of reductions, and economic growth and hardworking Americans will both suffer.

Instead, we need forward-looking policies that are fiscally responsible and create opportunities for families and future today’s economy. That will only come from bipartisan negotiations where we can work together to create the best possible tax conditions for Americans.

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RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, October is National Farm to School Month. It is time when we celebrate food education, school gardens, and lunch trays filled with healthy, local ingredients.

Farm to School brings healthy foods from local farms to schoolchildren nationwide. The program teaches students about the path from farm to fork and instills healthy eating habits that can last a lifetime by introducing children to real food.

At the same time, use of local produce in school meals and educational activities provides a direct market opportunity for family farmers in the area and lessens environmental impacts of transporting food long distances.

More than 31 million children eat a school lunch 5 days a week, 180 days a year. If school lunch can taste great and support the local community, even better.

Mr. Speaker, today there are thousands in School Lunch Month. It is time when we have the moral courage to act. Our Nation can’t wait, and they shouldn’t.

RECOGNIZING BRETT RUBIN OF BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a brave young man in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Brett Rubin.

A resident of Northampton, Brett’s positive attitude and boundless energy make him a promising young leader in our community. This is even more notable due to the challenges Brett faces from type 1 diabetes. Despite these obstacles, Brett has never allowed this illness to define him or hold him back. Mr. Speaker, most people do not know that Brett has channeled his desire to cure this illness and to help others.

Partnering with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Brett and his mother, Sandy, have raised thousands of dollars to combat type 1 diabetes. Participating in foundation walks, the Rubins join a close-knit group of family and friends, and they call themselves Brett’s Band, which is a fitting name honoring a teenager who marches to his own beat and steals the show wherever he goes.

It is my honor to recognize this exemplary young man. I know Brett’s future will be bright and that type 1 diabetes will never interfere with his ambitions or his aspirations.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEWHOUSE). Pursuant to House Resolution 553 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 71.

Will the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) kindly take the chair.

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 71) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027, with Mr. SIMPSON (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Wednesday, October 4, 2017, amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 115–339 offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. MCCLINTOCK

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in House Report 115–339.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment on the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment in the nature of a substitute is as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018.

(a) DECLARATION.—The Congress determines and declares that this concurrent resolution establishes the budget for fiscal year 2018 and sets forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this concurrent resolution is as follows:

Sec. 1. Concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

Sec. 101. Recommended levels and amounts.

Sec. 102. Major functional categories.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

Sec. 201. Reconciliation in the form of a substitute is as follows:


Sec. 203. Limitation on changes in certain mandatory programs.

Sec. 204. GAO report.

Sec. 205. Estimates of debt service costs.

Sec. 206. Fair-value credit estimate.

Sec. 207. Estimates of major direct spending legislation.

Sec. 208. Estimates of macroeconomic effects of major legislation.

Sec. 209. Adjustments for improved control of budgetary resources.

Sec. 210. Limitation on advance appropriations.

Sec. 211. Scoring rule for Energy Savings Performance Contracts.

Sec. 212. Estimates of land conveyances.

Sec. 213. Limitation on transfers from the general fund of the Treasury to the Highway Trust Fund.

Sec. 214. Prohibition on the use of guarantee fees as an offset.

Sec. 215. Prohibition on use of Federal Reserve surplus as an offset.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

Sec. 221. Budgetary treatment of administrative expenses.

Sec. 222. Application and effect of changes in allocations and aggregates.

Sec. 223. Adjustments to reflect changes in concepts and definitions.

Sec. 224. Adjustments to reflect updated budgetary estimates.

Sec. 225. Adjustment for certain emergency designations.

Sec. 226. Exercise of spending powers.

TITLE IV—RESERVE FUNDS

Sec. 401. Reserve fund for the repeal of the 2010 health care laws.
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Fiscal year 2027:

- $407,080,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

- $224,927,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

- $171,160,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

- $31,009,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

- $140,563,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

- $15,593,666,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

- $2,756,890,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

- $2,850,457,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

- $112,255,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

- $119,679,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

- $117,320,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

- $113,215,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

- $119,679,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

- $117,320,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

- $116,086,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

- $2,869,547,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

- $2,876,119,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

- $2,881,466,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

- $2,894,948,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

- $2,925,467,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

- $3,039,746,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

- $3,124,286,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

- $3,296,588,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

- $3,380,506,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

- $3,451,336,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

- $2,899,547,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

- $2,907,676,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

- $2,914,866,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

- $3,043,334,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

- $3,132,483,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

- $3,296,588,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

- $3,500,101,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

- $3,671,757,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

- $3,672,058,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

- $3,502,899,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

- $3,435,219,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

- $15,593,666,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

- $17,943,641,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

- $17,922,572,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

- $17,943,641,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

- $17,943,641,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

- $17,943,641,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

- $17,943,641,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

- $17,943,641,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

- $17,943,641,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

- $17,943,641,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

- $23,082,487,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

- $23,180,660,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

- $23,236,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

- $23,282,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

- $23,338,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

- $23,406,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

- $23,487,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

- $23,569,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

- $23,657,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

- $23,752,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

- $20,705,790,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

- $21,068,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

- $21,508,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

- $21,912,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

- $22,308,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

- $22,775,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

- $23,208,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

- $23,636,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:

- $24,169,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:

- $24,780,000,000,000.
(A) New budget authority, $24,844,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,141,000,000.

Piscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $25,393,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,567,000,000.

Piscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $25,979,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,050,000,000.

Piscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $26,573,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,459,000,000.

Piscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $27,172,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,041,000,000.

Piscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $-4,244,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-9,977,000,000.

Piscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $-16,964,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-17,686,000,000.

Piscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $-3,537,000,000.

Piscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $-9,400,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-9,217,000,000.

Piscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $-12,385,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-12,214,000,000.

Piscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $-15,782,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-15,946,000,000.

Piscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $-14,917,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-15,782,000,000.

Piscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $-11,941,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-12,865,000,000.

Piscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $-9,877,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $25,053,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,053,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $25,979,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,050,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $26,573,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,459,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $27,172,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,041,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $27,601,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,651,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $28,061,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,566,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $28,593,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,211,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $29,062,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,672,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $29,593,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,053,000,000.

Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $30,062,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,672,000,000.

Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $30,593,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,053,000,000.

Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $31,062,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,672,000,000.

Fiscal year 2030:
(A) New budget authority, $31,593,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,053,000,000.

Fiscal year 2031:
(A) New budget authority, $32,062,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,593,000,000.
(A) New budget authority, $483,275,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $484,571,000,000.

12) Medicare (70):

Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $595,229,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $590,967,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $650,283,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $650,040,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $674,221,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $674,017,000,000.

(A) New budget authority, $707,796,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $707,601,000,000.

(A) New budget authority, $774,615,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $778,407,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $774,353,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $774,163,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $774,204,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $774,007,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $842,125,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $843,275,000,000.

(A) New budget authority, $924,327,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $925,900,000,000.

Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $774,204,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $774,007,000,000.

(A) New budget authority, $16,488,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $16,817,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $17,159,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,400,000,000.

(A) New budget authority, $17,757,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,400,000,000.

(A) New budget authority, $19,594,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,325,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $16,488,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $16,817,000,000.

(A) New budget authority, $17,400,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,159,000,000.

(A) New budget authority, $19,325,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,594,000,000.
(A) New budget authority, $-93,573,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-93,573,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $-100,001,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-100,001,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $-105,371,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-105,371,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $-115,139,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-115,139,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $-127,808,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $-127,808,000,000.

21. Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism (970):
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

SEC. 201. RECONCILIATION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

(a) Submission Providing for Deficit Reduction.—Not later than 90 days after the adoption of this resolution, the committees named in subsection (b) shall submit their recommendations on changes in laws within their jurisdictions to the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives which shall submit changes in laws within its jurisdiction sufficient to reduce the deficit by $1,354,083,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

(b) Committees:

(1) Committee on Agriculture. — The Committee on Agriculture shall submit changes in laws within its jurisdiction sufficient to reduce the deficit by $26,680,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

(2) Committee on Armed Services. — The Committee on Armed Services shall submit changes in laws within its jurisdiction sufficient to reduce the deficit by $67,178,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

(3) Committee on Natural Resources. — The Committee on Natural Resources shall submit changes in laws within its jurisdiction sufficient to reduce the deficit by $2,665,188,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

(4) Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. — The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform shall submit changes in laws within its jurisdiction sufficient to reduce the deficit by $327,704,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

(5) Committee on the Budget. — The Committee on the Budget has made adjustments to the allocations, levels, or limits contained in this concurrent resolution pursuant to section 401.

(c) Limitation. — In the House of Representatives, the provisions of this section shall not apply to any joint resolutions, or amendments thereto or conference reports thereon, for which the chair of the Committee on the Budget has made adjustments to the allocations, levels, or limits contained in this concurrent resolution pursuant to section 401.

(d) DETERMINATIONS OF BUDGET LEVELS.—For purposes of this section, the level of net increases in direct spending shall be determined on the basis of estimates provided by the chair of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 302. ALLOCATION FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM.

(a) Separate Allocation for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism. — In the House of Representatives, there shall be a separate allocation of new budget authority and outlays provided to the Committee on Appropriations for the purposes of Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism, which shall be deemed to be an allocation under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. Section 302(a)(3) of such Act shall not apply to such separate allocation.

(b) 302 ALLOCATIONS.—The separate allocation referred to in subsection (a) shall be the exclusive allocation for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism under section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. The Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives may make supplemental or conference separate allocation under such section 302(b).

(c) Application. — For purposes of enforcing the separate allocation referred to in subsection (a) under the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the “first fiscal year” and the “total of fiscal years” shall be deemed to refer to fiscal year 2018. Section 302(c) of such Act shall not apply to such separate allocation.

(d) Designations. — New budget authority or outlays shall only be counted toward the allocation referred to in subsection (a) if designated pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(e) Adjustments. — For purposes of subsection (a) for fiscal year 2018, no adjustment shall be made under section 318(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 if any adjustment would be made under section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(f) Adjustments to Fund Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism. — In the House of Representatives, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may adjust the allocations and outlays, and other appropriate budgetary levels related to Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism or the allocation under section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 referred to in subsection (a) to the Committee on Appropriations set forth in the report or joint explanatory
statement of managers, as applicable, accompanying this concurrent resolution to account for new information.

SEC. 303. LIMITATION ON CHANGES IN CERTAIN MANDATORY PROGRAMS.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘‘change in mandatory programs’’ means a provision that—

(1) would have been estimated as affecting direct spending or receipts under section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (as in effect prior to September 30, 1986); or

(2) results in a net decrease in budget authority of all such change in mandatory programs enacted in relation to a full fiscal year to be more than the amount specified in paragraph (3).

(b) POINT OF ORDER IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A provision in a bill or joint resolution making appropriations for a full fiscal year that proposes a change in mandatory programs that, if enacted, would cause the absolute value of the total budget authority of all such change in mandatory programs enacted in relation to a full fiscal year to be more than the amount specified in paragraph (3) shall not be in order in the House of Representatives.

(2) AMENDMENTS AND CONFERENCE REPORTS.—It shall not be in order in the House of Representatives to consider an amendment to, or a conference report on, a bill or joint resolution making appropriations for a full fiscal year if such amendment thereto or conference report thereon proposes a change in mandatory programs that, if enacted, would cause the absolute value of the total budget authority of all such change in mandatory programs enacted in relation to a full fiscal year to be more than the amount specified in paragraph (3).

(c) AMOUNT.—The amount specified in this paragraph is—

(A) for fiscal year 2018, $17,000,000,000; (B) for fiscal year 2019, $15,000,000,000; and (C) for fiscal year 2020, $13,000,000,000.

SEC. 304. GAO REPORT.

(a) GAO SUBMISSION.—At a date specified by the chair of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives, the Comptroller General, in consultation with the chair, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall submit to the chair a comprehensive list of all current direct spending programs of the Government.

(b) PUBLICATION.—The chair of the Committee on the Budget shall cause to be printed in the Congressional Record the list submitted under subsection (a). The chair shall publish such list on the Committee’s public Web site. Such publication shall be searchable, sortable, and downloadable.

SEC. 305. ESTIMATES OF DEBT SERVICE COSTS.

In the House of Representatives, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may direct the Congressional Budget Office to include in any estimate prepared under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to any bill or joint resolution, or an estimate of the amendment thereto or conference report thereon, an estimate of any change in debt service costs (if any) resulting from carrying out such bill or resolution. Any estimate prepared under this section shall be advisory and shall not be used for purposes of enforce-
or offsetting collections resulting from such conveyance;
(3) if requested by the chair of the Committee on the Budget, any information provided by the Committee on the Budget or other applicable Federal agency, including the source and date of such information, that supports the estimate of any change in revenue, offsetting receipts, or offsetting collections;
(4) a description of any efforts to independently verify such agency estimate; and
(5) a statement of assumptions underlying the estimate of the budgetary effects that would be generated by such parcel in CBO’s baseline projections as of the most recent budget submission.

SEC. 313. LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS FROM THE GENERAL FUND OF THE TREASURY TO THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.

In the House of Representatives, for purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, and the rules or orders of the House of Representatives, a bill or joint resolution, or an amendment thereto or conference report thereon that transfers any portion of the net surplus of the Federal Reserve System to the general fund of the Treasury shall be counted as new budget authority and outlays equal to the amount of the transfer in the fiscal year in which the transfer occurs.

SEC. 314. PROHIBITION ON USE OF GUARANTEE FEES AS AN OFFSET.

In the House of Representatives, any provision of a bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that increases, or extends the increase of, any guarantee fees of the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation shall not be counted for purposes of enforcing the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this concurrent resolution, or clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 315. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FEDERAL RECEIPTS TO COVER DEFICIT SPENDING.

In the House of Representatives, any provision of a bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that transfers any portion of the net surplus of the Federal Reserve System to the general fund of the Treasury shall not be counted for purposes of enforcing the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this concurrent resolution, or clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

SEC. 321. BUDGETARY EFFECT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the House of Representatives, notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, section 13301 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, and section 2009a of title 39, United States Code, the report or the joint explanatory statement, as applicable, accompanying this concurrent resolution shall include in its allocation under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees allocations amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and the United States Postal Service.

(b) SPECIAL RULE.—In the House of Representatives, for purposes of enforcing section 302(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, estimates of the level of total new budget outlays attributable to the measure shall include any discretionary amounts described in subsection (a).

SEC. 322. ADJUSTMENT AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.

(a) APPLICATION.—In the House of Representatives, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall jointly determine the aggregate effect of any change in budgetary aggregates resulting from adjustments to the aggregates described in the Budget explanatory statement, as applicable, for the measure, and shall report to the Committee on the Budget, the Committee on Appropriations, in the case of any other bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that designates an emergency under section 9(c)(2) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.—Revised allocations and aggregates shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 as the allocations and aggregates contained in this concurrent resolution.

(c) BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.—For purposes of this concurrent resolution, any changes in budgets for a fiscal year or period of fiscal years determined on the basis of estimates made by the chair of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives.

(d) AGGREGATES, ALLOCATIONS AND APPLICATION.—In the House of Representatives, for purposes of this concurrent resolution and budget enforcement, the consideration of any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, for which the chair of the Committee on the Budget makes adjustments or revisions in the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels of this concurrent resolution shall not be subject to the points of order set forth in clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives or section 301 of this concurrent resolution.

SEC. 323. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.

In the House of Representatives, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may adjust the appropriate aggregates, allocations, and other budgetary levels of this concurrent resolution for any change in budgetary concepts and definitions in accordance with section 251(b)(1) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 324. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT UPDATED BUDGETARY ESTIMATES.

In the House of Representatives, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the aggregates, allocations, and other budgetary levels in this concurrent resolution to reflect any adjustments to the baseline made by the Congressional Budget Office.

SEC. 325. ADJUSTMENT FOR CERTAIN EMERGENCY DESIGNATIONS.

In the House of Representatives, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may adjust the appropriate aggregates, allocations, and other budgetary levels for this concurrent resolution for any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that designates an emergency under section 9(c)(2) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

SEC. 326. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.

The House of Representatives adopts the provisions of this title, Title II, and Title VII—
(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House of Representatives, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of the House of Representatives, and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and
(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of the House of Representatives to change those rules at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as is the case of any other rule of the House of Representatives.

TITLE IV—RESERVE FUNDS

SEC. 401. RESERVE FUND FOR THE REPEAL OF THE 2010 HEALTH CARE LAWS.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may designate aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this concurrent resolution for the budgetary
effects of any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that only consists of a full repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the health care-related provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the health care-related provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, if such measure would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 402. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE MEDICARE PROVIDER REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNTS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF OBAMACARE.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this concurrent resolution for the budgetary effects of any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that replaces or replaces provisions of Medicare and the health care-related provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, if such measure would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 403. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATED TO THE MEDICARE PROVIDER-REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNTS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF OBAMACARE.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this concurrent resolution for the budgetary effects of any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that repeals or replaces provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, if such measure would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 404. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR REFORMING THE TAX CODE.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on Ways and Means or joint resolution, or joint conference report thereon, that reforms the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this concurrent resolution for the budgetary effects of any such bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, if such measure would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027 when the macroeconomic effects of such reforms are taken into account.

SEC. 405. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR TRADE AGREEMENTS.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this concurrent resolution for the budgetary effects of any such bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that such chair determines are necessary to implement a trade agreement, and the budgetary levels for any companion measures such a trade measure, if the combined cost of each measure would not increase the deficit over the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 406. RESERVE FUND FOR REVENUE MEASURES.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, if such measure reforms the Federal infrastructure funding system, but only if such measure would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 407. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INFRASTRUCTURE REFORM.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, if such measure reforms the Federal infrastructure funding system, but only if such measure would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 408. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO REDUCE POVERTY AND INCREASE OPPORTUNITY AND UPWARD MOBILITY.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this concurrent resolution for any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that reforms the Social Security Disability Insurance program under title II of the Social Security Act and the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP), but only if such measure would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 411. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM REFORM.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this concurrent resolution for the budgetary effects of any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that reforms the Social Security Disability Insurance program under title II of the Social Security Act and the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP), but only if such measure would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 412. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR DEFENSE SEQUESTER REPLACE.

In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels in this concurrent resolution for any bill or joint resolution, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, if such measure supports the following activities: Department of Defense training and maintenance associated with combat equipment, military compensation and benefits, by the amount provided for these purposes, but only if such measure would not increase the deficit (without counting any net revenue increases in that measure) over the period of fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 414. RESERVE FUND FOR COMMERCIALIZATION OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL.

(a) In General.—In the House, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may adjust, at a time the chair deems appropriate, the section 302(a) allocations, consistent with the adjustments to the discretionary spending limits under such section 302(a), if such measure reduces the discretionary spending limits in section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 by the amount that would otherwise be appropriated to the Federal Aviation Administration for air traffic control adjustments. To the section 302(a) allocations, consistent with the adjustments to the discretionary spending limits under such section 302(a), shall only be made upon enactment of such measure.

(b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, a measure that commercializes the operation of the air traffic control system shall be a measure that establishes a locally chartered, not-for-profit corporation that—

(1) is authorized to provide air traffic control services within the United States airspace;

(2) sets user fees to finance its operations;

(3) may borrow from private capital markets to finance improvements;

(4) is governed by a board of directors composed of a CEO and directors whose fiduciary duty is to the entity; and

(5) becomes the employer of those employees directly connected to providing air traffic control services and who are the Secretary transfers from the Federal Government.

TITLE V—POLICY STATEMENTS

SEC. 501. POLICY STATEMENT ON OBAMACARE REPEAL.

It is the policy of this resolution that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–152) and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–152) should be repealed.

SEC. 502. POLICY STATEMENT ON REPLACING OBAMACARE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) Obamacare put Washington’s priorities before those of patients. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has failed to reduce health care premiums as promised. Instead, the law mandated benefits and coverage levels, denying patients the opportunity to choose the type of coverage that best suits their health needs and driving up costs.

A typical family’s health care premiums were supposed to decline by $2,500; instead, average premiums have increased 161 percent.

A study conducted by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated premiums to continue rising over the next decade, projecting an average increase of $8 per month in premiums annually, and increasing by nearly 60 percent by 2026.

(2) President Obama pledged, “If you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan.” Instead, CBO now estimates 7 million Americans will lose employer-sponsored coverage.

(3) Then-Speaker of the House Pelosi stated that the President’s health care law
would create 4 million jobs over the life of the law and almost 400,000 jobs immediately. Instead, CBO estimated that by 2025 Obamacare will reduce the number of hours worked by 2 million full-time-equivalent workers, compared with what would have occurred in the absence of the law. Additionally, a study by the Mercatus Center at George Mason University estimated that Obamacare will reduce employment by up to 3 percent, or about 4 million full-time-equivalent workers. (4) As ACA was signed into law, the Obama administration repeatedly failed to implement it as written. President Obama’s unilateral deferments in numerous changes, delays, and exemptions. President Obama signed into law another 21 changes made by Congress. The Supreme Court struck down most expansion of Medicaid; ruled the individual “mandate” could only be characterized as a tax to remain constitutional; and rejected the requirement that closely held companies provide health insurance to their employees even if it violates the companies’ religious beliefs. More than 7 years after enactment, the courts continue to question the legality of how President Obama’s administration implemented the law. All of these changes prove the folly of the underlying law; health care in the United States cannot be run from a centralized bureaucracy. (5) Obamacare is unaffordable, intrusive, overreaching, deceptive, and unworkable. Its constituent parts — subsidies, mandates, and penalties — perversely impact individuals, married couples, and families. Those who previously had insurance along with those who did not have been funneled into a new system that is providing less access to doctors and treatments. Millions of Americans have been denied Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) due to the ACA, according to a broken Medicaid system that is incapable of providing the care promised. Cuts made to Medicare to fund a new entitlement are undermining the health security of seniors. Taxes and mandates are distorting the insurance market and harming the broader economy, resulting in fewer jobs and less opportunity. By design, Obamacare put Washington at the center of our health care system, at the expense of patients, families, physicians, and businesses. The ACA should be fully repealed, allowing for real patient-centered health care reform that puts patients first, not Washington. (b) POLICY ON REPLACING OBAMACARE.—It is the policy of this resolution that Congress and the Senate to preserve and strengthen Social Security. It is critical that action be taken to address the looming insolvency of Social Security. (b) POLICY ON SOCIAL SECURITY.—It is the policy of this resolution that Congress and the Senate to preserve and strengthen Social Security. It is critical that action be taken to address the looming insolvency of Social Security.
SEC. 507. POLICY STATEMENT ON REFORM OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) SNAP.—It is the policy of the resolution that the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program be reformed so that:

(1) Nutrition assistance funds should be distributed based on a block grant with funding subject to the annual discretionary appropriations process.

(2) Funds from the grant must be used by the states to establish and maintain a work activation program for able-bodied adults without dependents.

(3) It is the goal of this proposal to move those who are on the assistance role back into the workforce and towards self-sufficiency.

(b) ASSUMPTIONS.—This resolution assumes that, pending the enactment of reforms described in (a), the conversion of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program into a flexible state allotment tailored to meet each state's unique needs.

SEC. 508. POLICY STATEMENT ON WORK REQUIREMENTS.

It is the policy of this resolution that all means-tested welfare programs should include work activation requirements for able-bodied adults.

SEC. 509. POLICY STATEMENT ON A CARBON TAX.

It is the policy of this resolution that a carbon tax is not needed to stimulate the American families and businesses, and is not in the best interest of the United States.

SEC. 510. POLICY STATEMENT ON ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) Across the Nation, too many Americans are struggling to make ends meet. The slowly falling unemployment rate has masked an underlying crisis as millions of Americans have abandoned the work force and wages have stagnated. The labor force participation rate has plummeted to levels not seen since the Carter presidency.

(2) Looking ahead, CBO expects the economy to grow by an average of just 1.9 percent over the next 10 years. That level of economic growth is simply unacceptable and insufficient to expand opportunities and the incomes of millions of middle-income Americans.

(3) Sluggish economic growth has also contributed to the country’s fiscal woes. Subpar growth in revenue levels is less than what they would otherwise be while government spending (e.g., welfare and income-support programs) is higher.

(4) The current faltering fiscal trajectory has cast a shadow on the country’s economic outlook. Investors and businesses make decisions on a forward-looking basis, they know that today’s large debt levels are simply tomorrow’s tax hikes, interest rate increases, or inflation and they act accordingly. This doubt overhangs, and the uncertainty it generates, can weigh on growth, investment, and job creation.

(5) Nearly all economists, including those at the CBO, conclude that reducing budget deficits (thereby bending the curve on debt levels) is a net positive for economic growth over time.

(6) If the Government remains on the current fiscal path, future generations will face ever-higher debt service costs, a decline in national savings, and a “crowding out” of private investment. This dynamic will eventually lead to a lower output, and a diminution in our country’s standard of living.

(7) The key economic challenge is to determine how to shrink the deficits not how best to divide up and re-distribute a shrinking pie.

(b) POLICY ON ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.—It is the policy of this resolution to promote economic growth and job creation. By putting the budget on a sustainable path, this resolution ends the debt-fueled uncertainty holding back job creators. Reforms to the tax code will put American businesses and workers in a better position to compete and thrive in the 21st century global economy. This resolution targets the regulatory red tape and cronyism that stymie the deck in favor of special interests. All of the reforms in this resolution serve as means to the larger end of helping the economy grow and expanding opportunity for all Americans.

SEC. 511. POLICY STATEMENT ON TAX REFORM.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) A reformed tax code should be simple, fair, and promote (rather than impede) economic growth. The United States tax code falls on all 3 counts: it is complex, unfair, and inefficient. The tax code’s complexity distorts decisions to work, save, and invest, which leads to slower economic growth, lower wages, and less job creation.

(2) High marginal tax rates lessen the incentives to work, save, and invest, which reduces economic output and job creation.

(3) The United States corporate income tax rate is the highest rate in the industrialized world. The high corporate income tax rates, discourage investment and job creation, distort business activity, and put American businesses at a competitive disadvantage with foreign competitors.

(4) The “world-wide” structure of United States international taxation essentially taxes earnings of United States firms twice, neutralizing any competitive advantage and disadvantage with competitors that have more competitive international tax systems.

(5) The tax code imposes costs on American workers through the elimination of wage subsidies, discourages investment and job creation, distort business activity, and put American businesses at a competitive disadvantage with foreign competitors.

(6) Closing tax loopholes to finance higher spending does not constitute fundamental tax reform.

(7) Tax reform should curb or eliminate loopholes and use those savings to lower tax rates across the board, not to fund more wasteful Government spending. Washington has a spending problem, not a revenue problem.

(8) Many economists believe that fundamental tax reform, including a broader tax base and lower tax rates, would lead to greater labor supply and increased investment, which would have a positive impact on total national output.

(b) POLICY ON TAX REFORM.—It is the policy of this resolution that Congress should enact legislation that provides for a comprehensive reform of the United States tax code to promote economic growth, create American jobs, increase wages, and benefit American workers through fundamental tax reform that is revenue-neutral on a dynamic basis that provides for the following:

(1) Targets neutrality based on a dynamic score that takes into account the macroeconomic effects of reform.

(2) Collapses the current seven brackets for individuals into just three, with a top rate of no more than 33 percent.

(3) Simplifies the tax code to ensure that families and individuals will be required to itemize deductions.

(4) Gives equal tax treatment to individual and employer healthcare expenditures modeled on the American Health Care Reform Act.

(5) Encourages charitable giving.

(6) Repeals the Death Tax.

(7) Eliminates marriage penalties.

(8) Provides tax-free universal savings accounts to reward saving.

(9) Repeals the alternative minimum tax.

(10) Reduces double taxation by lowering the top corporate rate to no more than 20 percent.

(11) Reduces the rate for capital gains and dividends.

(12) Encourages net investment, savings, and entrepreneurial activity, including full expensing.

(13) Moves to a competitive territorial system of international taxation.

(14) Ends distortionary special interest giveaways, such as the Wind Production Tax Credit.

SEC. 512. POLICY STATEMENT ON TRADE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) Opening foreign markets to American exports is vital to the United States economy and beneficial to American workers and consumers.

(2) The United States can increase economic opportunities for American workers and businesses through the elimination of foreign trade barriers to United States goods and services.

(3) American businesses and workers have shown that, on a level playing field, they can excel and surpass international competition.

(b) POLICY ON TRADE.—It is the policy of this concurrent resolution—

(1) to pursue international trade, global commerce, and a modern and competitive tax system to promote domestic job creation;

(2) that the United States should continue to seek increased economic opportunities for American workers and businesses through high-standard trade agreements that satisfy negotiating objectives, including—

(3) that the United States should continue to seek increased economic opportunities for American workers and businesses through high-standard trade agreements that satisfy negotiating objectives, including—

(A) the expansion of trade opportunities;

(B) adherence to trade agreements and provisions requiring improved consultation with Congress;

(C) the elimination of foreign trade barriers.

(4) that any trade agreement entered into on behalf of the United States should reflect the negotiating objectives and adhere to the provisions requiring improved consultation with Congress.

SEC. 513. POLICY STATEMENT ON ENERGY PRODUCTION.

It is the policy of this resolution that the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and currently unavailable areas of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) should be open for energy exploration and production.

SEC. 514. POLICY STATEMENT ON FEDERAL REGULATORY BUDGETING AND REFORM.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) Excessive Federal regulation has hurt job creation, investment, wages, competition, and economic growth, slowing the Nation’s recovery from the economic recession and harming American businesses;

(2) Operates as a regressive tax on poor and lower-income households;
SEC. 515. POLICY STATEMENT ON FEDERAL FUNDING OF ABORTION.

It is the policy of this resolution that no taxpayer dollar go to any entity that provides abortion services.

SEC. 516. POLICY STATEMENT ON TRANSPORTATION REFORM.

It is the policy of this resolution that State and local officials are in a much better position to understand the needs of local commuters, not bureaucrats in Washington. Federal funding for transportation should be phased down and limited to core Federal duties, including the interstate highway system, transportation infrastructure on Federal land, responding to emergencies, and research. As the level of Federal responsibility for transportation is reduced, Congress should also concurrently reduce the Federal gas tax.

SEC. 517. POLICY STATEMENT ON THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) The Clinton Administration's budget for Fiscal Year 2000 was nearly $20 trillion.

(2) The findings resulting from congressional oversight of Federal programs, and has so identified dozens of examples of waste, duplication, and overlap in Federal programs, and has so identified dozens of examples of waste, duplication, and overlap in Federal programs.

(b) POLICY ON THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—It is the policy of this concurrent resolution that:

(1) the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs (VA) should continue to closely monitor the VA's efforts to provide care to veterans and their families.

(2) the VA should continue to implement the least-cost regulatory alternatives to meet the objectives of Federal regulatory statutes;

(3) the VA should protect and enhance the VA's ability to provide health care to veterans.

(4) Federal agencies should enforce the limitations on funding for veterans timely access to health care.

(5) VA health care was added to Government Accountability Office's (GAO) "high-risk" list, due to mismanagement and oversight failures, which harmed veterans' health care. According to GAO, "the absence of care and delays in providing care has harmed veterans.

(6) The VA should continue to implement the least-cost regulatory alternatives to meet the objectives of Federal regulatory statutes;

(7) the VA should provide timely and accessible health care to veterans.

(8) The VA should continue to monitor the VA's efforts to implement the VA's oversight of veterans' affairs.

(9) The VA should continue to closely monitor the VA's efforts to ensure the VA reassesses its core mission, including:

(a) reducing the number of bureaucratic layers;

(b) reducing the number of senior and middle managers;

(c) improving performance measurement metrics;

(d) strengthening the administration and oversight of contracting;

(e) supporting veterans to pursue other viable options for their health care needs;

(f) the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs (VA) should continue to closely monitor the VA's efforts to provide care to veterans and their families.

SEC. 518. POLICY STATEMENT ON REDUCING UNNECESSARY, WASTEFUL, AND UNAUTHORIZED SPENDING.—

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) The Government will collect approximately $3.4 trillion in taxes, but spend nearly $4 trillion to maintain its operations, borrowing 14 cents of every Federal dollar spent.

(2) Federal agencies reported an estimated $137 billion in improper payments in fiscal year 2015.

(3) Under clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House, each standing committee must hold at least one hearing during each 120-day period following its establishment on waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement in Government programs.

(4) The findings resulting from congressional oversight of Federal programs should result in programmatic changes in both authorizing statutes and program funding levels.

(b) POLICY ON REJECTING UNNECESSARY, WASTEFUL, AND UNAUTHORIZED SPENDING.—

(1) Each authorizing committee annually should include in its Views and Estimates letter required under section 301(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 recommendations to the Committee on the Budget of programs that in the committees' judgment the House should exclude from the budget.

(2) Federal agencies should ensure the limitations on funding unauthorized programs in the House rules.

SEC. 519. POLICY STATEMENT ON A BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) The Government will collect approximately $3.4 trillion in taxes, but spend nearly $4 trillion to maintain its operations, borrowing 14 cents of every Federal dollar spent.

(2) Forty nine States have fiscal limitations in their State constitutions, including the requirement to annually balance the budget.

(3) Federal agencies held $921 billion in unobligated balances at the end of fiscal year 2017.

(4) The findings resulting from congressional oversight of Federal programs should result in programmatic changes in both authorizing statutes and program funding levels.

(5) Fourty nine States have fiscal limitations in their State constitutions, including the requirement to annually balance the budget.

(6) The findings resulting from congressional oversight of Federal programs should result in programmatic changes in both authorizing statutes and program funding levels.

(7) Federal agencies held $921 billion in unobligated balances at the end of fiscal year 2017.

(b) POLICY ON A BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT.—It is the policy of this concurrent resolution that Congress should propose a balanced budget constitutional amendment for ratification by the States.

SEC. 520. POLICY STATEMENT ON DEFICIT REDUCTION THROUGH THE CANCELLATION OF UNOBLIGATED BALANCES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) According to the most recent estimate from the Office of Management and Budget, Federal agencies held $921 billion in unobligated balances at the end of fiscal year 2017.

(2) These funds comprise both discretionary appropriations and authorizations of mandatory spending that remain available for expenditure.
In many cases, agencies are provided appropriations that remain indefinitely available for obligation.

(4) The Congressional Budget Act of 1974 requires the Office of Management and Budget to make funds available to agencies for obligation and prohibits the administration from withholding or cancelling unobligated funds unless authorized by an Act of Congress.

(b) Policy on Deficit Reduction Through the Cancellation of Unobligated Balances.—It is the policy of this concurrent resolution that—

(1) greater congressional oversight is required to review and identify potential savings from canceling unobligated balances of funds not used as intended;

(2) the appropriate committees in the House should identify and review accounts with unobligated balances and rescind such balances that would not impede or disrupt the fulfillment of important Federal commitments;

(3) the House, with the assistance of the Government Accountability Office, the Inspectors General, and appropriate agencies, should continue to review unobligated balances and identify savings for deficit reduction; and

(4) unobligated balances in dormant accounts should not be used to finance increases in spending.

(SEC. 521. Policy Statement on Reforming the Congressional Budget Process.

(a) Findings.—The House finds the following:

(1) Enactment of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 was the first step toward restoring constitutional balance of power between Congress and the President as intended by the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 in fulfillment of important Federal commitments;

(2) reassert congressional power over budget actions before the start of the new fiscal year;

(7) provide access to the best analysis of economic conditions available and increase bipartisan budget process and job creation; and

(8) eliminate the complexity of the budget process and the biases that favor higher spending.

(c) Legislation.—The Committee on the Budget of the House should draft legislation during the 115th Congress that rewrites the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to fulfill the goals of making the congressional budget process more effective in ensuring taxpayers’ dollars are spent wisely and efficiently. Such legislation shall—

(1) attain greater simplicity without sacrificing the rigor required to address—

(A) the complex issues of the domestic and world economy;

(B) national security responsibilities; and

(C) the appropriate roles of rulemaking and statutory enforcement mechanisms;

(2) establish a new structure that assures the congressional role in the budget process is applied consistently without reliance on repressive legislation;

(3) improve the elements of the current budget process that have fulfilled the original purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974; and

(4) rebuild the foundation of the budget process to provide a solid basis from which additional reforms may be developed.


(a) Findings.—The House finds the following:

(1) Current accounting methods fail to capture and present in a compelling manner the full scope of the Government and its fiscal situation.

(2) Fiscal analyses produced by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) are conducted over a 10-year time horizon. The use of generational accounting or a longer time horizon would provide a more complete picture of the Government’s fiscal situation.

(3) The Federal budget currently accounts for most programs on a cash accounting basis. This fails to accurately reflect the true cost of Federal loan and loan guarantee programs because fees and other offsetting collections and fees and other offsetting collections are spent when and if collected. This lack of transparency prevents effective and accountable government.

(b) Policy on Federal Accounting Methodologies.—It is the policy of this concurrent resolution that the House should, in consultation with CBO and other appropriate committees, reform government-wide budget and accounting practices so Members and the public can better understand the fiscal situation of the United States and the obstacles suited to implement.

(SEC. 523. Policy Statement on Agency Fees and Spending.

(a) Findings.—Congress finds the following:

(1) A number of Federal agencies and organizations have permanent authority to collect fees and other offsetting collections and to spend these collected funds.

(2) The total amount of offsetting fees and offsetting collections is estimated by the Office of Management and Budget to be $515 billion in fiscal year 2017.

(3) Agency budget justifications are, in some cases, not fully transparent about the amount of program activity funded through offsetting collections or fees. This lack of transparency prevents effective and accountable government.

(b) Policy on Agency Fees and Spending.—It is the policy of this resolution that Congress must reassert its constitutional prerogative to control spending and conduct oversight. To do so, Congress must enact legislation requiring programs that are funded through fees, offsetting receipts, or offsetting collections to be allocated new budget authority annually. Such allocation may arise from—

(1) legislation originating from the authorizing committee of jurisdiction for the agency or program;

(2) fee and account specific allocations included in annual appropriation Acts.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 553, the gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK) and a Member opposed each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 3½ minutes.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to present the Republican Study Committee’s 2018 budget, Securing America’s Future Economy.

The proposal combines savings that have been proposed by the Congressional Budget Office, many RSC members, and public policy think tanks, including The Heritage Foundation, Citizens Against Government Waste, and the National Taxpayers Union. It is based on a simple principle that government should spend its money as carefully as families spend what they have left after they have paid their taxes.

By restraining the growth of spending and re- focusing resources on core government responsibilities, adopting commonsense reforms, and placing Medicare and Social Security back on sound financial footing, we believe there is still time to save this country from financial and economic ruin. But time is running out.

On our current course, the Congressional Budget Office warns that, within 4 years, our deficits will balloon to $1 trillion annually, adding about $8,000 a year to an average family’s debt that they will have to pay off in future taxes. Two years after that, interest on
the national debt will reach $6.5 trillion. That is more than we currently spend for the entire defense establishment.

Let me repeat that so it sinks in. Six years from now, we will spend more than the $6.5 trillion that the President's budget procedure is accomplishing nothing but renting the money that we have already borrowed and spent. Three years later, Medicare will collapse. Six years after that—if we get that far—Social Security runs out of money. We are in peril.

This approaching crisis can be described with just three numbers: 26, 35, and 49. Once you understand those three numbers—26, 35, and 49—you can plainly see the root of our problems.

Twenty-six percent is the combined population and inflation growth over the past 10 years. Thirty-five percent is the growth in Federal revenues. Clearly, this is not a revenue problem. The problem is that third number. Forty-nine percent is the growth in spending—nearly twice the rate of inflation and population combined.

We are about to hear about the draconian cuts from the opposition. Let me emphasize, the RSC budget continues the Federal Government every year. I repeat, the RSC budget spends more every year.

Over the decade, we have provided for more than $1 trillion of government growth. Only in Washington can that be described as a cut. The RSC budget merely restrains the growth of spending over the next decade to give families the time and room to catch up.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Kentucky is recognized for 15 minutes.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I am going to cut to the chase: the Republican Study Committee budget is so extreme, it cannot be taken seriously. It cuts spending by $10 trillion over 10 years, which is $4 trillion more than the already irresponsible spending cuts in Chairman BLACK's budget.

To its credit, the RSC tells us where those cuts will come from, rather than leaving large amounts unspecified or using matching asterisks or phony economic assumptions to reduce spending. The RSC budget cuts Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. It cuts programs that ensure basic living standards, protect the environment, and help families afford college.

For 2018, the RSC budget matches the President’s level for defense, including war spending. In fact, discretionary spending, the RSC budget provides $3.94 trillion, which is $122 billion, or 24 percent, below the austerity cap.

There is no way this House or any House would approve an appropriations bill that inflicted a 24 percent cut on all government operations. It just two programs—veterans’ programs and NIH funding—were excluded from those cuts, everything else would be cut by more than 55 percent.

So yes, this budget claims to reach balance, but it would achieve it by making cuts that would be catastrophic. Not even Congress is that self-destructive.

I contend that the two Republican budgets actually show how dismissing the notion that balance must be a part of any solution to restrain deficits and debt, compounded with the flawed notion that balance must be achieved in the short term, will inflict intolerable hardship on the American people.

While ominous, those scenarios make a pretty compelling case that for Congress to responsibly address our debts and deficits, while funding the Federal programs and investments that the American people want and expect, raising revenues has to be part of the equation.

One of the things that amuses me, in a very kind of dark way, is that I remember so well, in 2010, when Republicans actually rode to victory in the House by claiming that we Democrats were going to cut $750 billion out of Medicare. That wasn’t true, but they claimed it.

Now, in this Republican Study Committee budget, they have doubled down on that. It is not exactly double, but they are going to cut it by $898 billion. I don’t think America’s seniors and the disabled population would feel very good about that.

I would like to thank my colleagues for bringing that important issue to the debate.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McCINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER), the chairman of the Republican Study Committee.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McCINTOCK). The Republican Study Committee.

Mr. McCINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, $20.2 trillion. Our national debt is more than $20.2 trillion.

Let’s put it this way: each American’s share of the national debt is $62,000. From the retiree in North Carolina who has already done so much to serve the country, to the newborn child in New York with so much potential, that is $62,000. In fact, it is more than the median American family brings home in an entire year.

Our debt continues to mount, even as Federal reserves reach record highs. This leads to an undeniable conclusion, even from Captain Obvious: the Federal Government has a spending problem.

The growing Federal Government has significant negative consequences for the country and its people. The large Federal debt reduces investment, productivity, and wages, while Federal interventions in the economy reduce the incentive to work, resulting in a shrinking labor market.

The debt can have dangerous implications for our national security, recently causing a bipartisan group of leading national security officials to write that “our long-term debt is the single greatest threat to our national security.”

Most fundamentally, when the Federal Government is too big and too intrusive, it interferes with our unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Eleven months ago, the American people voted to give Republicans unified control of government. Now it is time to follow through and implement the policy agenda that Congress and the President were elected on.

As the calendar moves into fall, the grade of the 115th Congress will be delivered on whether we can reform our inefficient Tax Code. This process starts with the budget. Along with repealing the ObamaCare and securing our border, the Republican Study Committee budget allows us to fulfill these promises, and more.

This fiscal year 2018 RSC budget ensures a strong national security, robust economic growth, equal opportunity for all, a sustainable social safety net, and a return to constitutionally limited government, all with a goal of securing America’s future economy.

In the name of a future of stable and low growth, the RSC budget proposes a positive blueprint for success and opportunity. Our budget focuses on pro-growth, pro-family policies that will boost America’s economy and provide a strong fiscal foundation for generations to come.

Mr. Chairman, in closing, I would like to thank my friend, Mr. McCINTOCK, for his leadership of the RSC budget task force, as well as all the members of the Republican Study Committee who participated in this effort.

With this budget, we have accomplished our goals of detailing the variety of bold policy solutions, as well as how they influence the balanced budget offered by my friend, Chairman BLACK, to include meaningful, enforceable, reconciliation targets, as the RSC budget does, so that we can begin the essential task of implementing these policies into law.

My fellow Members, when will our debt matter? Next year? The year after?
October 5, 2017

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

H7859

In 6 years, we are projected to spend more than $650 billion on interest alone on our debt.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. WALKER. What will it take for our friends on the left to stop hijacking the American Dream for our children and grandchildren? Is it not a moral injustice to leave this level of debt to the next generation?

Mr. Chairman, we have been making this argument in the House for years. Today, it is time to make a difference.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, it is fascinating to have this debate and speaking in such high-principled ways about the need to reduce deficits and debt. I don’t think any of us would argue that we need to do something to reduce deficits and debt. We face a very dire, long-term fiscal future.

But we also lose sight of the fact that the American people expect something from their government. They expect our government to keep them safe, but they also expect their government to provide for the wealthiest Americans and corporations—tax cuts that have been proven to do exactly the opposite of what many on the other side claim they do, which is to stimulate economic growth.

We will hear claims that, yes, we can cut taxes by $2 trillion or $3 trillion over 10 years, and they are going to be paid for by this renewal of economic activity. But history tells us that is not what happens. Not only history tells us that, but virtually all the economists in the country tell us that, too.

Goldman Sachs, Steve Mnuchin’s previous employer, says that the tax cuts outlined last week would maybe create an additional 0.2 percent of growth in the economy.

CBO and the Federal Reserve say tax cuts don’t pay for themselves. Even Bruce Bartlett, the author of “Reaganomics,” says this whole notion that tax cuts pay for themselves is nonsense. He actually said bull, which is half of what he said, but you get the idea.

This is not easy. We can speak in the darkest terms of how we are imposing this debt on our grandchildren and try to use emotional arguments. But the fact is, we are dealing with a very realistic, pragmatic dilemma, and that is: how to defend American people expect us to do without making the future impossible.

It is not done by the Republican budgets. We think it is helped along by the Democratic alternative, and we look forward to having that debate just a little bit later this morning.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I would remind my friend from Kentucky that Ronald Reagan reduced the Federal income tax rate from 70 percent down to 28 percent, and income tax revenues doubled. He is correct that we expect things from our government. We have seen a 49 percent increase in spending in the last decade. Have we seen a 49 percent increase in the quality of education or our defense capability?

What we have seen is a 49 percent increase in bureaucracy and government. I would remind the gentleman that when we squander the people’s money, we rob them of the means to meet the disasters and unforeseen circumstances that confront our country.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FLORES), my friend and former chairman of the Republican Study Committee.

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I want to go off script for a little bit and echo the comments the gentleman was making.

He talked about the Reagan tax cuts and what they did to stimulate the economy and to grow tax revenues and to allow hardworking American families to keep more of their paychecks.

I would also go on to remind the gentleman from Kentucky, to disable him about his views on tax reform, and remind him about his views on entitlements. John F. Kennedy, a Democrat, reduced the top marginal rates from 93 percent to 73 percent. The economy grew, more jobs were created, and more revenue was created for the Federal Government.

Mr. Chairman, the Federal Government doesn’t have a revenue problem. It has a spending problem. That is what we tackle with the Republican Study Committee's budget proposals continue to benefit from the framework of the RSC budget by including meaningful, enforceable reconciliation targets, as our budget does. The House budget will begin the essential task of implementing these policies into law.

Other instances where the RSC-led budget proposals have historically wound up being adopted in the larger House budget include the following:

First, balancing the budget within a 10-year budget window.

Two, including policies to ensure the solvency of entitlement programs, such as Social Security, Medicare, and also Medicaid.

Number three, providing the necessary funding and resources for a robust national security.

Number four, fully repealing ObamaCare.

Number five, establishing a pathway to progrowth tax reform that will jump-start our economy and help hardworking American families take home more of their paychecks.

I was humbled to serve as the chairman of the RSC during the 114th Congress. At that time, we generated a new budget for fiscal year 2017, called the Blueprint for a Balanced Budget 2.0. It was written and released in the spring of 2016.

Like the current RSC budget, it provided a robust agenda of conservative policies to show the American people our vision for this Nation.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. FLORES. In the tradition of The Heritage Foundation’s 1980 mandate for leadership that provided a policy agenda for the incoming Reagan administration, our Blueprint for a Balanced Budget 2.0 for the new President and his administration set forth an agenda for governing in 2017.

By all accounts, the RSC budget has proven successful in achieving this goal, with President Trump basing many of the policies for his fiscal 2018 budget request on the RSC’s fiscal 2017 budget.

I am pleased to see that many RSC-led proposals are included in both the President’s budget and the House budget that we will consider later today.

In the coming years, I look forward to continuing to build the RSC putting forth and leading on many conservative, sound policy ideas for our budgetary process.
Mr. Chairman, I urge all our colleagues to vote "yes" on the RSC budget and to vote "yes" on the House GOP budget.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Chairman, I feel like I have to be Paul Harvey for a second and talk about the rest of the story.

Because while what Mr. McCUTCHEN said was true about the initial phases of the Reagan administration, at the end of the Reagan administration, the national debt almost tripled, and he had been forced to raise taxes a couple of times in the interim.

So, again, we can argue about how positive cutting taxes were in the Reagan administration, but the end result wasn’t particularly good for the American economy.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, who wins in the Republican budget?

Same old same old; millionaires, billionaires, large corporations. The Republican budget paves the way for their plan, which gives 80 percent of its tax cuts to the top 1 percent of Americans, while nothing for middle class households making between $50,000 and $150,000 a year would actually see a tax increase. This is according to the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center.

It slashes $1.5 trillion from Medicare and Medicaid. America could be worse than TrumpCare, and it ends the guarantee of Medicare benefits for American seniors.

It attacks women’s health by defunding, of course, Planned Parenthood, once again. It slashes SNAP—SNAP, the Food Stamp program—by $154 billion, taking nutrition assistance away from up to 7 million households.

Did you really come to Congress to take food out of the mouths of hungry children?

Now we are considering the Republican Study Committee budget, which includes even deeper cuts for children and families and seniors while giving tax cuts to the wealthy.

My Democratic colleagues and I offer A Better Deal for America. The United States is the richest country in the world at the richest time in history. We can have quality healthcare, affordable childcare, debt-free college, secure retirement, middle-class infrastructure, but not if we give massive tax cuts to the wealthiest individuals and corporations.

So I urge my colleagues to reject the RSC budget, reject the Republican budget, and to support the Democratic alternative. Americans deserve a budget that grows our middle class and invests in our future.

I want to read just one paragraph of a letter from Planned Parenthood that says: ‘The House Budget Resolution proposes cuts that would be disastrous for women, men, and young people. Planned Parenthood sees every day. It sacrifices access to healthcare, repealing the Affordable Care Act, gutting Medicaid, and proposing even deeper cuts to low-income non-defense discretionary spending. It undermines access to critical reproductive healthcare, including no copay birth control, for millions of women. The women of America are watching. This budget is a particular disaster for them, for us.”

Mr. McCUTCHEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 1/2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. PALMER).

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Chairman, Article I, section 9 of the Constitution grants Congress the power of the purse. This assigns to Congress the role of final arbiter of the use of public funds.

Despite this clear declaration of power, the Office of Management and Budget estimates that agencies collected over $513 billion in fines, fees, penalties, and other offsetting collections and receipts in fiscal year 2017. Allowing agencies to shuffle funds outside of the normal appropriations process is a recipe for bad acting.

The RSC budget calls for implementing the Agency Accountability Act, which directs that all fines, fees, and settlements go to the Treasury, making them subject to the normal appropriations process. This would end the agencies’ ability to operate independently and outside of the oversight of Congress. More importantly, it would allow Congress to fully account for how much money the government actually collects and where that money is coming from.

I am also pleased that the RSC budget does what is increasingly becoming an impossible task: it balances the budget, all while prioritizing defense spending to keep this country secure.

This budget sets forth the bold ideas necessary to put the country back on a path of fiscal responsibility.

The Congressional Budget Office reports that the current irresponsible fiscal path we are on, by 2047, in 30 years, our debt to GDP will be 150 percent. Stated more simply, our debt will be 50 percent greater than our entire gross domestic product.

We must put our Nation back on a path of fiscal responsibility, and the RSC budget does exactly that. As former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Michael Mullin warned, our national debt is the greatest threat to our national security. By putting our Nation on a sensible fiscal path of balancing the budget, we reduce the extremely heavy burden that a bloated Federal Government places on America’s working families, allowing them to prosper and making the government less intrusive into the lives of able-bodied adults with no children. I think most Americans would agree that if they are getting payments from the Federal Government, they ought to at least do some work.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), a distinguished member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Chairman, I want to state to my colleagues on this budget that there are two fundamental assumptions that are being made that need to be challenged.

One, you are saying that we have a spending problem, not a revenue problem. This country is spending on domestic priorities and defense at a level that existed when the President of the United States was Dwight D. Eisenhower, and that was before Medicaid and Medicare.

We have a significant issue about how we are going to meet the needs of the people of this country, both on defense, where we need some help, but definitely on the domestic side as well.

The second assumption is making—and it is an assertion that is wrong and over and over again tax cuts will pay for themselves. That is the theology of your budget: tax cuts pay for themselves.

You know, why not go to zero, and we will all be rich?

That is essentially what is being said here. But the tax cuts are always at the high end of the income spectrum, which is exacerbating inequality and creating a problem for us to meet essential needs in this country.

So this question of tax cuts paying for themselves and fiscal responsibility, let’s have a little bit of history here. This was the theology of George Bush when he passed the tax cuts when he became President. They did not pay for themselves. We went from the Clinton-era surpluses to the Bush-era deficits, and in another fiscally, grossly irresponsible move, he put the war on that credit card.

The war was on the credit card. We had unpaid-for tax cuts and we had an unpaid-for war. And this is not just fiscal responsibility; this is governmental, personal, congressional, irresponsible. You have got to pay for things. Whether it is the war or it is food stamps or it is any program that you want to pick, you have got to pay for it.

You don’t pay for it by the magic asterisk of saying, “the tax cuts that we propose,” when we are going to spend by cutting taxes or going into a war that we don’t pay for, $1 trillion, it doesn’t work. And that is why we are in this path that is very dangerous with respect to the long-term debt.

I believe in that. We have got to pay our bills. When we had the majority, we had a doctrine that said: Pay as you go.

If any Democrat, the budget chair, or me wanted to propose some spending, we either had to come up with the revenue or we had to cut somewhere else. It worked in that.

But I don’t believe in unpaid-for tax cuts paying for themselves. I don’t believe that more spending pays for itself
and we can just put it on the credit card.

Now, we have got some problems and challenges in this country. We have got an opportunity problem.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Chairman, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Chairman, kids going to college are going to get out with a debt the size of a mortgage. We have got an inequality problem. It has never been worse. It goes back to the Great Depression, when we had this divide between what hardworking people made and what the top 1 percent made.

We have got a healthcare affordability problem, but you don’t solve that by slashing access to healthcare and throwing 24 million people off of healthcare. We have got an infrastructure problem that we are totally neglecting. It is not addressed in this budget.

We have got a DREAMer problem. How is it that, in this Congress, we are literally not allowing 800,000 young people who were born here, through no fault of their own, not voluntarily, and we are going to give them the hook and deport them?

It is outrageous. We have got a rural America problem. Rural America has been left behind. The inequality in this country is really hitting hard on rural America, in parts of Vermont, and in all parts of this country. And there is nothing in this budget that says: We are going to give hope to rural America by investing in them.

Mr. MCCINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN), the Speaker of the House.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Chairman, I rise to urge the whole House to support this Republican budget, H. Con. Res. 71.

Let me just say a few things.

First, this is a budget that reflects our first principles: freedom, freedom enterprise, a government accountable to the people it serves.

It is a budget that will help grow our economy, and it is a budget that will help rein in our debt. It strengthens our national defense. It supports our men and women in uniform. It eliminates mindless, endless spending, and it maximizes America’s tax dollars. It reforms Medicaid. It strengthens Medicare.

This is a budget that keeps our responsibilities to our children and our grandchildren. Remember, we have a responsibility here, each and every generation, one generation to the next: Leave the country better off so your kids and your grandkids can prosper.

That American legacy is seriously at risk because of our growing deteriorating budget situation, because of the coming debt crisis. This budget tackles that.

There is one more thing that this budget does that is so important. It paves the way for historic tax reform. It unlocks the reconciliation process. We need to pass this budget so that we can deliver real relief for middle-income families across this country. We need to pass this budget for the people who are living paycheck to paycheck in America, who look to Washington for a plan that they can count on. This is a budget that will help grow our economy, and it is a budget that will help rein in our debt.

We have got an opportunity problem.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Chairman, on the floor, we are literally not allowing 800,000 young people who were born here, through no fault of their own, not voluntarily, and we are going to give them the hook and deport them?

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you to support both the House Budget Committee’s FY 2018 budget resolution as reported and the RSC’s FY 2018 budget resolution. All votes on the FY 2018 budget resolutions will be among those considered in CCAGW’s 2017 Congressional Ratings.

Sincerely,

Tom Schatz, President, CCAGW.

[From FreedomWorks, Oct. 4, 2017]

Key Vote Yes on the McClintock Amendment to H. Con. Res. 71

On behalf of FreedomWorks’ activist community, I urge you to contact your representative and ask him or her to vote YES on the amendment offered by Rep. Tom McClintock (R–Calif.) to H. Con. Res. 71 on the budget resolution for FY 2018. The amendment, which includes reconciliation instructions for fundamental tax reform, is the Republican Study Committee’s (RSC) FY 2018 budget alternative.

The Republican Study Committee’s (RSC) FY 2018 budget would reduce federal spending by more than $10 trillion over the ten-year budget window, bringing the budget balance in FY 2023. The RSC’s budget would repeal ObamaCare and enact other patient-centered reforms, make Social Security and Medicare solvent, and reform federal welfare programs. It also promotes free trade, regulatory reform, and other free market, limited government principles.

The current text of H. Con. Res. 71 and the McClintock amendment include language that calls for the House Ways and Means Committee to produce legislation to reform the tax code. Riddled with loopholes and special interest deductions, America’s tax code has become far too complex. According to the Tax Foundation, Americans spent 8.9 billion hours and $499 billion complying with the more than 74,000-page tax code.

It has been more than 30 years since Congress passed fundamental tax reform. Congress has a generational opportunity to reform the tax code by consolidating and lowering tax rates, broadening the tax base, and promoting job creation and international competitiveness for American businesses. This will make the tax code fairer and simpler for all Americans, allowing the vast majority of Americans to file their taxes on a postcard.

FreedomWorks will count the vote on the McClintock amendment to H. Con. Res. 71 on our 2017 Congressional Scorecard. The scorecard is used to determine eligibility for the FreedomFighter Award, which recognizes Members of the House and Senate who consistently vote to support economic freedom and individual liberty.

Sincerely,

Adam Brandon, President, FreedomWorks.

[From Heritage Action for America, Oct. 3, 2017]

"Yes" on the RSC’s Budget: Securing America’s Future Economy

(By Andrea Palermo)

On Thursday, the House will vote on the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Budget offered by the Republican Study Committee (RSC), an amendment to the committee-approved FY18 budget resolution. The RSC’s Budget: Securing America’s Future Economy, introduced by Rep. Tom McClintock (R–Calif.), would balance in 2023, reduce non-defense discretionary spending, reestablish national defense, and replace the “firewall” between defense and non-defense discretionary spending, fully repeal and replace Obamacare, repeal Dodd-Frank by implementing the Financial CHOICE Act, reform entitlement programs, and, finally, enact pro-growth tax reform. If passed, the RSC’s budget would give America a serious conservative blueprint for reform.

Pro-Growth Tax Reform. Republicans campaigned and promised to fix America’s broken tax code. RSC’s FY 2018 budget would fundamentally reform the tax code by cutting taxes for families, making American businesses competitive around the globe, ends double taxation, and simplifies the tax code.

Repealing Obamacare. Republicans owe their majorities to their unwavering opposition to Obamacare, a reality that is reflected in the RSC’s budget. The budget remains committed to fully repealing the law despite recent Republican failures, and sends a signal to the American people that conservatives will continue to push for free-market, patient-centered health care reforms.

Funding Defense. Although the Budget Control Act of 2011 has put significant pressure on the national defense budget, the RSC’s budget does not rely on the much-disputed OCO gimmick, but instead breaks the $500 billion OCO spending cap that was written into law. The budget makes clear that defense spending needs to be restored to levels that will preserve the security and prosperity of the nation. Importantly, that cost is offset by lowering non-defense discretionary spending to $394 billion in FY18, which is $122 billion below the current defense baseline.

Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Budget offered by the Republican Study Committee’s (RSC) Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Budget: Securing America’s Future Economy (America’s Future Economy) is a bold, comprehensive plan to help the American people succeed and prosper. The RSC’s budget lawmakers to produce legislation to reform the tax code, make Social Security and Medicare solvent, reform federal welfare programs, and enact work requirements as outlined in the Welfare Reform and Upward Mobility Act (H.R. 2832/S. 1290) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) by building on the success of the 1996 welfare reform law.

The RSC’s budget lays down bold markers on Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid reform. It also promotes free trade, regulatory reform, and other free market, limited government principles.

Taken as a whole, the RSC’s "Securing America’s Future Economy" demonstrates a serious and genuine commitment to governing. If passed, this budget would provide a fiscally responsible path forward for our nation, limit the size and scope of our bloated federal government, and boost economic prosperity for all Americans.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, just a few steps from this hall, Thom- as Jefferson addressed his first inaugural address. After listing all of the blessings that our country enjoys, he asked what more do we need to maintain a happy and prosperous society. He said: "Still one thing more, fellow citizens. A wise and frugal government, which shall restrain from injuring one another, shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government. We have it within our power to restore that wise and frugal government and the prosperity and happiness that free societies always produce the moment we summon the political will to act."

The Republican Study Committee seeks that shining city on a hill and today offers this map to get us there.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes had it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 139, noes 281, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 555]

AYES—139

Abraham (ID)
Allen (AL)
Amash (MI)
Amodei (NV)
Babine (LA)
Banks (IN)
Banks (OK)
Barr (GA)
Barton (TX)
Bergman (CO)
Berman (NY)
Bishop (IN)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (KY)
Buck (OH)
Brooks (AL)
Buck (KY)
Buckland (KS)
Budd (NY)
Business (MI)
Byrne (CA)
Calvert (MD)
Carter (GA)
Chabot (OH)
Coffman (CO)
Cole (AR)
Collins (GA)
Comer (NY)
Conaway (TX)
Davidson (NC)
DeLauro (CT)
Dann (WI)
Emmer (MN)
Emhoff (CA)
Enns (VA)
Farenthold (TX)
Farr (CA)
Ferguson (ME)
Fiore (PA)
Fleischmann (WI)
Frank (IL)
Franken (MN)
Frenzel (KS)
Gaetz (FL)
Gardner (CO)
Gohmert (TX)
Goodlatte (VA)
Grothman (WI)
Guthrie (KS)
Hagerty (TN)
Hagedorn (MN)
Hagedorn (IA)
Hagedorn (MD)
Hagedorn (NM)
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Hagedorn (WA)
Hagedorn (SD)
Hagedorn (WI)
Hagedorn (WY)
Hagedorn (WV)
Hagedorn (UT)
Hagedorn (VT)
Hagedorn (TN)
Hagedorn (TX)
Hagedorn (SC)
Hagedorn (RI)
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Hagedorn (NM)
Hagedorn (ND)
Hagedorn (NE)
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Hagedorn (TX)
Hagedorn (UT)
Hagedorn (VA)
Hagedorn (WV)
Hagedorn (WI)
Hagedorn (WY)
Hagedorn (W)
Ms. STEFANIK. Messrs. DUNCAN of South Carolina, CLEAVER, DENHAM, NORCROSS, CONNINGS, CUMMINGS, RUTHFORD, BACON, and Ms. SLAUGHTER changed their vote from "aye" to "nay." Messrs. WEBSTER of Florida, SESSIONS, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania changed their vote from "no" to "aye." The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting Chair. The Clerk will report the vote.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Chair, I was absent during roll call votes Nos. 553 through 555 due to my spouse’s health situation in California. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of Mr. CAJUN’s substitute amendment No. 1, aye on the Scott of Virginia Substitute Amendment No. 3, and no on the McClintock of Arizona Substitute Amendment No. 2.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. YARMUTH
SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. YARMUTH
AMENDMENT NO. 4 IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. YARMUTH
SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. YARMUTH
AMENDMENT NO. 4 IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. YARMUTH

The Acting Chair. The Clerk will report the vote.

So the amendment in the nature of a substitute was rejected.

So the amendment in the nature of a substitute is as follows:

The Acting Chair. The amendment of Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COPE, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SOUTHWICK, Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. PRIEST, and Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD was rejected.

So the amendment in the nature of a substitute was rejected.

The Acting Chair. The amendment of Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COPE, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. SOUTHWICK, Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. PRIEST, and Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD was rejected.

So the amendment in the nature of a substitute was rejected.

The Acting Chair. The amendment of Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COPE, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SOUTHWICK, Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. PRIEST, and Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD was rejected.

The Acting Chair. The amendment of Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COPE, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SOUTHWICK, Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. PRIEST, and Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD was rejected.

The Acting Chair. The amendment of Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COPE, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SOUTHWICK, Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. PRIEST, and Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD was rejected.
(2) **New Budget Authority.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total new budget authority are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>New budget authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$61,962,742,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$60,596,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>$55,584,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiscal year 2026: $49,376,000,000.00

(3) **Budget Outlays.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total budget outlays are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>Budget outlays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$61,962,742,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$60,596,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>$55,584,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiscal year 2026: $49,376,000,000.00

(4) **Debits.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>Deficit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$61,962,742,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$60,596,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>$55,584,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiscal year 2026: $49,376,000,000.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>Total budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$61,962,742,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$60,596,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>$55,584,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiscal year 2026: $49,376,000,000.00

(5) **Public Debt.**—Pursuant to section 301(a)(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632(a)(5)), the appropriate levels of the public debt are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>Public debt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$61,962,742,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$60,596,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>$55,584,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiscal year 2026: $49,376,000,000.00

(6) **Debt Held by the Public.** The appropriate levels of debt held by the public are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>Debt held by the public</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$61,962,742,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$60,596,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>$55,584,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiscal year 2026: $49,376,000,000.00

**SEC. 102. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.**

Congress determines and declares that the appropriate levels of new budget authority and outlays for fiscal years 2018 through 2027 for each major functional category are:

1. **National Defense (500):**
   - Fiscal year 2018:  
     - New budget authority, $61,962,742,000.00
     - Outlays, $60,596,000.00

2. **Domestic (600):**
   - Fiscal year 2018:  
     - New budget authority, $61,962,742,000.00
     - Outlays, $60,596,000.00

3. **International Affairs (500):**
   - Fiscal year 2018:  
     - New budget authority, $61,962,742,000.00
     - Outlays, $60,596,000.00

4. **General Science, Space, and Technology (250):**
   - Fiscal year 2018:  
     - New budget authority, $33,260,000.00
     - Outlays, $32,550,000.00

5. **Public Debt (200):**
   - Fiscal year 2018:  
     - New budget authority, $33,260,000.00
     - Outlays, $32,550,000.00

6. **Energy (270):**
   - Fiscal year 2018:  
     - New budget authority, $36,792,000.00
     - Outlays, $36,496,000.00

7. **Health (500):**
   - Fiscal year 2018:  
     - New budget authority, $36,792,000.00
     - Outlays, $36,496,000.00

8. **Natural Resources and Environment (300):**
   - Fiscal year 2018:  
     - New budget authority, $36,792,000.00
     - Outlays, $36,496,000.00
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $23,360,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $22,763,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $23,171,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $22,566,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $21,939,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $21,720,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $17,785,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,089,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $16,417,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $15,764,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $18,159,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,294,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $17,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,689,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $19,643,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,058,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $19,376,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,551,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $18,843,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,376,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $19,316,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,728,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $19,057,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,455,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $18,993,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,277,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $18,843,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,376,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $97,481,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,342,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $94,127,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $92,608,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $94,561,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $92,069,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $94,127,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $91,720,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $92,635,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $90,834,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $91,720,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $89,316,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $91,262,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $89,800,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $93,551,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $91,072,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $94,477,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $92,072,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $95,486,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $93,017,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, $15,187,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $14,875,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, $15,887,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $15,475,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, $15,849,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $15,495,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $15,549,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $15,213,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $15,213,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $14,873,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $15,131,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $14,730,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $15,184,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $14,755,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $15,131,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $14,730,000,000.
### Net Interest (900):

**Fiscal year 2027:**
- **A** New budget authority, $34,507,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $33,882,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2026:**
- **B** Outlays, $33,135,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2025:**
- **B** Outlays, $32,462,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2024:**
- **A** New budget authority, $30,771,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $28,995,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2023:**
- **A** New budget authority, $29,761,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $28,995,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2022:**
- **A** New budget authority, -$100,265,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, -$85,079,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2021:**
- **A** New budget authority, -$92,072,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, -$85,079,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2020:**
- **A** New budget authority, -$84,777,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, -$84,777,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2019:**
- **A** New budget authority, -$86,503,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, -$86,503,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2018:**
- **A** New budget authority, -$88,147,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, -$88,147,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2017:**
- **A** New budget authority, -$88,567,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, -$88,567,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2016:**
- **A** New budget authority, -$101,256,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, -$101,256,000,000.

### Administration of Justice (750):

**Fiscal year 2027:**
- **A** New budget authority, $243,968,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $238,394,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2026:**
- **A** New budget authority, $218,419,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2025:**
- **A** New budget authority, $218,419,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $219,455,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2024:**
- **A** New budget authority, $221,566,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $224,722,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2023:**
- **A** New budget authority, $223,845,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $223,845,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2022:**
- **A** New budget authority, $221,566,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $219,455,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2021:**
- **A** New budget authority, $218,419,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $218,419,000,000.

**Fiscal year 2020:**
- **A** New budget authority, $216,459,000,000.
- **B** Outlays, $214,722,000,000.

### TITLE II—RESERVE FUNDS

The Chair of the House Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that improves the lives of struggling families by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit for either of the following time periods: fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2027. Improvements may include any of the following:

1. Ensuring that all Americans have access to good-paying jobs, including funding proven, effective job training and employment programs, such as summer and year-round youth employment programs and registered apprenticeship programs, and national service opportunities.
2. Tax reform that provides support and relief to hard-working American families, including enhancements to the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit, and the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit.
3. Expanded investments to ensure all working families have access to high-quality childcare programs.
4. Creation of a permanent summer child nutrition Electronic Funds Transfer program to ensure children receive supplemental food benefits.
5. Additional investment in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund beyond the base levels provided by the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac).
6. Reauthorization of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program that ensures the continuation of successful home visiting programs and additional Federal support to serve a greater share of at-risk families.
7. Changes to improve the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, including legislation that increases funding for the base block grant, increases access to education and training, and requires States to spend more TANF funds on the program’s core purposes such as work, childcare, and assistance to struggling families.
(8) Funding for research designed to improve program effectiveness in creating positive outcomes for low-income children and families.

(9) Additional investments that end homelessness among America’s families.

(10) Changes to improve support for at-risk families, reduce child abuse and neglect, or improve substitute care and post-permanency services in order to reduce the need for foster care.

(11) Changes to encourage and efficiently collect child support as a supplemental support for children, including legislation that results in a greater share of collected child support reaching policies that ensure that non-custodial parents are able to pay the child support they owe and maintain positive relationships with their children.

SEC. 202. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENTS.

The Chair of the House Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that—

(1) improves the affordability and quality of health care and expands coverage;

(2) improves access to and affordability of prescription drugs;

(3) supports the stability of the marketplaces for nongroup health insurance;

(4) advances biomedical research and development of more effective treatments and cures;

(5) extends expiring provisions of Medicare, Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program and other health programs;

(6) increases access to opioid addiction treatment and prevention programs;

(7) improves availability of long-term care services and supports for senior citizens and individuals with disabilities;

(8) improves the contemporary health care workforce’s ability to meet emerging demands;

(9) improves Medicare quality, efficiency, and benefit design to make care more affordable and accessible for people with Medicare; and

(10) improves Medicaid quality, efficiency, and benefit design to make care more affordable and accessible for people with Medicaid; by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit for either of the following time periods: fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2027.

SEC. 203. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR JOB CREATION THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE, K-12 EDUCATION, AND OTHER INVESTMENTS AND INCENTIVES.

The Chair of the House Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that—

(1) provides additional investments in highways, transit systems, bridges, rail, aviation, ports (including harbor maintenance dredging), seaports, inland waterway systems, public housing, broadband, energy, water, and other infrastructure;

(2) provides for additional investments in other areas that would help businesses and other employers create new jobs; and

(3) provides investment incentives, including tax incentives, to help small businesses, non-profits, States, and communities expand investments in education, train, hire, and retain private-sector workers, or by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure does not increase the deficit for either of the following time periods: fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2027.

SEC. 204. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR AMERICA’S VETERANS AND SERVICE MEMBERS.

The Chair of the House Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that—

(1) improves the security of existing pension plans, including public- and private-sector plans, single- and multi-employer plans, and the Central States Pension Fund;

(2) address the impending insolvency of the coal miners’ pension plan (1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan) that, if left unfunded, will jeopardize the solvency of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation insurance fund;

(3) provide greater and more timely access to benefits, including pension and other post-service benefits, for disabled and retired military personnel or veterans, including measures to expedite claims processing;

(4) provides tax incentives for or otherwise encourages the production of renewable energy or increased energy efficiency;

(5) improves information technology at the Department of Veterans Affairs, including for the purchase and implementation of the same electronic health records system used by the Department of Defense;

by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit for either of the following time periods: fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2027.

SEC. 205. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INCREASING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY.

The Chair of the House Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that—

(1) improves the energy independence and security of the United States; by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit for either of the following time periods: fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2027.

SEC. 206. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR RETIREMENT SECURITY.

The Chair of the House Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that—

(1) improves or otherwise improves the ability of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide services and support to veterans or survivors of veterans; by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit for either of the following time periods: fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2027.

SEC. 207. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR INCREASING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY.

The Chair of the House Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report that—

(1) improves the energy independence and security of the United States; by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit for either of the following time periods: fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2027.

(2) provides additional incentives for or otherwise encourages the production of renewable energy or increased energy efficiency;

(3) improves information technology at the Department of Veterans Affairs, including for the purchase and implementation of the same electronic health records system used by the Department of Defense;

by the amounts provided in such measure if such measure would not increase the deficit for either of the following time periods: fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2027.
TITLE III—ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) In General.—In the House, except as provided in subsection (b), any bill, joint resolution, or conference report making a general appropriation or continuing appropriation may not provide for advance appropriations.

(b) Exceptions.—Advance appropriations may be provided—

(1) for fiscal year 2019 for programs, projects, activities, or accounts identified, in the joint explanatory statement of managers accompanying this resolution under the heading “Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations,” as any aggregate amount not to exceed $20,000,000,000 in new budget authority, and for 2020, accounts separately identified under the same heading; and

(2) for all discretionary programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(c) Definition.—In this section, the term “advance appropriation” means any new discretionary budget authority provided in a bill or joint resolution, or any amendment thereto or conference report thereon, making general appropriations or continuing appropriations that first becomes available for fiscal year after 2018.

SEC. 302. ADJUSTMENTS TO DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LIMITS.

(a) Program Integrity Initiatives Under the Budget Control Act.

(1) Social Security Administration Program Integrity Initiatives.—In the House, prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2018 that appropriates amounts as provided under section 251(b)(2)(C) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the allocation to the House Committee on Appropriations shall be increased by the amount of additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority for fiscal year 2018.

(2) Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program.—In the House, prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2018 that appropriates amounts as provided under section 251(b)(2)(C) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the allocation to the House Committee on Appropriations shall be increased by the amount of additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority for fiscal year 2018.

(b) Additional Program Integrity Initiatives.

(1) Internal Revenue Service Tax Compliance.—In the House, prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2018 that appropriates $1,860,000,000 for the Internal Revenue Service under section 251(b)(2)(C) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the allocation to the House Committee on Appropriations shall be increased by the amount of additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority for fiscal year 2018.

(2) Wildfire Suppression Operations.—In the House, prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2018 that appropriates $151,000,000 for in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments, reemployment services and training referrals, and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews for the Department of Labor and provides for an additional appropriation of up to $55,000,000 for in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments, reemployment services and training referrals, and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews for the Department of Labor, the allocation to the House Committee on Appropriations shall be increased by the amount of additional budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority for fiscal year 2018.

(c) Disaster Relief.—In the House, prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2018 that appropriates amounts designated as necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to this subsection, then new budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority shall be included in the purposes of the Balanced Budget Act of 1990, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include the measure and the outlays resulting from that budget authority if that measure meets the requirements set forth in this section.

(d) Deficit-Neutral Adjustments.—In the House, prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2018 that appropriates amounts designated as necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to this subsection, the Chair of the House Committee on the Budget shall make the adjustments set forth in subsections (b), (c), and (d) for the incremental new budget authority in that measure and the outlays resulting from that budget authority if that measure meets the requirements set forth in this section.

SEC. 303. COSTS OF EMERGENCY NEEDS, OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS, AND DISASTER RELIEF.

(a) Emergency Appropriations.—In the House, prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for Overseas Contingency Operations and Disaster Relief, any conference report that makes appropriations for discretionary budget authority and outlays designated as necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to this subsection, then new budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority shall be included in the purposes of the Balanced Budget Act of 1990, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include the measure and the outlays resulting from that budget authority if that measure meets the requirements set forth in this section.

(b) Procedures for Adjustments.—In the House, prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for Overseas Contingency Operations and Disaster Relief, the amount of additional budget authority and outlays up to the amounts provided in such legislation shall be included in the purposes of the Balanced Budget Act of 1990, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include the measure and the outlays resulting from that budget authority if that measure meets the requirements set forth in this section.

(c) Disaster Relief.—In the House, prior to consideration of any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making appropriations for fiscal year 2018 that appropriates amounts designated as necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to this subsection, then new budget authority and outlays resulting from that budget authority shall be included in the purposes of the Balanced Budget Act of 1990, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include the measure and the outlays resulting from that budget authority if that measure meets the requirements set forth in this section.

SEC. 304. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

(a) In General.—In the House, notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, section 13201 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, and section 4021 of this Act, for the purpose of this budget, for reconciliation purposes, the Chair of the House Committee on the Budget shall make the adjustments set forth in subsections (b), (c), and (d) for the incremental new budget authority in that measure and the outlays resulting from that budget authority if that measure meets the requirements set forth in this section.

SEC. 305. APPLICATION AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.

(a) Application.—In the House, any adjustments of allocations and aggregates made pursuant to this resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration; and

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) Effect of Changed Allocations and Aggregates.—Revised allocations and aggregates resulting from application of the provisions of this section shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 as allocations and aggregates included in this resolution.

(c) Adjustments.—The Chair of the House Committee on the Budget shall include the amounts designated for legislative purposes in such final congressional approval in the same form by the House of Representatives and the Senate, but has yet to be presented to or approved by the President and enacted into law, if any, prior to the date of final consideration of this resolution.

SEC. 306. ADJUSTMENTS FOR CHANGES IN THE BASELINE.

The Chair of the House Committee on the Budget may adjust the allocations, aggregates, reconciliation targets, and other appropriate budgetary levels in this concurrent resolution to reflect changes resulting from the Congressional Budget Office’s update to its baseline for fiscal years 2018 through 2027.

SEC. 307. REIMBURSEMENT OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO.

In the House, pursuant to section 301(b)(8) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, for the remainder of the 115th Congress, the following shall apply in lieu of “PAY-AS-YOU-GO” rules and principles:

(1)(A) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), it shall not be in order to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report if any provisions of such measure affecting direct spending and revenues have the net effect of increasing the on-budget deficit or reducing the on-budget surplus in any year of the period covered by the measure and the outlays resulting from that budget authority if that measure meets the requirements set forth in this section.

(i) the current year, the budget year, and the four years following that budget year; or
(ii) the current year, the budget year, and the nine years following that budget year.

(B) The effect of such measure on the deficit or surplus shall be determined on the basis of assumptions made by the Committee on the Budget.

(C) For the purpose of this section, the terms ‘budget year’, ‘current year’, and ‘direct spending’ shall have the meanings specified in section 250 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, except that the term ‘direct spending’ shall also include amounts appropriated under Appropriations Acts that make out-year modifications to substantive law as described in section 3(b)(C) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(2) If a bill, joint resolution, or amendment is considered pursuant to a special order of the House directing the Clerk to add as a new rule at the end of such measure the provisions of a separate measure as passed by the House, the provisions of such separate measure as passed by the House shall be included in the evaluation under paragraph (1) of the bill, joint resolution, or amendment.

(3)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the evaluation under paragraph (1) shall exclude provisions expressly designated as an emergency for purposes of pay-as-you-go principles in the case of a point of order under this clause against consideration of—

(i) an amendment made in original text by a special order of business;

(ii) a conference report, or amendment between the Houses.

(B) In the case of an amendment (other than one specified in subparagraph (A)) to a bill or joint resolution, the evaluation under paragraph (1) shall give no cognizance to any designation of emergency.

(C) If a bill, a joint resolution, an amendment made in original text by a special order of business, a conference report, or amendment between the Houses includes a provision expressly designated as an emergency for purposes of pay-as-you-go principles, the Chair shall put the question of consideration with respect thereto.

SEC. 403. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON TAX REFORM—FAMILIES

The House adopts the provisions of this title—

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) Making health care coverage affordable and accessible for all American families will improve their health and financial security, which will make the economy stronger.

(2) Medicaid is the Nation’s largest health insurance program, providing quality, comprehensive, and affordable coverage to more than 70 million low-income Americans, including more than one in three children.

(3) Millions of low-income seniors and people with disabilities rely on Medicaid to pay for necessary care, and Home and Community-Based Services that provide help with activities of daily living.

(4) Medicaid coverage provides financial stability, helping to ensure fair competition in the marketplace and the ability of the economy to keep pace with costs and enables States to respond to changing needs, such as increased enrolled beneficiaries, economic downturns or an aging population that requires extensive long-term care services.

(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the House that—

(1) Congress should build upon the progress of the Affordable Care Act to make health care coverage more affordable and accessible to all American families, and reject any measures to repeal or undermine the law.

(2) The Administration and Congress should fully implement, enforce, and fund the Affordable Care Act, and stop any efforts to sabotage the health insurance marketplaces; and

(3) Congress should preserve Medicaid and not dismantle it by converting Medicaid into block grants, a flawed and other financing arrangement that would limit Federal contributions and render the program incapable of responding to increased need that arises from trends in demographics or health care costs or from economic conditions.

The existing financing structure of Medicaid ensures that Federal contributions keep pace with costs and enables States to respond to changing needs, such as increased enrolled beneficiaries, economic downturns or an aging population that requires extensive long-term care services.

Under the Affordable Care Act, 31 States and the District of Columbia have expanded Medicaid to low-income adults, including working parents who do not receive coverage through their employers.

Robustly 20 million previously uninsured people have gained health care coverage under the Affordable Care Act, reducing the Nation’s uninsured rate for working-age adults to one of the lowest levels on record.

The law provides premium tax credits that vary by income and the local cost of coverage or cost-sharing assistance to help low- and middle-income families afford quality insurance and pay their out-of-pocket costs.

The law prohibits insurers from denying coverage or charging higher premiums based on pre-existing conditions, requires coverage of essential health benefits like maternity care and prescription drugs, limits out-of-pocket costs, and has an emergency.

The law put in place significant cost-saving reforms to Federal health programs that have slowed the growth rate of healthcare spending growth in recent years, with 2011, 2012, and 2013 experiencing the slowest growth rates in real per capita national health expenditures on record.

On May 4, 2017, the House of Representatives passed H.R.1628, the American Health Care Act of 2017, legislation that would repeal provisions of the Affordable Care Act, make deep cuts in Medicaid, and—

(A) result in 23 million Americans losing health insurance in 2026, including 14 million people losing Medicaid;

(B) dramatically increase costs for older adults, low-income families, and people with pre-existing conditions;

(C) reduce Medicaid spending by $834 billion over ten years;

(D) jeopardize care for seniors in nursing homes, children with disabilities, and families receiving Medicaid benefits as States look to reduce coverage and services; and

(E) severely undermine access to substance abuse treatment during the nationwide opioid epidemic;

(F) shorten the life of the Medicare Hospital Insurance Trust Fund; and

(G) provide nearly $1 trillion in tax cuts that mostly benefit millionaires, billionaires, and wealthy corporations.

For workers in the lower half of the income scale, real annual wages from 1979 to 2014 grew only $76. And the entire lower 50 percent of the United States population holds a mere 1 percent of total national wealth.

Americans today are working harder than ever, but continue to struggle to find good jobs, get ahead, and stay ahead. This is part of a four-decade trend of stagnant wages for middle-class and lower-wage workers, even as millionaires and billionaires become richer and corporations reap massive profits.

The Obama Administration ended with 31 consecutive months of job growth, but challenges still remain to create more good-paying jobs and broadly shared prosperity. The number of long-term unemployed remains elevated, and unemployment for people of color continues to be higher than the rest of the population. Many areas remain in need of well-paying jobs.

For almost any metric, the middle class has seen little to no improvements in their incomes. Real median household income in 2013 was only $50,000 higher than it was in 1979. Median weekly real earnings for workers increased less than 1 percent from 1979 to 2014. Poorer workers have done even worse. For workers in the lower half of the income scale, real annual wages from 1979 to 2014 grew only $76. And the entire lower 50 percent of the United States population holds a mere 1 percent of total national wealth.

What’s more, 25 million Americans have seen their incomes and wealth skyrocket. Incomes for the top one percent of households grew five times as fast as for people in the bottom half of the income scale. The average net worth of households grew five times as fast as for people in the bottom half of the income scale. The average net worth of millionaires, billionaires, and wealthy corporations continues to grow, while the average net worth of households continues to fall.

This uneven distribution of major tax expenditures results in an unfair distribution of major tax expenditures, with the wealthy getting the biggest benefit. These plans reflect the interests of millionaires, billionaires, and wealthy corporations, and even add trillions of dollars of new loopholes for the wealthy. These plans reflect the false mythology of “supply-side” economics, which creates few jobs and instead leads to massive deficits. A return to these policies would—

(A) fail to create good paying middle-class jobs;

(B) do nothing to help low-income or middle-class households with the rising costs of health care, education, housing, child care, or retirement; and

(C) widen the income gap between millionaires and billionaires and the middle class.

Americans today are working harder than ever, but continue to struggle to find good jobs, get ahead, and stay ahead. This is part of a four-decade trend of stagnant wages for middle-class and lower-wage workers, even as millionaires and billionaires become richer and corporations reap massive profits.

The Obama Administration ended with 31 consecutive months of job growth, but challenges still remain to create more good-paying jobs and broadly shared prosperity. The number of long-term unemployed remains elevated, and unemployment for people of color continues to be higher than the rest of the population. Many areas remain in need of well-paying jobs.

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(A) fail to create good paying middle-class jobs;

(B) do nothing to help low-income or middle-class households with the rising costs of health care, education, housing, child care, or retirement; and

(C) widen the income gap between millionaires and billionaires and the middle class.
(1) The current spending limits set by the Budget Control Act of 2011 are too low, for both defense and nondefense funding. Defense and nondefense investment must be at appropriate levels to protect both national security and economic security. The non-defense discretionary spending limit for 2018 is $2 billion less than it was in 2016, in nominal terms, representing a significant cut to purchasing power. If the inflation rate is what the Congressional Budget Office projects, the 2018 cap represents a reduction of nearly 3 percent compared with 2016. Defense spending faces similar reductions.

(2) The Budget Control Act of 2011 is based on panels, Congress should enact increases in blacklisting, setting up separate caps for both and instituting a “firewall” to prevent reductions in one category because of increases in the other.

(3) Bipartisan agreement has provided a solution to the austerity-level caps before, and can be used again to change these arbitrary spending limits.

(4) Congress must begin discussions and negotiations, to raise the caps to appropriate levels, and maintain parity between defense and nondefense.

(5) The current immigration system is broken because it keeps millions of hard-working, law-abiding families who have lived in our communities for decades, but does not allow for the exploitation of undocumented workers to the detriment of all workers, it does not meet the needs of our economy for legal immigrant workers, and it keeps millions of hard-working, law-abiding families who have lived in our communities for decades hiding in the shadows, including many thousands who came to the United States as infants or young children.

(6) Overly aggressive immigration enforcement that focuses on individuals with deep ties to the Unification, to raise the caps to and local law enforcement efforts to establish and maintain trust with immigrant communities. The number of Latinos reporting crimes, much lower than past years, particularly among domestic violence and sexual assault victims.

(7) The vast majority of individuals in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody have not been convicted of a serious crime. ICE’s own statistics demonstrate that arrests of people with no criminal record increased 157 percent in the first 100 days of the Trump Administration, and only 600,000 people will rely on Medicare for coverage of hospital stays, physician visits, prescription drugs, and other necessary medical goods and services.

(8) People with Medicare already have the ability to choose a private insurance plan that provides the Medicare guarantee for seniors and persons with disabilities on fixed incomes to unaffordable financial risks.

(9) A voucher system in which the voucher program will merely set it up for a death spiral, private plans will raise premiums and prices, leaving sick persons with disabilities on fixed incomes to unaffordable financial risks.

(10) It has been nearly four years since the Senate passed, on a bipartisan basis, its comprehensive immigration reform bill. Immigration reform is needed to secure the sovereignty of the United States of America and to establish a coherent and just system for integrating those who seek to join American society.

(11) Immigration reform is needed to secure the sovereignty of the United States of America and to establish a coherent and just system for integrating those who seek to join American society.

SEC. 404. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON IMMIGRATION REFORM.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) The current spending limits set by the Budget Control Act of 2011 are too low, for both defense and nondefense funding. Defense and nondefense investment must be at appropriate levels to protect both national security and economic security. The non-defense discretionary spending limit for 2018 is $2 billion less than it was in 2016, in nominal terms, representing a significant cut to purchasing power. If the inflation rate is what the Congressional Budget Office projects, the 2018 cap represents a reduction of nearly 3 percent compared with 2016. Defense spending faces similar reductions.

(2) The Budget Control Act of 2011 is based on panels, Congress should enact increases in blacklisting, setting up separate caps for both and instituting a “firewall” to prevent reductions in one category because of increases in the other.

(3) Bipartisan agreement has provided a solution to the austerity-level caps before, and can be used again to change these arbitrary spending limits.

(4) Congress must begin discussions and negotiations, to raise the caps to appropriate levels, and maintain parity between defense and nondefense.

(5) The current immigration system is broken because it keeps millions of hard-working, law-abiding families who have lived in our communities for decades, but does not allow for the exploitation of undocumented workers to the detriment of all workers, it does not meet the needs of our economy for legal immigrant workers, and it keeps millions of hard-working, law-abiding families who have lived in our communities for decades hiding in the shadows, including many thousands who came to the United States as infants or young children.

(6) Overly aggressive immigration enforcement that focuses on individuals with deep ties to the Unification, to raise the caps to and local law enforcement efforts to establish and maintain trust with immigrant communities. The number of Latinos reporting crimes, much lower than past years, particularly among domestic violence and sexual assault victims.

(7) The vast majority of individuals in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody have not been convicted of a serious crime. ICE’s own statistics demonstrate that arrests of people with no criminal record increased 157 percent in the first 100 days of the Trump Administration, and only 600,000 people will rely on Medicare for coverage of hospital stays, physician visits, prescription drugs, and other necessary medical goods and services.

(8) People with Medicare already have the ability to choose a private insurance plan that provides the Medicare guarantee for seniors and persons with disabilities on fixed incomes to unaffordable financial risks.

(9) A voucher system in which the voucher program will merely set it up for a death spiral, private plans will raise premiums and prices, leaving sick persons with disabilities on fixed incomes to unaffordable financial risks.

(10) It has been nearly four years since the Senate passed, on a bipartisan basis, its comprehensive immigration reform bill. Immigration reform is needed to secure the sovereignty of the United States of America and to establish a coherent and just system for integrating those who seek to join American society.

(11) Immigration reform is needed to secure the sovereignty of the United States of America and to establish a coherent and just system for integrating those who seek to join American society.

SEC. 405. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON SOCIAL SECURITY.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) Most of the 61 million Americans who currently receive earned Social Security benefits are in the majority of their income, with nearly a quarter of them relying on Social Security for at least 90 percent of their income.

(2) In the past, Social Security benefits were part of a 3-legged stool where retirees relied on a combination of Social Security, a private pension, and personal savings to finance retirement.

(3) Social Security benefits will be more important to future retirees as fewer workers will receive traditional pensions, and many recipients who reach retirement age receive DI benefits and beneficiaries in each category have helped finance the other category even if they will never receive those benefits.

(4) Social Security benefits are being cut as Social Security’s normal retirement age is increasing from 66 years for workers retiring now to 67 years for those born in 1990 and later. This cut disproportionately impacts low-earners because life expectancy continues to increase among higher-earners but not low-earners. Thus, high-earners will generally receive benefits for a longer time than low-earners.

(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the House that the Medicare guarantee for seniors and persons with disabilities should be preserved and strengthened, and that any legislation to end the Medicare guarantee, financially penalize people for choosing traditional Medicare, or shift rising health care costs on consumers by some other mechanism with less expensive beneficiaries, leaving the sickest beneficiaries in a program that will wither away.

SEC. 406. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON FINANCIAL STABILITY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 is an important component of the country’s response to the financial crisis and recession. It took a number of steps to protect consumers of financial products and services as well as protect taxpayers from the costs of another financial crisis.

(2) These steps included the creation of an orderly liquidation process to allow regulators to close failing institutions that some argue are “too big to fail,” as well as a new Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC), an Office of Financial Research to monitor the stability of our financial system, and a Financial Stability Oversight Bureau (the Consumer Bureau).

(3) The Consumer Bureau plays a critical role in protecting older Americans, military service members, students, seniors, the elderly, people with disabilities, and other consumers, especially in minority and low-income communities. It has implemented new rules for mortgage markets and prepaid cards, and already recovered nearly $12 billion on behalf of more than 29 million consumers and service members.
(4) The Consumer Bureau’s funding from the Federal Reserve’s operations help give it important independence from efforts to interfere with its vital mission and activities, the claimants often win with every other banking regulator.

(5) The Consumer Bureau has already faced and overcome efforts to obstruct its operation.

(b) Policy.—It is the policy of the House that Congress should continue to support the vital work of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau as well as its governing and financing structures and other key components of the Dodd-Frank legislation such as orderly liquidation authority, FSOC, and the Office of Financial Stability.

SEC. 408. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON WOMEN’S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT.

(a) Findings.—The House finds the following:

(1) Women’s contributions are critical to the economic success of hard-working families.

(2) Not only do women play a key role in maintaining healthy families, they also have unique health care needs and face issues that require special focus.

(3) A growing economy is the foundation of mass destruction, which were highlighted as being controlled in this area.

(4) Permissive diplomacy and international development gives the resources for a strong military, our security and enables the country to provide a strong military that is second to none.

(5) The Nation’s projected long-term debt could have serious consequences for our economy and security, and that more efficient military spending has to be part of an overall plan that effectively deals with this problem.

(6) The Department of Defense should continue to review defense plans and requirements to ensure that weapons developed to counter Cold War-era threats are not redundant, are affordable, and are applicable to 21st century threats, and such review should include, with the participation of the National Nuclear Security Administration, examination of requirements for, and cost of, the nation’s nuclear weapon systems delivery systems, and nuclear weapons and infrastructure modernization.

(7) Nonwar operation and maintenance costs per active-duty service member have grown at a rate well above inflation for decades—from $59.00 per service member in 1990 to $157,000 per service member in 2015 (measured in constant 2017 dollars), and it is imperative that unsustainable cost growth be controlled in this area.

(8) Cooperative threat reduction and other nonproliferation efforts (such as “loose nukes” and other materials used in weapons of mass destruction), which were highlighted as high priorities by the 9/11 Commission, need to be funded at a level that is commensurate with the evolving threat.

(b) Policy.—It is the policy of the House that—

(1) The austerity-level spending caps required by the Budget Control Act of 2011 for fiscal years 2013 through 2021 should be rescinded and replaced by a fiscal plan that is consistent with a comprehensive national security strategy that includes careful consideration of international, national, defense, homeland security, and law enforcement needs.

(2) Efficiencies can be achieved in the national defense budget without compromising our security through greater emphasis on eliminating duplicative and wasteful programs, reforming the acquisition process, identifying and constraining unsustainable operating costs, and through careful analysis of our national security needs.

SEC. 409. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON NATIONAL SECURITY.

(a) Findings.—The House finds the following:

(1) The country faces many national security challenges and we must continue to support a strong military that is second to none.

(2) Those who serve in uniform are our most important security resource and the Administration and Congress shall continue to provide the support they need to successfully carry out the missions the country gives them.

(3) A growing economy is the foundation of our security and enables the country to provide the resources for a strong military, sound homeland security agencies, and effective diplomacy and international development.

(4) Austerity-level spending caps threaten adequate investment in activities critical to our economy and national security, which include activities of both the defense and nondefense portions of the discretionary budget.

(5) Diplomacy and foreign aid are essential components of our security and the President’s proposal to cut these activities by 32 percent below current levels prompted more than 2,900 members who have first-hand knowledge of their effectiveness in securing our Nation to forcibly object.

(6) The Nation’s projected long-term debt could have serious consequences for our economy and security, and that more efficient military spending has to be part of an overall plan that effectively deals with this problem.

(7) Reining in wasteful spending at the Nation’s security agencies, including the Department of Defense, which is still unable to pass an audit—such as the elimination of duplicative programs and better controlling delays and cost overruns on weapons systems that have been identified by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) needs to continue as a priority.

(8) The Department of Defense should continue to review defense plans and requirements to ensure that weapons developed to counter Cold War-era threats are not redundant, are affordable, and are applicable to 21st century threats, and such review should include, with the participation of the National Nuclear Security Administration, examination of requirements for, and cost of, the nation’s nuclear weapon systems delivery systems, and nuclear weapons and infrastructure modernization.

(9) Nonwar operation and maintenance costs per active-duty service member have grown at a rate well above inflation for decades—from $59.00 per service member in 1990 to $157,000 per service member in 2015 (measured in constant 2017 dollars), and it is imperative that unsustainable cost growth be controlled in this area.

(10) Cooperative threat reduction and other nonproliferation efforts (such as “loose nukes” and other materials used in weapons of mass destruction), which were highlighted as high priorities by the 9/11 Commission, need to be funded at a level that is commensurate with the evolving threat.

(b) Policy.—It is the policy of the House that—

(1) Congress should support a funding level no less than the President’s request for veterans’ discretionary programs so that the VA has the resources it needs to ensure veterans get the health care and benefits they earned in a timely fashion.

(2) Congress should limit the austerity-level funding cap on nondefense programs for 2018 and beyond to ensure adequate funding for veterans’ programs.

(3) Provide additional appropriations to cover all of VA’s discretionary budget to prevent delays in veterans’ benefits and services during a Government shutdown.

(4) The VA submit along with its annual budget a “Future-Years Veterans Program” that projects its needs over five years to help facilitate the appropriations and oversight processes.

(5) Congress should provide sufficient resources to the VA’s Inspector General to guarantee veterans are properly served and that resources are spent efficiently.

(6) No changes be made to the Individual Unemployability benefit to ensure that disabled veterans, many of them severely disabled, who are deemed unable to engage in substantial work as a result of their service to our country, continue to receive the full disability and social security benefits they earned and were promised; and

(7) Congress shall provide sufficient funding and staff resources for VA hospitals and clinics, and that any increased funding for private and community care not provided directly by the VA should not come at the expense of necessary resources for VA hospitals and clinics.

SEC. 410. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) Findings.—The House finds the following:

(1) The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) continues to face challenges meeting the needs of the next generation of returning veterans, including sufficient funding to provide critical services and benefits.

(2) Access to quality health care and veterans’ benefits has been an ongoing challenge for the VA, highlighted most recently in the ongoing claims backlog and veterans waiting months for health care appointments.

(3) Providing health care where veterans live and ensuring a sufficient number of health care professionals, especially in the area of mental health treatment, have also been challenges.

(4) The VA has made progress in reducing the number of initial benefit claims, dropping from a peak of 611,000 claims just a few years ago, but that statistic leaves out the many veterans who are still waiting many months on claims to have been decided.

(5) The President’s budget includes a 6 percent increase over current-year funding but shifts funding away from critical programs while funding deep cuts to Medicaid benefits veterans rely on, the elimination of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, steep cuts at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, elimination of the Legal Services Corporation, and severe cuts to entrepreneurship outreach programs targeted to veterans through the Small Business Administration.

(6) The VA currently has advance appropriations for approximately 85 percent of its discretionary budget. The residual 15 percent, which includes the funds to pay for day-to-day operations at the Veterans Benefits Administration, remains vulnerable to a Government shutdown.

(b) Policy.—It is the policy of the House that—

(1) Congress should support a funding level no less than the President’s request for veterans’ discretionary programs so that the VA has the resources it needs to ensure veterans get the health care and benefits they earned in a timely fashion.

(2) Congress should limit the austerity-level funding cap on nondefense programs for 2018 and beyond to ensure adequate funding for veterans’ programs.

(3) Advance appropriations be expanded to cover all of VA’s discretionary budget to prevent delays in veterans’ benefits and services during a Government shutdown.

(4) The VA submit along with its annual budget a “Future-Years Veterans Program” that projects its needs over five years to help facilitate the appropriations and oversight processes.

(5) Congress should provide sufficient resources to the VA’s Inspector General to guarantee veterans are properly served and that resources are spent efficiently.

(6) No changes be made to the Individual Unemployability benefit to ensure that disabled veterans, many of them severely disabled, who are deemed unable to engage in substantial work as a result of their service to our country, continue to receive the full disability and social security benefits they earned and were promised; and

(7) Congress shall provide sufficient funding and staff resources for VA hospitals and clinics, and that any increased funding for private and community care not provided directly by the VA should not come at the expense of necessary resources for VA hospitals and clinics.

SEC. 411. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON DISASTER RESPONSE FUNDING.

(a) Findings.—The House find the following:

(1) Natural disasters such as hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria require comprehensive and bipartisan congressional action to help storm survivors get their lives back on track, rebuild disaster-stricken communities, and prevent further damage to the economy.

(2) The Budget Control Act of 2011 provides procedural tools specifically to respond to
natural disasters, by allowing adjustments to the spending caps for disaster and emergency spending.

(3) Mitigation and prevention is an important part of disaster recovery and response, and providing investments that make future disasters less costly in terms of both dollars and lives.

(b) POLICY ON FUNDING FOR DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY.—It is the policy of the House that Congress should act swiftly to assist with recovery from hurricanes and other natural disasters. Such funding should be provided using the budgetary provisions in place for this purpose: providing adjustments to the spending caps for disaster recovery and mitigation. Congress must also support efforts to address future disaster damage and loss, by appropriately funding mitigation and prevention efforts.

SEC. 412. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) The Federal workforce provides vital services to our Nation on a daily basis. It includes those who patrol and secure our borders, respond to natural disasters, take care of our veterans, help run our airports, counter cyber-attacks, find cures for deadly diseases, and keep our food supply safe.

(2) Veterans make up 31 percent of the Federal workforce.

(3) Many Federal workers are paid at a rate that is far below their private sector counterparts.

(4) The Federal workforce is older than in past decades and older than the private sector workforce. Nearly one third of the Federal workforce is eligible to retire.

(5) Federal employee pay and benefits are not the cause of the country’s deficits and debt. The Federal workforce has already contributed more than $100 billion toward reducing the country’s deficits in the form of pay freezes, pay raises insufficient to keep pace with inflation, furloughs, and increased retirement contributions. The President’s budget for 2018 continues to unfairly target the Federal workforce by proposing an additional $149 billion in compensation and retirement benefit cuts.

(6) Since 1975, the Federal workforce has declined 35 percent relative to the size of the population of the United States.

(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the House that: Congress should not target Federal employees for further reductions in their pay and benefits at a level that enables the government to attract high quality people—which is especially important during this period when more workers will be retiring—and that no proposal to reduce the size of the workforce should be considered without an assessment of its impact on government services.

SEC. 413. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) Global climate change is a threat to national security, public health, and economic growth.

(2) The United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concluded that the effects of climate change are occurring worldwide, stating: “The impacts of climate change are already being felt on all continents and across the oceans”.

(3) The United States Government Accountability Office described climate change as, “a complex, crosscutting issue that poses risks to many environmental and economic systems—including agriculture, infrastructure, human health—and presents a significant financial risk to the Federal Government”.

(4) In March 2016, Secretary of Defense James Mattis wrote testimony to the Senate Armed Services Committee, stating that “climate change can be a driver of instability and the Department of Defense must pay attention to potential adverse impacts generated by this phenomenon”.

(5) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported that 2016 was the warmest year on record, setting a new record for global average surface temperature for a year. Furthermore, 16 of the 17 warmest years on record have occurred since 2001.

(6) The United States National Research Council’s Climate Assessment and Development Advisory Committee found climate change affects “human health, water supply, agriculture, transportation, energy, coastal areas, and many other sectors of society, with increasingly adverse impacts on the American economy and quality of life”. (7) The most vulnerable among us, including children, the elderly, and those who have underlying health conditions, face even greater health risks as a result of climate change.

(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the House that: climate change presents a significant public health, environmental, and financial risk to the United States. The United States must continue to play a leadership role on climate change policy and should not retreat from global commitments on climate change. Congress must provide robust funding for climate change science, which provides critical information for protecting human health, defending the United States, and preserving and protecting environmental systems throughout the world.

SEC. 414. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND ELIMINATING WASTE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) The Government Accountability Office (“GAO”) identifies examples of waste, duplication, and overlap in Federal programs, and makes regular recommendations regarding ways to reduce costs and increase revenue.

(2) The Comptroller General has stated that addressing the identified waste, duplication, and overlap in Federal programs “could lead to achievable savings of additional billions, with significant opportunities for improved efficiencies, cost savings, or revenue enhancements in the areas of defense, the health care system, education and training, health care, energy, and tax enforcement.”

(3) The tax gap, the difference between taxes owed and taxes paid, now averages $456 billion annually. Even modest improvements in enforcing existing law could yield a boost in revenue without any changes to the tax code.

(4) Tax expenditures, or spending through the tax code, total $1.3 trillion per year and represent the largest category of spending in our government’s budget, including the Department of the Treasury, Health and Human Services, and Social Security. However, unlike other types of spending, tax expenditures are not reviewed in any systematic way in the annual budget process.

(5) Improper payments, payments that should not have been made or that were made to the incorrect amount, total $144 billion for 2016. While some improper payments are the result of fraud, the vast majority are due to unintentional errors, such as payments that were not properly verified, or overpayments or underpayments because of a data entry mistake.

(6) Cutting down the government, arbitrarily cutting agency budgets, and forcing large portions of the government through stop-gaps apropiations do not lead to efficient, effective operations, but make government operations more efficient, pass appropriations bills on time, and avoid costly government shutdowns. Congress must task agencies with shrinking the error rate in government programs and provide adequate budgetary resources for agencies to develop new processes, review expenditures, and improve information technology systems.

(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the House that: Congress must continue to root out waste, make government operations more efficient, pass appropriations bills on time, and avoid costly government shutdowns. Congress must task agencies with shrinking the error rate in government programs and provide adequate budgetary resources for agencies to develop new processes, review expenditures, and improve information technology systems.

SEC. 415. POLICY OF THE HOUSE ON THE INVESTIGATION OF RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE IN THE 2016 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House finds the following:

(1) Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of our democracy, and foreign interference in them undermines the public trust and casts doubt on the legitimacy of our government.

(2) The country’s intelligence agencies all agree that Russia launched a campaign to undermine the 2016 U.S. presidential election, which included cyber-attacks, dissemination of false information, and other intelligence operations to malign Secretary Hillary Clinton and increase the odds of a Donald Trump presidency.

(3) Members of the Trump campaign had repeated contact with Russian government officials and oligarchs and then failed to report this contact in testimony to Congress and in security clearance applications. One such meeting reportedly included a request for a back-channel line of communications with the Russians to share classified facilities, which would preclude U.S. government oversight. Another involved a Kremlin-linked Russian lawyer and a former Soviet counterintelligence officer who assumed that they would provide politically damaging information about Secretary Hillary Clinton as part of the Russian government’s effort to support the Trump campaign.

(4) Under the direction of Federal Bureau of Investigation Director James Comey, the FBI was investigating the President’s campaign colluded with Russia to influence the election.

(5) On May 17, 2017, the Department of Justice announced the appointment of former FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III to serve as Special Counsel to investigate Russian interference into the 2016 presidential election and any coordination between the Russian government and individuals associated with the Trump campaign.

(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the House that: the White House, FBI Director Comey and then made statements suggesting his dismissal was to stop the investigation of collusion.

(6) On May 17, 2017, the Department of Justice announced the appointment of former FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III to serve as Special Counsel to investigate Russian interference into the 2016 presidential election and any coordination between the Russian government and individuals associated with the Trump campaign.

(c) POLICY—It is the policy of the House that: Congress must continue to root out waste, make government operations more efficient, pass appropriations bills on time, and avoid costly government shutdowns. Congress must task agencies with shrinking the error rate in government programs and provide adequate budgetary resources for agencies to develop new processes, review expenditures, and improve information technology systems.
Special Counsel appointed by the Department of Justice so that he can perform a thorough and nonpartisan investigation of Russia’s campaign to affect the 2016 U.S. presidential election and any individuals in the United States that may have colluded in those efforts.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 533, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) and a Member or opposed each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, Democrats and Republicans are looking at the same challenges facing our country and American families. Education, healthcare, and housing costs have all increased while wages stay stagnant.

It used to be that the two parties would debate different strategies to address the problems facing the American people. Sadly, those times are behind us.

In giving millionaire's, including the majority of this Congress, the President, and wealthy donors a giant tax cut, the Republican budget does not even pretend to address the problems facing the American people. Not only does it ignore working families, it increases their challenges.

The Democratic budget alternative, in stark contrast to the Republican budget, begins to address the real challenges our country faces now and in the long term.

We are less than a decade removed from the worst economic crisis in most of our lifetimes, and we have a chance to rebound in a way that builds a foundation for our country to thrive for generations, but we have to seize that opportunity.

Rather than giving resources to people and businesses that already have them, we are calling for targeted investments in programs that grow our economy, create good-paying jobs, and provide real support for working families and real security in retirement.

Rather than sending thank-you notes to the corporations that bankrupt this country, we have an opportunity to make vital public investments that lead to a brighter future rebuilding roads, bridges, other critical infrastructure, all of which lead to good jobs now and in the long run.

Rather than giving the President a multimillion-dollar refund on taxes he refuses to disclose, we can invest in retirement security for seniors who didn’t inherit millions. We can invest in affordable education so young people do not have to grow up wealthy to have a shot at earning it in their future careers.

Instead of taking healthcare away from people, straining emergency rooms, and making Americans sicker, we have an opportunity to continue investing in affordable quality healthcare for all of us, finally eliminating a great burden on American families, a burden that no other developed nation shares.

This budget is an opportunity for our country to invest in our future, and if we adopt the Republican budget plan, we will have a responsibility.

Democrats believe in a government that prioritizes American families, and they should be the priorities of this Congress. I, therefore, urge my colleagues to oppose the Republican budget and support the Democratic alternative.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Tennessee is recognized for 15 minutes.

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this budget substitute, which is, put simply, an abdication of our fiscal responsibility as a governing body.

Our country is $20 trillion in debt, with $9 trillion added to the national debt during the last 10 years. We have the responsibility to our children and our grandchildren to stop this Congress’ addiction to spending. It is a responsibility that I take seriously; it is a responsibility that the members of my committee take seriously; and it is a responsibility that Republicans in the House take seriously.

Clearly, it is not a responsibility that our friends across the aisle take seriously. Our budget works to end the addiction to spending that has dominated Washington for far too long.

The House budget, passed out of committee with unanimous Republican support in July, begins to address our spending addiction by balancing the budget over 10 years so that we can stop jamming down our national debt, and it addresses mandatory spending in a significant way for the first time since 1997.

This budget substitute does quite the opposite. The Democrats’ budget raises taxes by $2.7 trillion, which would be the largest tax increase in U.S. history. It increases spending by $6.2 trillion, compared to the budget passed by my committee. It never balances, with a deficit in 2027 of $852 billion.

What we hear from the other side of the aisle and what we see in this budget is simply more of the same: more spending, more tax increases, and more debt. I don’t think that is acceptable, and neither do the American people.

Since we began this budget debate yesterday, my counterparts on the other side of the aisle have been throwing out misleading numbers about our budget and our tax reform effort in order to hide the fact that they offer no new solutions to the most pressing problems our country faces.

Here is a number that they should keep in mind while they discuss this fiscally irresponsible substitute. The national debt for every person is over $63,000. Every man, woman, and even child in our country has a $63,000 weight hanging over their heads. Our budget takes real steps to fix this crisis. This budget substitute does not.

Honorably, it is as simple as that.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to reject this Democrat substitute, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Chair, once again, House Republicans are determined to visit cruel and unusual punishment on the American people by presenting a budget that is reckless, regressive, and reprehensible. It is a budget that will hurt working families, middle class folks, senior citizens, the poor, the sick, the afflicted, veterans, and rural America.

It is a budget that will erode the social safety net, end Medicare as we know it, rip away health insurance from 23 million Americans, and impose billions and billions of dollars in life-altering debt on younger Americans.

It is outrageous that this is all being done to enact tax cuts for the wealthy and the well-off, tax cuts for the privileged few, tax cuts for special interests here in Washington, D.C.

This parade of horribles is being jammed down the throats of this country so that everyday Americans can subsidize the lifestyles of the rich and shameless.

We deserve better. The Democratic budget will invest in transportation and infrastructure, invest in education and job training, invest in the social safety net, invest in research and development, invest in affordable housing, and invest in the wellbeing of everyday Americans.

The Republican budget is a raw deal. The Democratic budget is a better deal, focused on better jobs, better wages, and a better future. It is worthy of our support.

The Acting CHAIR. The Committee will rise informally.

The Speaker pro tempore. The Committee will resume its sitting.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 117. An act to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit a report regarding certain plans regarding assistance to applicants and grantees during the response to an emergency or disaster.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Committee will resume its sitting.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

The Committee resumed its sitting.