

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-8
OFFERED BY MR. BIGGS OF ARIZONA

Add at the end the following:

1 **TITLE LII—RECOGNIZING THE**
2 **NATIONAL DEBT AS A**
3 **THREAT TO NATIONAL SECU-**
4 **RITY**

5 **SEC. 52___. NATIONAL SECURITY THREAT OF NATIONAL**
6 **DEBT.**

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

8 (1) In January 2025—

9 (A) the total public debt outstanding was
10 more than \$36,200,000,000,000, resulting in a
11 total interest expense of more than
12 \$1,130,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2024;

13 (B) the total public debt as a percentage
14 of gross domestic product was 120.87 percent;
15 and

16 (C) the debt owed per citizen was
17 \$104,780 and \$323,045 per taxpayer.

18 (2) The last balanced Federal budget was
19 signed into law in 1997.

1 (3) In fiscal year 2024, Federal tax receipts to-
2 taled \$5,082,000,000,000, but Federal outlays to-
3 taled \$6,941,000,000,000, leaving the Federal Gov-
4 ernment with a 1-year deficit of
5 \$1,859,000,000,000.

6 (4) Every year since the last balanced Federal
7 budget was signed in 1997, Congress has failed to
8 maintain a fiscally responsible budget and has typi-
9 cally relied on raising the debt ceiling.

10 (5) The House of Representatives failed to pass
11 a balanced budget for fiscal year 2024 and failed to
12 restore regular order to the legislative process by not
13 allowing Representatives to offer and debate amend-
14 ments.

15 (6) Regular order permits the House of Rep-
16 resentatives to separately debate and adopt all ap-
17 propriations bills in a timely fashion and facilitates
18 congressional oversight of Federal spending.

19 (7) The Social Security and Medicare Boards of
20 Trustees project that the Federal Hospital Insur-
21 ance Trust Fund will be depleted in 2033.

22 (8) The Social Security and Medicare Boards of
23 Trustees project that the Federal Old-Age and Sur-
24 vivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Dis-

1 ability Insurance Trust Fund will be depleted in
2 2034.

3 (9) Without a targeted effort to balance the
4 Federal budget, the credit rating of the United
5 States is certain to continue to fall.

6 (10) Improvements in the business climate in
7 populous countries, and aging populations around
8 the world, will likely contribute to higher global in-
9 terest rates.

10 (11) More than \$8,500,000,000,000 of Federal
11 debt is owned by individuals not located in the
12 United States, including more than
13 \$759,000,000,000 of which is owned by individuals
14 in China.

15 (12) China and the European Union are devel-
16 oping alternative payment systems to weaken the
17 dominant position of the United States dollar as a
18 reserve currency.

19 (13) Rapidly increasing interest rates will
20 squeeze all policy priorities of the United States, in-
21 cluding defense policy and foreign policy priorities.

22 (14) On April 12, 2018, former Secretary of
23 Defense James Mattis warned that “any Nation that
24 can’t keep its fiscal house in order eventually cannot
25 maintain its military power”.

1 (15) On March 6, 2018, former Director of Na-
2 tional Intelligence Dan Coats warned: “Our contin-
3 ued plunge into debt is unsustainable and represents
4 a dire future threat to our economy and to our na-
5 tional security”.

6 (16) On November 15, 2017, former Secretaries
7 of Defense Leon Panetta, Ash Carter, and Chuck
8 Hagel warned: “Increase in the debt will, in the ab-
9 sence of a comprehensive budget that addresses both
10 entitlements and revenues, force even deeper reduc-
11 tions in our national security capabilities”.

12 (17) On September 22, 2011, former Chairman
13 of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Michael Mullen warned:
14 “I believe the single, biggest threat to our national
15 security is debt”.

16 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
17 gress that—

18 (1) the national debt is a threat to the national
19 security of the United States;

20 (2) deficits are unsustainable, irresponsible, and
21 dangerous;

22 (3) Congress should commit to restoring reg-
23 ular order in the appropriations process; and

- 1 (4) Congress should commit to addressing the
- 2 fiscal crisis faced by the United States.

