



Amendments to the FY 2022 Budget Resolution

Last Updated: August 11, 2021

Around 4 am on August 11, the Senate passed the FY 2022 budget resolution ([S.Con.Res. 14](#)) on a party-line [50-49 vote](#).

The budget resolution included [reconciliation instructions](#) that will allow Congress to pass major components of the Build Back Better package while bypassing the Jim Crow filibuster in the Senate.

During the budget debate, the Senate considered 47 amendments and adopted 29, but the most important part of the budget resolution—the reconciliation instructions—did not change.

Deficit-Neutral Reserve Funds

All amendments adopted by the Senate added deficit-neutral reserve funds (DNRFs) to the budget resolution or modified an existing DNRF. Deficit-neutral reserve funds have little practical policy impact and in no way obligate lawmakers to advance related legislation.

Creation of a DNRF simply means the Budget Committee can shift the budget levels for program areas to accommodate relevant legislation as long as the legislation does not add to the deficit. (This prevents a possible budget point of order down the road.) In practice, this is almost never applicable. Moreover, most legislation is still subject to potential filibuster (and a 60-vote threshold) in the Senate unless it passes under the budget reconciliation process.

DNRFs should be treated as the equivalent of the Sense of the Senate (i.e., a symbolic statement). Nevertheless, legislators and the press can misleadingly characterize DNRFs as having real policy impact. To provide a counter-message to a DNRF amendment offered by an opponent of the budget resolution, a senator in the majority party sometimes offers a competing DNRF amendment, known as side-by-side amendment.

House Consideration of the Budget Resolution

The House is scheduled to reconvene the evening of August 23 to consider the Senate-passed budget resolution. If the House changes the resolution at all, the resolution has to go back to the Senate, which is in recess until September 13. The budget resolution instructs congressional committees to report their portions of the reconciliation bill by September 15.

Budget Amendments Adopted

The Senate adopted 29 DNRF amendments: 23 by roll call vote and 6 by voice vote.

Amdt.	Sponsor	Purpose	Vote
3055	Barrasso (R-WY)	DNRF to limit or prohibit implementation of the Green New Deal	99-0
3330	Carper (D-DE)	DNRF to address the crisis of climate change ¹	51-48
3106	Thune (R-SD)	DNRF to maintain current step-up basis rules for business owners, farmers, and ranchers	99-0
3365	Wyden (D-OR)	DNRF to improve tax administration and protect the privacy of taxpayers ²	50-49
3278	Hassan (D-NH), Young (R-IN)	DNRF to expand the research and development tax credit	Voice Vote
3105	Cramer (R-ND)	DNRF to prohibit new EPA rules that ban fracking in the U.S.	57-42
3097	Rubio (R-FL)	DNRF to support internet access for the Cuban people	Voice vote
3113	Tuberville (R-AL)	DNRF to restrict Byrne JAG and COPS grants for local jurisdictions that defund the police	99-0
3731	Klobuchar (D-MN)	DNRF to honor USCP, DC police, and first responders for their service on January 6, 2021	99-0
3284	Capito (R-WV)	DNRF to support carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration	Voice vote
3103	Boozman (R-AR)	DNRF to prohibit the USDA from making fossil fuel plants ineligible for financing	53-46
3114	Braun (R-IN)	DNRF to remove the American Rescue Plan's prohibition on using state and local COVID-19 aid to lower taxes	86-13
3128	Fischer (R-NE)	DNRF to means-test electric vehicle tax credits	51-48
3115	Ernst (R-IA)	DNRF to prohibit new Clean Air Act requirements on farmers and ranchers or methane restrictions on livestock	66-33

¹ Offered as a side-by-side amendment to Barrasso 3055

² Offered as side-by-side amendment to Crapo 3099

3383	Scott (R-FL)	DNRF for enforcement activities and sanctions against terrorist organizations in the Gaza Strip	99-0
3444	Young (R-IN)	Modify DNRF for reconciliation in the Senate to prevent tax increases for people making less than \$400,000	98-1
3792	Lankford (R-OK)	DNRF in support of the Hyde and Weldon amendments restricting abortion access	50-49
3627	Sullivan (R-AK)	DNRF to prohibit Chinese materials, technology, or critical minerals in renewable energy projects	90-9
3805	Wyden (D-OR)	DNRF to prohibit purchase of materials, technology, or critical minerals produced with forced labor ³	Voice vote
3648	Baldwin (D-WI)	DNRF to support ice-breaking operational improvements in the Great Lakes	85-13
3795	Moran (R-KS)	DNRF to increase immigration enforcement	76-23
3680	Cotton (R-AR)	DNRF to prohibit the teaching of critical race theory	50-49
2734	Hawley (R-MO)	DNRF to hire 100,000 new law enforcement officers	95-3
3243	Hoeven (R-ND)	DNRF to support coal and natural gas power plants with carbon capture	52-47
3797	Marshall (R-KS)	DNRF to test, treat, quarantine, and prohibit transport of migrants without negative COVID-19 tests	88-11
3141	Lee (R-UT)	DNRF to provide tax equivalency under the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program	51-48
3292	Daines (R-MT)	DNRF to prevent tax increases on small businesses	Voice vote
3742	Hagerty (R-TN)	DNRF to increase funding of detention and deportation of undocumented immigrants convicted of crimes	53-46
3753	Kennedy (R-LA)	DNRF to maintain current law tax treatment of like-kind exchanges	Voice vote

³ Offered as a side-by-side amendment to Sullivan 3627

Budget Amendments Not Adopted

The Senate rejected 18 amendments. While most were DNRFs, a few would have made more substantive changes to the budget resolution.

Amdt.	Sponsor	Purpose	Vote
3317	Cortez-Masto (D-NV)	DNRF to protect family farms, ranchers, and small businesses while ensuring the wealthy pay their fair share ⁴	49-50
3104	Lummis (R-WY)	DNRF to promote oil and gas leasing on federal land	49-50
3099	Crapo (R-ID)	DNRF to prevent new IRS reporting requirements on taxpayers	49-50
3073	Scott (R-SC)	DNRF to require all K-12 schools to be open for in-person learning	49-50
3293	Shelby (R-AL), Inhofe (R-OK)	Change reconciliation instructions to add \$50.2 billion for the Armed Services Committee	46-53
3251	Grassley (R-IA)	DNRF to prevent changes to the SALT deduction for millionaires	48-51
3569	Wyden (D-OR)	DNRF to increase the progressivity of the tax code ⁵	47-51
3150	Paul (R-KY)	Full substitute amendment	28-71
3652	Romney (R-UT)	Strike reconciliation instructions for the Senate Finance Committee	49-50
3062	Blackburn (R-TN)	Strike provision allowing the Senate to designate emergency legislation	49-50
3781	Cruz (R-TX)	DNRF to expel undocumented immigrants who contribute to COVID-19 spread	49-50
3758	Kennedy (R-LA)	DNRF to ban abortions after 20 weeks	48-51
3331	Inhofe (R-OK)	DNRF to prohibit funding of abortions in cases of Down syndrome	49-50

⁴ Offered as a side-by-side amendment to Thune 3106

⁵ Offered as a side-by-side amendment to Grassley 3251

3568	Hyde-Smith (R-MS)	DNRF to restrict Byrne JAG and COPS grants for local jurisdictions that discourage prosecution of certain damage to property	47-52
3650	Grassley (R-IA)	DNRF to block pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants convicted of a crime or with pending charges	49-50
3626	Sullivan (R-AK)	DNRF to restrict funding to the UN Human Rights Council	49-50
3681	Cruz (R-TX)	Create point of order against importing from China items related to electric cars	50-49 ⁶
3815	Lee (R-UT)	Create point of order against increasing net spending unless the CBO certifies that inflation is below 3%	49-50

For more on the FY 2022 budget resolution and budget reconciliation process, please see other explainers in the CPC Center’s [Unrig the Rules](#) series:

- [Reconciliation Instructions in the FY 2022 Budget Resolution](#)
- [Overcoming the Filibuster Through Budget Reconciliation](#)
- [Reconciliation in the Senate](#)

⁶ The vote was to waive a point of order against its consideration, which requires 60 votes rather than a simple majority.