



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

19 September 2006

Week of 18 September 2006

SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) **Supporting the Goal of Eliminating Suffering and Death Due to Cancer by the Year 2015** 
(H.Con.Res. 210).

This resolution has no budget implications.

2) **Wool Suit Fabric Labeling Fairness and International Standards Conforming Act** 
(H.R. 4583).

This bill amends the Wool Products Labeling Act to define certain grades of wool used to identify the quality of wool fabrics. The bill also defines the standards for labeling cashmere fabrics. Based on information from the Federal Trade Commission, the Congressional Budget Office [CBO] estimates that the cost of enforcing these new labeling requirements would be less than \$500,000 a year, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting H.R. 4583 does not affect direct spending – spending not subject to appropriations – or revenue.

3) **Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness Week** 
(H.Res. 982).

This resolution has no budget implications.

4) **Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Observing the Year of Polio Awareness** (H.Res. 526). 


This resolution has no budget implications.

5) **Honoring Mary Eliza Mahoney, America's First Professionally Trained African-American Nurse** 
(H.Con.Res. 386).

This resolution has no budget implications.

6) **To Recognize and Honor the Filipino World War II Veterans for their Defense of Democratic Ideals and Their Important Contribution to the Outcome of World War II** (H.Res. 622). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

7) **Condemning the Repression of the Iranian Baha'i Community and Calling for the Emancipation of Iranian Baha'is** (H.Con.Res. 415). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

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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.

8) **Recognizing the Centennial Anniversary on August 5, 2006, of the Iranian Constitution of 1906** (H.Res. 942). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

9) **Condemning Human Rights Abuses by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Expressing Solidarity with the Iranian People** (H.Res. 976). 

This resolution has no budget implications.


10) **Expressing the Sense of the House of Representatives that the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Needs to do More to Resolve Claims for Confiscated Real and Personal Property** (H.Res. 415). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

11) **Requesting the President to Issue a Proclamation Annually Calling upon the People of the United States to Observe Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing** (H.Con.Res. 317). 

(H.Con.Res. 317).

This resolution has no budget implications.

12) **Recognizing and Supporting the Success of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 in Increasing Adoption and the Efforts the Act has Spurred Including National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month, and Encouraging Adoption Throughout the Year** (H.Res. 959). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

13) **To Designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service Located at 110 Cooper Street in Babylon, New York, as the "Jacob Fletcher Post Office Building"** (H.R. 5664). 

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

14) **To Designate the Facility of the United States Postal Service Located at 777 Corporation Street in Beaver, Pennsylvania, as the "Robert Linn Memorial Post Office Building"** (H.R. 4768). 

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

15) **Military Personnel Financial Services Protection Act** (S. 418). 

This bill bans the sale of mutual funds sold through contractual plans.

The bill also requires the Department of Defense to maintain a list of agents and advisors barred from doing business on military installations. Finally, the bill amends securities law to require registered securities associations to provide public access to certain consumer information, and to file certain financial information with the Securities and Exchange Commission. CBO estimates that implementing S. 418 would result in no significant cost to the Federal Government and would not affect direct spending or revenue.

16) **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act** (H.R. 5450). 


This bill provides statutory authority for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA], which was created administratively in 1970. In addition to codifying the agency's functions, authorities, and responsibilities, the bill requires NOAA to prepare new reports and policy statements. Based on information from NOAA, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 5450 would have no significant impact on the Federal budget and no effect on direct spending or revenue.

17) **Student and Teacher Safety Act of 2006** (H.R. 5295).


This bill requires States, local educational agencies, and school districts to deem a search of any minor student on public school grounds to be reasonable and permissible if conducted by a full-time teacher or school official, acting on any valid suspicion based on


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professional experience and judgment, to ensure that the school remain free of all weapons, dangerous materials, or illegal narcotics. The bill denies Safe Schools and Citizenship Education funds, provided under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, to States, local educational agencies, and school districts that fail to deem such searches reasonable and permissible. A formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting the bill is not expected to have an impact on the Federal budget.


18) ***Recognizing and Honoring America's Seniors*** (H.Res. 874). 
This resolution has no budget implications.


19) ***Recognizing and Supporting the Efforts of the State of New York Develop the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor in New Windsor, New York*** (H.Con.Res. 419). 
This resolution has no budget implications.

20) ***Wichita Project Equus Beds Division Authorization Act of 2005*** (S. 1025). 
This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the funding and implementation of the Equus Beds Aquifer Recharge project in Wichita, KS. This aquifer is a primary source of water for the city of Wichita, along with the Cheney Reservoir. The legislation would limit the Federal share of the project's cost to 25 percent of total costs, or a maximum of \$30 million, plus adjustments for inflation. This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

21) ***Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 2006*** (S. 2430). 
This bill authorizes the appropriation of \$18 million for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011 to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for fish and wildlife restoration in the Great Lakes Basin. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$14 million in 2007 and \$84 million over the 2007-11 period. The Committee on Resources is expected to offer an amendment that reduces the authorization of appropriation amounts. The bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

22) ***City of Oxnard Water Recycling and Desalination Act of 2005*** (H.R. 2334). 
This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the first phase of a project to reclaim, reuse, and treat water near Oxnard, CA, known as the GREAT project. The bill limits the Federal cost share of the project to 25 percent and prohibits the Secretary from providing funds for the operation and maintenance of the project. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2334 would cost \$15 million over the 2007-11 period. Enacting the legislation does not affect direct spending or revenue.

23) ***Appalachian Regional Development Act Amendments of 2006*** (S. 2832). 
The Appalachian Regional Commission provides grants to State and local governments to support economic development within the Appalachian region. This bill authorizes the appropriation of \$511 million for the commission over the 2007-11 period, and limits the size of awards to grantees. CBO estimates that implementing S. 2832 would cost \$267 million over the 2007-11 period, assuming the appropriation of the authorized amounts. Enacting the bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

24) ***To Repeal a Prohibition on the Use of Certain Funds for Tunneling in Certain Areas With Respect to the Los Angeles to San Fernando Valley Metro Rail Project, California*** 
(H.R. 4653).
This bill lifts the prohibition on the use of Federal funds for construction of any segment of the Los Angeles to San Fernando Valley Metro Rail project. The prohibition was established by Congress in 1986 in response to a fire, caused by naturally occurring methane gas that was located along a proposed

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expansion of the rail project. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4653 by itself has no cost to the Federal Government.

25) ***Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006*** (H.R. 3858). 

This bill requires states to consider the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals in their emergency preparedness plans. To be eligible to receive financial assistance for emergency preparedness under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, states must submit annual emergency preparedness plans. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3858 has no significant impact on the Federal budget.

LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

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.

Bill: ***Federal Election Integrity Act of 2006*** (H.R. 4844).

Committee: Administration

Summary: This bill amends the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require any individual who desires to register or re-register to vote in an election for Federal office to provide the appropriate State election official with proof of U.S. citizenship. The requirement applies in States without registration requirements, and in States permitting same day registration. State or local election officials are prohibited from: 1) providing a ballot for an election for Federal office to an individual who desires to vote in person unless the individual presents to the official a current and valid photo identification; or 2) accepting any ballot of an individual voting by mail without a copy of a current photo identification.

Cost: A formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to have an impact on the Federal budget.

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

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Bill: *To Restore the Secretary of Homeland Security's Authority to Detain Dangerous Aliens, to Affirm the Inherent Authority of State and Local Law Enforcement to Assist in the Enforcement of Immigration Laws* (H.R. 6089).

Committee: Judiciary

Summary: This bill allows the Department of Homeland Security to detain, beyond 6 months, dangerous aliens who otherwise cannot be deported. Likewise, detained dangerous aliens will not be released in society. Such aliens will be detained for 6 months at a time, and the period of detention may be renewed. H.R. 6089 reaffirms the inherent authority of State and local law enforcement to voluntarily investigate, identify, apprehend, arrest, detain, and transfer to Federal custody aliens in the U.S. in order to assist in the enforcement of the immigration laws.

Cost: A cost estimate was not available, but enacting the bill is not expected to affect on revenue or direct spending.

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

Bill: *To Reform Immigration Litigation Procedures and Combat Alien Gang Crime* (H.R. 6090).

Committee: Judiciary

Summary: H.R. 6090 ends injunctions that prevent the effective enforcement of immigration laws. The bill removes injunctions by establishing requirements under which courts can order prospective relief in immigration cases, and by requiring courts to promptly rule on government motions to vacate, modify, dissolve, or otherwise terminate orders granting prospective relief in immigration cases and stay orders granting such relief. The bill renders alien gang members deportable and inadmissible, mandates their detention, and bars them from receiving asylum or temporary protected status. The bill adopts procedures similar to those used by the State Department to designate foreign terrorist organizations in order to enable the Attorney General to designate gangs as criminal street gangs.

Cost: A cost estimate was not available, but enacting the bill is not expected to affect on revenue or direct spending.

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

Bill: *To Secure the Borders of the United States, and to Ensure the Removal of Deportable Criminal Aliens* (H.R. 6091).

Committee: Judiciary

Summary: This bill authorizes an increase in the number of attorneys to prosecute alien smuggling cases, and expresses Congress' sense that the Attorney General should establish uniform guidelines for prosecution of alien smugglers. It allows the Department of Homeland Security to use the same expedited procedures available for the removal of aggravated felons to remove other criminal aliens who are not permanent residents and are otherwise ineligible for relief. This bill enacts criminal penalties of up to 20 years' imprisonment for individuals who knowingly construct or finance the construction of an

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unauthorized tunnel across a U.S. international border. In addition, individuals who recklessly permit the construction of such a tunnel on their own property are subject to imprisonment of up to 10 years. Individuals caught using such a tunnel to smuggle aliens, contraband, drugs, weapons or terrorists are subject to twice the penalty that would have otherwise been imposed.

Cost: A cost estimate was not available, but enacting the bill is expected to have no effect on revenue and a negligible effect on direct spending from criminal penalties. Funds from these penalties go into the Crime Victims Fund and can be spent without further appropriation. The amounts are considered too speculative in nature to consider for budget enforcement purposes.

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