

technical assumptions and estimates of the spending and revenue effects of the legislative changes described in subsection (a)(2).

By Mr. SIMON:

S.J. Res. 15. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to allow the President to reduce or disapprove items of appropriations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PRESIDENTIAL LINE-ITEM VETO

• Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, every day our budget deficit grows larger and larger. In this time of crisis, we need to use every available weapon in our arsenal to fight the growing national deficit. It takes a constitutional amendment that requires Congress to pass a balanced budget; and it also takes a constitutional line-item veto amendment, which I introduce today.

This line-item veto amendment takes as its model the amendment that appears in the Constitution of my home State of Illinois. According to some studies, the Illinois State government is able to reduce its annual budget by about 3 percent because of the line-item veto. Similar success on a Federal level will bring us that much closer to reducing the national debt.

My amendment is a simple one. It is a constitutional amendment to permit the President to reduce or disapprove any item of appropriations, other than an item relating to the legislative branch. If the President does not reduce or disapprove an item of appropriations, it becomes law. If he does reduce it, then Congress is empowered to override the President's veto by a simple majority vote of each House.

There are those concerned that the line-item veto takes away power from the legislative branch and puts it into the hands of the executive. That might be true if this veto were like all others and required a two-thirds override. But my amendment is faithful to the principle of majority rule in passage of legislation. It threatens only those appropriations which do not have majority support and it is those appropriations items which often are the least credible in the eyes of the American people and most difficult to justify.

Forty-three States now have the line-item veto. As ranking member of the Constitution Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee, I—in conjunction with my friend from Colorado, who now serves as subcommittee chairman—hope to devote serious efforts toward securing passage of this important piece of legislation. The line-item veto is by no means a panacea. It is, however, a big step in the right direction for any serious attempt to put our fiscal affairs in order. •

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 2

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. FRIST] and the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. DOMENICI] were added as

cosponsors of S. 2, a bill to make certain laws applicable to the legislative branch of the Federal Government.

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2, supra.

S. 21

At the request of Mr. DOLE, the name of the Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill to terminate the United States arms embargo applicable to the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

S. 45

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 45, a bill to amend the Helium Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to sell Federal real and personal property held in connection with activities carried out under the Helium Act, and for other purposes.

S. 91

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the names of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. THURMOND], the Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER], and the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. CHAFEE] were added as cosponsors of S. 91, a bill to delay enforcement of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 until such time as Congress appropriates funds to implement such Act.

S. 145

At the request of Mr. GRAMM, the names of the Senator from Idaho [Mr. CRAIG] and the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] were added as cosponsors of S. 145, a bill to provide appropriate protection for the Constitutional guarantee of private property rights, and for other purposes.

S. 165

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT] was added as a cosponsor of S. 165, a bill to require a 60-vote supermajority in the Senate to pass any bill increasing taxes.

S. 185

At the request of Mr. BUMPERS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. PRYOR] was added as a cosponsor of S. 185, a bill to transfer the Fish Farming Experimental Laboratory in Stuttgart, Arkansas, to the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 38—ORIGINAL RESOLUTION REPORTED AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. HATFIELD, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the following original resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 38

Resolved, That, in carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, in-

cluding holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations is authorized from March 1, 1995, through February 28, 1996, and March 1, 1996, through February 28, 1997, in its discretion (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate, (2) to employ personnel, and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 1995, through February 28, 1996, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,823,586, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$175,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$5,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period March 1, 1996, through February 28, 1997, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,931,401, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$175,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$5,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 1996, and February 28, 1997, respectively.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required (1) for the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate, or (2) for the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (3) for the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery, United States Senate, or (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate, or (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 1995, through February 28, 1996, and March 1, 1996, through February 28, 1997, to be paid from the Appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations."

SENATE RESOLUTION 39—ORIGINAL RESOLUTION REPORTED AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES FOR THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,