



United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Accounting and Financial
Management Division

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May 12, 1993

Mr. Joseph M. Ventrone
Minority Deputy Staff Director
Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs
House of Representatives



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Dear Mr. Ventrone:

This letter transmits the information you requested regarding budget reconciliation bills. The enclosed table lists all of the reconciliation bills passed from 1979 through the present date. The table is organized in ascending order, starting with the 96th Congress. For each reconciliation bill, we also provide (1) the reconciliation bill number, (2) the related public law citation, (3) the conference report number, and (4) the anticipated savings attributed specifically to each reconciliation bill.

The amount of the anticipated savings corresponds to the amount of Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated changes in revenues, budget authority, and/or outlays generated by changes to existing law.

The savings shown in the tables that are attributed to the reconciliation process are estimates prepared at the time the bills were considered. The CBO baseline is used to estimate these dollar amounts. The CBO calculations are based on (1) assumptions on the future level of revenues or spending under current law (or policy) and (2) changes in the dollar amount resulting from new legislation. As we discussed on the phone, there is no formal process to track these estimates against the actual savings realized from these changes.

Please feel free to contact me at (202) 512-9573 if you have further questions.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Posner
Director, Budget Issues

GAO/AFMD-93-80R Budget Reconciliation Bills

557208

LIST OF BUDGET RECONCILIATION BILLS

Congresses	Bill number	Public law	Conference report number	Anticipated savings (in billions)
96th 1979-80 Session one Session two	None HR 7765	96-499	96-1479	\$8.2
97th 1981-82 Session one Session two	HR 3982 HR 6955 HR 4961 (TEFRA)	97-35 97-253 97-248	97-208 97-759 97-760	\$130.6 over fiscal 1982-84 *\$129.1 over fiscal 1983-85
98th 1983-84 Session one Session two	None HR 4169	98-270	^b None	\$8.2 over fiscal 1984-87
99th 1985-86 Session one Session two	^c None HR 3128 HR 5300	99-272 99-509	99-453 99-1012	\$18.2 over fiscal 1986-88 \$11.7 over fiscal 1987-89
100th 1987-88 Session one Session two	HR 3545 None	100-203	100-495	\$76 over fiscal 1988-89
101st 1989-90 Session one Session two	HR 3299 HR 5835	101-239 101-508	101-386 101-964	\$14.7 over fiscal 1990 ^d \$236 over 5 years
102nd 1991-92 Session one Session two	None None			

^aThis reflects \$13.3 billion in spending cuts from House Report 6955. In addition, the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (TEFRA) contained \$98.3 billion in increased revenues and cuts of \$17.5 billion.

^bNo conference was held.

^cHouse Report 3128, The Deficit Reduction Amendments of 1985, failed to clear the Congress by adjournment. It was enacted the following session as a reconciliation measure.

^dHouse Report 5835 provided \$28 billion in deficit reduction in fiscal 1991 and \$236 billion over 5 years--roughly half of the \$496.2 billion called for in the budget resolution. The rest was achieved through cuts from appropriation bills, mostly from defense and lower interest payments.

Source: Congressional Quarterly Almanac, 1979-1991 and Calendars of the United States House of Representatives and History of Legislation.

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