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The following measures may be voted on by the House on Tuesday, July 18:

H.R. 1264 — RIGHT-TO-KNOW NATIONAL PAYROLL ACT

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO estimate is not available, but the bill should not impact federal spending.

Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations: The bill requires employers to disclose their share of Social Security and Medicare taxes on an employee's annual W-2 form.

Constitutional Authority: None cited.

Other Information: This bill has been a CATs priority for floor consideration.

H.R. 2961 — INTERNATIONAL PATIENT ACT

Cost to Taxpayer: CBO estimates that implementing the pilot program would cost no more than \$100,000 a year to be funded from immigration fees.

Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations: Yes, the bill creates a three year pilot-program to allow up to 300 individuals and their families to remain in the United States for up to three years for the purpose of receiving medical treatment, provided the individual can certify that their treatment is not being funded by Federal or State assistance and that they can support their day-to-day expenses while in the United States. Current law limits an aliens stay to 120 days maximum under the visa waiver pilot program.

Constitutional Authority: The Committee cites Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 (uniform rules of naturalization).

H.R. 2909-INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION ACT OF 2000 ADOPTION

Cost to the Taxpayer: CBO estimates that the discretionary costs of H.R. 2909 would be less than \$500,000 a year over the 2001-2005 period, subject to appropriations. CBO estimates the State Department would spend approximately \$4 million a year to carry out its responsibilities, including new personnel and contractors and implementing a computerized tracking system to monitor individual adoption cases. To recover those costs, the bill would allow the department to charge a new fee for its services and to retain and spend any collections on consular services, subject to appropriation action. CBO estimates the department would charge a \$200 fee on approximately 20,000 cases each year.

Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations: Yes. H.R. 2909 would designate

the State Department as the central authority responsible for coordinating and implementing international adoptions under the convention. Under current law, the State Department has no routine role in international adoptions. The State Department will be required to:

- C Enter into agreements with nonprofit organizations that would accredit and monitor adoption agencies that would provide services under the convention.
- C Monitor the performance of accreditation agencies.
- C Monitor and facilitate individual cases of adoption under the convention.
- C Provide the Congress with an annual report on international adoptions and the implementation of the convention.
- C Establish a registry of all international adoptions, and
- C Issue certificates when an adoption under the convention has been finalized.

The Attorney General will be the "central authority" listed in the convention and accept applications by prospective adoptive parents. The bill also authorizes the Atty. General to bring civil action in US district court against any person who violates this Act, and lists criminal fines and imprisonment terms.

Constitutional Authority: The Committee cites Article I, section 8, clause 1 (providing for the common defense and general welfare); Article I, section 8, clause 3 (regulation of commerce with foreign nations); and Article I, section 8, clause 18 (making all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution powers)

Summary: 85,000 children from other countries have been adopted between 1989 and 1999.

The Hague Conference on Private International Law drafted a treaty to establish internationally agreed upon norms and procedures for international adoptions. The final text of the Convention was adopted on May 29, 1993, and the United States signed the Convention on March 31, 1994.

According to the Committee report, the Convention provides a formal approval process for intercountry adoptions; establishes a minimum set of standards governing international adoptions; establishes a central authority in each Convention country that can provide reliable information regarding international adoptions; creates reasonable certainty that an adoption decree from a foreign court will be recognized in the receiving state; and creates a system that will allow tracking of children who leave the state of origin for adoption by persons residing abroad. The bill states that it shall not be construed as preempting any current or future provision of state law, except if the state law is inconsistent with the Convention.

H.R. 3113-- UNSOLICITED COMMERCIAL ELECTRONIC MAIL ACT OF 2000

Cost: CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3113 would cost about \$13 million in 2001 and about \$60 million over the 2001-2005 period, subject to appropriation. The cost of implementing the bill could decline over time if it discourages unsolicited Commercial Electronic Mail (UCE).

Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations: Yes. The bill creates a new federal law against unsolicited commercial e-mail, and authorizes Internet Service Providers and the Federal Trade Commission to enforce the provisions. The bill allows a good faith liability allowance for ISPs in enforcing this Act. It also preempts state or local laws inconsistent with the bill, except in the case of any civil remedy under State trespass or contract law or any Federal, state or local law relating to acts of computer fraud and abuse arising from the unauthorized transmission of unsolicited commercial e-mail. The

bill creates a private right of action for the e-mail recipient or an ISP to bring suit in either state court or federal court (if a State law does not allow suit), and the court may reward costs and attorney's fees against the offending party. The bill also requires the FTC to submit a report to Congress no later than 18 months after enactment.

Constitutional Authority: The Committee cites Article I, section 8, clause 3 (commerce clause)

Summary:

The purpose of H.R. 3113, is to prohibit the initiation and transmission of unsolicited commercial e-mail. The bill prohibits the transmission of these e-mail unless the initiator of that message provides a valid return e-mail address and provides the recipient of such messages the opportunity not to receive future mailings. In addition, the bill allows ISPs to enforce their own policy against unsolicited commercial e-mail. The bill authorizes the FTC to bring action against initiators of unsolicited commercial electronic mail messages who operate in violation of the legislation's provisions. .

H.R. 2634 -- DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT ACT OF 1999

Cost to the Taxpayer: The bill would authorize "such sums as may be necessary" for FY2000 and each subsequent year to pay for implementing the program and processing the waiver application, but specifies that no more than \$5 million per year may be obligated for this activity. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2634 would cost the federal government about \$80 million over the 2000-2004 period--\$23 million in administrative costs for SAMSHA and \$30 million in additional Medicaid spending. The committee disputes this estimate and believes the original CBO cost estimate of \$500,000 in any given year (estimate on S. 486, the Senate companion to H.R. 2634) is more accurate. CBO estimated the number of individuals who will benefit from the introduction of buprenorphine will ultimately be 100,000, but the Committee believes that this will not take place in a five-year period.

Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations: Yes, the bill amends the Controlled Substances Act to enable physicians to offer drug addiction treatment in a medical office setting, instead of the current requirement that it be in a drug treatment clinic. The doctors are required by the bill to submit notification to the Secretary of HHS and meet certain requirements. The Attorney General will maintain a list (by unique identifier) of those qualifying physicians who file notice. The bill supersedes state law for the next three years and subsequently defers to state laws enacted in the three year period

Constitutional Authority: The Committee cites Article I, section 8, clause 3 (commerce clause).

Summary: Current estimates suggest that nearly 600,000 people need treatment for heroin addiction . Research conducted by the Office of National Drug Control Policy suggests a shift from injecting heroin to snorting or smoking heroin because of increased purity and the misconception that these forms of use will not lead to addiction. It is these latter forms of heroin abuse that have led to a significant increase of heroin abuse among American high school students. The Committee contends that this legislation will help mitigate the stigma associated with drug-addiction-treatment medications. Many heroin addicts, reportedly continue to avoid treatment because of either the stigma of being in methadone treatment or their concerns about the medical effects of these medications. Organizations that have examined the problems of drug addiction treatment – ranging from the Institute of Medicine, expert panels advisory to the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and medical groups

such as the American Psychiatric Association and the American Society for Addiction Medicine – have recommended changes in the current system.

The views expressed in this Legislative Bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views of all Members of the Conservative Action Team.

The Conservative Action Team is a Congressional Member Organization of almost 60 House Members and is chaired by Representative John Shadegg (R-AZ).