



**UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY WHIP  
THE HONORABLE JAMES E. CLYBURN (SC-06)**

# **THE WHIP PACK**

**WEEK OF JANUARY 12, 2009**

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## **Bill Text and Background for the Week of January 12, 2009**

- H.R. \_\_\_\_ – Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009
- H.R. 384 – TARP Reform and Accountability Act

**H.R. \_\_\_\_ – CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009** (Reps. Pallone/Waxman/Dingell – Energy and Commerce) (Subject to a Rule)

**Bill Text:** HTML Version, PDF Version

Bill Summary and Status

**Rules Committee:** TBA

**Committee:** [Committee on Energy and Commerce](#)

**Committee Staff Contact:** 5-2927

**LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE:**

**Next Week, the House Will Act to Extend Health Coverage to Millions More Children**

*Growing Unemployment Adds Urgency to Ensuring Health Coverage for More Children*

- One of the top priorities of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress is extending and improving the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) in order to protect existing coverage and provide states the resources to reach additional children who are today eligible but not enrolled.
- The goal will be to get final SCHIP legislation to President Obama’s desk in the first couple of weeks of his new Administration.
- The State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) is a successful, popular, bipartisan program that currently provides private health care coverage for more than 6 million children who would otherwise go without care. The 110<sup>th</sup> Congress needed to reauthorize this successful program, because its authorization was expiring.
- Unfortunately, twice in 110<sup>th</sup> Congress, President Bush vetoed bipartisan bills that would have reauthorized and improved SCHIP in order to provide secure health coverage for millions of uninsured children in working families.
- President Bush vetoed these bills despite the fact that they had passed in both the House and Senate with strong bipartisan majorities. The first SCHIP bill (H.R. 976) passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 265 to 159 and the Senate by a bipartisan vote of 67 to 29. Similarly, the second SCHIP bill (H.R. 3963) passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 265 to 142 and the Senate by a bipartisan vote of 64 to 30. As a result of President Bush’s vetoes, Congress was only able to provide a short-term extension of SCHIP through March of 2009, but was not able to enact program improvements to help states reach additional uninsured children.
- This week, Congress will take up a SCHIP bill based on the two previously-vetoed bipartisan bills. President-elect Obama strongly supports this SCHIP legislation which would provide a much-needed down-payment on children’s health. By extending health coverage to millions more children, this legislation is an important first step in stemming the rising tide of the uninsured. Getting this bill to the new President’s desk quickly will show that Congress is serious in tackling these issues.
- Providing health care coverage for children from modest-income families who earn too much for Medicaid is not only the right thing to do – it’s also much more cost-effective for taxpayers than using the emergency room as a primary care provider.

- A healthy child is better prepared for learning and success. We are the only developed nation in the world that does not provide health care for all children.
- Unemployment is skyrocketing -- the unemployment rate has jumped to 7.2 percent, from 4.7 percent a year ago.
- With rising unemployment, the SCHIP bill has become more critical than ever. When unemployment increases, so do the number of Americans without health insurance. In this recession, more and more American parents are having difficulty finding affordable health insurance for their children and the need for this legislation is growing each day.

**Organization Support:**

*(TBA)*

**Administration Position:**

*(TBA)*

**Fact Sheets & Talking Points:**

*(TBA)*

**Press Releases, News Articles & Related Information:**

*(TBA)*

**Other Resources:**

*(TBA)*

**H.R. 384 – TARP REFORM AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT** (Rep. Frank – Financial Services)  
(Subject to a Rule)

- **Bill Text:** [HTML Version](#), [PDF Version](#)  
[Bill Summary and Status](#)  
**Rules Committee:** Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in H-313 the Capitol,  
**Meeting Time:** 5:00pm Tuesday 01/13, [Text of Bill as Introduced](#), [Amendment Deadline:](#)  
[3pm Tuesday 01/13](#)  
**Committee:** [Committee on Financial Services](#)  
**Committee Staff Contact:** 5-4247

**LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE:**

**Summary of TARP Reform and Accountability Act**

This bill will amend the Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP) provisions of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (EESA) to strengthen accountability, close loopholes, increase transparency, and require Treasury to take significant steps on foreclosure mitigation. It further requires that Treasury act promptly to permit the smaller community financial institutions that have been shut out so far to participate on the same terms as the large institutions that have already received funds.

**Title I - Modification to TARP and TARP Oversight**

**Reporting, Monitoring and Accountability**

General - Treasury shall require any existing or future institution that receives funding under TARP to provide no less than quarterly public reporting on its use of the funding. Treasury may establish additional reporting and information requirements and must establish mechanisms to ensure appropriate use and compliance with all terms of use of TARP funds, as described below.

Insured depository institutions. Any insured depository institution that receives funding under TARP is required to report quarterly on the amount of any increased lending (or reduction in decrease of lending) and related activity attributable to such financial assistance. Where an institution cannot categorize effect of investment it shall report on lending and related activity during the period, with comparable prior period data. Treasury, in consultation with the bank regulatory agencies, shall establish standards for the required reporting (expanded version of LaTourette amendment from House auto bill)

Agreements on use of funds. In connection with any new receipt of TARP funds, Treasury is required to reach agreement with the institution and its primary federal regulator on how the funds are to be used and benchmarks the institution is required to meet so as to advance the purposes of the Act to strengthen the soundness of the financial system and the availability of credit to the economy.

Examinations. Examinations by a recipient institution's primary federal regulator must specifically examine use of funds and compliance with any program requirements, including executive compensation and any specific agreement terms.

Acquisition of healthy institutions from TARP funds prohibited. Treasury shall require that any acquisition of another depository institution by an institution receiving TARP funds be conditioned on a finding by Treasury, in consultation with the relevant bank regulatory agencies, 1) that the acquisition reduces the risk to taxpayers or 2) that the transaction could have been accomplished without funds provided under the TARP.

Non-depository institutions - For recipients that are not insured depository institutions or that do not have a federal regulator, Treasury shall directly require any reporting and impose other terms no less stringent than those applicable to insured depository institutions, and shall examine the institution, or may delegate such functions to the Federal Reserve.

### **Executive Compensation**

All types of funding get same treatment. For any new receipt of TARP funds (except those by small financial institutions as defined below), applies the most stringent non-tax executive compensation restrictions (see note) from EESA across the board:

- 1) requires Treasury to prohibit incentives that encourage excessive risks,
- 2) provides for claw-back of compensation received based on materially inaccurate statements
- 3) prohibits all golden parachute payment for the duration of the investment

Stricter auto bill rules apply. Also applies the executive compensation requirements included in auto bill to any new receipt of TARP funds:

- 1) prohibits paying or accruing any bonus or incentive compensation to the 25 most highly compensated employees;
- 2) prohibits any compensation plan that would encourage manipulation of earnings to enhance compensation; and
- 3) requires divestment of private aircraft or leases.

Authority retroactive. Provides authority to Treasury to apply these expanded executive compensation provisions retroactively to existing recipients of direct assistance.

Removes de minimus exception. Prospectively removes de minimus exception under which institutions smaller than \$300 million in assets are not subject to the golden parachute limitations in auction purchases of troubled assets. [Note: Existing tax-related executive compensation provisions under EESA Section 302 are not modified in this draft bill.]

**Government board representation** - Authorizes Treasury to have an observer at board or board committee meetings of recipient institutions.

**Directive to make TARP funds available to smaller community institutions** - Directs the Treasury to promptly make funds available for smaller community institutions, few of which have received funding to date. Depository institutions that have applied and are still waiting for action on their applications (C-corporations, privately-held institutions and community development financial institutions) or for which no funding terms have been issued (non-stock corporations, S-corporations, and mutually owned institutions) will not be penalized and may receive funding on terms comparable to institutions that received funds prior to this Act.

**Changes to structure and authority of TARP board** - The Financial Stability Oversight Board is expanded to include the Chairman of the FDIC and two additional members who are not currently federal employees, who shall be appointed by President and subject to Senate confirmation. The Board will have the authority to overturn policy decisions of the Treasury Secretary by a 2/3 vote.

**Warrants** - Unless otherwise specified, Treasury must obtain warrants equal to no less than 15% of any financing provided, and the \$100M de minimus exclusion from the warrant requirement is removed.

**No impediment to withdrawal** - Subject to consultation with the appropriate bank regulatory agency, Treasury shall permit a recipient of TARP funds to repay those funds, whether or not the recipient has replaced those funds with private capital, as currently required by Treasury.

**Clarifies status of capital injections** - Clarifies that any provision of capital or other assistance to any institution is a purchase of troubled asset for the purpose of the Act.

## **Title II - Foreclosure relief**

**TARP Foreclosure Mitigation Plan** - Use of the second \$350 billion is conditioned on the use of up to \$100 billion, but no less than \$40 billion, for foreclosure mitigation, with plan required by March 15, 2009. By that date, the Secretary shall develop (subject to TARP Board approval) a comprehensive plan to prevent and mitigate foreclosures on residential mortgages. The Secretary shall begin committing TARP funds to implement the plan no later than April 1, 2009. The Secretary must certify to Congress by May 15, 2009, if he has not committed more than required minimum \$40 billion.

**Required Elements of Plan** - The foreclosure mitigation plans must apply only to owner-occupied residences and shall leverage private capital to the maximum extent possible consistent with maximizing prevention of foreclosures. Treasury must use some combination of the following program alternatives:

- 1) guarantee program for qualifying loan modifications under a systematic plan, which may be delegated to the FDIC or other contractor
- 2) bringing costs of Hope for Homeowner loans down (beyond mandatory changes in Title V below), either through coverage of fees, purchasing H4H mortgages to ensure affordable rates, or both
- 3) program for loans to pay down second lien mortgages that are impeding a loan modification subject to any write-down by existing lender Treasury may require
- 4) Servicer incentives/assistance - payments to servicers in connection with implementation of qualifying loan modifications
- 5) Purchase of whole loans for the purpose of modifying or refinancing the loans (with authorization to delegate to FDIC)

**Implementation of Plan** - In consultation with the FDIC and HUD and with the approval of the Board, Treasury may determine that modifications to an initial plan are necessary to achieve the purposes of this act or that modifications to component programs of the plan are necessary to maximize prevention of foreclosure and minimize costs to the taxpayers.

**Servicer authority for foreclosure mitigation** - Provides a safe harbor from liability to servicers who engage in loan modifications, regardless of any provisions in a servicing agreement, so long as the servicer acts in a manner consistent with the duty established in Homeowner Emergency Relief Act (maximize the net present value (NPV) of pooled mortgages to all investors as a whole; engage in loan mods for mortgages that are in default or for which default is reasonably foreseeable; the property is owner-occupied; the anticipated recovery on the mod would exceed, on an NPV basis, the anticipated recovery through foreclosure).

Requires persons who bring suit unsuccessfully against servicers for engaging in loan modifications under the Act to pay the servicers' court costs and legal fees.

Requires Servicers who modify loans under the safe harbor to regularly report to the Treasury on the extent, scope and results of the servicer's modification activities.

**Report required by Congressional Oversight Panel** - The Panel is required to report to Congress by July 1st on the actions taken by Treasury on foreclosure mitigation and the impact and effectiveness of the actions in minimizing foreclosures and minimizing costs to the taxpayers.

**Title III - Automobile manufacturers** - Clarifies and confirms Treasury authorization to provide assistance to automobile manufacturers under the TARP. With respect to the assistance already provided to domestic automobile industry, includes conditions of the House auto bill, including long-term restructuring requirements.

Clarifies Treasury's authority to provide support to the financing arms of automakers for financing activities to ensure that they can continue to provide needed credit, including through dealer and other financing of consumer and business auto and other vehicle loans and dealer floor loans.

#### **Title IV Clarification of authority under TARP for additional uses**

**Consumer loans** - Clarifies Treasury's authority to establish facilities to support the availability of consumer loans, such as student loans, and auto and other vehicle loans. Such support may include the purchase of asset-backed securities, directly or through the Federal Reserve.

**Commercial Real Estate Loans and MBS** - Clarifies Treasury's authority to provide support for commercial real estate loans and mortgage-backed securities.

**Municipal securities** - Clarifies Treasury's authority to provide support to issuers of municipal securities, including through the direct purchase of municipal securities or the provision of credit enhancements in connection with any Federal Reserve facility to finance the purchase of municipal securities.



## **Title V - Hope for Homeowners Improvements**

Eliminates 3% upfront premium

Reduces 1.5% annual premium to a range between .55% and .75%, based on risk-based pricing (also makes technical fix to permit discontinuation of fees when loan balance drops below certain levels, consistent with normal FHA policy)

Raises maximum loan to value (LTV) from 90% to 93% for borrowers above a 31% mortgage debt to income (DTI) ratio or above a 43% ratio

Eliminates government profit sharing of appreciation over market value of home at time of refinancing Retains government declining share (from 100% to 50% after five years) of equity created by the refinancing to be paid at time of sale or refinancing as an exit fee

Authorizes payments to servicers participating in successful refinancings

Administrative simplification: (a) eliminates borrower certifications regarding not intentionally defaulting on any debt, (b) eliminates special requirement to collect 2 years of tax returns, (c) eliminates originator liability for first payment default, (d) eliminates March 1, 2008 31% DTI test, (e) eliminates prohibition against taking out future second loans, (f) requires Board to make documents, forms, and procedures conform to those under normal FHA loans to the maximum extent possible consistent with statutory requirements.

## **Title VI - Home Buyer Stimulus**

Requires Treasury to develop a program, outside of the TARP, to stimulate demand for home purchases and clear inventory of properties, including through ensuring the availability of affordable mortgages rates for qualified home buyers. In developing such program, Treasury may take into consideration impact on areas with highest inventories of foreclosed properties. The program will be executed through the purchase of mortgages and MBS using funding under HERA.

In developing such program, Treasury shall provide mechanisms to ensure availability of such reduced rate loans through financial institutions that act as either originators or as portfolio lenders.

Treasury shall make the affordable rates available under this program available in connection with Hope for Homeowner refinancing program.

## **Title VII - Permanent Increase in FDIC and NCUA Deposit Insurance Limits**

Makes permanent the increase in deposit insurance coverage for banks and credit unions to \$250,000, which was enacted temporarily as part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act and is scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2009, and includes an inflation adjustment provision for future coverage.

Extends the time limit for an FDIC Restoration Plan to rebuild the reserve ratio of the Deposit Insurance Fund from 5 years to 8 years.

Increases the FDIC's borrowing authority from \$30 billion to \$100 billion and allows the FDIC to obtain sums in excess of \$100 billion upon the FDIC's written request and the

Secretary of the Treasury's approval on the basis that the additional amounts are necessary.

Allows FDIC to charge systemic risk special assessments by rulemaking, on both insured depository institutions and depository institution holding companies. For holding company assessments, the concurrence of the Secretary of the Treasury would be required.

**Organization Support:**

*(TBA)*

**Administration Position:**

*(TBA)*

**Fact Sheets & Talking Points:**

[Summary of TARP Reform and Accountability Act](#), Financial Services Committee

[TARP Oversight Reports](#), Financial Services Committee

[TARP Oversight](#), Office of the Speaker

**Press Releases, News Articles & Related Information:**

[Pelosi Statement in Support of Chairman Frank's Legislation to Strengthen Oversight of TARP](#), Office of the Speaker

[Frank Introduces TARP Reform and Accountability Legislation](#), Financial Services Committee

**Other Resources:**

*(TBA)*