



Legislative Bulletin.....December 7, 2006

Contents:

H.R. 6060 — Department of State Authorities Act of 2006

Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:

Total Number of New Government Programs: 0

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: unknown

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: 0

Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority: 1

**H.R. 6060 — Department of State Authorities Act of 2006
— as amended (Smith, R-NJ)**

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled for consideration on Thursday, December 7, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

Summary: H.R. 6060 would amend certain provisions of current law regarding Department of State activities and policies. Specifically, H.R. 6060 would authorize the Secretary of State to increase the dollar amounts of certain surcharges related to consular services. In addition, the bill would make the following changes to the education allowance for overseas employee dependents:

- “would allow for travel to the United States for children in kindergarten through 12th grade when schools at post are not adequate;
- “would allow for educational travel to a school outside the United States for children at the secondary and college level; and
- “would allow the option of storing a child’s personal effects near the school during his or her trip to post, rather than transporting the effects back and forth.”

Committee Action: H.R. 6060 was introduced on September 13, 2006, and referred to the House Committee on International Relations, which considered it, held a mark-up, and reported the bill to the House on September 29, 2006.

Cost to Taxpayers: An updated CBO estimate of the amended version of this legislation was not available as of press time.

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: Committee Report 109-708 cites Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, but failed to cite a specific clause. 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*)

RSC Staff Contact: Joelle Cannon; joelle.cannon@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-0718.
