



# 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

24 April 2006

Week of 24 April 2006

## SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) ***To Memorialize and Honor the Contribution of Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist***   
(H.J.Res. 83).

This joint resolution authorizes and directs the Curator of the Supreme Court, subject to the direction and approval of the Chief Justice of the United States, to procure a marble bust, including pedestal, of the late Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist. It authorizes the subsequent appropriation of \$50,000 for this purpose. The joint resolution does not affect direct spending – spending not subject to appropriations – or revenue. (Joint resolutions become law when signed by the President.)

2) ***A Joint Resolution Approving the Location of the Commemorative Work in the District of Columbia Honoring Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower*** (S.J.Res. 28) 

This joint resolution has no budget implications.

3) ***Glendo Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project Contract Extension Act of 2005*** (S. 592) 

This bill extends, for up to 2 years, contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and purchasers of irrigation water in Wyoming and Nebraska that receive water from the Glendo Reservoir. The measure avoids costs associated with annual renewals. The measure does not have a significant impact on the Federal budget, as an insignificant amount of reduced spending is offset by reduced offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending). The bill does not affect revenue.

4) ***To Amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to Authorize the Secretary of the Interior to Participate in the Design, Planning, and Construction of a Project to Reclaim and Reuse Wastewater Within and Outside of the Service Area of the City of Austin Water and Wastewater Utility, Texas*** (H.R. 2341) 

This bill limits to 25 percent the Federal share of the total project cost, and prohibits the Secretary from providing funds for the project's operation and maintenance. Although the Congressional Budget Office [CBO] has not prepared an official cost estimate for this measure, CBO estimated that an identical bill from the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress (H.R. 4739) would have resulted in discretionary spending – spending subject to appropriations – of \$1 million in the budget year and \$5 million over 5 years. That bill did not affect direct spending or revenue, and so H.R. 2341 likewise is not expected to affect direct spending or revenue.

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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.

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5) **Law Enforcement and Phone Privacy Protection Act of 2006** (H.R. 4709). 

This bill establishes a new Federal crime for fraudulently obtaining, purchasing, or selling confidential phone records, and enhances penalties for using such records to commit a crime. Enacting the bill could lead to an increase in the collection of criminal fines (which are recorded in the budget as revenue). CBO estimates, however, that any such effects would not be significant due to the small number of cases likely to occur.

6) **Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month**   
(H.Con.Res. 357).

This resolution has no budget implications.

7) **Authorizing the Use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby**   
(H.Con.Res. 349).

This resolution has no budget implications.

8) **To Authorize United States Participation in, and Appropriations for, the United States Contribution to the First Replenishment of the Resources of the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund**   
(H.R. 4916).

This bill authorizes \$150 million, subject to appropriations, to replenish the resources of the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund. This fund is an arm of the Inter-American Development Bank. Its primary purpose is to provide grants and loans to foster private-sector development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

9) **Urging the Government of China to Reinstate All Licenses of Gao Zhisheng and His Law Firm, Remove All Legal and Political Obstacles for Lawyers Attempting to Defend Criminal Cases in China, Including Politically Sensitive Cases, and Revise Law and Practice in China so that It Conforms to International Standards**   
(H.Con.Res. 365).

This resolution has no budget implications.

10) **Iran Freedom Support Act** (H.R. 282). 

This bill codifies certain sanctions relating to Iran concerning weapons of mass destruction. It also eliminates mandatory sanction provisions against Libya and imposes mandatory sanctions on persons or entities who provide aid to Iran for the acquisition or development of particular weapons, including weapons of mass destruction. The bill requires the President to publish in the Federal Register a list of all foreign and domestic entities that invested more than \$20 million in Iran's energy sector. It authorizes the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary to fund organizations and individuals that support democracy in Iran, which CBO estimates to be approximately \$20 million a year. The bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

#### LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

**Bill:** *Intelligence Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2007* (H.R. 5020).

**Committee:** Permanent Select Intelligence

**Summary:** This bill authorizes appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for intelligence activities of the U.S. government, the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System. It contains both classified and unclassified portions, and only the unclassified portion is available for budget analysis.

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**Cost:** The unclassified portion of this bill authorizes discretionary spending of \$990 million for fiscal year 2007. The bill also affects direct spending, because it allows the Intelligence Community to spend without further appropriation certain reimbursements from private parties that otherwise would go to the Treasury. The magnitude of the direct spending effect, however, cannot be determined because information required for an estimate remains classified.

**Budget Act:** The direct spending in this bill, if it first applies to fiscal year 2007, would violate section 303 of the Congressional Budget Act, which prohibits consideration of any bill that first provides new budget authority for a fiscal year for which a concurrent resolution on the budget has not yet been agreed to.

**Bill:** *Lobbying Accountability Act for Fiscal Year 2007* (H.R. 4975). 

**Committee:** Judiciary

**Summary:** H.R. 4975 amends the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 and with the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971. It expands reporting requirements for lobbyists and Members of Congress. It also creates certain restrictions on gifts and travel – including temporarily banning privately funded travel – and requires training for Members and staff on ethics issues. In addition, it contains provisions addressing earmark reform: under this bill, a general appropriations bill reported by the Committee on Appropriations would be subject to a point of order unless the report accompanying the bill included a list of earmarks in the bill or report along with the names of any Members who submitted requests for earmarks contained in the list. This requirement also applies to conference reports and the accompanying joint statements of managers.

**Cost:** CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4975 would cost about \$2 million in fiscal year 2007 and \$1 million a year in subsequent years, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting the bill would increase governmental receipts and direct spending from new violations of campaign finance law, but CBO estimates those effects would not be significant.

**Budget Act:** Enacting this bill would not violate the Congressional Budget Act.