



# BUDGET WEEK

Committee on the Budget • Majority Caucus  
U.S. House of Representatives  
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Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation  
scheduled for the House floor

25 September 2006

Week of 25 September 2006

## SUSPENSION CALENDAR (PART II)

1) ***Native American Languages Preservation Act of 2006*** (H.R. 4766). 

The bill amends the Native American Languages Act to require the Secretary of Education to make grants to, or enter into contracts with, Native American language educational organizations, Native American language colleges, Indian tribal governments, organizations that demonstrate the potential to become Native American language educational organizations, or consortia of such entities to establish Native American nests that meet specified requirements for students under the age of seven and families of the students. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting the bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

2) ***Third Higher Education Extension Act of 2006*** (H.R. 6138). 

This bill temporarily extends the student loan and Pell Grant programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965 until June 30, 2007. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting the bill will not reduce revenues. The bill is expected to increase direct spending by small amounts over the 2007-2011 period due to a loan forgiveness program for families of 9/11 victims.

3) ***Supporting Efforts to Promote Greater Public Awareness of Effective Runaway Youth Prevention Programs and the Need for Safe and Productive Alternatives, Resources, and Supports for Homeless Youth and Youth in Other High-Risk Situations*** (H.Res. 1009). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

4) ***Expressing the Sense of the House of Representatives Supporting the Establishment of September as Campus Fire Safety Month, and for Other Purposes*** (H.Res. 295). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

5) ***Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity Through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2006*** (H.R. 6142). 

This bill provides investment incentives for U.S. companies in Africa and extends modified third country fabric benefits. It also extends the Generalized System of Preferences for two years and provides certain apparel benefits to Haiti. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but preliminary analysis suggests enacting this bill will reduce revenues by approximately \$1 billion dollars over the 2007-2011 period.

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**PLEASE NOTE:** This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to address support or opposition on any other grounds. A green flag indicates no serious budgetary or budget compliance concerns. A yellow flag indicates moderate or potential problems. A red flag indicates serious problems. **Also note:** Floor schedules and legislative details are subject to change after publication.

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives. It has not been approved by the full committee and therefore may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

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6) ***Child and Family Services Improvement Act of 2006*** (S. 3525). 

The proposed amendment makes changes to part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to reauthorize various child welfare programs and to direct that some of the authorized funding be used to support monthly caseworker visits for foster children and to services for children affected by methamphetamine or other substance abuse. It increases authorization levels by \$1 billion over the 2007-2011 period, and, assuming the appropriation of the authorized amounts, will result in additional discretionary outlays of \$780 million over the same period. Certain child welfare programs categorized as direct spending also will be reauthorized by the bill, but the costs of extending those mandatory programs—\$1.4 billion over the 2007-2011 period—are already included in the House-passed budget resolution projections as required by the Deficit Control Act. Hence, enacting the proposed amendment would not change total direct spending for the 2007-2011 period.

7) ***To Permit Certain Expenditures from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund***   
(H.R. 6131).

Monies appropriated from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank [LUST] trust fund are used for detection, prevention, and cleanup of leaking underground storage tanks to reduce water pollution. H.R. 6131 will allow the LUST trust fund to be spent for new purposes that will expand protective and corrective measures. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

8) ***Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2006*** (H.R. 5637). 

This bill creates a uniform system for taxing and regulating certain types of insurance products. In addition, the bill establishes national standards for how states regulate reinsurance—often referred to as insurance for insurance companies. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 5637 will increase Federal revenues by \$5 million to \$10 million a year over the 2008-2016 period because the bill prohibits states from collecting taxes on certain insurance products. This change reduces the companies' Federal tax deductions resulting in higher taxable Federal income. The bill has no significant impact on Federal spending because enforcement of the insurance tax system rests with the states rather than with any Federal agency.

9) ***Community Development Investment Enhancements Act of 2006*** (H.R. 6062). 

This bill seeks to enhance the authority of the national banks to make community development investments. Under this bill, a Federal savings association may make investments designed primarily to promote the public welfare, including the welfare of low- and moderate-income communities or families through the provision of housing, services, and jobs. At the time of publication, a cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to have a significant impact on the Federal budget.

10) ***Financial Services Regulatory Relief Amendments Act of 2006*** (H.R. 6072). 

This bill amends the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to provide further regulatory relief for depository institutions and clarify certain provisions of law applicable to such institutions. At the time of publication, a cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to have a significant impact on the Federal budget.

11) ***Promoting Antiterrorism Capabilities Through International Cooperation Act***   
(H.R. 4942).

This bill establishes the International Cooperative Programs Office within the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security [DHS]. The office will be directed to facilitate and support cooperation on homeland security research between the United States and its allies, and will be charged with appropriately matching U.S. and foreign entities engaged in such research. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4942 will cost \$85 million over the 2007-2011 period, assuming the appropriation of the specified amounts.

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12) ***More Border Patrol Agents Now Act of 2006*** (H.R. 6116). 


This bill directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to, within six months, devise and submit to specified Congressional committees a plan to determine how the Border Patrol can better recruit and retain Border Patrol agents with the appropriate skills and training to effectively carry out its mission and responsibilities. It also enhances recruitment and retention bonuses. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

13) ***Secure Border Initiative Financial Accountability Act of 2006*** (H.R. 6162). 


This bill requires the Inspector General [IG] of the Department of Homeland Security to review each contract action related to the Department's Secure Border Initiative having a value greater than \$20,000,000, to determine whether each such action fully complies with applicable cost requirements, performance objectives, program milestones, inclusion of small, minority, and women-owned business, and timelines. The IG must submit a report of the findings to the Secretary of Homeland Security who in turn provides a report of the findings and necessary correctives actions to the Committee on Homeland Security. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

14) ***Expressing the Sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Border Patrol is Performing an Invaluable Service to the United States, and that the House of Representatives Fully Supports the More than 12,000 Border Patrol Agents*** (H.Res. 1030). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

15) ***Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month*** (H.Con.Res. 473).  This resolution has no budget implications.

16) ***Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Infant Mortality Awareness Month*** (H.Res. 402).  This resolution has no budget implications.

17) ***Recognizing the 225th Anniversary of the American and French victory at Yorktown, Virginia, during the Revolutionary War*** (H.Res. 748). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

18) ***Congratulating the Columbus Northern Little League Baseball Team from Columbus, Georgia, on its Victory in the 2006 Little League World Series Championship Games*** (H.Res. 991). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

19) ***To Designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service Located at 1213 East Houston Street in Cleveland, Texas, as the "Lance Corporal Robert A. Martinez Post Office Building"*** (H.R. 5108). 

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

20) ***To Designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service Located at 101 East Gay Street in West Chester, Pennsylvania, as the "Robert J. Thompson Post Office Building"*** (H.R. 6075). 

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

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21) **To Designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service Located at 307 West Wheat Street in Woodville, Texas, as the "Chuck Fortenberry Post Office Building"**   
(H.R. 6078).

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

22) **Recognizing Financial Planning Week, Recognizing the Significant Impact of Sound Financial Planning on Achieving Life's Goals, and Honoring Families and the Financial Planning Profession for Their Adherence and Dedication to the Financial Planning Process** (H.Res. 973). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

23) **To Designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service Located at 10240 Roosevelt Road in Westchester, Illinois, as the 'John J. Sinde Post Office Building'**   
(H.R. 5989).

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

24) **To Designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service Located at 415 South 5th Avenue in Maywood, Illinois, as the "Wallace W. Sykes Post Office Building"** (H.R. 5990). 

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

25) **A bill to Designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service Located at 2951 York Highway 43 in Averill Park, New York, as the "Major George Quamo Post Office Building"**   
(S. 3613).

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

26) **A Bill to Designate the Post Office located at 5755 Post Road, East Greenwich, Rhode Island, as the "Richard L. Cevoli Post Office"** (S. 3187). 


This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

27) **Encouraging all Offices of the House of Representatives to Hire Disabled Veterans**   
(H.Res. 1016).

This resolution has no budget implications.

28) **Open Space and Farmland Preservation Act** (H.R. 5313). 

This bill amends the Farm Security Act of 1985 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to reserve at least 15 percent of farmland protection program funds for grants to support cooperative efforts by an eligible state agency, county, or other eligible entity to purchase conservation easements and other interests in eligible land, whose title shall be held by an eligible entity rather than the United States. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

29) **To Provide for the Conveyance of the Former Konnarock Lutheran Girls School in Smyth County, Virginia, which is Currently Owned by the United States and Administered by the Forest Service, to Facilitate the Restoration and Reuse of the Property, and for Other Purposes**   
(H.R. 5103).

This bill directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey property in the Jefferson National Forest, Smyth County, Virginia, containing the former Konnarock Lutheran Girls School to the Evangelical Lutheran Coalition for Mission in Appalachia. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.


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30) ***To Provide for the Conveyance of Certain National Forest System Land to the Towns of Laona and Wabeno, Wisconsin, to Authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to Convey Certain Isolated Parcels of National Forest System Land in Florence and Langlade Counties, Wisconsin, and for Other Purposes*** (H.R. 4559). 


This bill directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey two specified parcels of National Forest System [NFS] land in Forest County, Wisconsin, to the towns of Laona and Wabeno, at their request, for use as industrial park sites in exchange for the appraised fair market value of the parcels. The bill also authorizes the Secretary to sell specified parcels of NFS land located in Florence and Langlade counties, Wisconsin, for fair market value. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

31) ***Green Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2005*** (H.R. 1215). 

This bill authorizes appropriations for fiscal years 2006 through 2008 for chemistry and chemical engineering research aimed at reducing or eliminating the use and production of hazardous substances (known as "green chemistry"). It authorizes funding for such green chemistry programs at four agencies: the National Science Foundation [NSF], the Department of Energy [DOE], the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST], and the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA]. Assuming appropriation of the specified amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1215 would cost \$102 million over the 2006-2010 period. CBO estimates that enacting this bill has no effect on direct spending or revenue.

32) ***Railroad Retirement Technical Improvement Act of 2006*** (H.R. 5074). 

This bill eliminates the requirement for the Railroad Retirement Board [RRB] to use a nongovernmental financial institution to serve as the disbursing agent for railroad retirement payments to retirees and survivors. In addition, the bill permits the RRB to continue to use the Department of Treasury as its disbursing agent for those payments. CBO estimates that using the Treasury rather than a nongovernmental institution would save about \$2 million a year. Assuming that appropriations for the RRB's administrative expenses reflect that change, CBO estimates the bill will reduce outlays by \$2 million in 2007 and by \$9 million over the 2007-2011 period. H.R. 5074 does not affect either direct spending or revenue.

33) ***Dam Safety Act of 2006*** (H.R. 4981). 

This bill amends the National Dam Safety Program Act to require the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to maintain and update information on the inventory of dams in the United States, including an assessment of each dam based on inspections completed by either a Federal agency or a state dam safety agency. The bill also requires the strategic plan for dam safety prepared by the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA] to establish performance measures, in addition to goals, priorities, and target dates, toward effectively administering the Act to improve dam safety. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

34) ***To Designate the Federal Building Located at 2 South Main Street in Akron, Ohio, as the "John F. Seiberling Federal Building"*** (H.R. 6051). 

At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

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35) **To Designate a Parcel of Land Located on the Site of the Thomas F. Eagleton United States Courthouse in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Clyde S. Cahill Memorial Park"** (H.R. 1556). 


At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

36) **To Designate the Federal Courthouse to be Constructed in Greenville, South Carolina, as the "Carroll A. Campbell, Jr. Federal Courthouse"** (H.R. 5546). 


At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

37) **To Designate the Federal Building and United States Courthouse Located at 221 and 211 West Ferguson Street in Tyler, Texas, as the "William M. Steger Federal Building and United States Courthouse"** (H.R. 5606). 

At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

38) **To Designate the Investigations Building of the Food and Drug Administration Located at 466 Fernandez Juncos Avenue in San Juan, Puerto Rico, as the "Andres Toro Building"** (H.R. 5026). 

At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

39) **To Designate the Federal Building Located at 320 North Main Street in McAllen, Texas, as the "Kika de la Garza Federal Building"** (H.R. 2322). 

At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

40) **National Institute of Health Reform Act of 2006** (H.R. 6164). 

The National Institutes of Health Reform Act would authorize appropriations for the activities of the National Institutes of Health [NIH] of \$29.7 billion for fiscal year 2007, \$31.2 billion for fiscal year 2008, and \$32.8 billion for fiscal year 2009. Assuming appropriation of the specified amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost about \$8.6 billion in 2007 and about \$90 billion over the 2007-2011 period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts.

41) **Biodefense and Pandemic Vaccine and Drug Development Act of 2006** (H.R. 5533). 

This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop and make public a strategic plan to integrate biodefense and emerging infectious disease requirements with the advanced research and development, strategic initiatives for innovation, and the procurement of qualified countermeasures and qualified pandemic or epidemic products. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

42) **To Extend the Time Required for Construction of a Hydroelectric Project, and for Other Purposes** (H.R. 4377). 

This bill instructs the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC], upon licensee request, to: (1) extend the period for commencing construction of project works 4656 (Arrowrock Hydroelectric Project, Idaho) for a period of three years if the license for the project is in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act; or (2) reinstate the license and extend the period for commencing construction of such project works for an additional three-year period if the project license has been terminated before the date of enactment of this Act. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

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43) **To Provide for the Reinstatement of a License for a Certain Federal Energy Regulatory Project** (H.R. 4417). 

This bill directs the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC], upon the request of the licensee for the project numbered 7307, to extend the time required for commencement of construction of the project until December 31, 2007. The bill also provides for reinstatement of an expired license. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

44) **A Bill to Extend the Deadline for Commencement of Construction of a Hydroelectric Project in the State of Wyoming** (S. 244). 

This bill authorizes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] to extend the deadline for construction of a hydroelectric project (number 1651) in Lincoln County, Wyoming. These provisions could have a minor impact on FERC's workload. Because FERC recovers 100 percent of its costs through user fees, any change in its administrative costs would be offset by an equal change in the fees that the commission charges. Hence, the legislation's provisions have no net budgetary impact. Because FERC's administrative costs are limited in annual appropriations, the bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

45) **A Bill to Extend the Deadline for Commencement of Construction of a Hydroelectric Project in the State of Alaska** (S. 176). 

If requested by the licensee, S. 176 authorizes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] to extend the deadline for construction of a hydroelectric project (number 11480) in Alaska by up to six years. This bill has a minor impact on FERC's workload. Because FERC recovers 100 percent of its costs through user fees, any change in its administrative costs would be offset by an equal change in the fees that the commission charges. CBO estimates that implementing S. 176 would have no net effect on the Federal budget. Because FERC's administrative costs are limited in annual appropriations, the bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

46) **To Extend the Deadline for Commencement of Construction of Certain Hydroelectric Projects in Connecticut, and for Other Purposes** (H.R. 971). 

This bill directs the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend through May 30, 2007, the time period during which the licensee is required to commence construction for projects numbered 11547, 10822, and 10823 in the State of Connecticut. Additionally, the bill requires the Commission thereafter, upon licensee request, to extend the time period for construction of such project for two consecutive two-year periods. At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

47) **Veterans Identity and Credit Security Act of 2006** (H.R. 5835). 

This bill creates a new Office of the Under Secretary for Information Services within the Department of Veterans Affairs [VA]. The bill also requires VA to notify affected individuals when sensitive, personal information held by VA is lost, stolen, or otherwise compromised. Additionally, if the Secretary of VA determines there is a risk that the compromised information could be used in a criminal manner, VA would be required to provide services to alleviate any loss those individuals might suffer. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 5835 will cost \$5 million in 2007 and about \$50 million over the 2007-2011 period, assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts. Under the bill, VA would be authorized to collect and spend certain receipts, but CBO estimates that the net effect of those receipts on the Federal budget is insignificant.

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## LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

- Bill:** *Child Custody Protection Act* (S. 403). 
- Committee:** Judiciary
- Summary:** This bill amends the Federal criminal code to prohibit the transport of a minor across a state line to obtain an abortion (deems such transporting to be a de facto abridgment of the right of a parent under any law in the minor's state of residence that requires parental involvement in the minor's abortion decision). It makes an exception for an abortion necessary to save the life of the minor.
- Cost:** At the time of publication, a formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to reduce. Enacting the bill could lead to small increase in the collection of criminal fines, however, these fines too speculative to consider for budget enforcement purposes.
- Budget Act:** This bill is not expected to violate the Congressional Budget Act.
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- Bill:** *Public Expression of Religion Act of 2005* (H.R. 2679). 
- Committee:** Judiciary
- Summary:** This bill prevents Federal courts from awarding monetary relief to parties claiming violations of the Constitutional prohibition on the establishment of religion by Federal, state, or local governments. In addition, parties who have prevailed on claims of such violations can no longer be awarded attorneys' fees and expenses.
- Cost:** Because few suits are brought against the Federal government for such violations, CBO expects that enacting H.R. 2679 has no significant effect on the Federal budget.
- Budget Act:** This bill is not expected to violate the Congressional Budget Act.
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- Bill:** *Military Commissions Act of 2006* (H.R. 6054). 
- Committee:** Armed Services
- Summary:** This bill amends title 10 of the U.S. Code to authorize trial by military commission for violations of the law of war, and authorizes the President to establish such military commissions. It provides a number of definitions, including one for the term "unlawful enemy combatant," and prescribes the requirements for commission membership. The bill sets forth pre-trial, trial and post-trial procedures as well as jurisdiction, sentencing, and judicial review and delineates the crimes triable by the commission. In addition, it makes applicability of the act retroactive to include: 1) any aspect of the detention, treatment, or trial of any person detained at any time since 11 September 2001; and 2) any claim or cause of action pending on or after the date of the enactment of this act. The bill also requires the Secretary of Defense to submit an annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Armed Services on any trials conducted by these military commissions.
- Cost:** CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 6054 would cost \$21 million in 2007 and \$141 million over the 2007-11 period, assuming appropriation of necessary funds. Enacting H.R. 6054 would not affect direct spending or revenue.
- Budget Act:** This bill does not violate the Congressional Budget Act.

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**Bill:** *Electronic Surveillance Modernization Act* (H.R. 5825). 

**Committee:** Judiciary, Intelligence

**Summary:** This bill amends the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. It provides definitions for the terms "electronic surveillance" and "surveillance device." In addition, it authorizes electronic surveillance for foreign intelligence.

**Cost:** At the time of publication, a cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenues.

**Budget Act:** This bill is not expected to violate the Congressional Budget Act.

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**Prepared by** ..... **The Committee on the Budget**