116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION  H. R. _____

To prohibit the payment of a salary to Members of Congress, the President, and the Vice President during periods during which a Government shutdown is in effect, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Golden introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ______________________

A BILL

To prohibit the payment of a salary to Members of Congress, the President, and the Vice President during periods during which a Government shutdown is in effect, 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 “Solidarity in Salary
5    Act of 2019”.

(Original Signature of Member)
SEC. 2. PROHIBITING PAYING SALARIES OF MEMBERS OF
CONGRESS DURING GOVERNMENT SHUT-
DOWNS.

(a) Rule for One Hundred Sixteenth Con-
gress.—

(1) Holding salaries in escrow.—If on any
day during a pay period occurring during the One
Hundred Sixteenth Congress a Government shut-
down is in effect, the payroll administrator of each
House of Congress shall—

(A) deposit in an escrow account and ex-
clude from the payments otherwise required to
be made with respect to that pay period for the
compensation of each Member of Congress who
serves in that House of Congress an amount
equal to the product of—

(i) the daily rate of pay of the Mem-
ber under section 601(a) of the Legislative
Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C.
4501); and

(ii) the number of 24-hour periods
during the pay period during which the
Government shutdown is in effect; and

(B) release amounts deposited in an es-
crow account under subparagraph (A) to such
Member of Congress only upon the expiration of
the period described in paragraph (2).

(2) Period described.—The period described
in this paragraph is the period that—

(A) begins on the first day on which the
applicable Government shutdown is in effect;
and

(B) ends on the earlier of—

(i) the date on which the applicable
Government shutdown is no longer in ef-
fect; or

(ii) the last day of the One Hundred
Sixteenth Congress.

(3) Withholding and remittance of
amounts from payments held in escrow.—The
payroll administrator of each House of Congress
shall provide for the same withholding and remit-
tance with respect to a payment deposited in an es-
crow account under paragraph (1) that would apply
to the payment if the payment were not subject to
paragraph (1).

(4) Release of amounts at end of the
Congress.—In order to ensure that this subsection
is carried out in a manner that shall not vary the
compensation of Senators or Representatives in vio-
lation of the twenty-seventh amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the payroll administrator of a House of Congress shall release for payment to Members of that House of Congress any amounts remaining in any escrow account under this section on the last day of the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress.

(b) Subsequent Congresses.—On and after the first day of the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress, if on any day during a pay period a Government shutdown is in effect, the payroll administrator of each House of Congress shall exclude from the payments otherwise required to be made with respect to that pay period for the compensation of each Member of Congress who serves in that House of Congress an amount equal to the product of—

(1) the daily rate of pay of the Member under section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501); and

(2) the number of 24-hour periods during the pay period during which the Government shutdown is in effect.

(e) Role of Secretary of the Treasury.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall provide the payroll administrator of each House of Congress with such assistance
as may be necessary to enable the payroll administrator
to carry out this Act.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “Member of Congress” means an
individual serving in a position covered under sub-
paragraph (A), (B), or (C) of section 601(a)(1) of
the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2
U.S.C. 4501(1)); and

(2) the term “payroll administrator”, with re-
spect to a House of Congress, means—

(A) in the case of the House of Represent-
atives, the Chief Administrative Officer of the
House of Representatives, or an employee of
the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
who is designated by the Chief Administrative
Officer to carry out this Act; and

(B) in the case of the Senate, the Sec-
retary of the Senate, or an employee of the Of-
face of the Secretary of the Senate who is des-
ignated by the Secretary to carry out this Act.

SEC. 3. PROHIBITING PAYING SALARIES OF PRESIDENT
AND VICE PRESIDENT DURING GOVERNMENT
SHUTDOWNS.

(a) HOLDING SALARIES IN ESCROW.—If on any day
during a pay period occurring during the term of office
of the President or Vice President a Government shutdown is in effect, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall—

(1) deposit in an escrow account and exclude from the payments otherwise required to be made with respect to that pay period for the compensation of the President and the Vice President an amount equal to the product of—

(A) the daily rate of pay of the President or Vice President (as the case may be) under applicable law; and

(B) the number of 24-hour periods during the pay period during which the Government shutdown is in effect; and

(2) release amounts deposited in an escrow account under paragraph (1) to the President and the Vice President only upon the expiration of the period described in subsection (b).

(b) PERIOD DESCRIBED.—The period described in this subsection is the period that—

(1) begins on the first day on which the applicable Government shutdown is in effect; and

(2) ends on the earlier of—

(A) the date on which the applicable Government shutdown is no longer in effect; or
(B) the last day of the term of office of the President and Vice President during which the period begins.

(c) WITHHOLDING AND REMITTANCE OF AMOUNTS FROM PAYMENTS HELD IN ESCROW.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall provide for the same withholding and remittance with respect to a payment deposited in an escrow account under subsection (a) that would apply to the payment if the payment were not subject to subsection (a).

(d) RELEASE OF AMOUNTS AT END OF TERM.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall release for payment to the President and Vice President any amounts remaining in the escrow account under this section on the last day of the term of office of the President and Vice President during which the period described in subsection (b) begins.

SEC. 4. GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN DEFINED.

In this Act, the term “Government shutdown” means a lapse in appropriations for 1 or more Federal agencies or departments as a result of a failure to enact a regular appropriations bill or continuing resolution.