



# The Daily Whip

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**THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2005**

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Five "One Minutes" Per Side	???

## FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

**Martial Law Rule for same day consideration of the FY06 Budget Conference Report.**

**Rule for consideration of the FY06 Budget Conference Report.**

**Conference Report on H.Con.Res. 95 - Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for FY06 (Rep. Nussle-Budget) (Subject to a Rule).** The GOP Conference Report is expected to reflect the same irresponsible policies as the House budget adopted in March by a vote of 218-214, with all Democrats opposed. The final Budget Conference Report has not been filed, however, based on the most recent reports, these are some of the highlights of the Republican Conference Report:

- **Republicans' budget masks fiscal irresponsibility.** The GOP will present a 5-year budget plan that masks their long-term fiscal irresponsibility. Both House and Senate Republicans passed budgets that claim to "cut the deficit in half" within 5 years, but actually make the bottom-line deficit up to \$150 billion worse over 5 years. This timeframe also ignores the cost of making any tax cuts past 2010 permanent or addressing the long-term cost of fixing the Alternative Minimum Tax and funding continued operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- **Republicans create dire situation for Social Security and Medicare.** GOP fiscal policies have brought back structural deficits and increased federal debt by \$2.2 trillion over the past four years, setting the stage for drastic cuts to Social Security and Medicare benefits. In addition, the GOP budget will use every penny of the Social Security Trust Fund and does not account for any of the additional \$5 trillion in proposed borrowing to implement their Social Security privatization plans.
- **Republicans continue to make room for additional tax cuts for the wealthiest taxpayers while cutting Medicaid and squeezing middle-class working families.** The GOP budget includes reconciliation instructions that protect over \$70 billion in tax cuts while calling for over \$40 billion in **mandatory spending reductions, including \$10 billion for Medicaid**, and other programs such as Medicare, pension programs, student loans, farm subsidies, food stamps and veteran's funding.
- **Republicans Abandon Budget Process and will provide for another Debt Limit increase.** The GOP continues to ignore strong bipartisan, bicameral support for full "pay-as-you-go" rules on tax cuts and mandatory spending. The Conference Report will also deem the 4<sup>th</sup> increase in the debt limit in 4 years (\$500 billion or more) because the GOP is once again using the "Hastert Rule" to automatically pass a Joint Resolution in the House to raise the debt limit upon approval of the Budget Resolution Conference Report. A vote to support the GOP Budget Conference Report is a vote to increase the debt limit (over \$8.6 trillion).
- **Republicans will freeze domestic programs now and cut them drastically in the future.** The GOP will try to sell the public that they have rediscovered fiscal discipline by freezing or cutting most non-defense, non-homeland security discretionary programs. The

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Conference Report matches the House resolution and President by providing \$843 billion in discretionary spending, cutting non-defense discretionary (NDD) spending below inflation-adjusted current services level by \$12 billion for 2006 and nearly \$150 billion over the next five years, reducing funds for domestic priorities such as community development and housing, education, environmental protection, public health, and local first responders and law enforcement.

## **Democrats are urged to VOTE NO on the Republican Budget Conference Report.**

### **Postponed Suspension Vote (1 bill):**

- 1) **H.Res. 210** - Supporting the goals of World Intellectual Property Day, and recognizing the importance of intellectual property in the United States and worldwide (*Rep. Wexler - Judiciary*)

## **TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK**

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The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: on Friday, session is possible pending completion of the Budget Conference Report.

### **Daily Quote...**

"In fact, just this morning I overheard a very interesting conversation between a couple of rank and file Republicans. One Republican was telling his colleague that he's concerned that these Democratic attacks, that the whole DeLay situation is a sign of an arrogant, out of control Republican Congress. This Republican was saying he believes those attacks are getting through to the American people a bit. And he said the problem, he believes, is that it's true to some extent, and that this may really blow up in the Republicans' face."

-*CMV* Reporter Ed Henry on Wednesday