



WTAS: Smucker Introduces Bipartisan Resolution Setting 3% Deficit Target to Stabilize National Debt

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WASHINGTON – Rep. Lloyd Smucker (PA-11), the Vice Chair of the House Budget Committee, joined his colleagues in introducing a resolution **expressing the sense of the House of Representatives** that the federal unified budget deficit should be reduced to 3 percent of GDP or less by 2030. The resolution sets a clear goal to change America’s fiscal position.

The following organizations endorse this resolution: Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget (CRFB), Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) Action, National Taxpayers Union Foundation, Cato Institute, R Street Institute, Americans for Prosperity, and more.

Here’s what they are saying (WTAS):

“This resolution is a first step toward fixing our fiscal trajectory and will help build bipartisan consensus in favor of a sustainable budget framework. A fiscal goal should be aggressive enough to help fix the problem but realistic enough to be achievable, which is exactly what this resolution encourages. I am hopeful that this resolution will serve as a catalyst toward reducing deficits and I commend Representatives Huizenga (R-MI), Peters (D-CA), Smucker (R-PA) and Quigley (D-IL) for introducing it. Policymakers should get to work on putting in place the necessary policies to get the national debt on a downward sustainable path, taking no options off the table.” — **Maya MacGuineas, President, Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget**

“The United States is adding debt faster than ever due to a fundamental, structural imbalance between spending and revenue in our budget. This bipartisan resolution not only recognizes the urgency of taking action on fiscal solutions, it outlines a critically important budget process for setting a meaningful fiscal target that would put us on a much stronger and more sustainable path for the future.” — **Brett Loper, Executive Director, Peterson Solutions Fund**

“The nation’s large and growing debt hurts everyday Americans — driving up costs for families and weighing down future growth. By rallying around a 3%-of-GDP deficit target, Representatives Peters, Huizenga, Smucker, and Quigley are charting a bipartisan path toward a brighter economic future. BPC Action urges Congress to get serious about our unsustainable debt and adopt this goal.” — **Michele Stockwell, President, BPC Action**

Reining in the deficit is essential for protecting taxpayers and preserving economic opportunity. This bipartisan resolution by Reps. Bill Huizenga (R-MI) and Scott Peters (D-CA) establishing a 3 percent deficit-to-GDP goal over five years provides a meaningful benchmark for getting our fiscal house in order. The best way to meet this target is for Congress to pursue thoughtful, long-term spending reforms and tax policies that encourage investment, work, and innovation. The resolution also gives the Congressional Budget Office an important role in assessing how major legislation would affect progress toward meeting these deficit-reduction goals, helping to keep lawmakers on track. — **Demian Brady, Vice President of Research, National Taxpayers Union Foundation**

The House is right to rally around a 3 percent deficit target. It isn't a moonshot; it's the minimum viable level of protection a modern economy needs to avoid drifting into a debt crisis. Getting back under 3 percent isn't fiscal heroism but merely the price of keeping optionality, stability, and control in our own hands. Still, in an environment where leadership continues to duck the issue, we congratulate Reps. Huizenga, Peters, Smucker, and Quigley and thank them for their leadership. — **William Glass, Policy Director, Millennial Debt Foundation**

The United States is in rough fiscal shape. Reducing the budget deficit to 3% of GDP would absolutely improve our fiscal position, and we are happy to see Congressman Scott Peters and others call for improving this important issue. — **Zach Moller, Director of the Economic Program, Third Way**

Our national debt is on an unsustainable trajectory which is detrimental to the economic future of our country. Although there will be important debates ahead about the most constructive path forward, I endorse the 3% resolution and commend the authors of this measure for their leadership in advancing a serious legislative effort to address the problem. — **Tom Kahn, Former Staff Director, House Budget Committee**

A 3 percent deficit target is a modest but necessary first step to rein in Washington's reckless borrowing and restore sustainable budgeting. Without an immediate course correction, entitlement spending and soaring interest costs will consume federal revenues, push debt ever higher, and worsen the affordability crisis already squeezing American families. — **Romina Boccia, Director of Budget and Entitlement Policy, Cato Institute**

The R Street Institute is pleased to support the bipartisan resolution to reduce the annual unified budget deficit to 3 percent or less than gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030. This is an achievable, reasonable target that would slow our accumulation of debt and help move toward long-term fiscal sustainability. The resolution takes a meaningful step by encouraging stakeholders, from the president to the Congressional Budget Office, to support a more coherent budgeting framework that emphasizes sustainability and honest scoring, making clear this is an "all-hands" emergency. While nonbinding, it signals an important commitment to responsible budgeting, and we look forward to working with Congress to advance the principles and process improvements called for in this important resolution. — **Jeremy Dalrymple, Associate Policy Director, Governance Program, R Street Institute**

Only Congress can fix federal finances. That's why it's good to see an emerging new framework from Representatives Huizenga, Peters, Smucker, and Quigley: reduce the deficit to 3 percent of GDP through an effective congressional budget process with credible backstops. Building

consensus on the goals can open the door to serious conversations about how to get there. — **Kurt Couchman, Senior Fellow in Fiscal Policy, Americans for Prosperity**

This resolution sets a common-sense goal of reducing the deficit to 3% of GDP, which would begin to right the nation's fiscal ship, reduce borrowing costs for households, and strengthen economic opportunity for all Americans. — **Alex Kilander, Policy Analyst, Progressive Policy Institute's Center for Funding America's Future**

The resolution is an important first step toward reestablishing U.S. fiscal discipline and putting the U.S. on a sustainable debt path. — **Valerie Ramey, Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution**

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