

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1259

AN ACT

To amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to protect Social Security surpluses through strengthened budgetary enforcement mechanisms.

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To amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to protect Social Security surpluses through strengthened budgetary enforcement mechanisms.

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 “Social Security and
3 Medicare Safe Deposit Box Act of 1999”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

6 (1) the Congress and the President joined to-
7 gether to enact the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 to
8 end decades of deficit spending;

9 (2) strong economic growth and fiscal discipline
10 have resulted in strong revenue growth into the
11 Treasury;

12 (3) the combination of these factors is expected
13 to enable the Government to balance its budget with-
14 out the Social Security surpluses;

15 (4) the Congress has chosen to allocate in this
16 Act all Social Security surpluses toward saving So-
17 cial Security and Medicare;

18 (5) amounts so allocated are even greater than
19 those reserved for Social Security and Medicare in
20 the President’s budget, will not require an increase
21 in the statutory debt limit, and will reduce debt held
22 by the public until Social Security and Medicare re-
23 form is enacted; and

24 (6) this strict enforcement is needed to lock
25 away the amounts necessary for legislation to save
26 Social Security and Medicare.

1 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to pro-
2 hibit the use of Social Security surpluses for any purpose
3 other than reforming Social Security and Medicare.

4 **SEC. 3. PROTECTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SURPLUSES.**

5 (a) POINTS OF ORDER TO PROTECT SOCIAL SECU-
6 RITY SURPLUSES.—Section 312 of the Congressional
7 Budget Act of 1974 is amended by adding at the end the
8 following new subsection:

9 “(g) POINTS OF ORDER TO PROTECT SOCIAL SECU-
10 RITY SURPLUSES.—

11 “(1) CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS ON THE
12 BUDGET.—It shall not be in order in the House of
13 Representatives or the Senate to consider any con-
14 current resolution on the budget, or conference re-
15 port thereon or amendment thereto, that would set
16 forth an on-budget deficit for any fiscal year.

17 “(2) SUBSEQUENT LEGISLATION.—It shall not
18 be in order in the House of Representatives or the
19 Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, amend-
20 ment, motion, or conference report if—

21 “(A) the enactment of that bill or resolu-
22 tion as reported;

23 “(B) the adoption and enactment of that
24 amendment; or

1 “(C) the enactment of that bill or resolu-
2 tion in the form recommended in that con-
3 ference report,
4 would cause or increase an on-budget deficit for any
5 fiscal year.

6 “(3) EXCEPTION.—The point of order set forth
7 in paragraph (2) shall not apply to Social Security
8 reform legislation or Medicare reform legislation as
9 defined by section 5(c) of the Social Security and
10 Medicare Safe Deposit Box Act of 1999.

11 “(4) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this sec-
12 tion, the term ‘on-budget deficit’, when applied to a
13 fiscal year, means the deficit in the budget as set
14 forth in the most recently agreed to concurrent reso-
15 lution on the budget pursuant to section 301(a)(3)
16 for that fiscal year.”.

17 (b) CONTENT OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE
18 BUDGET.—Section 301(a) of the Congressional Budget
19 Act of 1974 is amended by redesignating paragraphs (6)
20 and (7) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively, and by
21 inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

22 “(6) the receipts, outlays, and surplus or deficit
23 in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance
24 Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance

1 Trust Fund, combined, established by title II of the
2 Social Security Act;”.

3 (c) SUPER MAJORITY REQUIREMENT.—(1) Section
4 904(c)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is
5 amended by inserting “312(g),” after “310(d)(2),”.

6 (2) Section 904(d)(2) of the Congressional Budget
7 Act of 1974 is amended by inserting “312(g),” after
8 “310(d)(2),”.

9 **SEC. 4. REMOVING SOCIAL SECURITY FROM BUDGET PRO-**
10 **NOUNCEMENTS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Any official statement issued by
12 the Office of Management and Budget, the Congressional
13 Budget Office, or any other agency or instrumentality of
14 the Federal Government of surplus or deficit totals of the
15 budget of the United States Government as submitted by
16 the President or of the surplus or deficit totals of the con-
17 gressional budget, and any description of, or reference to,
18 such totals in any official publication or material issued
19 by either of such Offices or any other such agency or in-
20 strumentality, shall exclude the outlays and receipts of the
21 old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program under
22 title II of the Social Security Act (including the Federal
23 Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the
24 Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund) and the related
25 provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

1 (b) SEPARATE SOCIAL SECURITY BUDGET DOCU-
2 MENTS.—The excluded outlays and receipts of the old-age,
3 survivors, and disability insurance program under title II
4 of the Social Security Act shall be submitted in separate
5 Social Security budget documents.

6 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—This Act shall take effect upon
8 the date of its enactment and the amendments made by
9 this Act shall apply only to fiscal year 2000 and subse-
10 quent fiscal years.

11 (b) EXPIRATION.—Sections 301(a)(6) and 312(g)
12 shall expire upon the enactment of Social Security reform
13 legislation and Medicare reform legislation.

14 (c) DEFINITIONS.—

15 (1) SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM LEGISLATION.—

16 The term “Social Security reform legislation” means
17 a bill or a joint resolution that is enacted into law
18 and includes a provision stating the following: “For
19 purposes of the Social Security and Medicare Safe
20 Deposit Box Act of 1999, this Act constitutes Social
21 Security reform legislation.”.

22 (2) The term “Medicare reform legislation”
23 means a bill or a joint resolution that is enacted into
24 law and includes a provision stating the following:
25 “For purposes of the Social Security and Medicare

1 Safe Deposit Box Act of 1999, this Act constitutes
2 Medicare reform legislation.”.

Passed the House of Representatives May 26, 1999.

Attest:

Clerk.