



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

6 September 2005

Week of 6 September 2005

SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) ***Commemorating the 60th Anniversary of V-J Day and the End of World War II in the Pacific*** (H.Res.360). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

2) ***A Joint Resolution Calling Upon the President to Issue a Proclamation Recognizing the 30th Anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act*** (S.J.Res.19). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

3) ***Green Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2005*** (H.R.1215). 

This bill authorizes, subject to appropriations, a total of \$107 million for fiscal years 2006-08 for chemistry and chemical engineering research toward reducing or eliminating the use and production of hazardous substances (known as "green chemistry"). It authorizes funding for such programs at four agencies: the National Science Foundation [NSF], the Department of Energy [DOE], the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST], and the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA]. The bill does not affect direct spending – spending not subject to appropriations – or revenue.

4) ***National Small Business Regulatory Assistance Act of 2005*** (H.R.230). 

This bill authorizes, subject to annual appropriations, \$25 million for fiscal years 2006-10, to assist small businesses in complying with Federal and State regulations. Under the bill, the Small Business Administration is to make grants to eligible Small Business Development Centers [SBDCs] to advise small businesses on regulatory compliance; to gather information on the activities of participating SBDCs; and to recommend changes in regulations affecting small businesses. The bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

5) ***Second-Stage Small Business Development Act of 2005*** (H.R.3207). 

This bill authorizes, subject to appropriations, \$6 million over the 2006-09 period (\$1.5 million a year) for a pilot program to support certain small businesses. Under the bill, the Small Business Administration is to make grants to eligible Small Business Development Centers to create learning opportunities for small businesses in the "second stage" of business development. Eligibility is based on the businesses' size, revenue, and growth, and on market criteria. The bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

(continued on next page)

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.

LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

Bill: *Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2005* (H.R. 250). 

Committee: Science

Summary: This bill authorizes appropriations for fiscal years 2006-08 for programs related to manufacturing technology, including various programs administered by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and a grant program administered by the National Science Foundation. The measure also provides for an interagency committee on research and development in the field of manufacturing, and an advisory committee to provide recommendations to the interagency committee.

Cost: The bill authorizes discretionary spending of \$2.089 billion over 2006-08 for its grant programs. Assuming appropriation of authorized amounts, it will result in outlays of \$1.955 billion over 2006-10. It does not affect direct spending or revenue.

Budget Act: This bill does not violate any provision of the Congressional Budget Act.

Bill: *Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2005* (H.R. 889). 

Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure, Homeland Security

Summary: This bill authorizes, subject to appropriations, \$7.7 billion for activities of the U.S. Coast Guard for fiscal year 2006. Of this amount, the bill authorizes \$5.7 billion to be appropriated for the operations of the Coast Guard, which includes \$2 billion for capital acquisitions, \$119 million for reserve training, and \$12 million for environmental compliance. The bill also authorizes \$4 million for a pilot program for long-range tracking of vessels using satellites, and \$625,000 for a study on how marine casualty investigations are carried out.

The bill authorizes the appropriation of about \$1 billion for Coast Guard retirement benefits in 2006, though that amount is currently included in the baseline, and hence has no budgetary impact.

The bill applies the Coast Guard's regulatory authority to certain ferries, currently not considered to be commercial vessels. This would increase, by about 25 vessels, the number of ferries to be inspected by the Coast Guard. If the Guard charges its standard published fees for these services, offsetting receipts collected by Guard would increase by about \$200,000 a year.

Cost: As noted, the bill authorizes, subject to appropriations, \$7.7 billion for activities of the United States Coast Guard. It will increase offsetting receipts, considered to be an offset against direct spending, and hence is tantamount to a reduction in spending, but by a nominal amount – less than \$200,000 per year.

Budget Act: The bill does not violate any provision of the Congressional Budget Act.

Prepared by **The Committee on the Budget**