

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3189

To prohibit any increase in the amount established for the Members' Representational Allowance during a period of high unemployment and public debt.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 13, 2009

Mr. HELLER (for himself, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. LATTA, Mrs. LUMMIS, and Mr. ROSKAM) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

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## A BILL

To prohibit any increase in the amount established for the Members' Representational Allowance during a period of high unemployment and public debt.

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 "Reduction of Irrespon-  
5 sible MRA Growth Act" or the "TRIM Growth Act".

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITING INCREASE IN MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCE DURING PERIOD OF**  
2 **TATIONAL ALLOWANCE DURING PERIOD OF**  
3 **HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT AND PUBLIC DEBT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 101 of the House of Rep-  
5 resentatives Administrative Reform Technical Corrections  
6 Act (2 U.S.C. 57b) is amended—

7 (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-  
8 section (f); and

9 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-  
10 lowing new subsection:

11 “(e) PROHIBITING INCREASE DURING PERIODS OF  
12 HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT AND PUBLIC DEBT.—The Mem-  
13 bers’ Representational Allowance established for a fiscal  
14 year may not exceed the Members’ Representational Al-  
15 lowance established for the previous fiscal year unless—

16 “(1) the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes a  
17 national unemployment rate of 6 percent or lower  
18 for each of the 6 most recent months for which the  
19 Bureau published a national unemployment rate  
20 which occurred prior to the beginning of the fiscal  
21 year; or

22 “(2) the Secretary of the Treasury certifies to  
23 the Committees on Appropriations of the House of  
24 Representatives and Senate that the amount of the  
25 public debt (as referred to in section 3101 of title  
26 31, United States Code) is not greater than

1       \$5,500,000,000,000 as of the first day of the last  
2       month of the previous fiscal year.”.

3       (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
4       subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2010  
5       and each succeeding fiscal year.

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