



The Daily Whip

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THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2006

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Ten "One Minutes" Per Side	9:00 – 10:00 p.m.

(138th Calendar Day of the Year – 33rd Voting Day of the Year – 60 Voting Days until Target Adjournment)

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

[H.Res. 818](#) – Rule providing for consideration of [H.R. 5386](#) – Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY07. The Rules Committee has recommended a Rule that provides one hour of general debate and one motion to recommit with or without instructions. In general, the rule protects the text of the bill from Rule XXI points of order regarding legislating on an appropriations bill, but it does not protect three provisions adopted in the Appropriations Committee, including a Dicks/Obey amendment on global warming and a Hinchey amendment requiring oil companies drilling in the Gulf of Mexico to pay royalties to the Federal Government. In addition, the Rules Committee rejected on a straight party-line vote an important amendment offered by Appropriations Ranking Member Obey on additional funds for a number of conservation and Indian programs. Under the rule, amendments that do not require waivers of points of order will be considered under the five-minute rule.

[H.R. 5386](#) – Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY07 (*Rep. Taylor {NC} – Appropriations*) (*Subject to a Rule*).

This bill provides \$25.94 billion for the Department of Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Endowment for the Arts, and other agencies for fiscal year 2007. Funding in this bill includes: \$9.66 billion for the Interior Department (\$1.78 billion for the Bureau of Land Management; \$1.29 billion for the Fish and Wild Service; \$2.17 billion for the National Park Service; and \$2.23 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs); \$7.57 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency (\$1.26 billion for the Hazardous Substance Superfund; \$2.34 billion for Environmental Programs and Management; and \$3 billion for State and Tribal Assistance Grants); \$4.19 billion for the Forest Service; \$3.19 billion for Indian Health; \$624 million for the Smithsonian Institution; \$124 million for the National Endowment for the Arts; and \$141 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities. This bill cuts the EPA's Clean Water State Revolving Fund by \$199 million (in FY05 and FY06 Republicans cut the fund by a total of \$463 million).

Several important amendments are expected including: an Andrews amendment on the Tongass National Forest; a Capps/ Jim Davis/Pallone amendment to restore the ban on new offshore drilling; and a Slaughter/Dicks amendment on the NEA and NEH.

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: on Friday, the House will meet at 9:00 a.m. for legislative business and will consider: **[H.R. 5385](#) - Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for FY07** (*Subject to a Rule*) (*Rep. Walsh - Appropriations*).

Daily Quote...

"The House budget forecasts a \$348 billion deficit next year and it could be higher since the measure sets aside only \$50 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, which have been running at about double that cost annually. With U.S. government debt rapidly escalating, the budget authorizes a \$653 billion increase in borrowing authority next year to total \$9.62 trillion."

- From a *Reuters* story this morning