

Calendar No. 243

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 1930**

To prohibit earmarks.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 30, 2011

Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mrs. McCASKILL, and Mr. RUBIO) introduced the following bill; which was read the first time

DECEMBER 1, 2011

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

A BILL

To prohibit earmarks.

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 “Earmark Elimination
 5 Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON EARMARKS.**

7 (a) BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS, AMENDMENTS,
 8 AMENDMENTS BETWEEN THE HOUSES, AND CON-
 9 FERENCE REPORTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—It shall not be in order in
2 the Senate to consider a bill or resolution introduced
3 in the Senate or the House of Representatives,
4 amendment, amendment between the Houses, or
5 conference report that includes an earmark.

6 (2) PROCEDURE.—Upon a point of order being
7 made by any Senator pursuant to paragraph (1)
8 against an earmark, and such point of order being
9 sustained, such earmark shall be deemed stricken.

10 (b) CONFERENCE REPORT AND AMENDMENT BE-
11 TWEEN THE HOUSES PROCEDURE.—When the Senate is
12 considering a conference report on, or an amendment be-
13 tween the Houses, upon a point of order being made by
14 any Senator pursuant to subsection (a), and such point
15 of order being sustained, such material contained in such
16 conference report shall be deemed stricken, and the Senate
17 shall proceed to consider the question of whether the Sen-
18 ate shall recede from its amendment and concur with a
19 further amendment, or concur in the House amendment
20 with a further amendment, as the case may be, which fur-
21 ther amendment shall consist of only that portion of the
22 conference report or House amendment, as the case may
23 be, not so stricken. Any such motion in the Senate shall
24 be debatable under the same conditions as was the con-
25 ference report. In any case in which such point of order

1 is sustained against a conference report (or Senate amend-
2 ment derived from such conference report by operation of
3 this subsection), no further amendment shall be in order.

4 (c) WAIVER.—Any Senator may move to waive any
5 or all points of order under this section by an affirmative
6 vote of two-thirds of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

7 (d) DEFINITIONS.—

8 (1) EARMARK.—For the purpose of this section,
9 the term “earmark” means a provision or report
10 language included primarily at the request of a Sen-
11 ator or Member of the House of Representatives as
12 certified under paragraph 1(a)(1) of rule XLIV of
13 the Standing Rules of the Senate—

14 (A) providing, authorizing, or recom-
15 mending a specific amount of discretionary
16 budget authority, credit authority, or other
17 spending authority for a contract, loan, loan
18 guarantee, grant, loan authority, or other ex-
19 penditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a
20 specific State, locality or Congressional district,
21 other than through a statutory or administra-
22 tive formula-driven or competitive award proc-
23 ess;

24 (B) that—

1 (i) provides a Federal tax deduction,
2 credit, exclusion, or preference to a par-
3 ticular beneficiary or limited group of
4 beneficiaries under the Internal Revenue
5 Code of 1986; and

6 (ii) contains eligibility criteria that are
7 not uniform in application with respect to
8 potential beneficiaries of such provision; or

9 (C) modifying the Harmonized Tariff
10 Schedule of the United States in a manner that
11 benefits 10 or fewer entities.

12 (2) DETERMINATION BY THE SENATE.—In the
13 event the Chair is unable to ascertain whether or not
14 the offending provision constitutes an earmark as
15 defined in this subsection, the question of whether
16 the provision constitutes an earmark shall be sub-
17 mitted to the Senate and be decided without debate
18 by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Members,
19 duly chosen and sworn.

20 (e) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply to
21 any authorization of appropriations to a Federal entity if
22 such authorization is not specifically targeted to a State,
23 locality or congressional district.

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