



# 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

28 September 2006

Week of 25 September 2006

## SUSPENSION CALENDAR (Part IV)

### 1) **Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2006** (H.R. 5574).

This bill requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make payments for fiscal years 2007-11 to children's hospitals for expenses associated with operating approved graduate medical residency training programs. (The payments currently are authorized through fiscal year 2005, but appropriations for them have continued through fiscal year 2006). The bill requires a 25-percent reduction in the amount payable for residency training programs for children's hospitals that do not comply with reporting requirements, and requires the Secretary to provide notice and an opportunity for a hospital to provide additional information before imposing the reduction. The Congressional Budget Office [CBO] estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$225 million in 2007 and \$1.4 billion over the 2007-11 period, assuming the appropriation of the authorized amounts. The bill does not affect direct spending – spending not subject to appropriations – or revenue.

### 2) **Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2006** (H.R. 5681).

This bill authorizes appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for the U.S. Coast Guard. It authorizes the appropriation of nearly \$8 billion for discretionary activities of the Coast Guard, including \$2 million annually for payments to the Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute, and \$7 million for each of fiscal years 2007 and 2008 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. CBO estimates that appropriation of the authorized amounts for discretionary programs would result in outlays of about \$4.9 billion in fiscal year 2007 and \$7.7 billion over the 2007-11 period. In addition, the bill permanently repeals the termination date on the Coast Guard housing authorities. According to CBO, the repeal of this housing provision would result in new direct spending of \$120 million over the 2007-11 period and \$200 million over the 2007-16 period. Enacting this bill, as reported, would cause the Transportation Committee to exceed its allocation under the House-passed budget resolution. For floor consideration, however, the committee will remove the housing provision in order to prevent any breach of its allocation.

### 3) **Senior Independence Act of 2006** (H.R. 5293).

This bill reauthorizes programs under the Older Americans Act of 1965, which provides funding for services such as home and community-based supportive services, congregate and home-delivered meals, family caregiver support, and other services for the elderly. Authorizations for most of those programs expired at the end of fiscal year 2005, although some of the programs are permanently authorized, and the others have continued to receive

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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.**

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appropriations during fiscal year 2006. CBO estimates that H.R. 5293 would increase authorizations by \$1.7 billion in 2007 and by \$8.8 billion from 2007 through 2011. Appropriation of those amounts would result in \$7.3 billion of discretionary spending over the next 5 years (in addition to amounts spent under current law).

4) ***Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2006*** (S. 2562).

This bill directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase, as of 1 December 2006, the rates of veterans' disability compensation, additional compensation for dependents, the clothing allowance for certain disabled adult children, and dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses and children. The increases are to be the same percentage and effective date as Social Security cost-of-living adjustments (under title II of the Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance of the Social Security Act). The House-passed budget resolution assumed that the COLA effective on 1 December 2006, would be 2.2 percent. CBO does not have a formal estimate of what the actual COLA will be under the adjusted formula.

5) ***Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006*** (H.R. 6143). 

The bill reauthorizes the Ryan White Program, which provides grants to fund medical care and other support services for those with HIV/AIDS. It modifies some provisions while maintaining the basic structure of the existing program. It authorizes the appropriation of about \$2.3 billion for fiscal year 2007, and \$12.2 billion over the 2007-11 period. The authorization for the Ryan White program expired in fiscal year 2005, but \$2 billion was nevertheless appropriated for the program for fiscal year 2006. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenue, and it does not violate any provision of the Congressional Budget Act.

6) ***To Hold the Current Regime in Iran Accountable for its Threatening Behavior and to Support a Transition to Democracy in Iran*** (H.R. 6198). 

This bill codifies existing sanctions against Iran and amends the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996. It also authorizes the President to provide financial and political assistance to Iran to promote democracy in Iran. A formal cost estimate was not available, but enacting this bill is not expected to increase direct spending or reduce revenue.