

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4447

To direct the employing authority of any officer or employee of the Federal Government who is in contempt of Congress to not pay compensation to the officer or employee while the officer or employee remains in contempt, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 2014

Mr. FARENTHOLD (for himself, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mr. LANKFORD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

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## A BILL

To direct the employing authority of any officer or employee of the Federal Government who is in contempt of Congress to not pay compensation to the officer or employee while the officer or employee remains in contempt, 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 “Contempt Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NO PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL**  
2 **EMPLOYEES IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS.**

3 (a) NO PAYMENT PERMITTED.—If an officer or em-  
4 ployee of the Federal Government is in a period of con-  
5 tempt of Congress during any pay period, the head of the  
6 employing authority of the employee shall not pay the  
7 compensation otherwise required to be paid to the officer  
8 or employee for such pay period.

9 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act—

10 (1) the term “officer” has the meaning given  
11 such term in section 2104 of title 5, United States  
12 Code; and

13 (2) the term “employee” has the meaning given  
14 such term in section 2105 of title 5, United States  
15 Code.

16 **SEC. 3. PERIOD OF CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS DESCRIBED.**

17 (a) PERIOD DESCRIBED.—For purposes of this Act,  
18 a “period of contempt of Congress” is, with respect to an  
19 officer or employee of the Federal Government, any of the  
20 following:

21 (1) The period which begins on the date on  
22 which a resolution holding the officer or employee in  
23 contempt is adopted by the House of Representa-  
24 tives or Senate and ends on the date on which a res-  
25 olution revoking such contempt is adopted by the  
26 House or Senate (as the case may be).

1           (2) The period which begins on the date on  
2           which a statement of contempt described in sub-  
3           section (b) is filed in the House of Representatives  
4           or Senate with respect to the officer or employee and  
5           which ends on the date on which a statement with-  
6           drawing such statement of contempt is filed with the  
7           House or Senate (as the case may be).

8           (b) STATEMENT OF CONTEMPT DESCRIBED.—In this  
9           Act, a “statement of contempt” is, with respect to an indi-  
10          vidual, a statement of fact which has been filed with the  
11          President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of  
12          Representatives under section 104 of the Revised Statutes  
13          (2 U.S.C. 194) that the individual has failed to appear,  
14          testify, produce information, or answer pertinent questions  
15          when summoned by Congress or a committee of Congress.

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