

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985  
to eliminate the section 251A sequestrations, and for other purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. SMITH of Washington introduced the following bill; which was referred to  
the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to eliminate the section 251A sequestrations, and for other purposes.

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 “Relief From Sequestra-  
5       tion Act of 2019”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Sequestration was designed as a forcing  
2           mechanism for an agreement on a comprehensive  
3           deficit reduction plan. It has failed to produce the  
4           intended results.

5           (2) The Budget Control Act of 2011 was en-  
6           acted to avert a default on Federal debt obligations.

7           (3) Because the Joint Select Committee on Def-  
8           icit Reduction failed to recommend legislation pro-  
9           viding an additional \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction,  
10          Federal law mandates that the additional savings be  
11          sequestered.

12          (4) Congress must enact a comprehensive, def-  
13          icit reduction plan to solve the country's fiscal chal-  
14          lenges and to promote national security, economic  
15          stability, and the continued growth and prosperity of  
16          the United States.

17          (5) It no longer makes sense to rely on seques-  
18          tration as a forcing mechanism for a balanced solu-  
19          tion. The costs to our Government and to the econ-  
20          omy are too great.

21          (6) Under sequestration, damaging cuts would  
22          be applied, through fiscal year 2021, to a wide vari-  
23          ety of discretionary spending programs to achieve  
24          \$1.2 trillion in savings, forestalling the sound plan-  
25          ning needed for prudent and meaningful investments

1 in national security, the workforce, transportation  
2 infrastructure, education, health care, public safety,  
3 housing, innovation, small business development, and  
4 many other facets of enduring national strength.

5 (7) Even the prospect of sequestration is dis-  
6 ruptive to regular order and to the congressional ap-  
7 propriations process, and it fosters damaging eco-  
8 nomic uncertainty, while short-term solutions only  
9 suspend the prospect and continue to undermine the  
10 certainty needed for economic recovery.

11 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are to—

12 (1) eliminate sequestration resulting from the  
13 failure of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Re-  
14 duction; and

15 (2) offer the Federal Government, industry, and  
16 the American people the predictability that economic  
17 recovery demands.

18 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF SECTION 251A SEQUESTRATIONS.**

19 (a) REPEALER.—Section 251A of the Balanced  
20 Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 is re-  
21 pealed.

22 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating  
23 to section 251A in the table of contents set forth in section  
24 250(a) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit  
25 Control Act of 1985 is repealed.