



Legislative Bulletin.....September 13, 2012

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H.R. 6365—National Security and Job Protection Act

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Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered Thursday, September 13, 2012 under a closed rule providing one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget.

Summary: This legislation would eliminate the Budget Control Act’s FY 2013 sequester upon enactment of the House-passed reconciliation bill or an alternative bill that achieves the same (or greater) level of savings over five years. The legislation also reduces the FY 2013 discretionary spending cap by \$19.1 billion to \$1,028 billion. The bill also requires the President to submit to Congress, no later than October 15th of this year, legislation that replaces the sequestration with equal or greater spending cuts over five years.

Additional Background:

On August 2, 2011, the [Budget Control Act](#) of 2011 was signed into law. One component of this bill was to accommodate a debt ceiling increase of \$2.1 trillion (it would have been up to \$2.4 trillion had legislation from the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction been enacted into law).

Because the “super-committee” created by the Budget Control Act did not lead to enactment of legislation, on January 2, 2013, under current law, OMB orders sequestrations for defense and non-defense categories of spending necessary to meet spending cuts required by the “trigger.” For a one-pager with key dates concerning the Budget Control Act see [here](#).

The RSC’s [Cut, Cap, and Balance](#) legislation would have cut \$111 billion in FY 2012, placed firm caps on future spending, and – contingent upon House and Senate passage of a Balanced Budget Amendment – granted President Obama’s request for a debt limit increase. The House of Representatives passed the legislation, but it was not enacted.

In May, the House passed [H.R. 5652](#), the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act. This legislation would have replaced the FY 2013 sequestration with legislation that would, on net,

increase spending by \$29 billion in FY 2013, save \$55 billion over five years, and save \$237 billion over ten years. This legislation also was not enacted.

Committee Action: The legislation was introduced on September 10, 2012 and referred to the Budget Committee, which took no public action.

Administration Position: The Administration opposes, see [here](#).

Cost to Taxpayers: The impact of this bill on the federal budget is contingent on enactment of subsequent legislation.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

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

Does the Bill Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: “Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, section 9, clause 7 of the United States Constitution.”

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