

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 2010 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2009 amount, the 2010 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 2010 follow:

[In thousands of dollars]

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2009	38,790,958
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2010	32,382,043
House bill, fiscal year 2010	32,354,850
Senate bill, fiscal year 2010	32,153,734
Conference agreement, fiscal year 2010	32,294,848
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2009	-6,496,110
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2010	-87,195
House bill, fiscal year 2010	-60,002
Senate bill, fiscal year 2010	+141,114

DIVISION B—FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, 2010

Division B provides further continuing appropriations for agencies and activities that would be covered by the regular fiscal year 2010 appropriations bills not yet enacted into law. Specifically, language is included amending the first fiscal year 2010 continuing resolution (division B of Public Law 111-68) to extend its general expiration date to December 18 2009, to add certain additional necessary extensions, and to make technical corrections.

- DAVID R. OBEY,
- NORMAN D. DICKS,
- JAMES P. MORAN,
- ALAN B. MOLLOHAN,
- BEN CHANDLER,
- MAURICE D. HINCHEY,
- JOHN W. OLVER,
- ED PASTOR,
- DAVID E. PRICE,

Managers on the Part of the House.

- DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
- ROBERT C. BYRD,
- PATRICK J. LEAHY,
- BYRON L. DORGAN,
- BARBARA A. MIKULSKI,
- HERB KOHL,
- TIM JOHNSON,
- JACK REED,
- BEN NELSON,
- JON TESTER,
- DANIEL K. INOUE,
- LAMAR ALEXANDER,
- THAD COCHRAN,
- ROBERT F. BENNETT,
- JUDD GREGG,
- LISA MURKOWSKI,
- SUSAN M. COLLINS,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 additional 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HEALTH CARE REFORM: WILL WE STAND FOR THE PEOPLE OR FOR THE INSURANCE COMPANIES?

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, health care is a basic right in a democ-

racy and a moral responsibility of our government consistent with the preamble and the Constitution itself; yet we are being told that it's not possible to have the kind of single-payer health system which every industrialized democracy in the world has.

We compromised single-payer with a public option. We're being asked to compromise a public option with negotiated rates. In conference, we'll be asked to compromise negotiated rates with a trigger.

In all of this, in each and every step, the insurance companies win. They get \$900 billion in new taxpayer subsidies. They get to raise their premiums, increase their copays and their deductibles, while the public is forced to pay for private insurance, and the insurance companies win big.

If this is the best we can do, then it's time to ask ourselves whether the two-party system is truly capable of representing the American people or whether it's become so compromised by special interests that it can't even protect the health of our own people.

This is a moment of truth for the Democratic Party in particular. Will we stand for the people or for the insurance companies? Will we have a true public option or will we be co-opted?

THE LIBERTY TREE AXED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, talk radio today is like the Liberty Tree in Revolutionary War times.

The first Liberty Tree was in Boston where the Sons of Liberty would gather around a large elm tree in the public square. They would talk about the issues of the day and voice their political opinions. Anyone could speak. But the British military cut down the Liberty Tree because colonists spoke out against taxes and the King.

Now it sounds like the redcoats over at the FCC are trying to put the ax to the Liberty Tree of free speech again. They say they need to protect the American people from hearing things that are just too controversial. So their answer is to control the speech content of those radio rebels. The redcoats at the FCC say they must determine what the masses hear.

Mr. Speaker, the notion that anyone in the Federal Government has the right to censor political speech is an affront to a free people. The Constitution protects political speech because it's sacred. We defeated the British because they wanted to control speech, and now it's time for those who still believe in the First Amendment to defy the redcoats at the FCC.

And that's just the way it is.

INTRODUCING LOCOMOTIVE TAX CREDIT

(Mrs. DAHLKEMPER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce that I am introducing new legislation to create and save valuable manufacturing jobs and support our Nation's rail transportation industry.

The Locomotive Fleet Investment and Tax Credit Act of 2009 creates a 30 percent tax credit to encourage the purchase, sale, and manufacture of long-haul freight, passenger, and switch locomotives.

The locomotive industry in the United States provides more than 125,000 direct jobs and supports thousands more. This tax credit will create jobs by helping boost the sale of freight long haul, passenger, and switch locomotives by making fleet investment more affordable for our Nation's rail companies.

In addition to saving and creating jobs, my bill will help put more efficient, cleaner-burning locomotives in service, which can lower air pollution in the long term.

I urge my colleagues to support my bipartisan legislation to create jobs, support manufacturing, and enhance our national rail system.

A HEALTHY DOLLAR WILL PROMOTE A HEALTHY ECONOMY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Democrat Big Government agenda in Washington is destroying jobs.

Every dollar borrowed and spent by this Democrat majority, a total of \$1.4 trillion this year alone, threatens the value of our currency.

Among the negative consequences of a weak dollar is the increased costs to American families for goods and services, especially gas to run cars and businesses. CQ Weekly reports money going into commodities instead of the dollar drives up oil prices. Along with the majority's refusal to allow for the exploration of more American oil and natural gas, the decline of the value of the dollar leads to rising oil prices. This is painful to struggling families. It costs jobs and undercuts our economy.

We must restore fiscal sanity. We cannot borrow and spend our way to prosperity, a devastating truth with the lack of jobs created by the Democrats nearly \$1 trillion porkulus bill.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

THE HEALTH CARE BILL

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, one of the most bizarre assertions from some of our Republican friends from the other side of the aisle is that there is some massive health bill that's being cooked up in secret, that they are being denied knowledge, that they don't know what's going on.

Mr. Speaker, everybody on Capitol Hill who wants to know can find out

what is in the legislation. They can not just go online, but the news accounts, television shows, and trade publications. In fact, yesterday, in the Wall Street Journal it was outlined again.

There are some sticking points yet to be resolved, as those are being debated, they're public knowledge. People know about the public option, options.

Indeed, the notion that somehow we could keep a secret in our little Capitol Hill village of 5,000 compulsive leakers is laughable. Everybody knows that to be the case. If Republicans were still confused or couldn't figure it out themselves they could have just listened to some of their colleagues who were talking about how they disagreed with what was in the bill. They should talk to each other.

THE BRIDGE LOAN TO NOWHERE

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, last December Treasury lent General Motors \$13 billion, another \$6 billion last spring, and in June, just days before GM declared bankruptcy, the White House gave another \$30 billion, just in time to convert taxpayer loans into government ownership.

That's \$49 billion given to GM, and taxpayers now own 61 percent of the company.

Last Wednesday, ex-car czar Steve Rattner estimated that the taxpayers' stake in GM has lost \$25 billion, a nearly 50 percent loss. While sales of the privately owned Ford Motors fell only 6 percent, the government-owned GM saw a 45 percent decline.

How much should taxpayers expect to lose from the "Bridge Loan to Nowhere"?

Despite pledges of transparency, the "Bridge Loan to Nowhere" comes with none. American taxpayers are in the dark about the basic details of \$49 billion given to GM.

Congress, and the American people, should see the financial and operating information for GM. Taxpayers should be treated like shareholders of any other major company.

HEALTH REFORM IS GOOD FOR SENIORS

(Ms. SCHWARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Central to finding a uniquely American solution to our Nation's health care challenges is a focus on strengthening Medicare for our Nation's seniors.

Our health care reform efforts renew our commitment to the health and security of America's seniors by ensuring the long-term fiscal health of Medicare and improving the quality of care for our seniors. The House bill adds valuable new benefits for our seniors and improves access to primary care.

I strongly advocated for ending the copayment that seniors pay for preventive services. Right now seniors pay up to 20 percent of the cost of services such as mammograms, colonoscopies, and vaccines. As of January 1, 2011, seniors will no longer have to pay the copay for preventive services. This is a major win for America's seniors.

Health care reform also sets us on a path to close the coverage gap in the Medicare part D prescription drug plan known as the "doughnut hole." In 2011, Medicare will pay \$500 more and will continue to add benefits until we eliminate this gap in coverage for drug services.

Health care reform is a win for seniors. Now is the time to act.

□ 1015

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. FLEMING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, as a doctor for over 30 years, I have become a pretty good judge of truth telling. We have heard Democratic leadership try to convince us that ObamaCare is going to pass, and with a "robust" public option.

It has become obvious there are not enough votes in Congress, and suddenly, the terms are changing. Within a few days, a whole new vernacular has emerged to describe the public option. This includes the opt-in and the opt-out option; the trigger—no offense to Roy Rogers' horse; the competitive option; and finally, the consumer option. Mr. Speaker, this is not a marketing problem; it is an idea problem.

To my Democrat colleagues, let me suggest a frequently spoken idiom: if you put lipstick on porcine, it is still porcine. Or if you prefer a Louisiana colloquialism: this dog won't hunt.

This bill will add 750 billion real dollars to the deficit, not to mention taxes and higher premiums on the middle class, all while covering relatively few more Americans. Fortunately, there are enough Democrats in both Houses who see past this sham and fear their voters more than their leadership, as they well should.

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, Democratic leadership is committed to making any health care reform bill available to the public for at least 72 hours before a floor vote, and I am glad they have because the American people deserve a chance to see what we are doing.

But, there is one group that has made it clear that they don't need 72 hours to decide where they stand on health care, and it is our Republican colleagues. We could give them 72 days,

and they would still know that they are going to say "no" no matter what is in that bill. They don't need time to read our bill to know they are against giving affordable, quality health care to every American.

The truth is that the Republicans haven't given us one minute to read their bill. You know why? They don't have a bill. It has been 133 days since Republican leadership promised a bill from their side, and all we hear is "no." And now some members of the party, their party, are giving us ideas like privatizing Medicare and increased subsidies to insurance companies.

Mr. Speaker, the American people know it is time for reform, and it is time the Members of this House stand up for them and give the American people the health care they deserve.

IRANIAN TRIALS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, last week the Iranian Government handed down death sentences to three activists who protested this year's stolen election in Iran. There are at least 140 other demonstrators who will be subject to these sham trials, and unfortunately, there may be more executions as the regime seeks to restore their iron rule.

The charges were phony, the trials were held in secret, the outcome rigged, and now the Iranian Government is only identifying condemned men by their initials. The Iranian Government is clearly on shaky footing; and according to some reports, they imported Hezbollah and Hamas radicals who wore face masks and who couldn't speak Farsi to harass and beat the demonstrators.

Unfortunately, we continue to negotiate with this brutal regime, legitimizing their autocratic rule, even though they are so weak they must resort to hiring brutal thugs from other nations.

The President should act swiftly, without regard to Russian objections to institute international sanctions that will support freedom for the Iranian people and undermine the vicious rulers who persecute them.

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, at the end of President Bush's term, this House was faced with a TARP bill. The American public likes bipartisanship, and we had bipartisanship on that bill. There were Democrats and Republicans who voted "no," but there were Democrats and Republicans who voted "yes." Just about everyone agrees that bill saved us from going over the abyss into a Great Depression similar to 1933. It was a moment of bipartisanship and a moment I was proud to participate in.