
BUDGET WEEK

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
Majority Caucus

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Volume 1, No. 14

Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation
scheduled for the House floor

13 November 2001

Week of 13 November 2001

SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) ***To enhance the authorities of special agents and provide limited authorities to uniformed officers responsible for the protection of domestic Department of State occupied facilities*** (H.R. 2541) 

This bill amends the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to expand the scope of authorities for special agents, including adding a new protective function with respect to a president-elect. The Congressional Budget Office [CBO] estimates that any impact on revenues would not be significant and any costs would be subject to available appropriations.

2) ***Commending Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 10th anniversary of her receiving the Nobel Peace Prize and expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the Government of Burma.*** (H.Con.Res. 211) 

This resolution recognizes Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for her contributions and work toward bringing peace and democracy to Burma. It has no budgetary implications.

3) ***Expressing the sense of the Congress that the President should issue a proclamation recognizing a National Lao-Hmong Recognition Day*** (H. Con. Res. 88) 

This resolution has no budget implications.

4) ***Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the establishment of a National Words Can Heal Day*** (H. Res. 235) 

This resolution has no budget implications.

5) ***Encouraging the people of the United States to celebrate the 300th anniversary of William Penn's Charter of Privileges, the 250th anniversary of the Liberty Bell, and the 225th anniversary of the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence*** (H. Con. Res. 254) 

This resolution has no budget implications.

6) ***Expressing the sense of the Congress that the men and women of the United States Postal Service have done an outstanding job of delivering the mail during this time of national emergency*** (H. Con. Res. 257) 

This resolution has no budget implications.

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PLEASE NOTE: This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to express 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.

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the House Committee on the Budget. It has not been approved by the full committee and may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

7) **Real Interstate Driver Equity Act of 2001** (H.R. 2546). 

This bill prohibits a State from enacting any law, rule, or regulation requiring a license or fee for a motor vehicle providing prearranged ground transportation service, provided that the motor carrier meets all applicable registration and licensing requirements, and is providing the service as a part of a contract for interstate and intrastate passenger travel. Though no CBO estimate had been prepared at the time of the preparation of this Budget Week, the Budget Committee does not expect this bill to effect direct spending (spending not subject to annual appropriations) or to decrease revenues.

8) **Frank R. Lautenberg Aviation Security Complex Designation Act** (H.R. 2776). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

9) **James L. Watson United States Court of International Trade Building Designation Act** (H.R. 2841). 

This resolution has no budget implications

10) **To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home National Historic Site, and for other purposes** (H.R. 400). 

This bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior to purchase the site of Ronald Reagan's boyhood home in Dixon, Illinois, at its fair market value. This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenue.

11) **Klamath Basin Emergency Operation and Maintenance Refund Act of 2001** (H.R. 2828). 

This bill would authorize refunds for farmers whose irrigation water was cut off last summer by a Federal effort to protect endangered fish in southern Oregon and northern California. This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenue.

12) **Healing Opportunities in Parks and the Environment Pass Act** (H.R. 2976). 

This bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue, to persons directly affected by the events of 11 September 2001, lifetime passes for admission to Federal recreational lands such as national parks. CBO estimates that the loss of offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) would be less than \$500,000 a year beginning in fiscal year 2002. This loss would be entirely offset through fiscal 2004, but it would be offset by only 15 percent in the following years. This decrease in projected receipts, though small, would exceed the allocation to the reporting committee (Resources), giving rise to a violation of the Congressional Budget Act under section 302(f), which limits the cost of legislation to the reporting committee's 302(a) allocation.

13) **Emergency Securities Response Act of 2001** (H.R. 3060). 

This bill would lengthen the amount of time during which the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC] can exercise special authority over securities markets in the event of an emergency. The bill also would expand the definition of an emergency to include major disturbances that disrupt the functioning of securities markets. This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenue.

14) **Expressing the sense of the Congress that the children who lost one or both parents or a guardian in the September 11, 2001, World Trade Center and Pentagon tragedies (including the aircraft crash in Somerset County, Pennsylvania) should be provided with all necessary assistance** (H. Con. Res. 228). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

15) **American Spirit Fraud Prevention Act** (H.R. 2985). 

This bill authorizes the Federal Trade Commission [FTC] to seek higher civil penalties for unfair or deceptive business practices if businesses exploit the popular reaction to a national emergency. This authority would apply to violations committed within a year after the President has

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declared a national emergency. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would increase the agency's enforcement costs and collections of civil penalties (revenues) by insignificant amounts. Because the agency costs are subject to appropriations acts, they will not cause an increase in direct spending, and hence will not violate the Budget Act.

16) ***Praising Joseph Vincent Paterno for his steadfast commitment to academics, service, and citizenship, and congratulating Joseph Vincent Paterno for his many coaching accomplishments including his 324th career coaching victory*** (H. Res. 276). 
This resolution has no budget implications.

17) ***Expressing the sense of Congress that schools in the United States should set aside a sufficient period of time to allow children to pray for, or quietly reflect on behalf of, the Nation during this time of struggle against the forces of international terrorism*** (H. Con. Res. 276). 
This resolution has no budget implications.

18) ***Reservists Education Protection Act of 2001*** (H.R. 3240). 
This legislation would reinstate VA educational entitlement to certain Active Duty servicemembers and veterans in reserve components called up for Operation Enduring Freedom and future national emergencies. Although a CBO estimate had not been finalized as of the publication of this Budget Week, the Budget Committee expects this bill to increase direct spending. Though the amount of budget authority increase has not been determined, the magnitude of spending included in this legislation is not expected to cause the Veteran's Committee to breach its allocation provided under the budget resolution, and hence it is not expected that it would cause a violation of the spending points of order under the Congressional Budget Act.

LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

Bill: ***Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act Conference Report*** (H.R. 2330) 
Committee: Appropriations
Summary: This appropriations act provides budget authority for the Department of Agriculture and includes such areas as conservation, agricultural trade and food aid, rural development, domestic food assistance, agricultural research and food safety, USDA marketing and regulatory programs, and the Food and Drug Administration. In fiscal year 2001, \$73.42 billion was appropriated for programs covered by this bill. For fiscal year 2002, the President requested \$74.29 billion. The House-passed bill provided \$74.55 billion in budget authority; the Senate provided \$76.02 billion.
Budget Act: The Budget Committee has determined that this appropriations act exceeds the applicable 302(b) allocation as reported on 20 September 2001 (H. Rept. 107-208). This act provides \$16,018 million in budget authority and \$16,216 million in outlays. The applicable 302(b) allocation is \$15.67 in budget authority and \$16.04 billion in outlays. Although this bill exceeds the Appropriations Committee's 302(a) allocation, the Budget Committee has reported a bill (H.R. 3084) increasing the appropriation levels in the budget resolution and the discretionary spending limits established in the Deficit Control Act. Enactment of this legislation will allow the Appropriations Committee to revise its subcommittee allocations and, thus, ensure that this bill is in compliance with the budget resolution as revised.

Bill: ***Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies***

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Committee: *Appropriations Act Conference Report* (H.R. 2500)
Appropriations

Summary: This appropriations act provides budget authority for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State. It also provides budget authority for the Judiciary, the Legal Services Corporation, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Small Business Administration. In fiscal year 2001, \$39.79 billion was appropriated for programs covered by this bill. For fiscal year 2002, the President requested \$40.81 billion. The House-passed bill provided \$41.46 billion in budget authority; the Senate provided \$41.53 billion.

Budget Act: No CBO estimate had been prepared at the time of the preparation of this document, so it cannot be determined whether the conference report will be within the appropriate 302(b) allocation (H. Rept. 107-208) reported on 20 September 2001.

Bill: *Terrorism Risk Protection Act* (H.R. 3210)

Committee: Financial Services, Ways and Means, and Budget

Summary: This bill would require the Federal Government to cover 90 percent of insured losses up to \$100 billion that are due to terrorist attacks causing more than \$1 billion in damages in calendar year 2002. The insurance industry would be required to repay all claims paid by the Federal Government up to \$20 billion dollars. The Secretary of the Treasury could recover an addition \$80 billion through surcharges on casualty and property insurance premiums. This bill would also allow insurance companies to establish tax-free terrorism reserve funds that could only be used to pay for claims related to terrorist attacks. CBO has not released a cost estimate for this bill.

Budget Act: Although a cost estimate has not yet been released, the spending provided in the bill is designated as an emergency, and hence the bill will not exceed the Financial Services Committee's adjusted 302(a) allocation.

ON THE HORIZON

Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2002

Though the House Appropriations Committee marked up the Department of Defense appropriations bill on 24 October 2001, it has yet to be filed. In addition, the committee has been unable to complete a markup of an additional title concerning \$20 billion in supplemental funds. [A more extended discussion of this bill can be found in Budget Week, Volume 1, Number 12, dated 30 October 200.]

Airport Security Legislation - Conference Report

During the week of 13 November 2001, the House will consider a motion to go to conference on this legislation. The House and Senate have considered similar measures (H.R. 3150, S. 1447), neither of which was subject to points of order under the Congressional Budget Act. The conference report on this measure is expected some time prior to adjournment *sine die*.

Prepared by **The House Committee on the Budget**