

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 236

To provide that the salaries of Members of a House of Congress will be held in escrow if that House has not agreed to a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2020 by April 15, 2019.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To provide that the salaries of Members of a House of Congress will be held in escrow if that House has not agreed to a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2020 by April 15, 2019.

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 “No Budget, No Pay
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. HOLDING SALARIES OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS IN**
2 **ESCROW UPON FAILURE TO AGREE TO BUDG-**
3 **ET RESOLUTION.**

4 (a) **HOLDING SALARIES IN ESCROW.**—

5 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—If by April 15, 2019, a
6 House of Congress has not agreed to a concurrent
7 resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2020 pursu-
8 ant to section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act
9 of 1974, during the period described in paragraph
10 (2) the payroll administrator of that House of Con-
11 gress shall deposit in an escrow account all pay-
12 ments otherwise required to be made during such
13 period for the compensation of Members of Congress
14 who serve in that House of Congress, and shall re-
15 lease such payments to such Members only upon the
16 expiration of such period.

17 (2) **PERIOD DESCRIBED.**—With respect to a
18 House of Congress, the period described in this
19 paragraph is the period which begins on April 16,
20 2019 and ends on the earlier of—

21 (A) the day on which the House of Con-
22 gress agrees to a concurrent resolution on the
23 budget for fiscal year 2020 pursuant to section
24 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974;
25 or

1 (B) the last day of the One Hundred Six-
2 teenth Congress.

3 (3) WITHHOLDING AND REMITTANCE OF
4 AMOUNTS FROM PAYMENTS HELD IN ESCROW.—The
5 payroll administrator shall provide for the same
6 withholding and remittance with respect to a pay-
7 ment deposited in an escrow account under para-
8 graph (1) that would apply to the payment if the
9 payment were not subject to paragraph (1).

10 (4) RELEASE OF AMOUNTS AT END OF THE
11 CONGRESS.—In order to ensure that this section is
12 carried out in a manner that shall not vary the com-
13 pensation of Senators or Representatives in violation
14 of the twenty-seventh article of amendment to the
15 Constitution of the United States, the payroll ad-
16 ministrator of a House of Congress shall release for
17 payments to Members of that House of Congress
18 any amounts remaining in any escrow account under
19 this section on the last day of the One Hundred Six-
20 teenth Congress.

21 (5) ROLE OF SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.—
22 The Secretary of the Treasury shall provide the pay-
23 roll administrators of the Houses of Congress with
24 such assistance as may be necessary to enable the
25 payroll administrators to carry out this section.

1 (b) TREATMENT OF DELEGATES AS MEMBERS.—In
2 this section, the term “Member of Congress” includes a
3 Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.

4 (c) PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR DEFINED.—In this
5 section, the “payroll administrator” of a House of Con-
6 gress means—

7 (1) in the case of the House of Representatives,
8 the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of
9 Representatives, or an employee of the Office of the
10 Chief Administrative Officer who is designated by
11 the Chief Administrative Officer to carry out this
12 section; and

13 (2) in the case of the Senate, the Secretary of
14 the Senate, or an employee of the Office of the Sec-
15 retary of the Senate who is designated by the Sec-
16 retary to carry out this section.

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