



## **H.J.Res. 52—Making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008 (Obey, D-WI)**

**Order of Business:** H.J.Res. 52 is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, September 26, 2007, under a close rule with one hour of debate equally divided. The rule makes in order no amendments and provides for one motion to recommit.

**Summary:** H.J.Res. 52 would enact a continuing resolution (CR) through November 16, 2007, based on last year's spending levels (with some adjustments for defense and homeland security). The bill also extends a number of other expiring provisions in law.

### **Continuing Resolution**

- **Continuing Resolution.** H.J.Res. 52 would authorize funding with respect to all twelve bills that fund the government through November 16, 2007. The formula used to determine spending levels is based on the non-emergency FY 2007 spending levels, plus the \$70 billion in emergency war funding contained in the FY 2007 defense appropriations bill and the \$1.8 billion in emergency funding for border security and immigration enforcement from the FY 2007 Homeland Security conference report. (Note that the \$70 billion for defense and \$1.8 billion for border security figures are based on an annual spending level, whereas this legislation only provides spending authority for a month and a half).
- **Extension of Expiring Provisions.** H.J.Res. 52 extends a number of provisions in current law that are set to expire—so-called “anomalies.” These include the adjusted gross income requirement from the 2002 farm bill, expiring provisions from previous Defense Authorization bills (such as the Commanders’ Emergency Response Program), and an extension of the authorization for both the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Delta Regional Authority. The bill also extends the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) programs, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, and the excise taxes that finance the Airport and Airway Trust Fund as well as the contract authority for the airport grant program.

### **Other Provisions**

- **Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle Fund.** Appropriates \$5.2 billion for the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles (MRAPs). Of note, this funding would remain available through the end of FY 2008.

- Appropriates \$165,200 to the widow of Senator Craig Thomas and \$165,200 to the widow of Representative Paul Gillmor.
- Provides an annualized spending level of \$5.6 billion for BRAC to reflect the FY 2007 supplemental spending (PL 110-28).
- Provides an annualized level of level of spending for the Diplomatic and Consular Programs at \$4.4 billion. The FY 2008 House-passed version of the State-Foreign Operations Appropriations bill includes \$4.8 billion, and the President's budget requested \$4.9 billion.
- Extends the S-CHIP program with a funding level for FY 2008 of \$5 billion on an annualized basis, which is the same level as FY 2007. This includes funding for the 50 states and DC, and \$40 million for Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

**Additional Background:** To date, none of the FY 2008 appropriations bills have been signed into law, and none have been sent to the President for approval. While the House approved all of the spending bills prior to the August recess, serious differences exist between the President and the Democrats in the House on overall funding levels. Consequently the President has issued veto threats against nine of the twelve spending bills.

Meanwhile, the Senate has passed four of the twelve bills—Homeland Security, Military Construction, State-Foreign Operations, and Transportation-HUD.

Without this continuing resolution, the portions of the federal government covered by any of the twelve appropriations bills could not operate past September 30, 2007.

**Committee Action:** H.J.Res. 52 was introduced on September 25, 2006. It was not considered by the Appropriations Committee.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO cost estimate is not available.

**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.

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