

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 141

To reduce the pay of Members of the House of Representatives if a Speaker is not elected on the first day of a Congress.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2023

Ms. CRAIG introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To reduce the pay of Members of the House of Representatives if a Speaker is not elected on the first day of a Congress.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “No Pay for Disarray
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REDUCTION OF PAY OF MEMBERS OF HOUSE IF**
7 **SPEAKER IS NOT ELECTED.**

8 (a) REDUCTION OF PAY.—

1 (1) REDUCTION.—If, by the end of the first day
2 of a Congress, the House of Representatives has not
3 elected a Speaker, the annual rate of pay applicable
4 under section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganiza-
5 tion Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501) with respect to
6 each Member of the House of Representatives for
7 the year shall be reduced by an amount equal to the
8 product of—

9 (A) an amount equal to one day’s worth of
10 pay under such annual rate; and

11 (B) the number of 24-hour periods occur-
12 ring during the Congress during which no
13 Speaker has been elected for the Congress.

14 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall
15 apply with respect to the One Hundred Nineteenth
16 Congress and each succeeding Congress.

17 (b) RULE FOR ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CON-
18 GRESS.—

19 (1) HOLDING SALARIES IN ESCROW.—If, by the
20 end of the first day of the One Hundred Eighteenth
21 Congress, the House of Representatives has not
22 elected a Speaker, the Chief Administrative Officer
23 of the House of Representatives, or an employee of
24 the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer who is

1 designated by the Chief Administrative Officer to
2 carry out this Act, shall—

3 (A) deposit in an escrow account and ex-
4 clude from the payments otherwise required to
5 be made for the compensation of each Member
6 of the House of Representatives with respect to
7 a pay period during which the House has not
8 elected a Speaker an amount equal to the prod-
9 uct of—

10 (i) the daily rate of pay of the Mem-
11 ber under section 601(a) of the Legislative
12 Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C.
13 4501); and

14 (ii) the number of 24-hour periods
15 during which no Speaker has been elected
16 for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress;
17 and

18 (B) release amounts deposited in an es-
19 crow account under subparagraph (A) to such
20 Member of the House of Representatives only
21 upon the expiration of the period described in
22 paragraph (2).

23 (2) PERIOD DESCRIBED.—The period described
24 in this paragraph is the period that—

1 (A) begins on the first day of the One
2 Hundred Eighteenth Congress; and

3 (B) ends on the earlier of—

4 (i) the date on the House elects a
5 Speaker for the One Hundred Eighteenth
6 Congress; or

7 (ii) the last day of the One Hundred
8 Eighteenth Congress.

9 (3) WITHHOLDING AND REMITTANCE OF
10 AMOUNTS FROM PAYMENTS HELD IN ESCROW.—The
11 Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Rep-
12 resentatives, or an employee of the Office of the
13 Chief Administrative Officer who is designated by
14 the Chief Administrative Officer to carry out this
15 Act, shall provide for the same withholding and re-
16 mittance with respect to a payment deposited in an
17 escrow account under paragraph (1) that would
18 apply to the payment if the payment were not sub-
19 ject to paragraph (1).

20 (4) RELEASE OF AMOUNTS AT END OF THE
21 CONGRESS.—In order to ensure that this subsection
22 is carried out in a manner that shall not vary the
23 compensation of Representatives in violation of the
24 twenty-seventh amendment to the Constitution of
25 the United States, the Chief Administrative Officer

1 of the House of Representatives, or an employee of
2 the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer who is
3 designated by the Chief Administrative Officer to
4 carry out this Act, shall release for payment to
5 Members of the House of Representatives any
6 amounts remaining in any escrow account under this
7 section on the last day of the One Hundred Eight-
8 eenth Congress.

9 (c) MEMBER DEFINED.—In this section, the term
10 “Member of the House of Representatives” means an indi-
11 vidual serving in a position in the House of Representa-
12 tives which is covered under subparagraph (A), (B), or
13 (C) of section 601(a)(1) of the Legislative Reorganization
14 Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501(1)).

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