

Status of the Senate Budget Resolutions:

The Senate Budget Committee passed the FY 2011 Budget Resolution by a vote of 12 to 10 on Thursday, April 22, 2010.

Senate Budget Resolution Overview:

The Chairman's mark of the Senate budget resolution includes \$1.12 trillion in discretionary budget authority, \$4 billion less than the President's request. This compares to the 2010 enacted budget of \$1.23 trillion. These totals exclude emergency and supplemental war funding.

The reductions from the 2011 President's budget are from international aid programs. The Secretary of State and others are protesting these reductions, which would leave the State Department with a budget that is 7 percent above the 2010 level.

The budget resolution supports the budgeted increases for education, energy, and veterans programs. The Senate resolution assumes \$5.5 billion is provided to cover a shortfall in Pell Grants, which the President's budget had proposed as mandatory spending. Congressional appropriators would need to find \$5.5 billion in additional reductions elsewhere to cover this proposal.

Senate Budget Resolution Specifics:

The budget resolution groups funding for programs under categories that do not, in all cases, align with Departments. Funding for most of Interior's budget, excluding portions of the Indian Affairs budget, is included in the Natural Resources and Environment category.

The budget resolution includes \$36.8 billion in discretionary spending for the Natural Resources and Environment programs category. This is an increase of \$300 million or 0.8 percent above the 2010 enacted level. Funding decreases of 3 percent are planned for this category of spending during 2012 thru 2015, as compared to the 2011 level. The Senate Budget Resolution specifies funding for the following programs:

Everglades: The Chairman's mark funds Everglades restoration programs in the Corps of Engineers and Interior at the 2011 request level. This includes the 2010 enacted level for the Army Corps of Engineers and a small increase above the 2010 enacted level for the Department of the Interior. The 2011 budget resolution funds ongoing Everglades Restoration activities, including \$8.0 million for the Modified Water Deliveries Project.

Public Lands: The Chairman's mark includes the President's proposal to increase funding for land acquisition programs. The 2011 budget includes \$619.2 million for programs funded from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This includes increases totaling \$139.8 million comprised of \$106.0 million for Interior and \$33.8 million for the Forest Service.

Fire Suppression: The Chairman's mark funds the President's request for wildfire suppression activities at the Forest Service and DOI — a total of \$3.6 billion. It funds the requested amount for fire suppression and the FLAME fund and assumes that an additional \$357 million in a President's

contingency fund will be provided if appropriated funds are exhausted.

Great Lakes Restoration: The Chairman's mark funds the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative at the 2010 level, which is \$175 million above the 2011 budget request. The initiative is funded in the Environmental Protection Agency's 2011 budget at \$300 million and includes \$50.2 million for Interior, as compared to the 2010 level of \$87.4 million. The Chairman's mark recognizes the particular threats posed by the Asian Carp to the economy of the entire Great Lakes region.

Rural Water: The Chairman's mark recognizes the importance of the Bureau of Reclamation rural water programs to support ongoing municipal, rural, and industrial systems. It provides funding equal to the 2010 enacted level to support rural water development projects. The 2011 budget includes \$62.0 million for these programs, as compared to the 2010 enacted level of \$121.3 million.

Native American Programs: The Chairman's mark funds the President's budget request for health care, public safety, housing, and education programs benefitting American Indians and Alaska Natives.

For mandatory funding, the Chairman's mark for the Senate resolution includes:

Climate Change Legislation: The Chairman's mark assumes enactment of legislation to establish a reserve fund to invest in clean energy technology initiatives, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, create new clean technology jobs, increase cost savings through energy efficiency, diversify the domestic clean energy supply to increase the energy security of the U.S., and help families, workers, communities, and businesses make the transition to a clean energy economy.

Geothermal Lease Revenues: The Chairman's mark does not assume the savings included in the President's 2011 budget from eliminating payments to counties from geothermal leasing revenues.

Taxes and Pay: The Senate Budget Resolution includes an extension of the 2001 and 2003 income tax cuts for taxpayers making under \$250,000 per year, alternative minimum tax relief, estate tax relief, and business tax relief. The budget resolution freezes salary levels for members of Congress at the 2010 level from 2011 through 2015.