote of three-fifths of the  
2 Members, duly chosen and sworn.

3 “(3) APPEALS.—Appeals in the Senate from  
4 the decisions of the Chair relating to any provision  
5 of this subsection shall be limited to 1 hour, to be  
6 equally divided between, and controlled by, the ap-  
7 pellant and the manager of the bill or joint resolu-  
8 tion. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Mem-  
9 bers of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be  
10 required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the  
11 Chair on a point of order raised under this sub-  
12 section.”.

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