

Statement for the Record  
Representative Andy Barr  
House Committee on the Budget

Chairman Arrington, Ranking Member Boyle, and members of the Committee, I submit this statement for the record to advocate strongly for the inclusion and prioritization of two measures critical to restoring transparency and fiscal integrity to the Congressional budgeting process. Our current national debt, exceeding \$38 trillion, demonstrates that the current system is fundamentally broken, often relying on projections that have proven untenably inaccurate.

To create answerable projections, I urge the Committee to consider the CBO Scoring Accountability Act (H.R. 2666). This bill amends the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to require the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) to perform a rigorous annual, retrospective analysis of all major enacted legislation over a ten-year period. These reports must compare the original projections to the actual outlays and revenues resulting from the enacted legislation. If the sum of the actual outlays and revenues deviate by 10 percent or more, the CBO must submit a detailed public report explaining the discrepancy. We must ensure that those who manage the American people's hard-earned taxpayer dollars have reliable and actionable advice. At the very least they must have fiscal advisers that are accountable and will clarify when and why they make mistakes.

Furthermore, I urge consideration for the Fiscal State of the Nation Resolution. This resolution mandates that the House and Senate Budget Committees hold an annual joint hearing to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General. This presentation, based on the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) audit, provides a clear, non-political assessment of the Federal Government's comprehensive financial position and condition.

Both the CBO Scoring Accountability Act and the Fiscal State of the Nation Resolution are foundational tools that provide the Committee and Congress as a whole with the honest, authoritative financial information necessary to address the debt crisis responsibly and fulfill our duty to the American taxpayer.

Respectfully submitted  
Representative Andy Barr  
Kentucky's Sixth District