



# The Daily Whip

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**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2005**

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Unlimited "One Minutes"	??? p.m.

\* **IMPORTANT VOTES ON THE REPUBLICAN RECONCILIATION BILLS ARE EXPECTED TODAY AND TOMORROW. MEMBER ATTENDANCE IS CRITICAL. PLEASE CALL THE WHIP'S OFFICE IF A MEMBER ANTICIPATES NOT BEING IN ATTENDANCE.**

\* **IN ADDITION, THE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP HAS ANNOUNCED TO ITS MEMBERS THAT A SATURDAY SESSION IS POSSIBLE THIS WEEK.**

## FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

\* **SIGN EDWARDS DISCHARGE PETITION (#3).** Members are urged to sign the Edwards Discharge Petition that would force consideration of H.R. 808 to eliminate the Military Family's Tax.

**H.Res. 558 - Rule providing for consideration of H.J.Res. 72 – 2<sup>ND</sup> Continuing Appropriations for FY06 (Rep. Putnam - Rules).** The Rules Committee has recommended a closed rule that provides one hour of general debate.

**H.Res. 559 - Rule providing for consideration of Conference Report on H.R. 3010 - Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY06 (Rep. Capito - Rules).** The Rules Committee has recommended a closed rule that provides for one hour of general debate and waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration.

**H.J.Res. 72 – Making continuing Appropriations for the FY06, and for other purposes (Rep. Lewis {CA} – Appropriations) (Subject to a Rule).** This joint resolution provides temporary funding through December 17 for those departments, agencies and programs whose FY06 appropriations bills have not yet been enacted into law. Under this joint resolution, spending during this period would be at the level set in the House-passed bill, Senate-passed bill, or current level, whichever is lowest.

**Conference Report on H.R. 3010 – Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act for FY06 (Regula – Appropriations) (Subject to a Rule).** The conference report provides \$143 billion for FY06 --- \$1.5 billion less than the comparable FY05 level. In comparison with FY05, this bill cuts the Department of Labor by \$430 million, cuts the Department of Health and Human Services by \$976 million, and cuts the Department of Education by \$59.1 million. Funding highlights of this bill include:

- **Department of Labor - \$11.6 billion (\$430 million below FY05 / a 3.6% cut):** \$866 million for adult training grants (3.4% cut); \$950 million for youth training grants (3.7% cut); \$1.4 billion for Dislocated Workers (a freeze); \$1.6 billion for Job Corps (1.4% increase); \$1.3 billion for Worker Protection Programs (2.5% increase).
- **Department of Health and Human Services – \$63.4 billion (\$976 million below FY05 / a 1.5% cut):** \$28.6 billion for NIH (0.5% increase) this funding includes a \$100 million transfer to the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS and other diseases; \$6.1 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (4.6% cut); \$2.1 billion for Ryan White AIDS programs (0.5% increase); \$2.2 billion for LIHEAP; \$6.9 billion for Head Start; \$3.4 billion for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; \$1.8 billion for Community Health Centers (5.8% increase); \$2.08 billion for Child Care and Development Block Grants (a freeze).
- **Department of Education - \$56.5 billion (\$59.1 million below FY05 / a 0.1% cut):** \$23.71 billion for No Child Left Behind (3.2% cut / \$13.1 billion below its FY06 authorization level and a \$40.1 billion cumulative shortfall since the enactment of NCLB); \$10.7 billion for IDEA Part B Grants (1% increase); \$275 million for Education Technology grants; \$836 million for TRIO (a freeze); \$306 million for GEAR UP (a freeze); \$66.1 million for Perkins Loans (a freeze); \$13.2 billion for the Pell Grant program (and freezes the maximum Pell Grant at \$4,050).

**H.Res. 560 – Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4241 – GOP Reconciliation Bill.** The Rules Committee has recommended a **NEW CLOSED RULE** that provides two hours of general debate, and provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The Republican rule self-executes a **NEW Manager's Amendment** that: drops the section on Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) oil drilling; the section on offshore drilling; provides two limited exceptions to the cuts in the bill for legal immigrants receiving food stamps; exempts children who receive non-cash TANF services from the cuts to the school lunch program; raises the asset transfer home equity limit for determining Medicaid eligibility; retains the current \$3 co-payment limit for Medicaid



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beneficiaries below the poverty line but still allows states to index the co-payments to medical inflation; and allows the Secretary of Health to delay the modifications to pharmacy reimbursement rates up to 1 year after receiving a GAO study.

**H.R. 4241 – GOP Reconciliation Bill (*Rep. Nussle - Budget Committee*).** As reported out of committee, this bill cuts more than \$53 billion over five years from vital services for disadvantaged Americans and hurricane victims, in order to partially offset the cost of over \$106 billion in tax cuts (if the Republican rule is adopted, the bill would still cut about \$50 billion dollars from important programs). These additional Republican cuts are even worse than those prescribed under their irresponsible FY06 Budget Resolution, which increases the deficit and all Democrats opposed.

**Republicans add to the deficit while cutting Medicaid and squeezing middle-class working families.** Although no part of the Bush tax cut expires this year, the GOP budget included reconciliation instructions that protect nearly \$70 billion out of \$106 billion in total planned tax cuts. Republicans are now trying to use the response to natural disasters (like Hurricane Katrina) as a guise to cut \$53 billion in mandatory spending, \$19 billion more from programs such as Medicaid, Food Stamps, Student Loans and Child Support than the \$35 billion cut target in the FY06 Budget Resolution.

**Eight Authorizing Committees cut a combined \$53.9 billion in mandatory spending reductions that harm American families:**

- **Education and the Workforce: \$20 billion** – Includes over \$14 billion in cuts to student aid programs, including raising the cost of college for students and their families through increased interest rates and loan fees.
- **Energy and Commerce: \$17 billion** – Including nearly \$10 billion in Medicaid cuts to health services for poor children and long-term care patients, and increasing the cost of prescription drugs for beneficiaries.
- **Ways and Means: \$8 billion** – Including nearly \$5 billion in reductions for child support enforcement, \$1.3 billion in reductions to Foster Care and SSI disability payments, reductions in child care services under TANF welfare to work programs, and ending over \$3 billion in anti-dumping trade duties that are currently paid to industries affected by unfair trade practices.
- **Agriculture: \$3.7 billion** – Including \$844 million in Food Stamp cuts, eliminating nutrition and school lunch and breakfast benefits for hundreds of thousands of families and children.
- **Resources: \$3.7 billion** – Including revenues assumed from the opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas drilling (these two provisions would be dropped from the bill if the self-executing Republican rule is adopted).
- **Financial Services: \$470 million** – Includes savings derived from the elimination of federal housing rehab grants used to make rental units available to low income families, which could include families displaced by Hurricane Katrina.
- **Judiciary: \$428 million** - mostly from increasing fees for certain visas.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure: \$156 million** – from increased vessel tonnage duties

**Democrats are urged to VOTE NO on the Republican Reconciliation Bill.**

**Postponed Suspension Votes (2 votes):**

- 1) **H.Res. 500** - Recognizing the 60th anniversary of the disappearance of the 5 naval Avenger torpedo bombers of Flight 19 and the naval Mariner rescue aircraft sent to search for Flight 19 (*Rep. Shaw - Armed Services*)
- 2) **H.Res. 546** - Condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks that occurred on November 9, 2005, in Amman, Jordan (*Rep. Ros-Lehtinen - International Relations*)

## TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: on Friday, the House will meet at 9:00a.m. for legislative business. The House is expected to consider: **Conference Report on H.R. 2528** – Military Quality of Life & Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for FY06 (*Walsh – Appropriations*); **Conference Report on H.R. 3058** – Transportation, Treasury, HUD, Judiciary, District of Columbia Appropriations Act for FY06 (*Knollenberg – Appropriations*); and the **PATRIOT Act** Conference Report . In addition, the House may also consider tomorrow, or into the weekend **H.R. 4297** - GOP Reconciliation Tax Bill.

### Daily Quote...

"Just as Congress needs to show how it would pay for spending increases, it also needs to offset tax reductions. Otherwise, we risk adding mountains of debt onto today's third- and fourth-graders, who eventually will have to pay for our budget excesses. Many Americans plan wisely for their heirs; they want to see Congress do the same. "

- *The Dallas Morning News*, in an editorial on Wednesday