

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7561

To reduce the pay of Members of Congress when a mass shooting occurs
in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2024

Mr. CLEAVER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To reduce the pay of Members of Congress when a mass shooting occurs in the United States, 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 “No Pay Until Peace
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING WITHHOLDING OF PAY OF MEMBERS**
7 **OF CONGRESS IF MASS SHOOTING OCCURS.**

8 (a) REDUCTION OF PAY.—If during any month of a
9 year a mass shooting occurs in the United States, the an-

1 nual rate of pay applicable under section 601(a) of the
2 Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501)
3 with respect to each Member of Congress for the year shall
4 be reduced by an amount equal to the product of—

5 (1) an amount equal to one month’s worth of
6 pay under such annual rate; and

7 (2) the number of months during the year dur-
8 ing which a mass shooting occurs in the United
9 States.

10 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with
11 respect to days occurring after the date of the regularly
12 scheduled general election for Federal office held in No-
13 vember 2024.

14 **SEC. 3. SPECIAL RULE FOR ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH**
15 **CONGRESS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—

17 (1) HOLDING SALARIES IN ESCROW.—If a mass
18 shooting occurs in the United States during a pay
19 period occurring during a session of the One Hun-
20 dred Eighteenth Congress after the date of the en-
21 actment of this Act, the payroll administrator of
22 each House of Congress shall—

23 (A) deposit in an escrow account the com-
24 pensation for such pay period of each Member

1 of Congress who serves in that House of Con-
2 gress; and

3 (B) release amounts deposited in an es-
4 crow account under subparagraph (A) to such
5 Member of Congress on the last day of the One
6 Hundred Eighteenth Congress.

7 (2) WITHHOLDING AND REMITTANCE OF
8 AMOUNTS FROM PAYMENTS HELD IN ESCROW.—The
9 payroll administrator of each House of Congress
10 shall provide for the same withholding and remit-
11 tance with respect to a payment deposited in an es-
12 crow account under paragraph (1) that would apply
13 to the payment if the payment were not subject to
14 paragraph (1).

15 (3) RELEASE OF AMOUNTS AT END OF THE
16 CONGRESS.—In order to ensure that this subsection
17 is carried out in a manner that shall not vary the
18 compensation of Senators or Representatives in vio-
19 lation of the twenty-seventh amendment to the Con-
20 stitution of the United States, the payroll adminis-
21 trator of a House of Congress shall release for pay-
22 ment to Members of that House of Congress any
23 amounts remaining in any escrow account under this
24 section on the last day of the One Hundred Eight-
25 eenth Congress.

1 (b) **ROLE OF SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.**—The
2 Secretary of the Treasury shall provide the payroll admin-
3 istrator of each House of Congress with such assistance
4 as may be necessary to enable the payroll administrator
5 to carry out this subtitle.

6 (c) **EXCEPTION FOR DAYS OCCURRING AFTER GEN-**
7 **ERAL ELECTION.**—This section does not apply with re-
8 spect to any pay period during the One Hundred Eight-
9 eenth Congress which occurs after the date of the regu-
10 larly scheduled general election for Federal office held in
11 November 2024.

12 (d) **PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR DEFINED.**—In this
13 section, the term “payroll administrator”, with respect to
14 a House of Congress, means—

15 (1) in the case of the House of Representatives,
16 the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of
17 Representatives, or an employee of the Office of the
18 Chief Administrative Officer who is designated by
19 the Chief Administrative Officer to carry out this
20 Act; and

21 (2) in the case of the Senate, the Secretary of
22 the Senate, or an employee of the Office of the Sec-
23 retary of the Senate who is designated by the Sec-
24 retary to carry out this Act.

1 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act—

3 (1) the term “mass shooting” means 4 or more
4 injuries in a single incident by the use of a firearm
5 (as defined in section 921 of title 18, United States
6 Code); and

7 (2) the term “Member of Congress” means an
8 individual serving in a position under subparagraph
9 (A), (B), or (C) of section 601(a) of the Legislative
10 Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501).

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