

“As I begin to write this, I ‘slug’ it, as we writers say, which means I put a heading on top of the document to identify it. This heading is ‘onlineFINAL,’ and it gives me a shiver to write it. I have been doing this column for so long that I cannot even recall when I started. I loved writing this column so much for so long I came to believe it would never end.

“It worked well for a long time, but gradually, my changing as a person and the world’s change have overtaken it. On a small scale, Morton’s, while better than ever, no longer attracts as many stars as it used to. It still brings in the rich people in droves and definitely some stars. I saw Samuel L. Jackson there a few days ago, and we had a nice visit, and right before that, I saw and had a splendid talk with Warren Beatty in an elevator, in which we agreed that ‘Splendor in the Grass’ was a super movie. But Morton’s is not the star galaxy it once was, although it probably will be again.

“Beyond that, a bigger change has happened. I no longer think Hollywood stars are terribly important. They are uniformly pleasant, friendly people, and they treat me better than I deserve to be treated. But a man or woman who makes a huge wage for memorizing lines and reciting them in front of a camera is no longer my idea of a shining star we should all look up to.

“How can a man or woman who makes an eight-figure wage and lives in insane luxury really be a star in today’s world, if by a ‘star’ we mean someone bright and powerful and attractive as a role model? Real stars are not riding around in the backs of limousines or in Porsches or getting trained in yoga or Pilates and eating only raw fruit while they have Vietnamese girls do their nails.

“They can be interesting, nice people, but they are not heroes to me any longer. A real star is the soldier of the 4th Infantry Division who poked his head into a hole on a farm near Tikrit, Iraq. He could have been met by a bomb or a hail of AK-47 bullets. Instead, he faced an abject Saddam Hussein and the gratitude of all the decent people of the world.

“A real star is the U.S. soldier who was sent to disarm a bomb next to a road north of Baghdad. He approached it, and the bomb went off and killed him.

“A real star, the kind who haunts my memory night and day, is the U.S. soldier in Baghdad who saw a little girl playing with a piece of unexploded ordnance on a street near where he was guarding a station. He pushed her aside and threw himself on it just as it exploded. He left a family desolate in California and a little girl alive in Baghdad.

“The stars who deserve media attention are not the ones who have lavish weddings on TV but the ones who patrol the streets of Mosul even after two of their buddies were murdered and their bodies battered and stripped for

the sin of trying to protect Iraqis from terrorists.

“We put couples with incomes of \$100 million a year on the covers of our magazines. The noncoms and officers who barely scrape by on military pay but stand guard in Afghanistan and Iraq and on ships and in submarines near the Arctic Circle are anonymous as they live and die.

“I am no longer comfortable being a part of the system that has such poor values, and I do not want to perpetuate those values by pretending that who is eating at Morton’s is a big subject.

“There are plenty of other stars in the American firmament. The policemen and women who go off on patrol in South Central and have no idea if they will return alive; the orderlies and paramedics who bring in people who have been in terrible accidents and prepare them for surgery; the teachers and nurses who throw their whole spirits into caring for autistic children; the kind men and women who work in hospices and in cancer wards.

“Think of each and every fireman who was running up the stairs at the World Trade Center as the towers began to collapse. Now you have my idea of a real hero. I came to realize that life lived to help others is the only one that matters. This is my highest and best use as a human. I can put it another way. “Years ago, I realized I could never be as great an actor as Olivier or as good a comic as Steve Martin . . . or Martin Mull or Fred Willard—or as good an economist as Samuelson or Friedman or as good a writer as Fitzgerald. Or even remotely close to any of them.

“But I could be a devoted father to my son, husband to my wife and, above all, a good son to the parents who had done so much for me. This came to be my main task in life. I did it moderately well with my son, pretty well with my wife and well indeed with my parents (with my sister’s help). I cared for and paid attention to them in their declining years. I stayed with my father as he got sick, went into extremis and then into a coma and then entered immortality with my sister and me reading him the Psalms.

“This was the only point at which my life touched the lives of the soldiers in Iraq or the firefighters in New York. I came to realize that life lived to help others is the only one that matters and that it is my duty, in return for the lavish life God has devolved upon me, to help others He has placed in my path. This is my highest and best use as a human.

“Faith is not believing that God can. It is knowing that God will.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SCHIFF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. TIAHRT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. TIAHRT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT LEVELS OF ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2009 AND 2010 AND THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD FY 2010 THROUGH FY 2014

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I am transmitting a status report on the current levels of on-budget spending and revenues for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 and for the five-year period of fiscal years 2010 through 2014. This report is necessary to facilitate the application of sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act and sections 424 and 427 of S. Con. Res. 13, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2010.

The term “current level” refers to the amounts of spending and revenues estimated for each fiscal year based on laws enacted or awaiting the President’s signature.

The first table in the report compares the current levels of total budget authority, outlays, and revenues with the aggregate levels set by S. Con. Res. 13. This comparison is needed to enforce section 311(a) of the Budget Act, which establishes a point of order against any measure that would breach the budget resolution’s aggregate levels.

The second table compares the current levels of budget authority and outlays for each authorizing committee with the “section 302(a)” allocations made under S. Con. Res. 13 for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 and fiscal years 2010 through 2014. This comparison is needed to enforce section 302(f) of the Budget Act, which establishes a point of order against any measure that would breach the section 302(a) discretionary action allocation of new budget authority for the committee that reported the measure.

The third table compares the current levels of discretionary appropriations for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 with the “section 302(a)” allocation of discretionary budget authority and outlays to the Appropriations Committee. This comparison is needed to enforce section 302(f) of the Budget Act, which establishes a point of order against any measure that would breach section 302(b) sub-allocations within the Appropriations Committee.

The fourth table gives the current level for fiscal years 2011 and 2012 for accounts identified for advance appropriations under section 424 of S. Con. Res. 13. This list is needed to enforce section 424 of the budget resolution, which establishes a point of order against appropriations bills that include advance appropriations that: (1) are not identified in the joint

statement of managers; or (2) would cause the aggregate amount of such appropriations to exceed the level specified in the resolution.

<sup>1</sup> Notes for 2009.  
Current resolution aggregates exclude \$7,150 million in budget authority and \$1,788 million in outlays that was included in the budget resolution as a placeholder to recognize the potential costs of major disasters.  
<sup>2</sup> Notes for 2010.  
Current resolution aggregates exclude \$10,350 million in budget authority and \$5,488 million in outlays that was included in the budget resolution as a placeholder to recognize the potential costs of major disasters.

estimate) would cause FY 2010 outlays to exceed the appropriate level set by S. Con. Res. 13.

REPORT TO THE SPEAKER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET—STATUS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2010 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ADOPTED IN S. CON. RES. 13

[Reflecting action completed as of August 15, 2009—On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars]

	Fiscal Years—		
	2009 <sup>1</sup>	2010 <sup>2</sup>	2010–2014
<b>Appropriate Level:</b>			
Budget Authority .....	3,668,601	2,882,149	n.a.
Outlays .....	3,357,164	3,002,606	n.a.
Revenues .....	1,532,579	1,653,728	10,500,149
<b>Current Level:</b>			
Budget Authority .....	3,666,974	1,676,230	n.a.
Outlays .....	3,360,358	2,283,297	n.a.
Revenues .....	1,532,579	1,672,889	11,264,480
<b>Current Level over (+)/ under (–) Appropriate Level:</b>			
Budget Authority .....	–1,627	–1,205,919	n.a.
Outlays .....	3,194	–719,309	n.a.
Revenues .....	0	19,161	764,331

n.a. = Not applicable because annual appropriations Acts for fiscal years 2010 through 2013 will not be considered until future sessions of Congress.

BUDGET AUTHORITY

Enactment of measures providing new budget authority for FY 2009 in excess of \$1,627 million (if not already included in the current level estimate) would cause FY 2009 budget authority to exceed the appropriate level set by S. Con. Res. 13.

Enactment of measures providing new budget authority for FY 2010 in excess of \$1,205,919 million (if not already included in the current level estimate) would cause FY 2010 budget authority to exceed the appropriate level set by S. Con. Res. 13.

OUTLAYS

Outlays for FY 2009 are above the appropriate levels set by S. Con. Res. 13.

Enactment of measures providing new outlays for FY 2010 in excess of \$719,309 million (if not already included in the current level

REVENUES

Revenues for FY 2009 are at the appropriate levels set by S. Con. Res. 13.

Enactment of measures resulting in revenue reduction for FY 2010 excess of \$19,161 million (if not already included in the current level estimate) would cause revenues to fall below the appropriate levels set by S. Con. Res. 13.

Enactment of measures resulting in revenue reduction for the period of fiscal years 2010 through 2014 in excess of \$764,331 million (if not already included in the current level estimate) would cause revenues to fall below the appropriate levels set by S. Con. Res. 13.

DIRECT SPENDING LEGISLATION—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATIONS FOR RESOLUTION CHANGES, REFLECTING ACTION COMPLETED AS OF AUGUST 15, 2009

[Fiscal Years, in millions of dollars]

House Committee	2009		2010		2010–2014 Total	
	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays
<b>Agriculture:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Armed Services:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	35	35
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	35	35
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Education and Labor:</b>						
Allocation .....	–187	–202	32	36	–812	–801
Current Level .....	–187	–202	32	36	188	199
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000
<b>Energy and Commerce:</b>						
Allocation .....	11	2	10	13	–10	–2
Current Level .....	11	2	10	13	–10	–2
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Financial Services:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	–564	3,226	318	11,346	524	8,064
Difference .....	–564	3,226	318	11,346	524	8,064
<b>Foreign Affairs:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Homeland Security:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>House Administration:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Judiciary:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	5	–1	64	–71	–6
Difference .....	0	5	–1	64	–71	–6
<b>Natural Resources:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Oversight and Government Reform:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Science and Technology:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Small Business:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Transportation and Infrastructure:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	13,085	0	68,669	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	–13,085	0	–68,669	0
<b>Veterans' Affairs:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Ways and Means:</b>						
Allocation .....	0	0	6,840	6,840	37,000	37,000
Current Level .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference .....	0	0	–6,840	–6,840	–37,000	–37,000

DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATION AND APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE 302(b) SUBALLOCATIONS

[In millions of dollars]

Appropriations subcommittee	302(b) suballocations as of July 8, 2008 (H. Rpt. 110-746)		Current level reflecting action completed as of August 15, 2009		Current level minus suballocations	
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	20,623	22,000	27,594	22,823	6,971	823
Commerce, Justice, Science	56,858	57,000	76,311	62,440	19,453	5,440
Defense	487,737	525,250	636,663	625,194	148,926	99,944
Energy and Water Development	33,265	32,825	91,085	35,130	57,820	2,305
Financial Services and General Government	21,900	22,900	29,747	24,004	7,847	1,104
Homeland Security	42,075	42,390	45,045	46,508	2,970	4,118
Interior, Environment	27,867	28,630	38,586	29,687	10,719	1,057
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	152,643	152,000	281,483	168,653	128,840	16,653
Legislative Branch	4,404	4,340	4,428	4,393	24	53
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs	72,729	66,890	80,076	66,975	7,347	85
State, Foreign Operations	36,620	36,000	50,605	40,989	13,985	4,989
Transportation, HUD	54,997	114,900	119,530	121,039	64,533	6,139
Unassigned (full committee allowance)	0	987	0	0	0	-987
Subtotal (Section 302(b) Allocations)	1,011,718	1,106,112	1,481,153	1,247,835	469,435	141,723
Unallocated portion of Section 302(a) Allocation <sup>1</sup>	470,483	141,760	0	0	-470,483	-141,760
Total (Section 302(a) Allocation)	1,482,201	1,247,872	1,481,153	1,247,835	-1,048	-37

<sup>1</sup> Includes emergencies enacted before March, 2009 that are now included in resolution totals. Also includes adjustments for rebasing and technical reestimates since the Appropriations bills were scored at the time of enactment. Finally, it includes adjustments for overseas deployments made pursuant to S. Con. Res. 13.

DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATION AND APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE 302(b) SUBALLOCATIONS

[In millions of dollars]

Appropriations subcommittee	302(b) suballocations as of July 30, 2009 (H. Rpt. 111-238)		Current level reflecting action completed as of August 15, 2009		Current level minus suballocations	
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	22,900	24,883	8	7,192	-22,892	-17,691
Commerce, Justice, Science	64,415	70,736	0	26,959	-64,415	-43,777
Defense	636,293	648,367	39	244,349	-636,254	-404,018
Energy and Water Development	33,300	42,771	0	23,381	-33,300	-19,390
Financial Services and General Government	24,150	25,653	83	6,658	-24,067	-18,995
Homeland Security	42,625	46,345	0	21,168	-42,625	-25,177
Interior, Environment	32,300	34,188	0	14,551	-32,300	-19,637
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	163,400	218,909	24,637	163,540	-138,763	-55,369
Legislative Branch	4,700	4,805	0	683	-4,700	-4,122
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs	77,905	77,665	-2,160	27,190	-80,065	-50,475
State, Foreign Operations	48,843	47,487	0	26,285	-48,843	-21,202
Transportation, HUD	68,821	135,243	4,400	86,331	-64,421	-48,912
Unassigned (full committee allowance)	0	566	0	0	0	-566
Total (Section 302(a) Allocation)	1,219,652	1,377,618	27,007	648,287	-1,192,645	-729,331

2011 and 2012 advance appropriations under section 424 of S. Con. Res. 13

[Budget Authority in Millions of Dollars]

Section 424 (b) (1) Limits

Appropriate Level	2011	28,852
Enacted advances:		
Accounts Identified for Advances:		
Employment and Training Administration	—	
Office of Job Corps	—	
Education for the Disadvantaged	—	
School Improvement Programs	—	
Special Education	—	
Career, Technical and Adult Education	—	
Payment to Postal Service	—	
Tenant-based Rental Assistance	—	
Project-based Rental Assistance	—	
Subtotal, enacted advances	—	

Appropriate Level <sup>1</sup>	2012	n.a.
Enacted advances:		
Accounts Identified for Advances:		
Corporation for Public Broadcasting	—	

Section 424 (b) (2) Limits

Appropriate Level <sup>2</sup>	n.a.
Enacted advances:	
Veterans Health Administration Accounts Identified for Advances:	
Medical services	—
Medical support and compliance	—
Medical facilities	—
Subtotal, enacted advances	—

<sup>1</sup> S. Con. Res. 13 does not provide a dollar limit for 2012.  
<sup>2</sup> S. Con. Res. 13 does not provide a dollar limit for allowable advances for the Veterans Health Administration.

U.S. CONGRESS,  
 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
 Washington, DC, September 10, 2009.

Hon. JOHN M. SPRATT Jr.,  
 Chairman, Committee on the Budget,  
 House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2009 budget and is current through August 15, 2009. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of S. Con. Res. 13, the Concurrent Resolution on

the Budget for Fiscal Year 2010, as approved by the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Pursuant to section 423(b) of S. Con. Res. 13, provisions designated as emergency requirements are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. As a result, the enclosed current level report excludes those amounts (see footnote 2 of the report).

Since my last letter dated June 25, 2009, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following acts that affect budget authority, outlays, and revenues for fiscal year 2009:

An act to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes (Public Law 111-39);

An act to authorize the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to use funds . . . and for other purposes (Public Law 111-45); and

An act to restore sums to the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes (Public Law 111-46).

Sincerely,  
 DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF,  
 Director.

Enclosure.

FISCAL YEAR 2009 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH AUGUST 15, 2009

[in millions of dollars]

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted: <sup>1</sup>			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	1,532,571

FISCAL YEAR 2009 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH AUGUST 15, 2009—Continued

(in millions of dollars)

	Budget au- thority	Outlays	Revenues
Permanents and other spending legislation .....	2,186,897	2,119,086	n.a.
Appropriation legislation .....	2,031,683	1,851,797	n.a.
Offsetting receipts .....	-640,548	-640,548	n.a.
<b>Total, previously enacted .....</b>	<b>3,578,032</b>	<b>3,330,335</b>	<b>1,532,571</b>
Enacted this session:			
Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-22) .....	-524	3,266	0
An act to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products . . . and for other purposes (P.L. 111-31) .....	11	2	8
Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (P.L. 111-32) <sup>2</sup> .....	89,682	26,992	0
An act to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes (P.L. 111-39) .....	-187	-202	0
An act to authorize the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to use funds . . . and for other purposes (P.L. 111-45) .....	0	5	0
An act to restore sums to the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes (P.L. 111-46) <sup>3</sup> .....	-40	-40	0
<b>Total, enacted this session .....</b>	<b>88,942</b>	<b>30,023</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Total Current Level<sup>2,3,4</sup> .....</b>	<b>3,666,974</b>	<b>3,360,358</b>	<b>1,532,579</b>
<b>Total Budget Resolution<sup>5</sup> .....</b>	<b>3,675,751</b>	<b>3,358,952</b>	<b>1,532,579</b>
Adjustment to budget resolution for disaster allowance <sup>6</sup> .....	-7,150	-1,788	n.a.
<b>Adjusted Budget Resolution .....</b>	<b>3,668,601</b>	<b>3,357,164</b>	<b>1,532,579</b>
Current Level Over Budget Resolution .....	n.a.	3,194	n.a.
Current Level Under Budget Resolution .....	1,827	n.a.	n.a.

<sup>1</sup> Includes the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-3), the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) (P.L. 111-5), and the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 (P.L. 111-8), that were enacted by the Congress during this session, before the adoption of S. Con. Res. 13, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2010. Although the ARRA was designated as an emergency requirement, it is now included as part of the current level amounts.

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to section 423(b) of S. Con. Res. 13, provisions designated as emergency requirements are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. The amounts so designated for fiscal year 2009, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Supplemental Appropriations Act, 209 (P.L. 111-32) .....	16,169	3,530	n.a.

<sup>3</sup> Section 1 of P.L. 111-46 appropriates \$7 billion to the Highway Trust Fund. The enactment of this legislation followed an announcement by the Secretary of Transportation on June 24, 2009, of an interim policy to slow down payments to states from the Highway Trust Fund. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that P.L. 111-46 will reverse this policy and restore payments to states at levels already assumed in current level. Thus, enactment of section 1 results in no change to current level totals. Other provisions of the act will reduce budget authority and outlays by \$40 million in 2009.

<sup>4</sup> For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the budget resolution does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level excludes these items.

<sup>5</sup> Periodically, the House Committee on the Budget revises the totals in S. Con. Res. 13, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution:

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original Budget Resolution .....	3,675,927	3,356,270	1,532,571
Revisions:			
For the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (section 423(a)(1)) .....	0	2,882	0
For an act to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products . . . and for other purposes (section 324) .....	11	2	8
For an act to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes (section 322) .....	-187	-202	0
<b>Revised Budget Resolution .....</b>	<b>3,675,751</b>	<b>3,358,952</b>	<b>1,532,579</b>

<sup>6</sup> S. Con. Res. 13 includes \$7,150 million in budget authority and \$1,788 million in outlays as a disaster allowance to recognize the potential cost of disasters; these funds will never be allocated to a committee. At the direction of the House Committee on the Budget, the budget resolution totals have been revised to exclude these amounts for purposes of enforcing current level.

SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office.  
Note: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.

U.S. CONGRESS,  
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
Washington, DC, September 10, 2009.  
Hon. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.,  
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2010 budget and is current through August 15, 2009. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of S. Con. Res. 13, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2010, as approved

by the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Pursuant to section 423(b) of S. Con. Res. 13, provisions designated as emergency requirements are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. As a result, the enclosed current level report excludes those amounts (see footnote 2 of the report).

Since my last letter dated June 25, 2009, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following acts that affect budget authority, outlays, and revenues for fiscal year 2010:

An act to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes (Public Law 111-39);

A joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Bur-

mese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes (Public Law 111-42);

An act to authorize the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to use funds... and for other purposes (Public Law 111-45);

Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for the Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Program (Public Law 111-47); and

Judicial Survivors Protection Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-49).

Sincerely,  
DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF,  
Director.

Enclosure.

FISCAL YEAR 2010 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH AUGUST 15, 2009

(in millions of dollars)

	Budget au- thority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted: <sup>1</sup>			
Revenues .....	n.a.	n.a.	1,665,986
Permanents and other spending legislation .....	1,642,620	1,625,731	n.a.
Appropriation legislation .....	0	600,500	n.a.
Offsetting receipts .....	-690,251	-690,251	n.a.
<b>Total, previously enacted .....</b>	<b>952,369</b>	<b>1,535,980</b>	<b>1,665,986</b>
Enacted Legislation:			
Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-22) .....	318	11,346	0
An act to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products...and for other purposes (P.L. 111-31) .....	10	13	46
Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (P.L. 111-32) <sup>2</sup> .....	11	33,530	-2
An act to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes (P.L. 111-39) .....	32	36	0
A joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes (P.L. 111-42) .....	0	0	6,862
An act to authorize the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to use funds . . . and for other purposes (P.L. 111-45) .....	0	65	0
Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for the Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Program (P.L. 111-47) <sup>2</sup> .....	0	0	-3
Judicial Survivors Protection Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-49) .....	-1	-1	0
<b>Total, Enacted Legislation .....</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>44,989</b>	<b>6,903</b>
Entitlements and mandatories:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs .....	723,491	702,328	0
<b>Total Current Level<sup>2,3,4</sup> .....</b>	<b>1,676,230</b>	<b>2,283,297</b>	<b>1,672,889</b>
<b>Total Budget Resolution<sup>5</sup> .....</b>	<b>2,892,499</b>	<b>3,008,054</b>	<b>1,653,728</b>
Adjustment to budget resolution for disaster allowance <sup>6</sup> .....	-10,350	-5,448	n.a.
<b>Adjusted Budget Resolution .....</b>	<b>2,882,149</b>	<b>3,002,606</b>	<b>1,653,728</b>

FISCAL YEAR 2010 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH AUGUST 15, 2009—Continued

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget au- thority	Outlays	Revenues
Current Level Over Budget Resolution .....	n.a.	n.a.	19,161
Current Level Under Budget Resolution .....	1,205,919	719,309	n.a.
Memorandum:			
Revenues, 2010–2014:			
House Current Level .....	n.a.	n.a.	11,264,480
House Budget Resolution .....	n.a.	n.a.	10,500,149
Current Level Over Budget Resolution .....	n.a.	n.a.	764,331
Current Level Under Budget Resolution .....	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

<sup>1</sup> Includes the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (P.L. 111–3), the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) (P.L. 111–5), and the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 (P.L. 111–8), that were enacted by the Congress during this session, before the adoption of S. Con. Res. 13, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2010. Although the ARRA was designated as an emergency requirement, it is now included as part of the current level amounts.

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to section 423(b) of S. Con. Res. 13, provisions designated as emergency requirements are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. The amounts so designated for fiscal year 2010, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (P.L. 111–32) .....	17	7,064	n.a.
Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for the Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Program (P.L. 111–47) .....	0	2,000	n.a.
Total, enacted emergency requirements .....	17	9,064	0

<sup>3</sup> The scoring for P.L. 11–46, an act to restore the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes, does not change current level totals. P.L. 11–46 appropriates \$7 billion to the Highway Trust Fund. The enactment of this legislation followed an announcement by the Secretary of Transportation on June 24, 2009, of an interim policy to slow down payments to states from the Highway Trust Fund. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that P.L. 11–46 will reverse this policy and restore payments to states at levels already assumed in current level. Thus, no change is required.

<sup>4</sup> For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the budget resolution does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level excludes these items.

<sup>5</sup> Periodically, the House Committee on the Budget revises the totals in S. Con Res. 13, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution:

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original Budget Resolution .....	2,888,691	3,001,311	1,653,682
Revisions:			
For the Congressional Budget Office's reestimate of the President's request for discretionary appropriations (section 422(c)(1)) .....	3,766	2,355	0
For the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (section 423(a)(1)) .....	0	818	.....
For an act to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products . . . and for other purposes (section 324) .....	10	13	46
For further revisions for appropriations bills (sections 423(a)(1) and 422(a)) .....	0	3,521	0
For an act to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes (section 322) .....	32	36	0
Revised Budget Resolution .....	2,892,499	3,008,054	1,653,728

<sup>6</sup> S. Con. Res. 13 includes \$10,350 million in budget authority and \$5,448 million in outlays as a disaster allowance to recognize the potential cost of disasters; these funds will never be allocated to a committee. At the direction of the House Committee on the Budget, the budget resolution totals have been revised to exclude these amounts for purposes of enforcing current level.

SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office.  
Note: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.

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CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MARKEY of Colorado). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. ELLISON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ELLISON. Here we are again, another Special Order with the Progressive Caucus.

It's an honor to be here again here before the people to talk about the issues that concern us. No issue is more prominent today than the issue of health care, and I'm pleased to be able to discuss this critical issue with our co-Chair of the Progressive Caucus, Chairwoman LYNN WOOLSEY.

And I yield to the gentlelady. Ms. WOOLSEY. Thank you very much.

I want to thank the gentleman from Minnesota, Congressman ELLISON, for every week having a 1-hour Special Order on the very subject of health care. We've done a lot over these last few weeks, and the Progressive Caucus is very proud of the role that we have played in bringing health care to where it is. I think KEITH said earlier this morning that we probably have just finished the first few innings of a ball game, and we're the ball now after last night's great speech by our President, and his clarity and his ability to explain to the country what it is he

wants in a health care bill and his willingness to actually debunk some of the myths that have been out there and some of the lies that have been told about this health care debate and, at the same time, talk about what his priorities are.

And one of those priorities, from what he has given us, which is a laminated card that lists what he wants in a health care bill, and it says under—if you don't have insurance, there are one, two, three, four points, and the third point says—and this is what—I'm going there right away because this is what Progressives were looking for. If you don't have insurance, quality, affordable choices for all Americans, this bill would offer a public health insurance option to provide the uninsured who can't find affordable coverage with a real choice.

Now, that says to us that the public option—and we want a robust public option—remains on the table, that the ball is in our court. Now, I guess this is the third or fourth inning of getting this thing together so that we can bring a health care bill to the floor of the House that is worthy of all Americans, and now that the ball is in our court. We, as the Progressive Caucus, have pledged to define what we consider a robust public health option to be, to work with our leadership and with the administration and to see that our definition of “robust public option” is included in health care reform.

Mr. ELLISON, you have been absolutely magnificent in making that happen.

Mr. ELLISON. Let me commend you for your leadership.

We have sent letter after letter to make sure that the White House knew exactly where we stood. The last letter we sent, I think we had 60 signatures, but that was not the only letter we sent. We have been letting the White House know, letting Democratic leadership know that a public option was essential to reform.

And so last night I was very gratified to hear the President not back away from a public option but to embrace the idea. And I will take credit on behalf of the Progressive movement in saying that I think that we helped inform and shape the position that the President ultimately took.

The President made a great line, I think you might agree, Congresswoman WOOLSEY, when he said we don't fear the future; we're here to shape it. That is absolutely true for the Progressive Caucus under your leadership and that of Congressman GRIJALVA.

The Congressional Progressive Caucus has been coming here week after week, but not just coming to the House floor but in the debate. We've been in meetings. We've been writing letters. We've been having communication. Through your advocacy, Congresswoman WOOLSEY, and that of Congressman GRIJALVA, we have been very clear