



The Daily Whip

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FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2006

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
9:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Five "One Minutes" Per Side	1:00 -2:00 p.m.

(139th Calendar Day of the Year – 34th Voting Day of the Year – 59 Voting Days until Target Adjournment)

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

[H.Res. 821](#) – Rule providing for consideration of [H.R. 5385](#) - **Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for FY07 (Rules). The Rules Committee has recommended a Rule that provides one hour of general debate and one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule waives clause 2 of rule XXI against the bill except for Title IV which provides \$507 million in emergency appropriations for military construction and is left unprotected against a point of order. Under the rule, amendments that do not require waivers of points of order will be considered under the five-minute rule.**

The rule does not make in order three important amendments, offered by Reps. Obey, Edwards, and Farr to provide greatly needed funds (totaling about \$3 billion) for our military and their families and for our nation's veterans. The cost of each of these amendments would be fully paid for by slightly reducing the tax cuts for those earning more than \$1 million annually.

Therefore, Democrats are urged to **VOTE NO on the PREVIOUS QUESTION** in order to allow consideration of these amendments, and to **VOTE NO on the RULE**, which allows funding for our veterans included in the bill to be struck on a point of order.

[H.R. 5385](#) - **Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for FY07 (Subject to a Rule) (Rep. Walsh - Appropriations). This bill provides \$136.1 billion for certain Department of Defense programs, the Veterans Affairs Department, and related agencies. Funding in this bill includes: \$58.09 billion for Defense Department programs (\$6.05 billion for military construction; \$3.99 billion for family housing; \$5.53 billion for Base Realignment and Closure; \$13.53 billion for Basic Allowance for Housing; \$6.24 billion for facilities upkeep; and \$21.03 billion for Defense Health programs); \$77.9 billion for the Veterans Affairs Department (\$41.57 billion for the Veterans' Benefits Administration; \$32.69 billion for the Veterans' Health Administration; and \$3.64 billion for Departmental Administration); and \$143 million for related agencies.**

Daily Quote...

"For many seniors, the [prescription drug] program and penalty packed a one-two punch. First, the government created a convoluted plan that raised too many questions and answered too few, then it imposed a penalty on those who couldn't figure it out. The deadline passed Monday for selecting one of many drug benefits; seniors who sign up during the next registration process beginning in November are expected to be hit with a 7-percent lifetime penalty on annual premiums. That's unnecessary...Now that the deadline has passed, Congress should waive the penalty because it unduly harms senior citizens."

- *Seattle Times* editorial yesterday