

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To require timely completion of appropriations.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 2d Sess.

H. R. _____

To implement the recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mrs. ERNST

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:

2 **SEC. ____ . NO BUDGET, NO RECESS FOR THE SENATE.**

3 Section 300 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974

4 (2 U.S.C. 631), as amended by section 103, is amended—

5 (1) by striking “The timetable” and inserting

6 the following:

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The timetable”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(b) NO BUDGET, NO RECESS FOR THE SENATE.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The procedures specified in

11 paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) shall apply in the Sen-

12 ate on and after October 1 of each year, if the Sen-

13 ate has not passed, individually or collectively, all

1 the regular appropriations bills for the fiscal year
2 beginning on such October 1.

3 “(2) NO RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT.—During a
4 period described in paragraph (1), it shall not be in
5 order in the Senate to move to recess or to adjourn
6 for more than 8 hours.

7 “(3) NO OFFICIAL TRAVEL.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
9 subparagraph (B), during a period described in
10 paragraph (1), no amounts may be obligated or
11 expended for official travel by a Senator.

12 “(B) RETURN TO DC.—If a Senator is
13 away from the seat of Government when a pe-
14 riod described in paragraph (1) begins, funds
15 may be obligated and expended for official trav-
16 el by the Senator to return to the seat of Gov-
17 ernment.

18 “(4) LIVE QUORUM REQUIREMENT.—

19 “(A) DETERMINATION OF PRESENCE OF A
20 QUORUM.—Notwithstanding any provision of
21 the Standing Rules of the Senate, in the Sen-
22 ate, during each day during a period described
23 in paragraph (1), the Presiding Officer shall di-
24 rect the Clerk to call the roll to ascertain the
25 presence of a quorum—

1 “(i) at noon; and

2 “(ii) at 6:00 p.m.

3 “(B) LACK OF QUORUM.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—If, upon a calling
5 of the roll under subparagraph (A), it shall
6 be ascertained that a quorum is not
7 present—

8 “(I) the Presiding Officer shall
9 direct the Clerk to call the names of
10 any absent Senators; and

11 “(II) following the calling of the
12 names under subclause (I), the Pre-
13 siding Officer shall, without inter-
14 vening motion or debate, submit to
15 the Senate by a yea-and-nay vote the
16 question: ‘Shall the Sergeant-at-Arms
17 be directed to request the attendance
18 of absent Senators?’.

19 “(ii) DIRECTION TO COMPEL ATTEND-
20 ANCE.—If a quorum is not present 30
21 minutes after the time at which the vote
22 on a question submitted under clause
23 (i)(II) starts, the Presiding Officer shall,
24 without intervening motion or debate, sub-
25 mit to the Senate by a yea-and-nay vote

1 the question: ‘Shall the Sergeant-at-Arms
2 be directed to compel the attendance of ab-
3 sent Senators?’.

4 “(iii) ARREST OF ABSENT SEN-
5 ATORS.—Effective 30 minutes after the
6 Sergeant-at-Arms is directed to compel the
7 attendance of absent Senators under clause
8 (ii), if any Senator not excused under rule
9 XII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is
10 not in attendance, the Senate shall be
11 deemed to have agreed an order that reads
12 as follows: ‘Ordered, That the Sergeant-at-
13 Arms be directed to arrest absent Sen-
14 ators, that warrants for the arrests of all
15 Senators not sick nor excused be issued
16 under the signature of the Presiding Offi-
17 cer and attested by the Secretary, and that
18 such warrants be executed without delay.’.

19 “(iv) REPORTS.—Not less frequently
20 than once per hour during proceedings to
21 compel the attendance of absent Senators,
22 the Sergeant-at-Arms shall submit to the
23 Senate a report on absent Senators, which
24 shall—

25 “(I) be laid before the Senate;

1 “(II) identify each Senator whose
2 absence is excused;

3 “(III) identify each Senator who
4 is absent without excuse; and

5 “(IV) for each Senator identified
6 under subclause (III), provide infor-
7 mation on the current location of the
8 Senator.

9 “(C) REGAINING THE FLOOR.—If a Sen-
10 ator had been recognized to speak at the time
11 a call of the roll to ascertain the presence of a
12 quorum was initiated under subparagraph (A),
13 and if the presence of a quorum is established,
14 that Senator shall be entitled to be recognized
15 to speak.

16 “(D) NO SUSPENSION OF REQUIRE-
17 MENTS.—The Presiding Officer may not enter-
18 tain a request to suspend the operation of this
19 paragraph by unanimous consent or motion.

20 “(E) CONSISTENCY WITH SENATE EMER-
21 GENCY PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES.—Nothing
22 in this paragraph shall be construed in a man-
23 ner that is inconsistent with S. Res. 296 (108th
24 Congress) or any other emergency procedures
25 or practices of the Senate.

1 “(5) NO WAIVER.—Notwithstanding section
2 904(b), paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this sub-
3 section may not be waived or suspended in the Sen-
4 ate or the House of Representatives.

5 “(6) PERMANENT LAW.—Notwithstanding sec-
6 tion 904(a), paragraph (3) of this subsection is not
7 enacted as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
8 the Senate or the House of Representatives.”.