

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3504

To provide for a Web site to receive gifts to reduce the public debt.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To provide for a Web site to receive gifts to reduce the
public debt.

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 “DebtPatriots.Gov Act
5 of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

8 (1) the total public debt as of November 17,
9 2011, is over \$15 trillion and that every American’s
10 share is \$47,080;

1 (2) www.pay.gov, launched in October 2000, is
2 a secure Government-wide collection portal, which is
3 Web-based and allows customers to access their ac-
4 counts from any computer with Internet access;

5 (3) www.pay.gov satisfies agencies and con-
6 sumers demands for electronic alternatives by pro-
7 viding the ability to complete forms, make payments,
8 and submit queries 24 hours a day electronically;

9 (4) citizens who wish to make a general dona-
10 tion to the United States Government may send con-
11 tributions to a specific account called “Gifts to the
12 United States”, an account established in 1843 to
13 accept gifts, such as bequests, from individuals wish-
14 ing to express their patriotism to the United States;

15 (5) citizens who wish to make a general dona-
16 tion to a specific account called “Gifts to Reduce the
17 Public Debt of the United States” may use
18 TreasuryDirect, a section of www.pay.gov and
19 Treasury Direct®;

20 (6) gifts to reduce the public debt are accepted
21 under the provisions of section 3113 of title 31,
22 United States Code, which authorizes the Secretary
23 of the Treasury to accept conditional gifts to the
24 United States for the purpose of reducing the public
25 debt;

1 (7) gifts to reduce the public debt are voluntary
2 donations, and no goods, services, or other consider-
3 ations are provided to the donors, including, but not
4 limited to, benefits on future tax liability; and

5 (8) gifts to reduce the public debt do not super-
6 sede the constitutional powers nor the responsibility
7 of Congress to “pay the debts”, as described in arti-
8 cle I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United
9 States.

10 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to pub-
11 lically recognize the patriotism of certain individuals and
12 corporations which are willing to contribute additional
13 funds, above and beyond their tax obligations, in order to
14 reduce the public debt of the United States.

15 **SEC. 3. NEW WEB SITE.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Using the existing infrastructure
17 of www.pay.gov, the Secretary of the Treasury shall create
18 a new Web site, www.DebtPatriots.gov, to specifically re-
19 ceive gifts to reduce the public debt. The Web site shall
20 be known as “Gifts to Reduce the Public Debt” and shall
21 include the following:

22 (1) Improved features and user interface from
23 the existing infrastructure for ease of use.

24 (2) An easily accessible domain name,
25 www.DebtPatriots.gov.

1 (3) an opt-in check-box to allow donor names to
2 be publically recognized for their donation.

3 (4) A linked Web site on which the publically
4 recognized donors can be published according to the
5 following levels of donation:

6 (A) Corporation Award Levels:

7 (i) Corporate Founder (\$50B).

8 (ii) Corporate Son of Liberty (\$10B).

9 (iii) Corporate Constitutional Delegate
10 (\$1B).

11 (iv) Corporate Minuteman (\$500M).

12 (v) Corporate Patriot (\$1M).

13 (B) Individual Award Levels (Premium):

14 (i) Premium Founding Father/Mother
15 (\$1B).

16 (ii) Premium Son/Daughter of Liberty
17 (\$500M).

18 (iii) Premium Constitutional Delegate
19 (\$100M).

20 (iv) Premium Minuteman/woman
21 (\$10M).

22 (v) Premium Patriot (\$1M).

23 (C) Individual Award Levels:

24 (i) Founding Father/Mother (\$100K).

25 (ii) Son/Daughter of Liberty (\$10K).

1 (iii) Constitutional Delegate (\$1K).

2 (iv) Minuteman/woman (\$100).

3 (v) Patriot (\$10).

4 (5) A clearly published list of the aforemen-
5 tioned award levels on DebtPatriots.Gov.

6 (6) A printable form and address for those who
7 prefer to make a gift through the mail by check.

8 (b) REQUIRED LINKS TO WEB SITE.—The Secretary
9 of the Treasury and the President shall provide a link to
10 this Web site on their main pages.

11 **SEC. 4. CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION.**

12 The President shall issue a signed certification of ap-
13 preciation recognizing the award level of each donor who
14 contributes to “Gifts to Reduce the Public Debt”.

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