

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4012

To guarantee honesty in budgeting.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 5, 1998

Mr. STEARNS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To guarantee honesty in budgeting.

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 “Honest Balanced
5 Budget Act of 1998”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The social security system runs an annual
9 surplus that is invested in Government bonds. The
10 Treasury thus borrows the surplus, which is pro-

1 jected to approach \$100,000,000,000 in 1999, and
2 spends these monies on programs unrelated to social
3 security.

4 (2) In fact, when the projected annual social
5 security trust fund surplus is removed from the
6 baseline calculations through 2003, a cumulative 5-
7 year deficit of about \$518,000,000,000 is added to
8 the national debt.

9 (3) The Congressional Budget Office projects
10 that the annual deficit will range from
11 \$136,000,000,000 to \$190,000,000,000 over the
12 5-year budget cycle and, further, the fictional social
13 security trust fund balance will rise from
14 \$730,000,000,000 to \$1,380,000,000,000 during
15 this period.

16 **SEC. 3. SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUND PROTECTION.**

17 The receipts and disbursements of the social security
18 trust funds included in the gross Federal debt shall not
19 be—

20 (1) included in the Federal budget baseline for
21 any fiscal year; and

22 (2) counted as new budget authority, outlays,
23 receipts, or deficit or surplus for purposes of—

24 (A) offsetting any tax decrease; and

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(B) offsetting any spending increase.

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