

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 236

To amend the Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 to create an expedited procedure to enact recommendations of the Government Accountability Office for consolidation and elimination to reduce duplication.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 22, 2015

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 to create an expedited procedure to enact recommendations of the Government Accountability Office for consolidation and elimination to reduce duplication.

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 “Duplication Elimination Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF GAO REC-**
2 **COMMENDATIONS.**

3 Title II of the joint resolution entitled “Joint Resolu-
4 tion increasing the statutory limit on the public debt”
5 (Public Law 111–139; 31 U.S.C. 712 note) is amended
6 by adding at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 22. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF GAO REC-**
8 **COMMENDATIONS.**

9 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

10 “(1) the term ‘GAO report’ means the annual
11 report on duplication, consolidation, and elimination
12 of duplicative government programs required under
13 section 21; and

14 “(2) the term ‘joint resolution’ means a joint
15 resolution that—

16 “(A) makes legislative changes needed to
17 carry out the recommendations contained in the
18 GAO report for a year that the President did
19 not exclude; and

20 “(B) requires that any savings attributable
21 to the legislative changes described in subpara-
22 graph (A) be transferred to the General Fund
23 of the Treasury and be used to reduce the def-
24 icit.

25 “(b) SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED BILL.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days
2 after the date of the publication of the GAO report
3 for a year, the President shall transmit to Congress
4 a special message accompanied by a proposed joint
5 resolution.

6 “(2) CONTENTS OF SPECIAL MESSAGE.—A spe-
7 cial message transmitted under paragraph (1)
8 shall—

9 “(A) specify recommendations outlined in
10 the GAO report that are excluded from the pro-
11 posed joint resolution;

12 “(B) detail why the recommendations de-
13 scribed in subparagraph (A) were excluded from
14 the proposed joint resolution; and

15 “(C) specify recommendations outlined in
16 the GAO report that are included in the pro-
17 posed joint resolution.

18 “(3) TRANSMITTAL.—The President shall sub-
19 mit the special message to the Secretary of the Sen-
20 ate if the Senate is not in session and to the Clerk
21 of the House of Representatives if the House is not
22 in session.

23 “(4) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The President
24 shall make a copy of the special message and the
25 proposed joint resolution publicly available, and shall

1 publish in the Federal Register a notice of the mes-
 2 sage and information on how it can be obtained.

3 “(c) PROCEDURES FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDER-
 4 ATION.—

5 “(1) INTRODUCTION.—A proposed joint resolu-
 6 tion transmitted by the President under subsection
 7 (b) shall be introduced in the Senate (by request) on
 8 the next day on which the Senate is in session by
 9 the majority leader of the Senate or by a Member
 10 of the Senate designated by the majority leader of
 11 the Senate and shall be introduced in the House of
 12 Representatives (by request) on the next legislative
 13 day by the majority leader of the House or by a
 14 Member of the House of Representatives designated
 15 by the majority leader of the House of Representa-
 16 tives.

17 “(2) NO REFERRAL.—A joint resolution shall
 18 not be referred to a committee in either House of
 19 Congress and shall immediately be placed on the cal-
 20 endar.

21 “(3) MOTION TO PROCEED.—A motion to pro-
 22 ceed to a joint resolution is highly privileged in the
 23 House of Representatives and is privileged in the
 24 Senate and is not debatable. The motion is not sub-
 25 ject to a motion to postpone, and all points of order

1 against the motion are waived. A motion to recon-
2 sider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or
3 disagreed to shall not be in order. If a motion to
4 proceed to the consideration of a joint resolution is
5 agreed to, the joint resolution shall remain the un-
6 finished business of the respective House until dis-
7 posed of.

8 “(4) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN THE
9 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—In the House of
10 Representatives, a joint resolution shall be consid-
11 ered as read. All points of order against the joint
12 resolution and against its consideration are waived.
13 The previous question shall be considered as ordered
14 on the joint resolution as to its passage without in-
15 tervening motion except 2 hours of debate shall be
16 divided equally between the majority and minority
17 leaders or their designees. A motion to reconsider
18 the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall not
19 be in order. A vote on passage of the joint resolution
20 shall be taken in the House of Representatives on or
21 before the close of the tenth calendar day after the
22 date of the introduction of the joint resolution in the
23 House of Representatives.

24 “(5) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE IN THE SEN-
25 ATE.—

1 “(A) CONSIDERATION.—In the Senate,
2 consideration of a joint resolution, and on all
3 debatable motions and appeals in connection
4 therewith, shall be limited to not more than 10
5 hours, which shall be divided equally between
6 the majority and minority leaders or their des-
7 ignees. A motion to further limit debate is in
8 order and not debatable. An amendment to, a
9 motion to postpone, a motion to proceed to the
10 consideration of other business, or a motion to
11 commit the joint resolution is not in order.

12 “(B) PASSAGE.—If the Senate has pro-
13 ceeded to a joint resolution, the vote on passage
14 of the joint resolution shall occur immediately
15 following the conclusion of consideration of the
16 joint resolution, and a single quorum call at the
17 conclusion of the debate if requested in accord-
18 ance with the rules of the Senate. A vote on the
19 passage of the joint resolution shall be taken in
20 the Senate on or before the close of the tenth
21 calendar day after the date of the introduction
22 of the joint resolution in the Senate.

23 “(C) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCE-
24 DURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair
25 relating to the application of the rules of the

1 Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure re-
 2 lating to a joint resolution shall be decided
 3 without debate.

4 “(6) POINTS OF ORDER.—In the Senate or the
 5 House of Representatives, a Member of the Senate
 6 or House of Representatives, respectively, may raise
 7 a point of order that a joint resolution does not meet
 8 the definition of a joint resolution under subsection
 9 (b).

10 “(7) AMENDMENT.—A joint resolution shall not
 11 be subject to amendment in either the House of
 12 Representatives or the Senate.

13 “(8) CONSIDERATION BY THE OTHER HOUSE.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If, before passing a
 15 joint resolution, one House receives from the
 16 other a joint resolution—

17 “(i) the joint resolution from the
 18 other House shall not be referred to a com-
 19 mittee; and

20 “(ii) with respect to a joint resolution
 21 of the House receiving the joint resolu-
 22 tion—

23 “(I) the procedure in that House
 24 shall be the same as if no joint resolu-

1 tion had been received from the other
 2 House until the vote on passage; and
 3 “(II) the vote on passage shall be
 4 on the joint resolution of the other
 5 House.

6 “(B) REVENUE MEASURE EXCEPTION.—
 7 This paragraph shall not apply to the House of
 8 Representatives if the joint resolution received
 9 from the Senate is a revenue measure.

10 “(9) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 11 AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Con-
 12 gress—

13 “(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking
 14 power in the Senate and House of Representa-
 15 tives, respectively, and as such it is deemed a
 16 part of the rules of each House, respectively,
 17 but applicable only with respect to the proce-
 18 dure to be followed in that House in the case
 19 of a joint resolution, and it supersedes other
 20 rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent
 21 with such rules; and

22 “(B) with full recognition of the constitu-
 23 tional right of either House to change the rules
 24 (so far as relating to the procedure of that
 25 House) at any time, in the same manner and

- 1 to the same extent as in the case of any other
- 2 rule of that House.”.

