

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2621

To enforce the public debt limit and to protect the social security trust funds and other federal trust funds and accounts invested in public debt obligations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 13, 1995

Mr. ARCHER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To enforce the public debt limit and to protect the social security trust funds and other federal trust funds and accounts invested in public debt obligations.

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. APPLICABILITY OF PUBLIC DEBT LIMIT TO**
4 **FEDERAL TRUST FUNDS AND OTHER FED-**
5 **ERAL ACCOUNTS.**

6 (a) PROTECTION OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—Notwith-
7 standing any other provision of law—

8 (1) no officer or employee of the United States
9 may—

1 (A) delay the deposit of any amount into
2 (or delay the credit of any amount to) any Fed-
3 eral fund or otherwise vary from the normal
4 terms, procedures, or timing for making such
5 deposits or credits, or

6 (B) refrain from the investment in public
7 debt obligations of amounts in any Federal
8 fund,

9 if a purpose of such action or inaction is to not in-
10 crease the amount of outstanding public debt obliga-
11 tions, and

12 (2) no officer or employee of the United States
13 may disinvest amounts in any Federal fund which
14 are invested in public debt obligations if a purpose
15 of the disinvestment is to reduce the amount of out-
16 standing public debt obligations.

17 (b) PROTECTION OF BENEFITS AND EXPENDITURES
18 FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection
20 (a), during any period for which cash benefits or ad-
21 ministrative expenses would not otherwise be payable
22 from a covered benefits fund by reason of an inabil-
23 ity to issue further public debt obligations because
24 of the applicable public debt limit, public debt obli-
25 gations held by such covered benefits fund shall be

1 sold or redeemed only for the purpose of making
2 payment of such benefits or administrative expenses
3 and only to the extent cash assets of the covered
4 benefits fund are not available from month to month
5 for making payment of such benefits or administra-
6 tive expenses.

7 (2) ISSUANCE OF CORRESPONDING DEBT.—For
8 purposes of undertaking the sale or redemption of
9 public debt obligations held by a covered benefits
10 fund pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary of the
11 Treasury may issue corresponding public debt obli-
12 gations to the public, in order to obtain the cash
13 necessary for payment of benefits or administrative
14 expenses from such covered benefits fund, notwith-
15 standing the public debt limit.

16 (3) ADVANCE NOTICE OF SALE OR REDEMP-
17 TION.—Not less than 3 days prior to the date on
18 which, by reason of the public debt limit, the Sec-
19 retary of the Treasury expects to undertake a sale
20 or redemption authorized under paragraph (1), the
21 Secretary of the Treasury shall report to each House
22 of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of
23 the United States regarding the expected sale or re-
24 demption. Upon receipt of such report, the Comp-
25 troller General shall review the extent of compliance

1 with subsection (a) and paragraphs (1) and (2) of
2 this subsection and shall issue such findings and rec-
3 ommendations to each House of the Congress as the
4 Comptroller General considers necessary and appro-
5 priate.

6 (c) PUBLIC DEBT OBLIGATION.—For purposes of
7 this section, the term “public debt obligation” means any
8 obligation subject to the public debt limit established
9 under section 3101 of title 31, United States Code.

10 (d) FEDERAL FUND.—For purposes of this section,
11 the term “Federal fund” means any Federal trust fund
12 or Government account established pursuant to Federal
13 law to which the Secretary of the Treasury has issued or
14 is expressly authorized by law directly to issue obligations
15 under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, in re-
16 spect of public money, money otherwise required to be de-
17 posited in the Treasury, or amounts appropriated.

18 (e) COVERED BENEFITS FUND.—For purposes of
19 subsection (b), the term “covered benefits fund” means
20 any Federal fund from which cash benefits are payable
21 by law in the form of retirement benefits, separation pay-
22 ments, life or disability insurance benefits, or dependent’s
23 or survivor’s benefits, including (but not limited to) the
24 following:

1 (1) the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insur-
2 ance Trust Fund;

3 (2) the Federal Disability Insurance Trust
4 Fund;

5 (3) the Civil Service Retirement and Disability
6 Fund;

7 (4) the Government Securities Investment
8 Fund;

9 (5) the Department of Defense Military Retire-
10 ment Fund;

11 (6) the Unemployment Trust Fund;

12 (7) each of the railroad retirement funds and
13 accounts;

14 (8) the Department of Defense Education Ben-
15 efits Fund and the Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Edu-
16 cation Fund; and

17 (9) the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund.

18 **SEC. 2. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

19 Subsections (j), (k), and (l) of section 8348 of title
20 5, United States Code, and subsections (g) and (h) of sec-
21 tion 8438 of such title are hereby repealed.

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