

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2313

To prohibit congressional recesses until Congress adopts a concurrent resolution on the budget that results in a balanced federal budget by fiscal year 2024 and to control congressional travel budgets.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 8, 2014

Mr. WALSH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To prohibit congressional recesses until Congress adopts a concurrent resolution on the budget that results in a balanced federal budget by fiscal year 2024 and to control congressional travel budgets.

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 “Do Your Job Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds the following:

7 (1) The Federal debt exceeds
8 \$17,000,000,000,000 and continues to grow.

1 (2) It is the responsibility of Members of Con-
2 gress to enact and implement policies that encourage
3 economic growth and job creation, including a bal-
4 anced budget.

5 (3) In 2013, the House of Representatives was
6 in session only 160 days and the Senate was in ses-
7 sion only 156 days.

8 (4) This means that, according to Federal Re-
9 serve Economic Data, the average American works
10 10 more weeks per year than Congress is in session.

11 (5) Congressional recess in a time of excessive
12 national debt is a lost opportunity to reach agree-
13 ment about a balanced budget.

14 **SEC. 3. NO CONGRESSIONAL RECESSES.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on
16 the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the date
17 specified in subsection (b), neither the Senate nor the
18 House of Representatives may recess or stand adjourned
19 for a period of longer than 24 hours.

20 (b) BALANCED BUDGET AGREED TO.—The date de-
21 scribed in this subsection is the date of enactment of a
22 concurrent resolution on the budget that establishes a level
23 of deficit of \$0 or a surplus by not later than fiscal year
24 2024.

1 (c) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND
2 SENATE.—This section is enacted by Congress—

3 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
4 the Senate and House of Representatives, respec-
5 tively, and as such it is deemed a part of the rules
6 of each House, respectively, and it supersedes other
7 rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with
8 such rules; and

9 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional
10 right of either House to change the rules (so far as
11 relating to the procedure of that House) at any time,
12 in the same manner, and to the same extent as in
13 the case of any other rule of that House.

14 **SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL BUDGETS.**

15 (a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “em-
16 ployee”, relating to a Member of Congress, means any in-
17 dividual employed by the Member of Congress in—

18 (1) the office of the Member of Congress;

19 (2) the office of a standing, select, or joint com-
20 mittee of Congress (or a subcommittee thereof); or

21 (3) a leadership office of the Senate or the
22 House of Representatives.

23 (b) SUBMISSION OF BUDGET.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date by
25 which the President is required to submit the budget

1 of the President for a fiscal year under section 1105
2 of title 31, United States Code, each Member of
3 Congress shall submit a budget for the fiscal year
4 for official travel by the Member of Congress and
5 employees of the Member of Congress in accordance
6 with paragraph (2).

7 (2) SUBMISSION.—The budget required under
8 paragraph (1) shall—

9 (A) in the case of a Senator, be submitted
10 to the Secretary of the Senate; and

11 (B) in the case of a Member of the House
12 of Representatives, shall be submitted to the
13 Chief Administrative Officer of the House of
14 Representatives.

15 (c) RESCISSION OF UNSPENT TRAVEL FUNDS.—Ef-
16 fective on October 1 of each fiscal year, any amounts made
17 available for official travel by a Member of Congress or
18 an employee of the Member of Congress during the pre-
19 vious fiscal year that are not obligated shall be rescinded
20 and used for deficit reduction.

○