

A BILL

To restore and permanently fix the compensation of Members of Congress, including Senators, to the inflation-adjusted equivalent of the original per diem structure established in 1789, prohibit Congress from enacting laws to increase such compensation without direct approval by constituents through referenda, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Congressional and Senatorial Compensation Restoration Act".

SECTION 2. RESTORATION OF ORIGINAL PER DIEM COMPENSATION ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning on the first day of the first Congress convened after the date of enactment of this Act, the compensation for the services of Senators and Representatives shall be fixed permanently at the inflation-adjusted equivalent of the 1789 rates, using the Consumer Price Index as of 2025, as follows:

(1) A per diem rate of \$221 for each day of actual attendance during a session of Congress.

(2) An allowance of \$221 for every 20 miles traveled by the usual route to and from the seat of government for each session.

(b) NO ANNUAL SALARY.—No Senator or Representative shall receive an annual salary or any form of compensation other than the per diem and travel allowances described in subsection (a).

(c) REPEAL OF EXISTING COMPENSATION PROVISIONS.—Any provision of law providing for annual salaries, automatic adjustments, or other forms of compensation for Members of Congress, including Senators, inconsistent with this section is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. PROHIBITION ON CONGRESSIONAL SELF-INCREASES IN COMPENSATION.

(a) BAN ON SELF-VOTED INCREASES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including the 27th Amendment to the Constitution, no law varying or increasing the compensation for the services of Senators and Representatives (including adjustments to the per diem rate or travel allowances under section 2) shall take effect.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR CONSTITUENT APPROVAL.—The prohibition under subsection (a) may be waived only if a proposed increase is approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors in—

(1) each congressional district, for changes affecting Representatives from that district, through a referendum held concurrently with the next general election for Representatives;

and

(2) each State, for changes affecting Senators from that State, through a referendum held concurrently with the next general election for Senators or Representatives in that State.

(c) ADMINISTRATION OF REFERENDA.—The chief election official of each State shall administer the referenda required under subsection (b) in accordance with State law, and certify the results to Congress. No increase shall take effect unless approved in all relevant districts or States.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date of its enactment, except as provided in section 2(a).