

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2498

To amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to require that the Congressional Budget Office prepare long-term estimates for reported bills and joint resolutions that would have significant fiscal impact, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2015

Mr. CARNEY (for himself, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. QUIGLEY, Miss RICE of New York, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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 Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to require that the Congressional Budget Office prepare long-term estimates for reported bills and joint resolutions that would have significant fiscal impact, 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 “Budget Integrity Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. LONG-TERM COST ANALYSES OF LEGISLATION BY**
2 **CBO.**

3 Section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974
4 is amended by inserting “(a) COST ESTIMATES.—” after
5 “SEC. 402.” and by adding at the end the following new
6 subsections:

7 “(b) LONG-TERM COST ESTIMATES.—(1) Whenever
8 the Director of the Congressional Budget Office prepares
9 an analysis of the costs of a bill or joint resolution under
10 subsection (a), and upon the request of the chair or rank-
11 ing minority member of the Committee on the Budget of
12 the House of Representatives or the Senate, the Director
13 shall prepare and submit to such committee the informa-
14 tion requested under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of sub-
15 section (a) for any such bill or joint resolution that would
16 have a significant fiscal impact, except that such informa-
17 tion shall be for, if practicable, at least each of the next
18 two ten-fiscal-year periods beginning with the first fiscal
19 year after the last fiscal year for which an analysis was
20 prepared under subsection (a).

21 “(2) As used in paragraph (1) and in subsection (c),
22 the term ‘significant fiscal impact’, when applied to either
23 of the two ten-fiscal-year periods referred to in that para-
24 graph, means any gross budgetary impact of at least 0.25
25 percent of gross domestic product.”.

1 **SEC. 3. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION INCREAS-**
2 **ING LONG-TERM DEFICITS.**

3 (a) POINT OF ORDER.—It shall not be in order in
4 the House of Representatives or the Senate to consider
5 any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or con-
6 ference report that would cause a net increase in on-budg-
7 et deficits in excess of \$5,000,000,000 in any of the two
8 consecutive 10-fiscal-year periods described in section
9 402(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

10 (b) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL IN THE
11 SENATE.—

12 (1) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or
13 suspended only by the affirmative vote of three-fifths
14 of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

15 (2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-
16 fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall
17 be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the
18 Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

19 (c) DETERMINATIONS OF BUDGET LEVELS.—For
20 purposes of this section, the levels of net deficit increases
21 shall be determined on the basis of estimates provided by
22 the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representa-
23 tives or the Senate, as applicable.

1 **SEC. 4. CBO AND OMB PROJECTIONS.**

2 (a) CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE.—(1) Section
3 308 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended
4 by adding at the end the following new subsections:

5 “(e) LONG-TERM PROJECTIONS.—Each year, the Di-
6 rector of the Congressional Budget Office shall issue a re-
7 port projecting total spending, revenue, deficits, and debt
8 for at least 40 years beginning with the first fiscal year
9 after the last fiscal year covered in the most recently en-
10 acted concurrent resolution on the budget as a percentage
11 of current projected gross domestic product annually
12 based on current law and current law levels as modified
13 to maintain current policy.”.

14 (2) Section 202(e)(1) of the Congressional Budget
15 Act of 1974 is amended by adding at the end the following
16 new sentence: “Such report shall also include an analysis
17 of the long-term projections of current policy and proposed
18 policy in the budget submitted by the President for such
19 fiscal year.”.

20 (b) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.—Sec-
21 tion 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, is amended
22 by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

23 “(40) long-term projections of total spending
24 over 40 years as a percentage of gross domestic
25 product annually and the impact of proposed policies
26 over that period.”.

1 **SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF STATUTORY LIMIT ON THE**
2 **PUBLIC DEBT.**

3 The Rules of the House of Representatives are
4 amended by adding at the end the following new rule:

5 “RULE XXX

6 “ESTABLISHMENT OF STATUTORY LIMIT ON THE
7 PUBLIC DEBT

8 “1. Upon adoption by Congress of a concurrent reso-
9 lution on the budget for a fiscal year under section 301
10 or 304 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 that sets
11 forth, as the appropriate level of the public debt for that
12 fiscal year, an amount that is different from the amount
13 of the statutory limit on the public debt that otherwise
14 would be in effect for that fiscal year, the Clerk shall pre-
15 pare an engrossment of a joint resolution increasing or
16 decreasing, as the case may be, the statutory limit on the
17 public debt in the form prescribed in clause 2. Upon en-
18 grossment of the joint resolution, the vote by which the
19 concurrent resolution on the budget was finally agreed to
20 in the House shall also be considered as a vote on passage
21 of the joint resolution in the House, and the joint resolu-
22 tion shall be considered as passed by the House and duly
23 certified and examined. The engrossed copy shall be signed
24 by the Clerk and transmitted to the Senate for further
25 legislative action.

1 “2. The matter after the resolving clause in a joint
2 resolution described in clause 1 shall be as follows: ‘That
3 subsection (b) of section 3101 of title 31, United States
4 Code, is amended by striking out the dollar limitation con-
5 tained in such subsection and inserting in lieu thereof
6 “\$_____”.’, with the blank being filled with a dollar limi-
7 tation equal to the appropriate level of the public debt set
8 forth pursuant to section 301(a)(5) of the Congressional
9 Budget Act of 1974 for the budget year in the relevant
10 concurrent resolution described in clause 1.

11 “3. (a) The report of the Committee on the Budget
12 on a concurrent resolution described in clause 1 and the
13 joint explanatory statement of the managers on a con-
14 ference report to accompany such a concurrent resolution
15 each shall contain a clear statement of the effect the even-
16 tual enactment of a joint resolution engrossed under this
17 rule would have on the statutory limit on the public debt.

18 “(b) It shall not be in order for the House to consider
19 a concurrent resolution described in clause 1, or a con-
20 ference report thereon, unless the report of the Committee
21 on the Budget or the joint explanatory statement of the
22 managers complies with paragraph (a).

23 “4. Nothing in this rule shall be construed as limiting
24 or otherwise affecting—

1 “(a) the power of the House or the Senate to
2 consider and pass bills or joint resolutions, without
3 regard to the procedures under clause 1, that would
4 change the statutory limit on the public debt; or

5 “(b) the rights of Members, Delegates, the
6 Resident Commissioner, or committees with respect
7 to the introduction, consideration, and reporting of
8 such bills or joint resolutions.

9 “5. In this rule the term ‘statutory limit on the public
10 debt’ means the maximum face amount of obligations
11 issued under authority of chapter 31 of title 31, United
12 States Code, and obligations guaranteed as to principal
13 and interest by the United States (except such guaranteed
14 obligations as may be held by the Secretary of the Treas-
15 ury), as determined under section 3101(b) of such title
16 after the application of section 3101(a) of such title, that
17 may be outstanding at any one time.”.

18 **SEC. 6. STUDY BY THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OF-**
19 **FIGE OF LONG-TERM DEBT.**

20 (a) GAO STUDY.—Title IV of the Congressional
21 Budget Act of 1974 is amended by inserting after section
22 402 the following new section:

23 “STUDY BY THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE
24 OF LONG-TERM DEBT

25 “SEC. 403. The Government Accountability Office
26 shall study the effect of the public debt over the 75-year

1 period commencing with the year of the study of social
2 service programs not included as liabilities on the balance
3 sheet of the annual consolidated financial statements of
4 the Government and report such results to the Congress.
5 Such report shall be revised annually.”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents set
7 forth in section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget and Im-
8 poundment Act of 1974 is amended by inserting after the
9 item relating to section 402 the following new item:

“Sec. 403. Study by the Government Accountability Office of long-term debt.”.

