



BUDGET WEEK

Committee on the Budget • Majority Caucus
U.S. House of Representatives
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Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation
scheduled for the House floor

2 June 2003

Week of 2 June 2003

SUSPENSION CALENDAR

- 1) ***Expressing Profound Sorrow on the Occasion of the Death of Irma Rangel*** (H.Res. 159). 
This resolution has no budget implications.
- 2) ***Congratulating Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs for Hitting 500 Major League Home Runs*** (H.Res. 195). 
This resolution has no budget implications.
- 3) ***General Charles Gabriel Post Office Designation Act*** (H.R. 1465). 
This bill has no budget implications.
- 4) ***Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day*** (H.Res. 231). 
This resolution has no budget implications.
- 5) ***Supporting the 20th Annual National Tourism Week*** (H.Con.Res. 172). 
This resolution has no budget implications.
- 6) ***Unlawful Internet Gambling Funding Prohibition Act*** (H.R. 2143). 
This bill makes it illegal to finance online gambling transactions with credit cards, electronic fund transfers, and other sorts of bank instruments. The bill may cause small increases in regulatory activity, and hence spending, by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the National Credit Union Administration. But these Government agencies cover their expenses through premiums, so any additional direct spending – spending not subject to appropriations – would be fully offset. In any event, the additional expenses would be negligible.
- 7) ***Zuni Indian Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2003*** (S. 222). 
This bill would approve and ratify a water rights settlement agreement among the Zuni Indian Tribe, the surrounding community, and the State of Arizona. The bill does not increase direct spending or reduce revenue.
- 8) ***Grand Teton National Park Land Exchange Act*** (S. 273). 
This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands owned by a State through donation or purchase, or, under certain conditions, by exchanging them for

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PLEASE NOTE: This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to address 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. **Also note:** Floor schedules and legislative details are subject to change after publication.

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

other Federal lands. It does not specify the Federal lands to be exchanged, but does require that they be identified for disposal under approved land use plans in effect on the date of the bill's enactment. The bill affects direct spending, but the net effect would be negligible.

9) ***Birch Bayh Federal Building and United States Courthouse Designation Act*** (H.R. 1082). 
This bill has no budget implications.

10) ***Commending Service in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom*** (H.Con.Res. 177). 

This resolution recognizes and commends the members of the United States Armed Forces and their leaders, and the allies of the United States and their armed forces, who participated in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq; and recognizes the continuing dedication of military families and employers and defense civilians and contractors, and the countless communities and patriotic organizations that lent their support to the Armed Forces during those operations. This resolution has no budget implications.

11) ***Commending the Nation's Businesses and Business Owners*** (H.Res. 201). 

This resolution expresses the Sense of the House of Representatives that the Nation's businesses and business owners should be commended for their support of U.S. troops and their families as they serve the country in many ways, especially in these days of increased engagement of the military in strategic locations around the Nation and around the world . This resolution has no budget implications.

12) ***Sports Agent Responsibility and Trust Act*** (H.R. 361). 

This bill prohibits an agent for athletes from using unfair or deceptive tactics to recruit or solicit a student athlete to enter into an agency contract. The bill imposes certain notice and disclosure requirements upon entering into an agency contract, including notification of the possible loss of collegiate athletic eligibility. The Congressional Budget Office [CBO] expects the bill, if enacted, to result in an insignificant increase in civil penalties, which are recorded in the budget as revenue.

13) ***Armed Forces Naturalization Act of 2003*** (H.R. 1954). 

This bill amends portions of the Immigration and Nationality Act to allow for easier naturalization, during nonhostile periods, through service in the Armed Forces. Specifically, the bill: 1) reduces, from 3 years to 1 year, the service required for an individual to be eligible for naturalization; 2) prohibits the imposition of certain application or certificate fees; and 3) retains immediate relative status for certain family members, and permits family member self-petitions for immigrant status in specified instances. Because enacting the bill would result in a reduction in immigration fees – which are recorded as direct spending – CBO estimates it would increase direct spending by about \$1 million in fiscal year 2003, and by \$12 million in 2004. Hence, the Judiciary Committee would be \$1 million over its allocation for fiscal year 2003, but within its allocation over 5 years.

LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

Bill: ***Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the United States Authorizing the Congress to Prohibit the Physical Desecration of the Flag of the United States*** (H.J.Res. 4). 

Committee: Judiciary

Summary: This resolution grants Congress the power to prohibit the physical desecration of the U.S. flag.

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Cost: The resolution has no budgetary effect.
Budget Act: This resolution does not violate the Congressional Budget Act.

Bill: *Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003* (H.R. 760). 

Committee: Judiciary

Summary: This bill amends the Federal criminal code to prohibit any physician or other individual from knowingly performing a partial-birth abortion, except when necessary to save the life of a mother endangered by a physical disorder, illness, or injury. The bill authorizes certain third parties – including maternal grandparents of the fetus, if the mother is under 18 years old – to obtain specified relief in a civil action.

Cost: Enacting the bill would affect direct spending and receipts, because it is expected to generate an increase in the collection of criminal fines (a form of receipts). CBO believes that any such effects would be negligible because of the small number of cases involved.

Budget Act: The Budget Committee considers criminal fines to be too speculative in nature and does not take them into account for purposes of enforcement. The bill does not violate the Congressional Budget Act.

Bill: *Family Time Flexibility Act* (H.R. 1119). 

Committee: Education and the Workforce

Summary: H.R. 1119 would amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector. In lieu of overtime pay, employees could receive compensatory time off at a rate not less than one and one-half hours for each hour of employment for which overtime pay would otherwise be required. Such compensatory time could be provided only in accordance with a collective bargaining agreement, or with the consent of the affected employees. The changes would be effective for 5 years after enactment of the bill.

Cost: This bill will not effect direct spending revenue.

Budget Act: This bill does not violate the Congressional Budget Act.

Bill: *Check Clearing for the 21st Century Act* (H.R.1474). 

Committee: Financial Services

Summary: This bill establishes the circumstances and guidelines under which a substitute check may be considered the legal equivalent of an original check. To be so considered, the substitute check must accurately represent all the information on the front and back of the original check as of the time the original check was truncated. It must also bear the legend: "This is a legal copy of your check. You can use it the same way you would use the original check."

Cost: Though a final CBO estimate was not available, the Budget Committee does not anticipate the bill have any effect on direct spending or revenue.

Budget Act: This bill does not violate the Congressional Budget Act.

Prepared by **The Committee on the Budget**