

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 396

To reduce the annual rates of pay for Members of Congress by 20 percent, and to prohibit an adjustment in such rates during a year unless the Federal Government did not run a deficit in the previous fiscal year.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 23, 2013

Ms. JENKINS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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 reduce the annual rates of pay for Members of Congress by 20 percent, and to prohibit an adjustment in such rates during a year unless the Federal Government did not run a deficit in the previous fiscal year.

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 “Congressional Pay Ad-
5 justment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REDUCTION IN ANNUAL RATES OF PAY FOR MEM-**
2 **BERS OF CONGRESS.**

3 (a) REDUCTION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
4 sion of law, the annual rate of pay for each Member of
5 Congress shall be equal to—

6 (1) for pay periods occurring during 2015, the
7 applicable rate in effect for pay periods occurring
8 during 2013 reduced by 20 percent, rounded to the
9 nearest multiple of \$100 (or, if midway between
10 multiples of \$100, to the next higher multiple of
11 \$100); and

12 (2) for subsequent pay periods, the applicable
13 rate during 2013, subject to adjustment under para-
14 graph (2) of section 601(a) of the Legislative Reor-
15 ganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31(2)).

16 (b) MEMBER OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—For pur-
17 poses of this Act, the term “Member of Congress” means
18 an individual serving in a position under subparagraph
19 (A), (B), or (C) of section 601(a) of the Legislative Reor-
20 ganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31).

21 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITING ADJUSTMENTS IN MEMBER PAY UN-**
22 **LESS FEDERAL BUDGET IS BALANCED.**

23 (a) RESTRICTIONS ON ADJUSTMENTS.—Notwith-
24 standing any other provision of law, no adjustment shall
25 be made under section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorga-
26 nization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) (relating to cost of

1 living adjustments for Members of Congress) during any
2 fiscal year (beginning with fiscal year 2014) unless the
3 Secretary of the Treasury submits a report that a Federal
4 budget deficit did not exist in the previous fiscal year, in
5 accordance with subsection (b).

6 (b) DETERMINATION AND REPORT.—

7 (1) RESPONSIBILITIES OF SECRETARY.—Not
8 later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal year
9 (beginning with fiscal year 2013), the Secretary of
10 the Treasury shall—

11 (A) make a determination of whether a
12 Federal budget deficit existed in that fiscal
13 year; and

14 (B) submit a report of that determination
15 to Congress.

16 (2) DETERMINATION OF DEFICIT.—For pur-
17 poses of this Act, a Federal budget deficit shall be
18 considered to exist in a fiscal year if total budget
19 outlays of the Government for such fiscal year ex-
20 ceed total revenues of the Government for such fiscal
21 year as of the last day of such fiscal year.

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