



H.R. 5593 – Congressional Review Act Improvement Act

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 5593 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Linda Sanchez (D-CA) on March 11, 2008. The House Committee on the Judiciary ordered the bill to be reported by voice vote on April 30, 2008.

H.R. 5593 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on June 9, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.R. 5593 eliminates a requirement in federal law that Executive Branch agencies must submit certain information about a rule to the House of Representatives and the Senate before such a rule can take effect. The bill requires the rule only to be reported to the Comptroller General.

This legislation requires the Comptroller General to report to the House of Representatives and Senate on a weekly basis with a list of rules received from federal agencies. H.R. 5593 also directs this report to be published in the Congressional Record.

BACKGROUND

Under current law, (Congressional Review Act of 1996, P.L. 104-121), federal agencies are required to report agency rules to both Houses of Congress before the rule could take effect. All Federal agency rules and proposed rules are additionally published in the Federal Register.

The Comptroller General of the United States is the director of the Government Accountability Office (GAO). GAO is a legislative branch agency which was founded by Congress in 1921. The Comptroller General (Interim) is currently Gene L. Dodaro.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has estimates that "implementing H.R. 5593 would have no significant impact on the federal budget." [Full CBO Cost Estimate](#)

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Adam Hepburn at (202) 226-2302.