

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 233

To amend chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, to provide for an orderly process by which the debt ceiling is increased.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 14, 2013

Mr. HONDA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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 chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, to provide for an orderly process by which the debt ceiling is increased.

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. EXTENSION OF PRESIDENTIAL MODIFICATION**
4 **OF THE DEBT CEILING.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 of title 31, United
6 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3101A
7 the following new section:

1 **“§ 3101B. Extension of presidential modification of**
2 **the debt ceiling**

3 “(a) EXTENSION OF DEBT LIMIT.—Whenever the
4 President submits a written certification to Congress that
5 the President has determined that the debt subject to limit
6 is within \$100,000,000,000 of the limit in section 3101(b)
7 and that further borrowing is required to meet existing
8 commitments, the Secretary of the Treasury may exercise
9 authority to borrow an additional amount that the Sec-
10 retary estimates is sufficient to meet commitments for one
11 year, subject to the enactment of a joint resolution of dis-
12 approval enacted pursuant to this section. The written cer-
13 tification shall also contain the amount that the Secretary
14 so estimates is sufficient.

15 “(b) JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The debt limit may not be
17 raised under this section if, within 50 calendar days
18 after the date on which Congress receives a certifi-
19 cation described in subsection (a), there is enacted
20 into law a joint resolution disapproving the Presi-
21 dent’s exercise of authority with respect to such ad-
22 ditional amount.

23 “(2) CONTENTS OF JOINT RESOLUTION.—For
24 the purpose of this section, the term ‘joint resolu-
25 tion’ means only a joint resolution—

1 “(A) for the certification described in sub-
2 section (a);

3 “(B) which does not have a preamble;

4 “(C) the title of which is only as follows:
5 ‘Joint resolution relating to the disapproval of
6 the President’s exercise of authority to increase
7 the debt limit by \$_____, as sub-
8 mitted under section 3101B of title 31, United
9 States Code, on _____’ (with the first
10 blank containing the amount of such proposed
11 increase and the second blank containing the
12 date of such submission); and

13 “(D) the matter after the resolving clause
14 of which is only as follows: ‘That Congress dis-
15 approves of the President’s exercise of authority
16 to increase the debt limit, as exercised pursuant
17 to the certification under section 3101B(a) of
18 title 31, United States Code.’.

19 “(c) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION; AMENDMENT NOT
20 IN ORDER; COORDINATION WITH ACTION BY OTHER
21 HOUSE.—The provisions of subsections (c), (d), (e), and
22 (f) of section 3101A shall apply to any joint resolution
23 of disapproval under this section, except that—

24 “(1) the date set forth in section (d)(3) of such
25 section;

1 “(2) the exception for the \$400,000,000,000 in-
2 crease described in subsection (f)(5) of such section;
3 and

4 “(3) subsection (f)(6);
5 shall be inapplicable.”.

6 (b) RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 AND SENATE.—Section 3101A(g) is amended by inserting
8 “and subsections (b) and (c) of section 3101B” before
9 “are enacted by Congress”.

10 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
11 tions for chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, is
12 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
13 3101A the following new item:

“3101B. Extension of presidential modification of the debt ceiling.”.

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