

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5282

To provide a mechanism for dedicating spending cuts in discretionary spending programs to deficit reduction.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 7, 1994

Mr. SPRATT introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Government Operations and Rules

A BILL

To provide a mechanism for dedicating spending cuts in discretionary spending programs to deficit reduction.

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. ADJUSTMENTS OF DISCRETIONARY SPENDING**

4 **LIMITS.**

5 (a) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Director shall reduce the
6 discretionary spending limit for new budget authority for
7 a fiscal year set forth in section 601(a)(2) of the Congres-
8 sional Budget Act of 1974, as adjusted in strict conform-
9 ance with section 251 of the Balanced Budget and Emer-
10 gency Deficit Control Act of 1985, by the net aggregate

1 amount for that fiscal year in all deficit reduction line
2 items set forth in each appropriation bill or rescission bill.
3 The Director shall reduce the adjusted discretionary
4 spending limit for outlays for that fiscal year and each
5 outyear as set forth in such section 601(a)(2) as a result
6 of the reduction of such budget authority, based upon the
7 spendout rates applicable to the discretionary spending
8 programs to which the deficit reduction line items apply.
9 Reductions (if any) shall occur on the day that each such
10 appropriation bill is enacted into law. For purposes of the
11 Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of
12 1985, amounts in deficit reduction line items and outlay
13 reductions associated with them shall be taken into ac-
14 count only to make the adjustments specified in this sub-
15 section. For purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of
16 1974, amounts in deficit reduction line items and outlay
17 reductions associated with them shall be considered budg-
18 et authority and outlays. For all other purposes, including
19 subchapter I of chapter 15 of title 31, United States Code
20 (popularly known as the Anti-Deficiency Act), the amount
21 in deficit reduction line items shall not be considered to
22 provide authority to enter into obligations. Whenever the
23 Director makes any adjustment required by this sub-
24 section, he shall notify the House of Representatives, the

1 Senate, and the President on the day such adjustment is
2 made.

3 (b) DEFINITION.—As used in this section—

4 (1) the term “appropriation bill” means any
5 general or supplemental appropriation bill;

6 (2) the term “Director” means the Director of
7 the Office of Management and Budget; and

8 (3) the term “rescission bill” means any bill
9 which rescinds budget authority, including a bill re-
10 ferred to by section 1012 of the Congressional
11 Budget Act of 1974.

12 **SEC. 2. DEFICIT REDUCTION LINE ITEMS IN APPROPRIA-**
13 **TION MEASURES AND IN RESCISSION BILLS.**

14 (a) DEFICIT REDUCTION LINE ITEMS.—Title III of
15 the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by add-
16 ing at the end the following new section:

17 “DEFICIT REDUCTION LINE ITEMS IN APPROPRIATION
18 BILLS AND RESCISSION BILLS

19 “SEC. 314. (a) Whenever the Committee on Appro-
20 priations of the House of Representatives reports an ap-
21 propriation bill or a rescission bill, that bill may contain
22 provisions entitled ‘Deficit Reduction Line Item’, com-
23 prised solely of an amount of deficit reduction associated
24 with a reduction in a specified discretionary appropriation.

25 “(b)(1) Any amendment offered in the Committee on
26 Appropriations (or any subcommittee thereof) of either

1 House of Congress or in either House of Congress to an
2 appropriation bill or rescission bill to reduce a particular
3 appropriation for a discretionary spending program may
4 include a provision designating an amount (not to exceed
5 the amount of the reduction) for a deficit reduction line
6 item associated with that appropriation.

7 “(2) Any amendment offered in the Committee on
8 Appropriations (or any subcommittee thereof) of either
9 House of Congress or in either House of Congress to an
10 appropriation bill or rescission bill to increase a particular
11 appropriation or reduce a rescission for a discretionary
12 spending program may include a provision designating an
13 amount (not to exceed the amount of the increase in the
14 appropriation or reduction in the rescission) by which the
15 amount for one or more specified deficit reduction line
16 items is to be reduced (but the resulting amount may not
17 be less than zero), notwithstanding that any such deficit
18 reduction line item has been changed by an amendment.

19 “(3) No amendment establishing or increasing the
20 amount for a deficit reduction line item shall be in order
21 in the House of Representatives or Senate unless it is
22 printed in the Congressional Record at least one day be-
23 fore it is offered.

24 “(c) It shall not be in order in the House of Rep-
25 resentatives or in the Senate to offer an amendment estab-

1 lishing or increasing the amount for a deficit reduction
2 line item unless the amendment reduces an appropriation
3 for a discretionary spending program associated with that
4 line item by at least an equivalent amount.

5 “(d) It shall not be in order in the House of Rep-
6 resentatives or the Senate to consider a conference report
7 proposing an amendment to a deficit reduction line item
8 respecting a particular discretionary spending program
9 that is beyond the scope of that deficit reduction line item
10 as so committed to the conference committee.

11 “(e) As used in this section—

12 “(1) the term ‘appropriation bill’ means any
13 general or supplemental appropriation bill; and

14 “(2) the term ‘rescission bill’ means any bill
15 which rescinds budget authority, including a bill re-
16 ferred to by section 1012.’”.

17 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
18 tents set forth in section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget
19 and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by in-
20 serting after the item relating to section 313 the following
21 new item:

“Sec. 314. Deficit reduction line items in appropriation bills.”.

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