

SENATE COMMITTEE BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAY ALLOCATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT—BUDGET YEAR TOTAL 2006—Continued

[In billions of dollars]

Committee	Direct spending jurisdiction		Entitlements funded in annual appropriations acts	
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Budget Authority	Outlays
Intelligence	0.000	0.000	0.245	0.245
Veterans' Affairs	1.293	1.353	36.198	36.108
Indian Affairs	0.559	0.547	0.000	0.000
Small Business	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Unassigned to Committee	-496.329	-484.403	0.000	0.000
Total	721.281	675.697	531.782	512.469

SENATE COMMITTEE BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAY ALLOCATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT—5-YEAR TOTAL: 2006–2010

[In billions of dollars]

Committee	Direct spending jurisdiction		Entitlements funded in annual appropriations acts	
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Budget authority	Outlays
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	111.747	111.108	341.876	260.136
Armed Services	494.585	494.199	0.200	0.270
Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs	74.258	9.668	0.000	-0.028
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	68.875	40.886	5.076	5.054
Energy and Natural Resources	19.461	18.898	0.268	0.277
Environment and Public Works	180.812	9.994	0.000	0.000
Finance	5515.613	5527.427	2424.576	2423.728
Foreign Relations	63.726	60.966	0.794	0.794
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	402.936	387.261	99.879	99.879
Judiciary	32.071	31.766	2.941	2.979
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	68.205	62.245	21.289	20.734
Rules and Administration	0.366	0.323	0.640	0.639
Intelligence	0.000	0.000	1.314	1.314
Veterans' Affairs	6.327	6.498	185.814	185.182
Indian Affairs	2.555	2.682	0.000	0.000
Small Business	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

SAN JUAN NATIONAL FOREST CENTENNIAL MONTH

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of one of our great national treasures. Next week, while the Senate is in recess, we will celebrate 100 years of the San Juan National Forest in my great State of Colorado. The people of southwestern Colorado will be celebrating this anniversary, as they should. I rise to underscore that I believe all Americans should celebrate this important milestone.

The San Juan National Forest was created 100 years ago on June 3, 1905, through Presidential proclamation by President Theodore Roosevelt. When you see it, you know why President Roosevelt set aside this remarkable place. It is located in southwestern Colorado on the western slope of the Continental Divide in one of America's most magnificent landscapes. The San Juan covers nearly 2 million acres, in an area more than 120 miles wide and 60 miles long. This unique scene includes alpine lakes, canyons, rapids, waterfalls, historic mines, and broad variations in elevation including mountain peaks of over 14,000 feet high.

Not only is it beautiful, but its rich history is deeply intertwined with the history of this great country. The San Juan was originally the homeland of the Ute Indians as well as an area that was frequented by the Navajo and Apache Tribes as well. Many pioneers who were looking for routes to the West traveled through the San Juan. Some of these individuals remained there establishing mining sites which contributed to development and a growing community.

The San Juan National Forest benefits the communities of southwestern Colorado through the supply of timber,

minerals, oil and gas, grazing pastures, recreation, clean water and air and other natural resources.

All of these amenities offered by the San Juan National Forest are important to the quality of life and economic well being of southwestern Coloradans; this has been the case for the past 100 years, it is the case today, and hopefully will be true for the next 100 years.

I urge all citizens of Colorado and our Nation to join in the centennial celebration of the San Juan National Forest through the many activities scheduled for June 1–4, 2005, to celebrate this special place and show appreciation for our national forests.

Finally, this year also marks the centennial of the U.S. Forest Service, the Federal agency which manages the San Juan and 154 other National Forests across our country. I want to thank the dedicated men and women of our Forest Service for their extraordinary work and continued commitment to our precious lands.

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, today I rise to bring your attention to National Foster Care Month. As we celebrate this National Foster Care Month, we must remember how far we have come, we must also remember how far we still have to go. In my 27 years as a public servant, I have had the opportunity to meet thousands of children in foster care. I have personally witnessed the sheer joy they find in having a "forever family," and the utter pain when they do not. I firmly believe that there is no such thing as an unwanted child, merely unfound families. Let me tell you a story about one of these extraordinary children. A few years ago, a young woman named Sarah, who

spent 14 of her 19 years of life in foster care, was asked by a Member of Congress what the word "permanency" meant to her. She said, "many people in the system wrongly think that permanency means staying in one place for a long time, but to me, permanency means having someone to call when I am not sure if I should wash my new white skirt with a blue shirt, or to take me to Karate lessons, or to cry with me when I break up with my boyfriend."

For those of us who have had that kind of permanency in our lives, living without it seems unfathomable. But the fact remains that each year, over 100,000 children in the United States are dreaming of that kind of permanency, 25,000 children leave the foster care system without ever having found it, and almost 600,000 go to bed every night wondering if they ever will find it. Every child deserves the opportunity to be in a loving family where they are nurtured, comforted, and protected. Adoption gives children who have been abandoned, orphaned, or abused a second chance to find happiness in a secure and supportive family.

Over the past decade, the number of children being adopted has risen dramatically, and according to the 2000 Census Special Report, over 2 million children today live in adoptive homes. In the last year alone, over 6,500 children have been listed on the web page of Adopt US Kids and 1,500 of these children have found families through this process.

In closing, I would like to share with you something said in the award winning book, *There Are No Children Here*, about foster care children. "By the time they enter adolescence, they have contended with more terror than most of us confront in a lifetime. They have

had to make choices that most experienced and educated adults would find difficult. They have lived with fear and witnessed death. Some of them have lashed out. They have joined gangs, sold drugs, and, in some cases, inflicted pain on others. But they have played baseball and gone on dates and shot marbles and kept diaries. For, despite all they have seen and done, they are—and we must constantly remind ourselves of this—still children.”

During National Foster Care Month, I encourage you to log on to www.adoptuskids.org to learn more about the children who are waiting in our country and across the Nation for the safe, loving home they deserve. As Mistral said, “Many things we need can wait, the child cannot. To him we cannot say tomorrow. His name is today.”

RESIGNATION OF FTC COMMISSIONER ORSON SWINDLE

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, after over 7 years of service, Orson Swindle announced today his resignation as Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission. Mr. Swindle has been dedicated to protecting the interests of the American consumer by promoting competition and fairness in the marketplace. He will be sorely missed.

Mr. Swindle’s accomplishments at the FTC have been numerous, but his efforts to promote the vigorous development of the Internet and technology generally have been particularly important to our Nation’s economy. His service with the Commission started shortly after the birth of electronic commerce, and it was thanks in part to Mr. Swindle’s efforts to keep the Internet free of over-regulation that it is now such a robust and widely-used medium of communication, commerce, education, and political participation. All the while, Mr. Swindle has focused his efforts on educating consumers about the new online world in order to build their confidence in and knowledge of the Internet. He has also ensured that industry understands the need to self-regulate effectively or face the credible threat of Government interference and aggressive enforcement.

I commend Mr. Swindle and thank him for his outstanding service to this country, and I deeply hope that he will continue to build on his long and distinguished career as a public servant. Our Nation benefits greatly from the work of individuals such as Orson Swindle, whom I am proud to call my friend. He stands as an example for us all of commitment, achievement, and sacrifice on behalf of our Nation.

THE NATIONAL ALL SCHEDULES PRESCRIPTION ELECTRONIC REPORTING ACT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I take a moment to bring attention to an important step that was taken yesterday in the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. On

Wednesday morning, the HELP Committee unanimously passed S. 518, the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act, a bill designed to help states combat the growing scourge of prescription drug abuse and diversion.

I begin by thanking Senator ENZI, our chairman, for his excellent support in bringing this bill, the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act, before the committee for consideration. I also thank and commend the bill’s original cosponsors, Senators KENNEDY, DURBIN, and DODD, and their staffs, for contributing to the productive, bipartisan process of developing this legislation.

The abuse and diversion of prescription drugs is a tremendous public health issue for our nation, and a growing one. An epidemic that first attracted public notice as a regional crisis has now spread to touch every kind of community, from major cities to the smallest rural hamlet. Prescription drugs now rank second only to marijuana in the incidence of abuse. Over 31 million American adults and adolescents have, at one time, abused pain relievers, and the number of first-time abusers has increased 336 percent since 1990.

As appalling as the numbers are, we can not permit them to obscure the human tragedy of drug abuse and dependence, or the toll that drug diversion takes on communities. In the case of individuals who become addicted to prescription medications, the addicted too often fall from the productive ranks of society into unemployment, disability, hospitalization, or even death. They may be drawn into criminal activities that lead to incarceration. Their families and communities suffer along with them. Those who engage in drug diversion feed an insidious black market that makes dangerous drugs available to children, as well as adults. On a societal level, taxpayers bear much of the expense of abused or illegally diverted drugs, and, subsequently, of treating the medical consequences of misuse and addiction.

I find particularly concerning the recent Partnership for a Drug-Free America finding that prescription medications are emerging as the most rapidly growing category of drugs abused by America’s teenagers. According to this national study, released April 21st, approximately one in five teenagers—that is over 4 million kids nationally—has abused prescription painkillers, and 37 percent report that close friends have done so. Another 10 percent of teens have abused prescription stimulants, such as Ritalin. Surveys show that this dismal pattern is driven by, according to teens’ own assessment, ease of access.

The establishment, by the states, of programs to monitor prescriptions for controlled substances can help curb inappropriate, illegal access to these potentially dangerous drugs. At the present time, 20 states have operating

prescription drug monitoring programs. In general, monitoring programs collect, from dispensers, a basic set of information on prescriptions that are issued for controlled substances. In the most effective programs, providers, including physicians and pharmacists, may request the prescription histories of their patients, permitting them to avoid providing controlled substances to “doctor shoppers” seeking multiple prescriptions to feed addiction or for diversion to the black market.

These monitoring programs, appropriately designed, not only help healthcare providers to better deliver appropriate, effective treatment of pain and other conditions that require the use of “scheduled” drugs, but also provide an important tool that permits doctors to identify and, if appropriate, refer for treatment patients whose prescription history suggests that they are at high risk of addiction.

In addition, they offer an opportunity to repair the physician-patient relationship in the face of a growing addiction problem that has created an atmosphere in which physicians fear that prescribing “high risk” medications could inadvertently injure patients or lead to civil or criminal liability or professional discipline. This situation has created yet another class of victims, patients who are finding it too difficult to obtain timely, effective treatment for pain and other legitimate medical needs. Much to their credit, physicians have recognized the tremendous potential here and have been the leading advocates for national legislation supporting the broader adoption of well-designed prescription drug monitoring programs.

I would like to particularly commend the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians, and Dr. Laxmaiah Manchikanti, their CEO, for the tremendous effort they have put forth to educate members and the public regarding the need for this legislation. ASIPP has, in recent days, been joined in their strong advocacy for the NASPER bill by the American Society of Anesthesiology and the American Osteopathic Association, and I expect that others will soon follow. Those physicians who have stepped forward to advocate for a balanced and effective solution to this problem are truly acting in a manner consistent with the highest ideals of the medical profession.

The bill we are considering today, National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act, establishes a federal grant program, to be administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, that would support both the creation of new state programs and the improvement of existing ones. Participating programs would be designed according to a “best practices” model, and would adopt applicable health information technology standards.

It also addresses the important barriers that continue to hamper the full