

§ 904(b)

(b) Any provision⁹⁵⁷ of title III⁹⁵⁸ or IV⁹⁵⁹ may be waived⁹⁶⁰ or suspended in the Senate by a majority vote of the

⁹⁵⁶(...continued)

provisions of the House bill and Senate amendment relating to the rulemaking powers of the House and Senate.

S. CONF. REP. NO. 924, 93d Cong., 2d Sess., 74 (1974), reprinted in 1974 U.S.C.A.N. 3591, 3615.

⁹⁵⁷ Note that section 904(c) similarly provides that the Senate may waive certain sections only by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn — that is, 60 Senators. See *infra* pp. 361-363.

Note that the Senate may also waive section 303(a) pursuant to section 303(c). See *supra* pp. 114-116.

Section 904(c) provides that the Senate may waive or suspend sections 301(i), 302(c), 302(f), 305(b)(2), 305(c)(4), 306, 310(d)(2), 310(f), 311(a), 313, 601(b), 606(c), 904(c), and 904(d) only by the affirmative vote of 60 Senators. See *infra* pp. 361-363. Section 271(b) of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings also provides that the Senate may waive or suspend sections 301(i), 302(c), 302(f), 304(b), 310(d), 310(g), and 311(a) only by the affirmative vote of 60 Senators. See *infra* p. 671. Section 13208 of the Budget Enforcement Act (see *infra* pp. 728-729) amended section 904(c) of the Congressional Budget Act (see *infra* pp. 361-363) so as to supersede section 271(b) of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings (see *infra* p. 671), but did not repeal section 271(b).

⁹⁵⁸ See *supra* pp. 43-194.

⁹⁵⁹ See *supra* pp. 247-272. The Budget Enforcement Act should have added title VI to this list of titles that the Senate may waive by a majority vote. The drafters of the Budget Enforcement Act certainly did not want those sections of title VI not mentioned in section 904(c) (see *infra* p. 361) to stand without possibility of waiver. The drafters of the Act assumed that unless the law listed a section among those requiring 60 Senators to waive, that section would require a simple majority of those present and voting to waive.

⁹⁶⁰ Once the Chair has ruled on a point of order, it is too late to move to waive the provision on which the point of order was based. 128 CONG. REC. S8884, S8887-88 (1982); Senate Precedent PRL19820722-001 (July 22, 1982) (LEGIS, Rules database) (attempt to waive by Sen. Thurmond during debate on the Tax Reconciliation Act of 1982).

Debate on Points of Order

A motion to waive a provision of the Congressional Budget Act is debatable. See, e.g., 133 CONG. REC. S5381 (1987); Senate Precedent PRL198704123-002 (Apr. 23, 1987) (LEGIS, Rules database) (inquiry of Sen. Harkin); 132 CONG. REC. S16,420 (daily ed. Oct. 16, 1986) (inquiries of Sens. Simpson & Domenici); *id.* at S14,202 (daily ed. Sept. 29, 1986); (continued...)