



# The Money Monitor

*The only document that tracks the costs of bills as they pass the House*

## **Week of December 3-7, 2007**



Five-year cost of authorizations passed by the House *this week*:

**\$1,254,000,000.00\***

H.R. 3998	To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resources studies of certain lands and structures to determine the appropriate means for preservation, use, and management of the resources associated with such lands and structures	\$3.0 million
H.R. 3887	To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2008 through 2011 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2007, to enhance measures to combat forced labor	\$964.0 million
H.R. 236	To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to create a Bureau of Reclamation partnership with the North Bay Water Reuse Authority and other regional partners to achieve objectives relating to water supply, water quality, and environmental restoration	\$25.0 million
H.R. 2930	Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Act	\$259.0 million
H.R. 3690	U.S. Capitol Police and Library of Congress Police Merger Implementation Act	\$3.0 million
<b>TOTAL FIVE-YEAR COST OF THIS WEEK'S AUTHORIZATIONS</b>		<b>\$1,254.0 million*</b>

Five-year cost of authorizations passed by the House *this year*:

**\$995,775,770,000.00\*\***

\* This figure does not include the authorizations contained in **H.R. 1759** (Managing Arson Through Criminal History (MATCH) Act), **H.R. 2517** (Protecting Our Children Comes First Act), or **H.R. 4253** (To improve and expand small business assistance programs for veterans of the armed forces and military reservists), all of which passed the House the week of December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

\*\* This figure does not include the authorizations contained in:

- **H.R. 1538** (Wounded Warrior Assistance Act), which passed the House the week of March 26<sup>th</sup>;
- **H.R. 1852** (Expanding American Homeownership Act), which passed the House the week of September 17<sup>th</sup>;
- **H.R. 2553** (Public Diplomacy Resource Centers Act) or **H.R. 2185** (To amend the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 to provide debt relief to developing countries that take action to protect forests and coral reefs and associated coastal marine ecosystems, to reauthorize such Act through fiscal year 2010), both of which passed the House the week of October 8<sup>th</sup>;
- **H.R. 3866** (Small Business Programs Act), **S. 2265** (A bill to extend the existing provisions regarding the eligibility for essential air service subsidies through fiscal year 2008), or **H.R. 3355** (Homeowners' Defense Act), all of which passed the House the week of November 5<sup>th</sup>;
- **H.R. 2614** (To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in certain water projects in California) or **H.R. 4154** (HBCU Capital Financing Improvement Act), both of which passed the House the week of November 12<sup>th</sup>; or
- **H.R. 1759** (Managing Arson Through Criminal History (MATCH) Act), **H.R. 2517** (Protecting Our Children Comes First Act), or **H.R. 4253** (To improve and expand small business assistance programs for veterans of the armed forces and military reservists), all of which passed the House the week of December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

When final cost estimates become available, the RSC will update *The Money Monitor* accordingly.

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Five-year change in mandatory spending passed by the House *this week*:  
**\$0.00**

Five-year change in mandatory spending passed by the House *this year*:  
**\$33,176,250,000.00**

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One-year cost of appropriations passed by the House *this week*:

**Fiscal Year 2006: \$0.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2007: \$0.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2008: \$0.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2009: \$0.00**

One-year cost of appropriations passed by the House *this year*:

**Fiscal Year 2006: \$0.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2007: \$587,786,000,000.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2008: \$1,026,323,000,000.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2009: \$21,300,000,000.00**

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Five-year change in revenue passed by the House *this week*:  
**\$0.00**

Five-year change in revenue passed by the House *this year*:  
**\$50,216,000,000.00**

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## **GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS IN THE MONEY MONITOR**

**Authorization:** An authorization (otherwise known as “discretionary spending”) explicitly allows, but does not actually provide, funding for a certain program, and/or directs a federal agency to take a certain action. Authorizations express the House’s *intent* to spend, however, actual funding is provided through the annual appropriations process. Think of an authorization like your credit card’s credit limit. If it’s \$10,000, that doesn’t mean you’ve spent \$10,000, but it does mean that you’re *allowed* to spend \$10,000. Further action by you is needed for the money to actually be spent.

**Mandatory Spending:** Mandatory spending (otherwise known as “direct spending”) directly provides for funding. No subsequent action is required for the money to be spent. Think of mandatory spending like signing up for an automatic-bill-payment program. The very act of signing up provides for the payments from your credit card or bank account without further action from you.

**Appropriation:** An appropriation is an amount of money that Congress orders to be set aside for a certain purpose, function, or entity. The “appropriations process” commonly refers to passing the composite bills that provide discretionary funds to various federal agencies (see “Authorization” above). Think of an appropriation like an individual purchase on your credit card.

**Revenue:** Revenue refers to the amount of money that the federal government receives in taxes, fees, sales of property, and other sources of *incoming* funds. Think of revenue like the income from your job, the sale of your car, etc. Note: not all revenues are taxes.

## **NOTES ON PROCEDURES & ASSUMPTIONS IN THE MONEY MONITOR**

Neither the costs of conference reports nor the costs of bills that have already been recorded under substantively similar House-passed legislation this year are recorded here. “The Money Monitor,” which operates as an annual document, only accounts for the costs of bills as they first pass the House (unless the prior bills related to such reports and bills have not come to the floor during this calendar year or unless they contain significant cost changes BEFORE going to the Senate).

**In short, “The Money Monitor” primarily tracks the House’s original monetary intent each calendar year.**

Authorizations with no net cost, bills that would result in no significant net change in mandatory spending or federal revenue, and private-sector costs from federal mandates are not reported here.

The figures for revenue changes are from “**static**” estimates by the Joint Committee on Taxation or the Congressional Budget Office. That is, they do not take into account the stimulative effects that certain tax cuts and certain other revenue reductions have on the national economy.

All numbers in “The Money Monitor” are positive unless otherwise indicated.

Most estimates are provided by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), though some are provided by the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT), the referring House committee, or RSC staff calculations.

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