



Legislative Bulletin.....February 15, 2006

Contents:

H.R. 4745 — Making supplemental appropriations for Fiscal Year 2006 for the Small Business Administration's disaster loans program

Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:

Total Number of New Government Programs: 0

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: \$0 increase, \$712 million transfer of previously appropriated funds

Effect on Revenue: \$0

Total Change in Mandatory Spending: \$0

Total New State & Local Government Mandates: 0

Total New Private Sector Mandates: 0

Number of Bills Without Committee Reports: 1

Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority: 0

H.R. 4745 — Making supplemental appropriations for Fiscal Year 2006 for the Small Business Administration's disaster loans program — *as introduced* (Lewis, R-CA)

Order of Business: The bill was considered on Wednesday, February 15, 2006, under suspension of the rules. A recorded vote was requested, and the vote was rolled until later this evening.

Summary: H.R. 4745 would make emergency supplemental appropriations for the Small Business Administration's (SBA) disaster loans program. The bill provides \$712 million for the program (to remain available until expended) by transferring the funds from previously appropriated FEMA Disaster Relief Funds (P.L. 109-62, the Second Katrina Supplemental).

Additional Information: While the \$712 million is an emergency supplemental appropriations request, it is fully offset, since the funds would be transferred from already appropriated FEMA disaster funds. It is not clear, however, whether FEMA's disaster relief funds would now face a shortfall and, consequently, Congress may be pressured to consider an emergency supplemental in the future to replenish the FEMA account.

This amount is in addition to \$441 million that was provided to the SBA program in the second hurricane disaster supplemental (P.L. 109-62). The additional \$712 million would leverage \$4.8 billion in SBA disaster loans (representing the federal government's obligation in issuing these loans).

Committee Action: H.R. 4745 was introduced on February 14, 2006, and referred to the Appropriations Committee and the Budget Committee, neither of which took any official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score of H.R. 4745 is unavailable. As stated above, the bill transfers \$712 million to the SBA disaster loans program from other funds already appropriated to FEMA.

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.

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

House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain "a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution." *[emphasis added]*

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