



# BUDGET WEEK

Committee on the Budget • Majority Caucus  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Jim Nussle, *Chairman*

309 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515 • (202) 226-7270  
Jim Bates, *Chief of Staff* • [www.budget.house.gov](http://www.budget.house.gov)

Volume 5, Number 9

Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation  
scheduled for the House floor

10 May 2005

Week of 9 May 2005

## SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) ***Charles 'Pete' Conrad Astronomy Awards Act*** (H.R. 1023). 

This bill establishes two new annual awards for amateur astronomers: one for the individual or group identifying the brightest near-Earth asteroid; and the second for the individual or group making the greatest contribution to the catalog of such asteroids maintained by the Minor Planet Center of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory. Each award is \$3,000, and subject to appropriations. The program will be administered by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration [NASA]. H.R. 1023 will not increase direct spending or reduce revenue.

2) ***Expressing Support to the Organizers and Participants of the Historic Meeting of the Assembly to Promote the Civil Society in Cuba on May 20, 2005, in Havana*** (H.Res. 193). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

3) ***Supporting the Goals and Ideals of a "Rotary International Day" and Celebrating and Honoring Rotary International on the Occasion of its Centennial Anniversary*** (H.Res. 142). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

4) ***Authorizing the Use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby*** (H.Con.Res. 86). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

5) ***Authorizing the Use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run*** (H.Con.Res. 135). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

6) ***Authorizing the Use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service*** (H.Con.Res. 136). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

(continued on reverse side)

**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:** ***Gang Deterrence and Community Protection Act of 2005*** (H.R. 1279). 

**Committee:** Judiciary

**Summary:** This bill modifies and expands Federal prohibitions against criminal street gang activity, including forfeiture provisions. It expands Federal criminal laws as they apply to racketeering and gang activity, and revises penalties for various gang-, drug-, and racketeering-related crimes. Finally, H.R. 1279 authorizes the Attorney General to designate specific regions within one or more States as high-intensity interstate gang activity areas.

**Cost:** The Congressional Budget Office [CBO] estimates that enacting H.R. 1279 would have no significant impact on the Federal budget. Increased penalties would increase revenue by less than \$500,000, but that revenue could be spent by the Attorney General without further appropriations action.

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

**Bill:** ***The Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act of 2005*** (H.R. 1544). 

**Committee:** Homeland Security

**Summary:** This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to change the criteria used to distribute funding – but not the total amount of funding – for three existing first-responder grants established after September 11, 2001: the grant programs for State Homeland Security, Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention, and the Urban Area Security Initiative. In addition, the bill establishes the First Responder Grants Board, which would evaluate and prioritize applications for grants. Finally, H.R. 1544 establishes standards for the quality and content of first-responder equipment and training.

**Cost:** CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1544 would have no significant impact on the Federal budget.

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

---

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