

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 744

To rescind certain Federal funds identified by States as unwanted and use the funds to reduce the Federal debt.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 16, 2015

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. COATS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. RISCH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Appropriations

A BILL

To rescind certain Federal funds identified by States as unwanted and use the funds to reduce the Federal debt.

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 “Returned Exclusively
5 For Unpaid National Debt Act” or the “REFUND Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. USE OF UNWANTED FEDERAL FUNDS TO REDUCE**
7 **FEDERAL DEBT.**

8 (a) RESCISSION OF UNWANTED FEDERAL FUNDS.—

9 There is rescinded, from any Federal funds required to
10 be allocated by formula among all States that agree to

1 use such funds for a specified purpose, an amount equal
 2 to the amount of such funds that would have otherwise
 3 been allocated to a State that identifies such funds under
 4 subsection (b) as unwanted.

5 (b) IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDS.—Subsection (a)
 6 shall only apply if, not later than the last date on which
 7 an application or State plan is required to be submitted
 8 in order for a State to be allocated, in an annual or bien-
 9 nial budget cycle, funds described in such subsection—

10 (1) the State legislature with jurisdiction over
 11 such budget cycle adopts a concurrent resolution
 12 identifying the funds as unwanted; and

13 (2) the State submits notice of the resolution
 14 described in paragraph (1) to the agency head re-
 15 sponsible for allocation of the funds, in such form
 16 and manner and containing such information as the
 17 agency head determines appropriate to make the de-
 18 termination in subsection (c).

19 (c) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT TO BE RE-
 20 SCINDED.—An agency head that receives notice described
 21 in subsection (b)(2) shall determine and report to the Of-
 22 fice of Management and Budget the amount to be re-
 23 scinded under subsection (a).

24 (d) USE FOR REDUCTION OF FEDERAL DEBT.—
 25 Amounts rescinded under subsection (a) shall be deposited

1 by the Secretary of the Treasury in the account entitled
2 “Gifts to the United States for Reduction of the Public
3 Debt” and used to reduce the Federal debt as provided
4 in section 3113(d) of title 31, United States Code.

5 (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary of the Treas-
6 ury shall submit to the Congress each year a report identi-
7 fying the amount deposited in the Treasury under sub-
8 section (d) with respect to each State in such year.

9 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) The term “agency head” means the head of
11 an agency of the Federal Government.

12 (2) The term “State” means—

13 (A) each of the several States;

14 (B) the District of Columbia; or

15 (C) any commonwealth, territory, or pos-
16 session of the United States.

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