this can lead to a prolonged period of inaction. Some parties may believe it to be strategic to spend now in order to prevent their opposition from having the same spending power when they are elected.

Solutions to deficit bias include:

1. Debt targets and ceilings: By setting relatively permanent commitments on debt should act as a constraint to day to day policy restrictions.
2. Budgetary procedures: By making sure that the effects of fiscal policy are fully considered before any measures are passed and sufficient time is given for due consideration then policy may be more constrained.
3. Delegation: Fiscal policy could be delegated to some independent body, similar to the central bank. The issue with this is that such a body might lack democratic accountability, as well as the fact that the aims of distributional consequences, making fiscal policy inherently political.
4. Fiscal Policy Councils: Similar to the above method, this would involve the setting up of an independent committee to evaluate and give advice on fiscal policy.