

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. RES. 486

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to establish a discretionary spending ledger and a mandatory spending ledger.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2002

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. OTTER, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, and Mr. POMBO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to establish a discretionary spending ledger and a mandatory spending ledger.

1 *Resolved*, The Rules of the House of Representatives
2 are amended by redesignating rule XXVII as rule XXIX
3 and by inserting after rule XXVI the following new rules:

4 “RULE XXVII

5 “DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LEDGER.

6 “1. (a) The chairman of the Committee on the Budget
7 et shall maintain a ledger to be known as the ‘Discretionary
8 Spending Ledger’. The Ledger shall be divided
9 into entries corresponding to the subcommittees of the

1 Committee on Appropriations and each entry shall consist
2 of the ‘Deficit Reduction Safeguard Balance’.

3 “(b) Each entry shall consist only of amounts cred-
4 ited to it under paragraph (c). No entry of a negative
5 amount shall be made.

6 “(c) Whenever a Member offers an amendment to an
7 appropriation bill to reduce new budget authority in any
8 account, that Member may state the portion of such reduc-
9 tion that shall be—

10 “(1) credited to the Deficit Reduction Safe-
11 guard Balance; or

12 “(2) used to offset an increase in new budget
13 authority in any other account;

14 “(3) allowed to remain within the applicable
15 section 302(b) suballocation.

16 If no such statement is made, the amount of reduction
17 in new budget authority resulting from the amendment
18 shall be credited to the Deficit Reduction Safeguard Bal-
19 ance, as applicable, if the amendment is agreed to.

20 “2. (a) Except as provided by paragraph (b), the
21 chairman of the Committee on the Budget shall, upon the
22 engrossment of any appropriation bill by the House of
23 Representatives, credit to the entry balance amounts of
24 new budget authority and outlays equal to the net
25 amounts of reductions in new budget authority and in out-

1 lays resulting from amendments agreed to by the House
2 to that bill.

3 “(b) When computing the net amounts of reductions
4 in new budget authority and in outlays resulting from
5 amendments agreed to by the House to an appropriation
6 bill, the chairman of the Committee on the Budget shall
7 only count those portions of such amendments agreed to
8 that were so designated by the Members offering such
9 amendments as amounts to be credited to the Deficit Re-
10 duction Safeguard Balance, or that fall within the last
11 sentence of clause 1.

12 “3. The chairman of the Committee on the Budget
13 shall maintain a running tally of the amendments adopted
14 reflecting increases and decreases of budget authority in
15 the bill as reported. This tally shall be available to Mem-
16 bers during consideration of any appropriation bill by the
17 House.

18 “4. (a) For purposes of enforcing section 302(a) of
19 the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, upon the engross-
20 ment of any appropriation bill by the House, the amount
21 of budget authority and outlays calculated pursuant to
22 clause 2(b) shall be counted against the 302(a) allocation
23 provided to the Committee on Appropriations as if the
24 amount calculated pursuant to such clause was included
25 in the bill just engrossed.

1 “(b) For purposes of enforcing section 302(b) of the
2 Congressional Budget Act of 1974, upon the engrossment
3 of any appropriation bill by the House, the 302(b) alloca-
4 tion provided to the subcommittee for the bill just en-
5 grossed shall be deemed to have been reduced by the
6 amount of budget authority and outlays calculated, pursu-
7 ant to clause 2(b).

8 “5. As used in this rule, the term ‘appropriation bill’
9 means any general or special appropriation bill, and any
10 bill or joint resolution making supplemental, deficiency, or
11 continuing appropriations through the end of a fiscal year.

12 “6. For purposes of enforcing this rule during the
13 second session of this Congress and pending the adoption
14 of a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year
15 2003, the provisions of House Concurrent Resolution 353,
16 as passed the House, shall have force and effect in the
17 House as though Congress has adopted such concurrent
18 resolution.

19 “MANDATORY SPENDING LEDGER.

20 “1. (a) The chairman of the Committee on the Budg-
21 et shall maintain a ledger to be known as the ‘Mandatory
22 Spending Ledger’. The Ledger shall be divided into entries
23 corresponding to the House committees that received allo-
24 cations under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget
25 Act of 1974 in the most recently adopted concurrent reso-

1 lution on the budget, except that it shall not include the
2 Committee on Appropriations and each entry shall consist
3 of the ‘First Year Deficit Reduction Safeguard Balance’
4 and the ‘Five Year Deficit Reduction Safeguard Balance’.

5 “(b) Each entry shall consist only of amounts cred-
6 ited to it under paragraph (c). No entry of a negative
7 amount shall be made.

8 “(c) Whenever a Member offers an amendment to a
9 bill that reduces the amount of mandatory budget author-
10 ity provided either under current law or proposed to be
11 provided by the bill under consideration, that Member may
12 state the portion of such reduction achieved in the first
13 year covered by the most recently adopted concurrent reso-
14 lution on the budget and in addition the portion of such
15 reduction achieved in the first five years covered by the
16 most recently adopted concurrent resolution on the budget
17 that shall be—

18 “(1) credited to the First Year Deficit Reduc-
19 tion Safeguard Balance and the Five Year Deficit
20 Reduction Safeguard Balance; or

21 “(2) used to offset an increase in other new
22 budget authority;

23 “(3) allowed to remain within the applicable
24 section 302(a) allocation.

1 If no such statement is made, the amount of reduction
2 in new budget authority resulting from the amendment
3 shall be credited to the First Year Deficit Reduction Safe-
4 guard Balance and the Five Year Deficit Reduction Safe-
5 guard Balance, as applicable, if the amendment is agreed
6 to.

7 “2. (a) Except as provided by paragraph (b), the
8 chairman of the Committee on the Budget shall, upon the
9 engrossment of any bill, other than an appropriation bill,
10 by the House, credit to the applicable entry balances
11 amounts of new budget authority and outlays equal to the
12 net amounts of reductions in budget authority and in out-
13 lays resulting from amendments agreed to by the House
14 to that bill.

15 “(b) When computing the net amounts of reductions
16 in budget authority and in outlays resulting from amend-
17 ments agreed to by the House to a bill, the chairman of
18 the Committee on the Budget shall only count those por-
19 tions of such amendments agreed to that were so des-
20 ignated by the Members offering such amendments as
21 amounts to be credited to the First Year Deficit Reduction
22 Safeguard Balance and the Five Year Deficit Reduction
23 Safeguard Balance, or that fall within the last sentence
24 of clause 1.

1 “3. The chairman of the Committee on the Budget
2 shall maintain a running tally of the amendments adopted
3 reflecting increases and decreases of budget authority in
4 the bill as reported. This tally shall be available to Mem-
5 bers during consideration of any bill by the House.

6 “4. For the purposes of enforcing section 302(a) of
7 the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, upon the engross-
8 ment of any bill, other than an appropriation bill, by the
9 House, the amount of budget authority and outlays cal-
10 culated pursuant to paragraph 2(b) shall be counted
11 against the 302(a) allocation provided to the applicable
12 committee or committees which reported the bill as if the
13 amount calculated pursuant to clause 2(b) was included
14 in the bill just engrossed.

15 “5. As used in this rule, the term ‘appropriation bill’
16 means any general or special appropriation bill, and any
17 bill or joint resolution making supplemental, deficiency, or
18 continuing appropriations through the end of a fiscal year.

19 “6. For purposes of enforcing this rule during the
20 second session of this Congress and pending the adoption
21 of a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year
22 2003, the provisions of House Concurrent Resolution 353,
23 as passed the House, shall have force and effect in the

1 House as though Congress has adopted such concurrent
2 resolution.”.

