



## **The Money Monitor**

*...keeping track of how Washington wants to spend your money*

**Week of December 15-19, 2003**

The House was out of session this week.

Net five-year cost of House authorizations passed by the House *this week*:  
**\$0.00**

*Year-to-date total* of net five-year costs of House-passed authorizations:  
**\$728,553,210,000.00**

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Net five-year change in House-passed mandatory spending *this week*:  
**\$0.00**

*Year-to-date* net five-year change in House-passed mandatory spending:  
**\$195,209,940,000.00\***

\* This figure does not include the cost of the **Mental Health Parity Reauthorization Act of 2003** (S. 1929), which passed the House during the week of December 8-12, 2003. When a cost estimate becomes available, the RSC will update "The Money Monitor" accordingly.

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Net one-year cost of appropriations passed by the House *this week*:

**Fiscal Year 2003: \$0.00**

**Fiscal Year 2004: \$0.00**

*Year-to-date total* of net one-year costs of House-passed appropriations:  
**Fiscal Year 2003: \$476,378,900,000.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2004: \$873,990,730,000.00**

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Net five-year revenue change by House bills passed *this week*:  
**\$0.00**

*Year-to-date* net five-year revenue change by House-passed bills:  
**-\$438,478,400,000.00**

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An authorization (otherwise known as “discretionary spending”) explicitly allows funding for a certain program and / or directs a federal agency to take a certain action. Authorizations express the House's *intent* to spend, however, actual funding is provided through the annual appropriations process. **Authorizations with no net cost, bills that would result in no significant net change in mandatory spending or federal revenue, and private-sector costs from federal mandates are not reported here.**

Mandatory spending directly establishes an appropriation. No subsequent action is required for the money to be spent.

The figures for revenue changes are from “static” estimates by the Joint Committee on Taxation or the Congressional Budget Office. That is, they do not take into account the stimulative effects that tax cuts and other revenue reductions have on the national economy.

All numbers in “The Money Monitor” are positive unless otherwise indicated.

**The costs of conference reports are not recorded here.** “The Money Monitor” only accounts for the costs of bills as they **first** pass the House (with the exception of bills that contain major cost-related changes upon subsequent House passage—yet BEFORE Senate passage). In short, “The Money Monitor” tracks the House’s *original* monetary intent.

**Staff contact: Paul Teller, [paul.teller@mail.house.gov](mailto:paul.teller@mail.house.gov), 202-226-9718**