

Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Shuler, Van Hollen, Schwartz, Pascrell, and Bonamici

A Balanced Budget Requires a Balanced Approach

This amendment stresses the importance of deficit reduction that draws from all aspects of the budget – reforming defense and non-defense spending, appropriations and entitlements, and tax policies.

A YES vote on this amendment adopts the balanced framework followed by all credible, bipartisan deficit reduction plans, including the Simpson-Bowles Commission.

A NO vote means favoring tax cuts for the wealthiest members of our society at the expense of all other priorities.

At the end of Title VI, add the following new section:

“Sense of the House on Budget Balance

(a) The House finds that---

- (1) long-term deficits threaten economic growth and competitiveness;
- (2) deficit reduction must be bold, be big, and begin soon;
- (3) arbitrary cuts threaten national security, stifle the economy, and hinder future success;
- (4) the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, the bipartisan task force led by Senator Alan Simpson and Erksine Bowles, endorsed a plan to reduce the deficit that called for changes to both spending and revenues;
- (5) several other bipartisan groups have put forward plans to reduce the deficit that reflect a balanced approach;

(b) It is the sense of that House that this and future budget resolutions should enable deficit reduction in a balanced and reasonable manner – through spending cuts and tax reform – without jeopardizing the nation's security, economy, or competitiveness.”