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## FY 2027 Budget Resolution Principles February 10, 2026

A fiscally responsible budget resolution should abide by the following principles:

### Set a meaningful fiscal goal with a plan to meet that goal

- Develop the budget based on a responsible and credible fiscal goal, such as reducing deficits to 3% of GDP or reducing debt below 100% of GDP.
- Set out a plan to meet that goal, free of gimmicks or unrealistic assumptions.

### Include plans to address mandatory spending and raise revenue

- Include significant and achievable savings targets to slow the growth of mandatory spending programs, along with credible examples.
- Include a plan to reform the tax code in a pro-growth manner while honestly addressing expiring tax provisions, raising revenue relative to current law, and devoting any dynamic growth to deficit reduction.

### Provide for fiscally responsible reconciliation

- Include reconciliation instructions to significantly reduce, not increase, deficits.
- Ensure reconciliation is measured relative to CBO's current law baseline and uses CBO scoring, rather than relying on alternative baselines or estimates.
- Ensure consistent instructions between the House and the Senate.
- Avoid using reconciliation for one-time borrowing on permanent provisions.

### Set responsible, achievable, and enforceable discretionary spending levels

- Set realistic discretionary levels that slow the growth of spending while appropriately integrating and tapering off one-time mandatory appropriations.
- Responsibly budget for emergency spending.

### Enforce the PAYGO requirement that legislation not add to the deficit

- Include requirements to fully offset – or ideally include 2-for-1 offsets – for any bill that reduces revenues or increases mandatory spending.
- Maintain and strengthen fiscally responsible budget rules.

### Rely on credible and realistic assumptions

- Use economic assumptions from the Congressional Budget Office.
- Avoid relying on large, unspecified savings or other rosy assumptions.

### Improve the budget process and budget enforcement

- Ensure strict enforcement of budget resolution spending and revenue levels, and make it harder to waive budget limits with stricter procedural controls.
- Strengthen prohibitions of fake savings and other budget gimmicks.