

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4262

To amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to require a two-thirds recorded vote in the House of Representatives and in the Senate to increase the statutory limit on the public debt, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 10, 2009

Mr. SCALISE (for himself, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. POSEY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. AKIN, Mr. WAMP, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. HUNTER, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. LEE of New York, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. COLE, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. CARTER, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. CULBERSON, and Mr. HELLER) 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 a two-thirds recorded vote in the House of Representatives and in the Senate to increase the statutory limit on the public debt, 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 “Control America’s
 5 Purse-strings to Deliver a Better Tomorrow Act” or the
 6 “CAP the DEBT Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. TWO-THIRDS RECORDED VOTE REQUIRED TO IN-**
 8 **CREASE STATUTORY LIMIT ON THE PUBLIC**
 9 **DEBT.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Congressional
 11 Budget Act of 1974 is amended by adding at the end the
 12 following new section:

13 “TWO-THIRDS RECORDED VOTE REQUIRED TO INCREASE
 14 STATUTORY LIMIT ON THE PUBLIC DEBT

15 “SEC. 316. (a) IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
 16 TIVES.—(1) It shall not be in order in the House of Rep-
 17 resentatives to consider any bill or joint resolution, or
 18 amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that in-
 19 creases the statutory limit on the public debt if there is
 20 any other matter in such measure.

21 “(2) A bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto
 22 or conference report thereon, that increases the statutory
 23 limit on the public debt may not be considered as passed
 24 or agreed to in the House of Representatives unless so
 25 determined by a recorded vote of not less than two-thirds
 26 of the Members voting, a quorum being present.

1 “(b) IN THE SENATE.—(1) It shall not be in order
2 in the Senate to consider any bill or joint resolution, or
3 amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that in-
4 creases the statutory limit on the public debt if there is
5 any other matter in such measure.

6 “(2) A bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto
7 or conference report thereon, that increases the statutory
8 limit on the public debt may not be considered as passed
9 or agreed to in the Senate unless so determined by a roll
10 call vote of not less than two-thirds of the Members voting,
11 a quorum being present.

12 “(3) An affirmative roll call vote of two-thirds of the
13 Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the
14 Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on
15 a point of order raised under this subsection.”.

16 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
17 tents set forth in section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget
18 and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by in-
19 serting after the item relating to section 315 the following
20 new item:

“Sec. 316. Two-thirds recorded vote required to increase statutory limit on the
public debt.”.

1 SEC. 3. REPEAL OF THE GEPHARDT RULE.

2 Rule XXVIII of the Rules of the House of Represent-
3 atives (relating to the statutory limit on the public debt)
4 is repealed and rule XXIX is redesignated as rule XXVIII.

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