



Legislative Bulletin.....June 29, 2005

Contents:

H.R. 3021 — TANF Extension Act of 2005

Summary of the Bill Under Consideration Today:

Total Number of New Government Programs: 0

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: \$0

Effect on Revenue: \$0

Total Change in Mandatory Spending: See cost estimate below.

Total New State & Local Government Mandates: 0

Total New Private Sector Mandates: 0

Number of Bills Without Committee Reports: 1

Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority: The bill is not reported.

H.R. 3021 — TANF Extension Act of 2005 — *as introduced* (Herger)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Wednesday, June 29, 2005, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. Reported text of the bill was not available as of press time.

Summary: The bill extends until September 30, 2005, federal welfare programs now set to expire on June 30, 2005. In the 107th Congress (H.R. 4737) and in the 108th Congress (H.R. 4), the House passed complete welfare reauthorization bills. The full Senate did not consider the 107th or the 108th bills. Until a welfare reauthorization bill is signed into law, the welfare programs, which are considered mandatory spending, expire. This bill, if signed into law, will temporarily continue the programs (last authorized in 1996) at the fourth quarter 2004 levels. The bill also extends the national random sample study of

child welfare and child welfare waiver authority through September 30, 2005, at the fourth quarter 2004 levels.

Additional Information: In the 108th Congress, on February 13, 2003, the House passed H.R. 4, 230-192, to reauthorize the welfare programs for five years (<http://johnshadegg.house.gov/rsc/LB21303.pdf>; <http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2003/roll030.xml>). The Senate has yet to consider a welfare reauthorization. Without Senate reauthorization, Congress has voted six times to temporarily extend the welfare programs: H.R. 2350, which passed the House 406-6 on June 11, 2003, (<http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2003/roll261.xml>) and was subsequently signed into law, extended TANF through September 2003; H.R. 3146, which passed the House by voice vote on September 24, 2003, and was signed into law, extended the program through March 31, 2004; S. 2231, which passed the House by voice vote on March 30, 2004, extended the program through June 30, 2004; H.R. 4589, which passed the House by voice vote on June 22, 2004, extended the program through September 30, 2004; H.R. 5149 which passed the House by a vote of 416-0 on September 29, 2004 (<http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2004/roll482.xml>), and was signed into law, extended the program through March 31, 2005; and H.R. 1160 which passed the House by voice vote on March 14, 2005, and was signed into law, extended the program through June 30, 2005.

Committee Action: The bill was introduced on June 22, 2005, and referred to the House Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce Committees, neither of which has considered the bill.

Cost to Taxpayers: Though a CBO cost estimate is unavailable for H.R. 3021, a CBO cost estimate for the last three-month extension (which came out after the House passed the bill) estimated that “funding for the basic state grants for TANF and child care entitlement programs for the three-month period will total \$3.7 billion. However, CBO already assumes that level of funding in its baseline for those programs, as required by section 257 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Deficit Control Act.) Therefore, the extension of those programs--with the exception of TANF supplemental grants--has no cost relative to the baseline.” CBO estimated that the last extension would increase direct spending, relative to the baseline, by \$83 million in 2005 and by \$237 million over the 2005-2015 period, mostly for the TANF supplemental grants and transitional medical assistance.”

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No, the bill extends current TANF (welfare) programs for an additional three months.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: A Committee report citing authority is unavailable.

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