

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1162

AN ACT

To establish procedures to provide for a deficit reduction lock-box and related downward adjustment of discretionary spending limits.

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To establish procedures to provide for a deficit reduction lock-box and related downward adjustment of discretionary spending limits.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Deficit Reduction
3 Lock-box Act of 1995”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFICIT REDUCTION LOCK-BOX LEDGER.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF LEDGER.—Title III of the
6 Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by adding
7 at the end the following new section:

8 “DEFICIT REDUCTION LOCK-BOX LEDGER

9 “SEC. 314. (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF LEDGER.—The
10 Director of the Congressional Budget Office (hereinafter
11 in this section referred to as the “Director”) shall main-
12 tain a ledger to be known as the “Deficit Reduction Lock-
13 box Ledger”. The Ledger shall be divided into entries cor-
14 responding to the subcommittees of the Committees on
15 Appropriations. Each entry shall consist of three parts:
16 the ‘House Lock-box Balance’; the ‘Senate Lock-box Bal-
17 ance’; and the ‘Joint House-Senate Lock-box Balance’.

18 “(b) COMPONENTS OF LEDGER.—Each component in
19 an entry shall consist only of amounts credited to it under
20 subsection (c). No entry of a negative amount shall be
21 made.

22 “(c) CREDIT OF AMOUNTS TO LEDGER.—(1) The Di-
23 rector shall, upon the engrossment of any appropriation
24 bill by the House of Representatives and upon the engross-
25 ment of that bill by the Senate, credit to the applicable
26 entry balance of that House amounts of new budget au-

1 thority and outlays equal to the net amounts of reductions
2 in new budget authority and in outlays resulting from
3 amendments agreed to by that House to that bill.

4 “(2) The Director shall, upon the engrossment of
5 Senate amendments to any appropriation bill, credit to the
6 applicable Joint House-Senate Lock-box Balance the
7 amounts of new budget authority and outlays equal to—

8 “(A) an amount equal to one-half of the sum of
9 (i) the amount of new budget authority in the House
10 Lock-box Balance plus (ii) the amount of new budg-
11 et authority in the Senate Lock-box Balance for that
12 bill; and

13 “(B) an amount equal to one-half of the sum
14 of (i) the amount of outlays in the House Lock-box
15 Balance plus (ii) the amount of outlays in the Sen-
16 ate Lock-box Balance for that bill.

17 “(3) CALCULATION OF LOCK-BOX SAVINGS IN SEN-
18 ATE.—For purposes of calculating under this section the
19 net amounts of reductions in new budget authority and
20 in outlays resulting from amendments agreed to by the
21 Senate on an appropriation bill, the amendments reported
22 to the Senate by its Committee on Appropriations shall
23 be considered to be part of the original text of the bill.

24 “(d) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term
25 ‘appropriation bill’ means any general or special appro-

1 priation bill, and any bill or joint resolution making sup-
 2 plemental, deficiency, or continuing appropriations
 3 through the end of a fiscal year.”.

4 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
 5 tents set forth in section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget
 6 and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by in-
 7 serting after the item relating to section 313 the following
 8 new item:

“Sec. 314. Deficit reduction lock-box ledger.”.

9 **SEC. 3. TALLY DURING HOUSE CONSIDERATION.**

10 There shall be available to Members in the House of
 11 Representatives during consideration of any appropria-
 12 tions bill by the House a running tally of the amendments
 13 adopted reflecting increases and decreases of budget au-
 14 thority in the bill as reported.

15 **SEC. 4. DOWNWARD ADJUSTMENT OF 602(a) ALLOCATIONS**
 16 **AND SECTION 602(b) SUBALLOCATIONS.**

17 (a) ALLOCATIONS.—Section 602(a) of the Congres-
 18 sional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by adding at the
 19 end the following new paragraph:

20 “(5) Upon the engrossment of Senate amend-
 21 ments to any appropriation bill (as defined in section
 22 314(d)) for a fiscal year, the amounts allocated
 23 under paragraph (1) or (2) to the Committee on Ap-
 24 propriations of each House upon the adoption of the
 25 most recent concurrent resolution on the budget for

1 that fiscal year shall be adjusted downward by the
2 amounts credited to the applicable Joint House-Sen-
3 ate Lock-box Balance under section 314(c)(2). The
4 revised levels of budget authority and outlays shall
5 be submitted to each House by the chairman of the
6 Committee on the Budget of that House and shall
7 be printed in the Congressional Record.”.

8 (b) SUBALLOCATIONS.—Section 602(b)(1) of the
9 Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by adding
10 at the end the following new sentence: “Whenever an ad-
11 justment is made under subsection (a)(5) to an allocation
12 under that subsection, the chairman of the Committee on
13 Appropriations of each House shall make downward ad-
14 justments in the most recent suballocations of new budget
15 authority and outlays under subparagraph (A) to the ap-
16 propriate subcommittees of that committee in the total
17 amounts of those adjustments under section 314(c)(2).
18 The revised suballocations shall be submitted to each
19 House by the chairman of the Committee on Appropria-
20 tions of that House and shall be printed in the Congres-
21 sional Record.”.

22 **SEC. 5. PERIODIC REPORTING OF LEDGER STATEMENTS.**

23 Section 308(b)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act
24 of 1974 is amended by adding at the end the following
25 new sentence: “Such reports shall also include an up-to-

1 date tabulation of the amounts contained in the ledger and
2 each entry established by section 314(a).”.

3 **SEC. 6. DOWNWARD ADJUSTMENT OF DISCRETIONARY**
4 **SPENDING LIMITS.**

5 The discretionary spending limits for new budget au-
6 thority and outlays for any fiscal year set forth in section
7 601(a)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as
8 adjusted in strict conformance with section 251 of the Bal-
9 anced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985,
10 shall be reduced by the amounts set forth in the final regu-
11 lar appropriation bill for that fiscal year or joint resolution
12 making continuing appropriations through the end of that
13 fiscal year. Those amounts shall be the sums of the Joint
14 House-Senate Lock-box Balances for that fiscal year, as
15 calculated under section 602(a)(5) of the Congressional
16 Budget Act of 1974. That bill or joint resolution shall con-
17 tain the following statement of law: “As required by sec-
18 tion 6 of the Deficit Reduction Lock-box Act of 1995, for
19 fiscal year [insert appropriate fiscal year] and each out-
20 year, the adjusted discretionary spending limit for new
21 budget authority shall be reduced by \$ [insert appropriate
22 amount of reduction] and the adjusted discretionary limit
23 for outlays shall be reduced by \$ [insert appropriate
24 amount of reduction] for the budget year and each out-
25 year.” Notwithstanding section 904(c) of the Congres-

1 sional Budget Act of 1974, section 306 of that Act as it
2 applies to this statement shall be waived. This adjustment
3 shall be reflected in reports under sections 254(g) and
4 254(h) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit
5 Control Act of 1985.

6 **SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—This Act shall apply to all appro-
8 priation bills making appropriations for fiscal year 1996
9 or any subsequent fiscal year.

10 (b) FY96 APPLICATION.—In the case of any appro-
11 priation bill for fiscal year 1996 engrossed by the House
12 of Representatives after August 4, 1995 and before the
13 date of enactment of this bill, the Director of the Congres-
14 sional Budget Office, the Director of the Office of Man-
15 agement and Budget, and the Committees on Appropria-
16 tions and the Committees on the Budget of the House of
17 Representatives and of the Senate shall, within 10 cal-
18 endar days after that date of enactment of this Act, carry
19 out the duties required by this Act and amendments made
20 by it that occur after the date this Act was engrossed by
21 the House of Representatives.

22 (c) FY96 ALLOCATIONS.—The duties of the Director
23 of the Congressional Budget Office and of the Committees
24 on the Budget and on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
25 resentatives pursuant to this Act and the amendments

1 made by it regarding appropriation bills for fiscal year
2 1996 shall be based upon the revised section 602(a) alloca-
3 tions in effect on August 4, 1995.

4 (d) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term
5 “appropriation bill” means any general or special appro-
6 priation bill, and any bill or joint resolution making sup-
7 plemental, deficiency, or continuing appropriations
8 through the end of a fiscal year.

Passed the House of Representatives September 13,
1995.

Attest:

Clerk.