118th CONGRESS 2d Session

To amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for a joint meeting of Congress to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

- To amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for a joint meeting of Congress to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch, 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 "Fiscal State of the5 Nation Act".

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1SEC. 2. ANNUAL JOINT MEETING OF CONGRESS TO RE-2CEIVE PRESENTATION BY COMPTROLLER3GENERAL.

4 Section 331 of title 31, United States Code, is5 amended by adding at the end the following:

6 "(f) ANNUAL JOINT MEETING OF CONGRESS TO RE7 CEIVE PRESENTATION BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—

8 "(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days (ex-9 cluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) after the 10 date on which the Secretary of the Treasury submits 11 to Congress the audited financial statement required 12 under subsection (e)(1), on a date agreed upon by 13 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the 14 President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Comp-15 troller General of the United States, Congress shall 16 hold a joint meeting (in this subsection referred to 17 as the 'Joint Meeting') to receive a presentation 18 from the Comptroller General—

19 "(A) reviewing the findings of the audit re20 quired under subsection (e)(2); and

"(B) providing, with respect to the information included by the Secretary in the report
accompanying such audited financial statement,
an analysis of the financial position and condition of the Federal Government, including financial measures (such as the net operating

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cost, income, budget deficits, or budget sur pluses) and sustainability measures (such as the
 long-term fiscal projection or social insurance
 projection) described in such report.

5 "(2) PRESENTATION OF STATEMENT IN AC-6 CORDANCE WITH GAO STRATEGIES AND MEANS .----7 The Comptroller General of the United States shall 8 ensure that the presentation at the Joint Meeting is 9 made in accordance with the Strategies and Means 10 of the Government Accountability Office, so that the 11 presentation will provide professional, objective, fact-12 based, nonpartisan, nonideological, fair, and bal-13 anced information to the Members attending the 14 Joint Meeting.

15 "(3) OPEN MEETING.—The Joint Meeting shall
16 be open to the public, including to radio, television,
17 and still photography coverage.

18 "(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The requirement
19 under paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to any
20 audited financial statement submitted on or after
21 the date of enactment of the Fiscal State of the Na22 tion Act.".

SEC. 3. INCLUSION OF FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS OF FISCAL STATE OF THE NATION IN CONCURRENT RES OLUTION ON THE BUDGET.

4 Section 301(a) of the Congressional Budget and Im-5 poundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632(a)) is amended, in the matter following paragraph (7), by adding 6 at the end the following: "Each concurrent resolution on 7 8 the budget shall include a statement of findings informed 9 by the most recently conducted presentation under sub-10 section (f) of section 331 of title 31, United States Code, regarding the findings of the audit under subsection (e)(2)11 12 of such section and the analysis of the financial position 13 and condition of the Federal Government and any other appropriate information on the fiscal condition of the 14 United States.". 15