

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. CON. RES. 11

Providing for an annual joint hearing of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate and the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 29, 2021

Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. ROSEN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Providing for an annual joint hearing of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate and the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch.

1        *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*  
2        *concurring),*

3        **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This resolution may be cited as the “Fiscal State of  
5        the Nation Resolution”.

1 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL JOINT HEARING OF BUDGET COMMITTEES**  
2 **TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION BY THE COMP-**  
3 **TROLLER GENERAL.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 45 days (excluding  
5 Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) after the date on which  
6 the Secretary of the Treasury submits to Congress the au-  
7 dited financial statement required under paragraph (1) of  
8 section 331(e) of title 31, United States Code, on a date  
9 agreed upon by the chairmen of the Budget Committees  
10 and the Comptroller General of the United States, the  
11 chairmen shall conduct a joint hearing to receive a presen-  
12 tation from the Comptroller General—

13 (1) reviewing the findings of the audit required  
14 under paragraph (2) of such section; and

15 (2) providing, with respect to the information  
16 included by the Secretary in the report accom-  
17 panying such audited financial statement, an anal-  
18 ysis of the financial position and condition of the  
19 Federal Government, including financial measures  
20 (such as the net operating cost, income, budget defi-  
21 cits, or budget surpluses) and sustainability meas-  
22 ures (such as the long-term fiscal projection or social  
23 insurance projection) described in such report.

24 (b) **PRESENTATION OF STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE**  
25 **WITH GAO STRATEGIES AND MEANS.**—The Comptroller  
26 General of the United States shall ensure that the presen-

1 tation at each joint hearing conducted under subsection  
2 (a) is made in accordance with the Strategies and Means  
3 of the Government Accountability Office, to ensure that  
4 the presentation will provide professional, objective, fact-  
5 based, nonpartisan, nonideological, fair, and balanced in-  
6 formation to the Members attending the hearing.

7 (c) RULES APPLICABLE TO HEARING.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each joint hearing con-  
9 ducted by the chairmen of the Budget Committees  
10 under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accord-  
11 ance with Standing Rules of the Senate and the  
12 Rules of the House of Representatives which apply  
13 to such a hearing, including the provisions requiring  
14 hearings conducted by committees to be open to the  
15 public, including to radio, television, and still pho-  
16 tography coverage.

17 (2) PERMITTING PARTICIPATION BY SENATORS  
18 AND MEMBERS NOT SERVING ON BUDGET COMMIT-  
19 TEES.—Notwithstanding any provision of the Stand-  
20 ing Rules of the Senate or the Rules of the House  
21 of Representatives, any Senator and any Member of  
22 the House of Representatives (including a Delegate  
23 or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) may  
24 participate in a joint hearing under subsection (a) in  
25 the same manner and to the same extent as a Sen-

1       ator or Member of the House of Representatives who  
2       is a member of either of the Budget Committees.

3       (d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Budget  
4 Committees” means the Committee on the Budget of the  
5 Senate and the Committee on the Budget of the House  
6 of Representatives.

7       (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The requirement under sub-  
8 section (a) shall apply with respect to any audited finan-  
9 cial statement under section 331(e)(1) of title 31, United  
10 States Code, submitted on or after the date of adoption  
11 of this resolution.

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