

Tier 1, AMDT # 1  
March 12, 2013 11:55 PM

## Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Van Hollen, Pascrell, Moore, Castor, McDermott, Lee,  
Cicilline, Jeffries, and Pocan

### **Stop the Sequester Job Loss Now**

1. At the end of Title 7, add the following:

“Sense of the House on the need to prevent job loss and maintain vital services by replacing the sequester with a balanced and bipartisan approach to long-term deficit reduction.

(a) The House finds that---

- (1) every bipartisan commission has recommended – and the majority of Americans agree – that we should take a balanced, bipartisan approach to reducing the deficit that addresses both revenue and spending; and
- (2) sequestration is a meat-ax approach to deficit reduction that imposes deep and mindless cuts, regardless of their impact on vital services and investments.

(b) It is the sense of that House that the Congress should---

- (1) enact H.R. 699, which would replace the 2013 sequester with a balanced mix of spending reductions and revenue increases, to address the job loss and drag on economic growth in the near-term; and
- (2) replace the entire 10-year sequester established by the Budget Control Act of 2011 with a balanced approach that would increase revenues without increasing the tax burden on middle-income Americans, and decrease long-term spending while maintaining the Medicare guarantee, protecting Social Security and a strong social safety net, and making strategic investments in education, science, research, and critical infrastructure necessary to compete in the global economy.”

2. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution expresses the sense of the House that the sequester, which will cost 750,000 American jobs this year alone and cut the rate of economic growth by one third, should be replaced with a balanced approach to deficit reduction that includes both targeted spending reductions and increases in revenues that do not increase the tax burden on middle-income Americans.

Amendment to the Chairman’s Mark

Offered by Representatives Schwartz, Van Hollen, Yarmuth, Pascrell, Moore, Castor, McDermott, Lee, Cicilline, Jeffries, Pocan, Cardenas, Blumenauer, and Schrader

**Putting the Country Back to Work with the American Jobs Act**

1. Home Energy Retrofit Rebates & Advanced Vehicles Incentives: Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 270 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to ensure American families have access to assistance to improve the energy efficiency of their homes and to ensure that resources are available to spur the development and deployment of clean, advanced vehicles.

|         | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| BA      | 7.000 |       |       |       |       |       |
| Outlays | 0.400 | 2.050 | 2.450 | 1.280 | 0.675 | 0.010 |

National Network for Manufacturing Innovation: Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 370 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to build a national network to support manufacturing innovation around the country.

|         | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| BA      | 1.000 |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Outlays | 0.208 | 0.131 | 0.174 | 0.189 | 0.140 | 0.068 | 0.043 | 0.029 | 0.015 | 0.004 |

Improve Surface Transportation: Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 400 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to reflect \$50 billion in funding starting in 2013 to invest in the country's roads, rails and airports.

|         | 2014   | 2015   | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  |
|---------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| BA      |        |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Outlays | 19.920 | 16.210 | 5.780 | 2.350 | 1.680 | 1.350 | 0.600 | 0.500 | 0.400 | 0.200 |

Neighborhood Stabilization, First Responders & Infrastructure Bank: Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 450 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to reflect \$26 billion in funding starting in 2013 to put construction workers on the job rehabilitating and refurbishing hundreds of thousands of vacant and foreclosed homes and businesses, to leverage private and public capital in order to invest in a broad range of vital infrastructure projects, and to support the hiring and retention of first responders and to prevent layoffs.

|         | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| BA      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Outlays | 0.350 | 4.800 | 6.450 | 3.330 | 2.270 | 1.200 | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.250 | 1.250 |

Education & Training: Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 500 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to reflect \$79.167 billion in funding starting in 2013 to support repairing and modernizing crumbling schools, prevent the layoffs of hundreds of thousands of teachers, and support necessary teacher training.

|         | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| BA      | 2.866  | 3.066  | 0.400  |       |       |       |
| Outlays | 34.282 | 20.957 | 10.248 | 3.082 | 0.612 | 0.020 |

Veterans Conservation Corps: Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 700 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to put thousands of veterans to work on conservation projects.

|         | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| BA      | 1.000 |       |       |       |       |
| Outlays | 0.100 | 0.225 | 0.225 | 0.225 | 0.225 |

First Responders: Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 750 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to reflect \$4 billion in funding starting in 2013 to support the hiring and retention of first responders.

|         | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  |  |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| BA      |       |       |       |  |
| Outlays | 1.500 | 1.500 | 0.500 |  |

Build America Bonds: Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 800 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to ensure that states and localities have the resources they need to pursue necessary capital projects.

|         | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| BA      | 0.872 | 1.963 | 3.157 | 4.432 | 5.844 | 7.387 | 9.006 | 10.684 | 12.384 | 14.099 |
| Outlays | 0.872 | 1.963 | 3.157 | 4.432 | 5.844 | 7.387 | 9.006 | 10.684 | 12.384 | 14.099 |

2. Adjust the aggregate levels of revenue by amounts equal to the foregoing outlay changes in paragraph 1, reflecting the reduction or elimination of: 1) tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; 2) egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; 3) loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens, resulting in fewer American jobs to support the middle class; or 4) tax breaks for those with adjusted gross incomes above \$1 million annually.
3. Make all necessary and conforming changes to the Chairman’s mark.
4. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution assumes sufficient funding to support the President's 'American Jobs Act' proposals. These proposals would do the following:

- ensure the availability of resources so that American families lower their utility payments.
- make advanced vehicles more affordable and to accelerate deployment of alternative-fuel vehicles.
- create a network of manufacturing innovation by leveraging new investment from industry, federal, state and local government and the research community.
- help modernize an infrastructure that in 2009, the last year such measures were taken, received a grade of "D" from the American Society of Civil Engineers.
- bring in expertise and capital from the private sector, focus on commercial and residential property improvements, and expand innovative property solutions like land banks. This approach will not only create construction jobs but will help reduce blight and crime and stabilize housing prices in areas hardest hit by the housing crisis. In addition, the resolution funding will support establishing an infrastructure bank to focus on national infrastructure projects and provide technical assistance to public entities that do not have the capacity to handle such projects on their own.
- improve and repair public schools, including community colleges, to bolster their infrastructure to ensure that educational needs of future generations of students and communities will be served.
- help schools retain and hire the teachers, guidance counselors, and other teaching aides who are necessary to our children's education.
- develop a Veterans Job Corps conservation program to put to work these highly trained and skilled workers so that they can continue serving the community and their country.
- support first responders through the COPS and BYRNE grants, and provide funding to retain police officers and other first responders to help states and localities avoid disruptions in service.
- support the Build America Bonds program to help states and municipalities finance construction and repairs of public buildings, courthouses, schools, transportation infrastructure, government hospitals, public safety facilities and equipment, water and sewer projects, environmental projects, energy projects government housing and public utilities.

The resolution accommodates this necessary level of funding for 'The American Jobs Act' by reducing or eliminating the following: tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens; and tax breaks for those with adjusted gross incomes above \$1 million annually.

Tier 1, AMDT # 3  
March 12, 2013 9:19 PM

## Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Pocan, Van Hollen, Schwartz, Pascrell, Moore, McDermott, Lee, Cicilline, Jeffries, and Lujan Grisham

### **Protect the American Middle Class from Tax Increases**

1. At the end of Title 7, add the following:

“Sense of the House Rejecting Any Tax Increases on the Middle Class

(a) The House finds that---

- (1) According to CBO, between 1979 and 2007, real after-tax incomes for the top 1 percent of income earners grew 278 percent or a stunning \$973,100 per household. In contrast, real after-tax incomes of the middle 20 percent of families grew just 25 percent, and incomes of the poorest 20 percent increased 16 percent.
- (2) According to the U.S. Census Bureau, American families lost ground even during the 2000s as median income slipped 4.9 percent in real terms between 2000 and 2009.

(b) It is the sense of the House that this resolution would not allow taxes to be raised on middle-class taxpayers with adjusted gross incomes below \$200,000 (\$250,000 for married couples), and would still reflect the tax rates and income thresholds established in the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012. Raising taxes on working families by eliminating their tax benefits – all for the purpose of providing millionaires with trillions of dollars in tax cuts – would have serious negative consequences, including the following:

- (1) make it even harder for working families to make ends meet;
- (2) cost the economy millions of jobs over the coming years by reducing consumer spending, which will greatly weaken economic growth;

- (3) hurt middle class homeowners and deliver another blow to the struggling housing industry by reducing the mortgage interest or real estate tax deductions that middle class families presently receive in support of financing and owning a home – which is the cornerstone of the American dream;
- (4) Dismantle employer-sponsored health insurance coverage for the middle class by reducing the exclusion of employer contributions for medical insurance premiums and medical care that middle class families presently enjoy;
- (5) weaken the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit that go to 25 million working families, including military families – credits that are demonstrated to increase work effort; and
- (6) further widen the income gap between the wealthiest households and the middle class by making the tax code more regressive.”

2. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution reflects the tax rates and income thresholds established in the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, and expressly opposes any effort to raise taxes on individuals with adjusted gross income below \$200,000 or any married couple with adjusted gross income below \$250,000.

Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Lujan Grisham, Van Hollen, Schwartz, Pascrell,  
Moore, Castor, McDermott, Lee, Cicilline, Jeffries, and Pocan

**Protect the Health Care of Seniors and those Near Retirement from  
Republican Cuts**

1. Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 550 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to ensure that that senior citizens and persons with disabilities will not lose critical Medicaid assistance to cover the costs of their nursing home care or home- and community-based services, and to ensure that the one in five low-income Medicare beneficiaries who are also eligible for Medicaid continue to receive help paying their premiums and out-of-pocket costs.

|         | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| BA      | 0    | 40   | 50   | 60   | 70   | 90   | 100  | 120  | 130  | 150  |
| Outlays | 0    | 40   | 50   | 60   | 70   | 90   | 100  | 120  | 130  | 150  |

2. Adjust the aggregate levels of revenue by amounts equal to the foregoing outlay changes in paragraph 1, reflecting the reduction or elimination of: 1) tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; 2) egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; 3) loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens, resulting in fewer American jobs to support the middle class; and 4) tax breaks for those with taxable incomes above \$450,000 annually.

3. At the end of Title VII add the following:

“Sense of the House on Protecting Help with Prescription Drug Costs and Other Valuable Health Benefits for Seniors

(a) The House finds that---

- (1) the Affordable Care Act provides many important new benefits and protections for seniors, including help with prescription drug costs, Medicare coverage of key preventive services and annual wellness visits with no co-pays or deductibles, better coordinated care for chronic diseases, expanded

support for alternatives to nursing homes, and protections against abuse for nursing home residents;

- (2) the Affordable Care Act will reduce out-of-pocket costs for the average senior citizen by more than \$800 annually by 2022, and it will reduce average out-of-pocket costs for seniors who would otherwise fall into the Medicare prescription drug benefit's coverage gap, or "donut hole," by \$2,600 by 2022 by gradually closing the coverage gap; and
- (3) repeal of the Affordable Care Act would take away these important benefits and increase out-of-pocket costs for seniors by hundreds or thousands of dollars.

(b) It is the sense of the House that the important benefits for seniors provided by the Affordable Care Act should not be repealed. These benefits include the gradual closing of the prescription drug coverage gap, coverage of key preventive services and annual wellness visits with no co-pays or deductibles, better coordinated care for chronic diseases, expanded support for alternatives to nursing homes, and protections against abuse for nursing home residents."

4. Make all necessary and conforming changes to the Chairman's mark.
5. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution rejects policies favoring tax cuts for the wealthiest members of our society at the expense of protecting access to long-term care and other critical health care services for the 62 million Americans who rely on the health care safety net provided by Medicaid, including senior citizens, children with autism, young adults with mental health needs, disabled individuals living in the community, and other working Americans.

The resolution rejects any policy that would cut long-term care benefits for seniors and persons with disabilities, and it affirms that state governments should not reduce long-term care for seniors or the disabled as a way to control Medicaid spending. The resolution further rejects any policy – including converting Medicaid into a block grant or imposing a federal cap on Medicaid funding -- that would sever the connection between Medicaid funding and the actual costs of necessary services used by seniors, persons with disabilities, and working families. Such policies do not represent reform, because they do nothing to reduce health costs. Rather, such policies would inevitably lead to a dramatic cut in health care support for people who depend on Medicaid, imposing serious financial hardship on them and their families. It has been estimated that up to a third of Medicaid beneficiaries would lose their benefits under this type of plan. Seniors and persons with disabilities would be at particular risk of hardship under such a proposal, because they account for two-thirds of Medicaid spending, and would therefore be a likely focus of service cuts to comply with a capped funding level.

Medicaid is vital to seniors for many reasons.

- Sixty percent of people living in nursing homes depend on Medicaid to help pay their bill.
- Medicaid is the largest payer for long-term care services in the United States, paying for nearly half (43 percent) of all long-term care provided in the United

States, including nursing home care and home- and community-based supports that seniors may choose as an alternative to expensive institutional care.

- One in five Medicare beneficiaries depends on Medicaid for help paying for health care. These “dual eligibles” account for a third of Medicaid spending.
- At least 70 percent of persons over age 65 will likely need long-term care services at some point.

The resolution also rejects repeal of important benefits for seniors provided by the Affordable Care Act, including the gradual closing of the prescription drug coverage gap, coverage of key preventive services and annual wellness visits with no co-pays or deductibles, better coordinated care for chronic diseases, expanded support for alternatives to nursing homes, and protections against abuse for nursing home residents.

The resolution accommodates this necessary level of health care funding to protect long-term care services for seniors and persons with disabilities, along with important health services for low-income children and other groups helped by Medicaid, by reducing or eliminating the following: tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens; and tax breaks for those with taxable incomes above \$450,000 annually.

Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Yarmuth, Van Hollen, Schwartz, Pascrell, Castor, McDermott, Lee, Cicilline, Jeffries, Pocan, Blumenauer, and Schrader

**Protect Access to Health Insurance for the 129 Million Americans with Pre-Existing Health Conditions and for Young Adults**

1. At the end of Title VII, add the following:

“Sense of the House on the Importance of Protecting Access to Health Insurance for the 129 million Americans with Pre-Existing Conditions, and Protecting the Ability of Dependents to Remain on their Parents' Health Insurance up to Age 26.

(a) The House finds that---

- (1) Under the Affordable Care Act, starting in 2014, Americans cannot be denied coverage, be charged significantly higher premiums, be subjected to an extended waiting period, or have their benefits curtailed by insurance companies because of some type of pre-existing health condition.
- (2) Up to half of non-elderly Americans have a pre-existing health condition such as asthma, cancer, diabetes, or high blood pressure. Up to one in five non-elderly Americans with a pre-existing condition — 25 million individuals — is uninsured.
- (3) As many as 82 million Americans with employer-based coverage have a pre-existing condition, ranging from life-threatening illnesses like cancer to chronic conditions like diabetes, asthma, or heart disease. Without the Affordable Care Act, such conditions limit the ability to obtain affordable health insurance if these individuals become self-employed, take a job with a company that does not offer coverage for a pre-existing condition, or experience a change in life circumstance, such as divorce, retirement, or moving to a different state.
- (4) Older Americans between ages 55 and 64 are particularly at risk, as up to 86 percent have some type of pre-existing condition.
- (5) Up to 30 percent of people in good health today are likely to develop a pre-existing condition over the next eight years, severely limiting their health insurance choices without the protections of the Affordable Care Act.
- (6) There are 17 million children under age 18 with some type of pre-existing condition, and despite the protections offered by Medicaid and CHIP, up to 2 million of them are uninsured. Already, due to the new health reform law, insurers cannot deny coverage to children under the age of 19 based on a pre-

existing condition — a protection that would be revoked without the Affordable Care Act.

- (7) The Affordable Care Act also extends dependent health coverage up to age 26. From September 2010 to December 2011, three million young adults gained health insurance coverage and the percentage of adults ages 19 to 25 with coverage increased from 64.4 percent to 74.8 percent.
- (8) The young adults most likely to benefit from this policy are those who are in poor health. The policy has led to significant reductions in the number of young adults who delay getting the health care they need or do not receive that care because of cost.
- (9) While important for young adults of all races and ethnicities, the extension of dependent coverage is particularly important to minority communities; the policy has led to the largest gains in coverage among Native Americans, Asians, and Latinos.
- (10) The Affordable Care Act contains additional important protections for all Americans, including: providing tax credits to small business owners to help them afford health insurance for their employees and allowing small businesses to band together to purchase health insurance coverage that will allow them to have the same negotiating power as large businesses; requiring health insurance companies to provide a basic summary of plan benefits and coverage; supporting consumers in appealing health plan decisions; banning lifetime and annual limits; and ensuring that insurance companies spend at least 80 percent of premiums on providing care.

(b) It is the sense of the House that the important benefits for all Americans provided by the Affordable Care Act, including preventing insurance company discrimination against people with pre-existing conditions and allowing young adults to remain on their parents' health insurance plan, should not be repealed.”

2. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution rejects repeal of the important benefits for all Americans provided by the Affordable Care Act, including the protection against discrimination based on pre-existing health conditions, the ability of young adults to stay on their parents' health insurance plan, and tax credits for small businesses.

Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Castor, Van Hollen, McDermott, Lee, Cicilline, Jeffries, Pocan, Lujan Grisham, and Cardenas

**Creating Jobs that Help Students**

1. Increase outlays for Function 500 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to reflect an increase of \$55 billion in budget authority in 2013 for an initiative to save teacher jobs and create construction jobs while upgrading at least 35,000 crumbling public schools across the country, including elementary and secondary schools and community colleges.

|         | <i>2014</i> | <i>2015</i> | <i>2016</i> | <i>2017</i> | <i>2018</i> | <i>2019</i> |
|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| BA      |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| Outlays | 23.139      | 14.348      | 6.924       | 1.817       | 0.124       | 0.017       |

2. Adjust the aggregate levels of revenue by amounts equal to the foregoing outlay changes in paragraph 1, reflecting the reduction or elimination of: 1) tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; 2) egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; 3) loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens, resulting in fewer American jobs to support the middle class; or 4) tax breaks for those with adjusted gross incomes above \$1 million annually.
3. Make all necessary and conforming changes to the Chairman's mark.
4. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

Unless Congress acts to prevent it, across-the-board cuts to federal spending under sequestration will cost the country 750,000 jobs this year alone, just as the economy is recovering from the worst recession since the Depression and too many Americans are still struggling to find jobs. To prevent up to 280,000 teacher layoffs, and to put Americans back to work creating an infrastructure that supports learning for students of all ages, this budget resolution assumes \$55 billion of new funding in 2013 to carry out President Obama's education jobs initiatives. Of that total, \$25 billion would support teacher jobs, helping schools retain and hire the teachers, guidance counselors, and other

teaching aides who are necessary to our children's education. The remaining \$30 billion would fund critical repairs and needed renovation projects for at least 35,000 public schools that would put hundreds of thousands of Americans – including construction workers, engineers, maintenance staff, and electrical workers – back to work.

The resolution accommodates this necessary level of student loan funding by reducing or eliminating the following: tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens; and tax breaks for those with adjusted gross incomes above \$1 million annually.

Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Moore, Van Hollen, Castor, McDermott, Lee, Cicilline, Jeffries, Pocan, and Lujan Grisham

**Protect the Vulnerable**

1. Change budget authority and outlays by the following amounts in billions of dollars to prevent cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and to continue enhancements to the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, and American Opportunity Tax Credit through 2023.

|               | 2014 | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   |
|---------------|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Function 500: |      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| BA            | ---  | ---    | ---    | ---    | ---    | 5.097  | 4.991  | 4.898  | 4.882  | 4.731  |
| Outlays       | ---  | ---    | ---    | ---    | ---    | 5.097  | 4.991  | 4.898  | 4.882  | 4.731  |
| Function 600: |      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| BA            | .600 | 13.100 | 13.500 | 13.800 | 14.200 | 30.100 | 30.600 | 31.000 | 31.600 | 32.200 |
| Outlays       | .600 | 13.100 | 13.500 | 13.800 | 14.200 | 30.100 | 30.600 | 31.000 | 31.600 | 32.200 |

2. Adjust the aggregate levels of revenue by amounts equal to the foregoing outlay changes in paragraph 1, reflecting the reduction or elimination of: 1) tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; 2) egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; 3) loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens, resulting in fewer American jobs to support the middle class; or 4) tax breaks for those with adjusted gross incomes above \$1 million annually.
3. Make all necessary and conforming changes to the Chairman's mark.
4. At the end of Title 7, add the following:  
  
"Sense of the House on Protecting the Vulnerable  
  
(a) The House finds that---

- (1) Means-tested programs keep or lift one out of every seven Americans out of poverty.
- (2) Without this social safety net, nearly twice as many people would be living in poverty.
- (3) SNAP alone lifts over one million children out of deep poverty (below half the poverty line).
- (4) The enhancements to the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit initially enacted in the Recovery Act, and extended in the American Taxpayer Relief Act, lift 1.6 million people out of poverty, including nearly one million children. Many military families are among the beneficiaries of these vital policies.
- (5) Social safety net spending must expand when the economy faces a downturn in order to protect those most hurt.
- (6) Bipartisan budget experts agree that protecting the disadvantaged is a core principle in developing a fiscal framework.

(b) It is the sense of the House that any acceptable deficit reduction package must provide for a robust social safety net. Programs that help the most vulnerable among us must not be cut solely for the sake of deficit reduction. Entitlement reforms should not be enacted unless they are coupled with protections for the most vulnerable or with changes to strengthen the social safety net for those who most rely on it.”

5. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution assumes that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) – formerly known as food stamps – will retain its current structure, allowing it to continue to meet the nutritional needs of low-income families. The resolution also assumes that the American Opportunity Tax Credit and the enhancements to the Earned Income and Child Tax credits that are scheduled to expire under current law will continue through 2023.

The resolution accommodates this necessary level of funding to protect vulnerable citizens by reducing or eliminating the following: tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens; and tax breaks for those with adjusted gross incomes above \$1 million annually.

The resolution also includes a sense of the House finding that government programs have been successful in lifting people out of poverty and, as endorsed by numerous bipartisan budget experts, reinforces ensuring the ability to protect the disadvantaged as a core pillar for evaluating any deficit reduction package.

## Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives McDermott, Van Hollen, Schwartz, Pascrell, Moore, Castor, Lee, Cicilline, Jeffries, Pocan, Lujan Grisham, and Huffman

### **Preventing the End of Medicare as We Know It**

1. Strike Section 703 of the Chairman's mark and make all necessary conforming changes.
2. At the end of Title VII, add the following:

“Sense of the House on preserving Medicare for seniors and persons with disabilities

  - (a) The House finds that---
    - (1) fifty million senior citizens and persons with disabilities rely on Medicare to guarantee their health security;
    - (2) Medicare has long been a leader in developing innovative ways to contain health care costs while protecting access to high-quality health care; and
    - (3) the Affordable Care Act of 2010 makes significant progress in modernizing Medicare and represents the United States' best opportunity to develop a framework for continual improvement in Medicare's quality, efficiency, and fiscal sustainability based on solid evidence about which policies actually work to achieve these goals.
  - (b) It is the sense of the House that the Congress should not protect tax loopholes for the wealthy and special interests while addressing the resulting budget deficits by making changes in law that would:
    - (1) eliminate guaranteed health insurance benefits for seniors and people with disabilities under the Medicare program;
    - (2) increase costs for seniors and people with disabilities by establishing a Medicare voucher or premium support plan that provides limited payments to Medicare beneficiaries to purchase health care in the private health insurance market; or
    - (3) weaken the traditional Medicare program and cause it to wither away by diverting the healthiest enrollees into private plans and undermining traditional Medicare's ability to control costs while offering access to a broad range of providers.”
3. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution expresses the sense of the House that Medicare is a highly successful program that provides health security to 50 million senior citizens and disabled individuals, and that it should not be subject to any changes in law that would eliminate the Medicare guarantee of a specific set of health benefits, increase costs for seniors by converting Medicare into a voucher or premium support program, or weaken the traditional Medicare program.

Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Lee, Van Hollen, Moore, McDermott, Cicilline,  
Jeffries, Blumenauer, and Schrader

**Eliminate Excess Overseas Contingency Operations Funding to  
Protect Veterans and other Domestic Priorities, and to Reduce the  
Deficit**

1. Decrease budget authority and outlays for Function 970 by the following amounts.

|         | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| BA      | 23.000 | 35.000 | 35.000 | 35.000 | 35.000 | 35.000 | 35.000 | 35.000 | 35.000 | 35.000 |
| Outlays | 10.952 | 19.928 | 31.742 | 35.831 | 36.579 | 37.150 | 37.186 | 37.466 | 38.102 | 37.694 |

2. Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 600 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to ensure adequate funding for the HUD-VA Supportive Housing program.

|         | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| BA      | 0.076 | 0.078 | 0.079 | 0.081 | 0.083 | 0.085 | 0.087 | 0.090 | 0.092 | 0.094 |
| Outlays | 0.038 | 0.061 | 0.070 | 0.075 | 0.080 | 0.082 | 0.084 | 0.086 | 0.088 | 0.090 |

3. Increase funding in Function 920 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to prevent indiscriminate cuts to poverty programs and domestic investments.

|         | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| BA      | 21.704 | 27.262 | 34.921 | 34.919 | 34.917 | 34.915 | 34.913 | 34.910 | 34.908 | 34.906 |
| Outlays | 10.913 | 19.865 | 27.711 | 31.288 | 33.305 | 33.827 | 34.166 | 34.163 | 34.161 | 34.159 |

4. Make all necessary and conforming changes to the Chairman's mark.
5. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution eliminates excess funds budgeted in the Overseas Contingency Operations account. It allocates the resulting savings to deficit reduction (\$28 billion over ten years),

to ensure funding to help homeless veterans through the HUD-VA Supportive Housing Program -- a program subject to sequestration -- and to reduce the enormous level of unallocated spending cuts reflected in Function 920. The unallocated spending cuts will otherwise preclude Congress from protecting many other vital programs from harmful cuts, including education, first responders, border security, transportation, veterans, research, and vital human needs programs that lift families out of poverty.

The resolution reduces funding for the Overseas Contingency Operations account for 2014 and eliminates it for 2015 through 2023 to reflect the goal of redeploying all combat troops from Afghanistan by the end of 2014. The resolution further assumes that if the Administration determines it necessary to continue a residual force presence beyond 2014, funding to support that policy shall be financed from within the base defense budget. The resolution includes \$70 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations for 2014.

The Congress has been financing the war in Afghanistan for 12 years through a series of supplemental and special contingency appropriations that are exempt from budget limits. That funding policy was one of the reasons that led former Chairman of the Joints Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen to conclude the Pentagon lacked the incentive to make the “tough trades.” As the country tackles its fiscal problems, no agency is exempt from prioritizing and making necessary budget tradeoffs, including the Pentagon, an agency with a plethora of new examples of wasteful spending every year, and the last agency yet to pass a clean audit.

## Amendment to the Chairman's Mark

Offered by Representatives Blumenauer, Van Hollen, Schwartz, Pascrell,  
McDermott, Lee, Cicilline, Pocan, and Schrader

### Road to Jobs

1. Increase budget authority and outlays for Function 400 by the following amounts in billions of dollars to ensure that the resolution maintains baseline funding levels for transportation spending, and to prevent the deep budget cuts assumed in the underlying resolution.

|         | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| BA      | 15.376 | 63.735 | 23.805 | 15.221 | 39.500 | 17.174 | 38.618 | 19.887 | 39.818 | 16.681 |
| Outlays | 1.981  | 16.424 | 27.375 | 19.131 | 22.632 | 27.740 | 28.879 | 31.494 | 33.472 | 35.124 |

2. Adjust the aggregate levels of revenue by amounts equal to the foregoing outlay changes in paragraph 1, reflecting the reduction or elimination of: 1) tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; 2) egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; 3) loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens, resulting in fewer American jobs to support the middle class; or 4) tax breaks for those with adjusted gross incomes above \$1 million annually.
3. Make all necessary and conforming changes to the Chairman's mark.
4. Amend the committee report to reflect the following policy assumptions:

The resolution maintains the baseline level of funding for transportation spending, rejecting the deep cuts assumed in the Chairman's mark. Allowing such cuts to take place would have a negative impact on our economy as the cuts occur as contractors have to lay off workers. And their impact could be even more severe in the long-term as we fail to modernize and maintain our transportation infrastructure.

The resolution accommodates this necessary level of funding for infrastructure investments by reducing or eliminating the following: tax subsidies for the major integrated oil companies; egregious tax breaks such as special depreciation for corporate jets; loopholes in our international corporate tax system that encourage firms to ship jobs and capital overseas and shelter their profits in foreign tax havens; and tax breaks for those with adjusted gross incomes above \$1 million annually.