

## JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON BUDGET CONTROL

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FEBRUARY 7, 1973.—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. RUSSELL B. LONG, from the Committee on Finance,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany S. Con. Res. 8]

The Committee on Finance, to which was referred the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 8) relating to the designation, administration, and expenses of the Joint Study Committee on Budget Control, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the concurrent resolution be agreed to.

### GENERAL STATEMENT

Title III of the public law increasing the public debt limitation (Public Law 92-599) last October created a joint committee to recommend procedures for improving congressional control over budgetary outlay and receipt totals. This committee terminates at the end of this session of the 93d Congress. This concurrent resolution, as outlined below, makes relatively minor modifications in present law to enable this Joint Committee to better carry out its work.

In the title setting up the committee, provision was made for the payment of up to \$100,000 from the contingency fund of the Senate for the period beginning October 27, 1972, and ending February 28, 1973. The February 28 termination date for the committee's fiscal year was set in order to conform to the fiscal year of all committees funded by the Senate. It was recognized at the time the committee was established that additional funding would be required beyond February 28, 1973.

This concurrent resolution authorizes the Joint Committee from March 1, 1973, through December 31, 1973, to expend from the contingent fund of the Senate up to \$200,000 to carry out the work for which the committee was organized. Of the original \$100,000 provided for the committee through February 28, 1973, approximately \$97,000 will be returned to the general fund of the Treasury. Most of this \$100,000 will be returned to the Treasury general fund because the joint committee was not organized until the beginning of

the 93d Congress. The request for \$200,000 for the period March 1 through December 31, 1973, since it is a 10-month period while the original funding was a 5-month period, provides funding at the same rate as the original funding. The joint committee, in expending the \$200,000, is authorized to spend not to exceed \$25,000 for consultants.

A second change made by this concurrent resolution requires the committee to submit a final report on the results of its study and review to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to the President pro tempore of the Senate no later than the close of the 93d Congress. The act creating the committee indicated that its first study and review was to be completed by February 15, 1973. The committee plans to meet this deadline for its interim recommendations. The provision in this bill for a final report by or before the end of the first session of the 93d Congress merely makes specific provision for the completion of the committee's work.

A third change made by the concurrent resolution provides a name for the Joint Committee. This provision specifies that the committee henceforth is to be known as the "Joint Study Committee on Budget Control." Previously, reference had been made to the duties of the committee, but no name, as such, had been given to the committee. The use of the name referred to above is not intended in any way to change the nature or scope of the study and review made by the committee, but merely to provide a specific name for ready reference.

A fourth change provides for the selection of cochairmen by the committee rather than a single chairman. This change conforms with what the committee has in practice found to be desirable. The resolution provides that the expenses of the Joint Committee are to be paid out of the contingency fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by either of the two cochairmen.

### **EFFECT ON REVENUES OF THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

In compliance with session 252(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970, the following statement is made relative to the effect on the revenues of this concurrent resolution. The resolution provides for payment of up to \$200,000 for the work of the Joint Committee. However, approximately \$97,000 of \$100,000, previously provided for the committee will be returned to the Treasury's general fund. Any payment referred to here will be made during the first session of the 93d Congress. No payments are provided for, or expected, thereafter.

The resolution was reported by a unanimous voice vote.

