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**Legislative Bulletin.....February 3, 2010**

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**H.R. 2843 – Architect of the Capitol Appointment Act  
(Wasserman Schultz, D-FL)**

**Order of Business:** The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 2843 amends federal law so that the Architect of the Capitol must be appointed jointly by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on House Administration, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, and the Chairs and Ranking Minority Members of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

H.R. 2843 establishes that the Architect of the Capitol will be appointed for a 10 year term, and then may be reappointed for additional terms.

This legislation repeals the requirement of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 1990, which requires the Architect of the Capitol to be appointed by the President, with Senate approval.

**Committee Action:** H.R. 2843 was introduced on June 12, 2009 and was referred to the House Administration Committee, which favorably reported the legislation on November 4, 2009. The legislation was also referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, which took no public action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** CBO estimates that “enacting H.R. 2843 would not have a significant impact on the federal budget.”

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

**Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?:** A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the legislation does not contain any earmarks.

**Constitutional Authority:** House Report 111-372 cites the legislative power granted to Congress in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

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## **H.R. 4532 - Social Security Disability Applicants' Access to Professional Representation Act of 2010 (*Tanner, D-TN*)**

**Order of Business:** The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 4532 amends Section 302 of the Social Security Protection Act of 2004 to permanently extend attorney fee withholding procedures for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income recipients. This allows claimants to pay attorneys and representatives out of their benefits for successfully securing those benefits.

H.R. 4532 requires that non-attorney representatives have a bachelor's degree, pass an examination, obtain professional liability insurance, undergo a criminal background check, and take continuing education.

This legislation allows the Social Security Commissioner to assess "reasonable fees" to cover the cost to the Social Security Administration of administering the prerequisites. These fees will be credited to the [Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund](#) and the [Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund](#), or deposited in the general fund of the Treasury.

According to the Ways and Means Committee background [report](#), this legislation would reduce mandatory spending by \$55 million over 10 years (through offsetting receipts), because attorneys and representatives pay a fee to participate in the program.

**Committee Action:** H.R. 4532 was introduced on January 27, 2010 and was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, which took no public action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO score for H.R. 4532 is unavailable. According to the Ways and Means Committee background [report](#), this legislation would reduce mandatory

spending by \$55 million over 10 years (through offsetting receipts), because attorneys and representatives pay a fee to participate in the program.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

**Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?:** A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the legislation does not contain any earmarks.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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