



# The Money Monitor

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

**Week of July 14-18, 2008**



Five-year cost of authorizations passed by the House *this week*:  
**\$6,444,850,000.00**

H.R. 5618	National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act	\$398.0 million
H.R. 3564	Regulatory Improvement Act	\$9.6 million
H.R. 5057	Debbie Smith Reauthorization Act	\$1,418.0 million
H.R. 5464	A Child Is Missing Alert and Recovery Center Act	\$25.0 million
S. 496	Appalachian Regional Development Act Amendments	\$575.0 million
H.Res. 1341	Providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3890, with amendments	\$16.0 million
H.R. 3032	To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate	\$0.5 million
S. 2062	Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act	\$3,353.0 million
H.R. 5959	Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (unclassified portion)	\$649.0 million
H.R. 415	To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System	\$0.75 million
<b>TOTAL FIVE-YEAR COST OF THIS WEEK'S AUTHORIZATIONS</b>		<b>\$6,444.85 million**</b>

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

**\$350,998,900,000.00\***

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

- **H.R. 2830** (Coast Guard Authorization Act), which passed the House with significant amendments during the week of April 21<sup>st</sup>;
- **H.R. 4332** (Financial Consumer Hotline Act) or **S. 2739** (Consolidated Natural Resources Act), both of which passed the House without cost estimates during the week of April 28<sup>th</sup>;
- **H.R. 5937** (To facilitate the preservation of certain affordable housing dwelling units) or **H.R. 3221** (American Housing Rescue and Foreclosure Prevention Act), both of which passed the House without cost estimates during the week of May 5<sup>th</sup>;
- **H.R. 6022** (Strategic Petroleum Reserve Fill Suspension and Consumer Protection Act) or **H.R. 2419** (Food and Energy Security Act), both of which passed the House without complete cost estimates during the week of May 12<sup>th</sup>;
- **H.R. 5658** (National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009), which passed the House with significant floor amendments during the week of May 19<sup>th</sup>; or
- **H.R. 4926** (Josh Miller HEARTS Act), which passed the House without a cost estimate during the week of June 9<sup>th</sup>.

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

\*\* S. 231 (A bill to authorize the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program at fiscal year 2006 levels through 2012) is not accounted for above because a substantively similar bill, H.R. 3546, passed earlier in the year.

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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*:  
**\$95,951,600,000.00<sup>#</sup>**

<sup>#</sup> This figure does not include the mandatory spending contained in:

- **H.R. 3221** (American Housing Rescue and Foreclosure Prevention Act), which passed the House without a cost estimate during the week of May 5<sup>th</sup>; or
- **H.R. 5658** (National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009), which passed the House with significant floor amendments during the week of May 19<sup>th</sup>.

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

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

**Fiscal Year 2007: \$0.00**

**Fiscal Year 2008: \$0.00**

**Fiscal Year 2009: \$0.00**

**Fiscal Year 2010: \$0.00**

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

**Fiscal Year 2007: \$0.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2008: \$115,071,130,000.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2009: \$71,682,000,000.00**  
**Fiscal Year 2010: \$0.00**

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Five-year change in revenue passed by the House *this week*:  
**-\$7,250,000.00<sup>^</sup>**

H.R. 6296	To extend through 2013 the authority of the Federal Election Commission to impose civil money penalties on the basis of a schedule of penalties established and published by the Commission	\$1.25 million
H.Res. 1341	Providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3890, with amendments	-\$8.5 million
TOTAL FIVE-YEAR CHANGE IN REVENUE THIS WEEK		-\$7.25 million <sup>^</sup>

Five-year change in revenue passed by the House *this year*:  
**-\$150,724,070,000.00<sup>^</sup>**

<sup>^</sup> This figure does not include the revenue implications of **S. 3218** (Criminal History Background Checks Pilot Extension Act), which passed the House without a revenue estimate during the week of July 14<sup>th</sup>.

<sup>^^</sup> This figure does not include the revenue implications of:

- **H.R. 2830** (Coast Guard Authorization Act), which passed the House with significant amendments during the week of April 21<sup>st</sup>;
- **H.R. 3221** (American Housing Rescue and Foreclosure Prevention Act), which passed the House without a composite cost estimate during the week of May 5<sup>th</sup>; or
- **S. 3218** (Criminal History Background Checks Pilot Extension Act), which passed the House without a revenue estimate during the week of July 14<sup>th</sup>.

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

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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.

**Staff contact: Paul Teller, [paul.teller@mail.house.gov](mailto:paul.teller@mail.house.gov), 202-226-9718**