



H.R. 1429 - Improving Head Start Act of 2007

Floor Situation

H.R. 1429 is being considered on the floor pursuant to a structured rule. The rule:

- Provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Education and Labor.
- Waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clauses 9 (earmarks) and 10 (PAYGO) of Rule XXI.
- Makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report, and allows for ten minutes of debate for each amendment.
- Provides that, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designed by the Speaker.
- Provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The legislation was introduced by Representative Dale Kildee (D-MI) on March 9, 2007. The bill was ordered to be reported from the Committee on Education and Labor, by, on March 23, 2007.

**Note: The companion bill in the Senate, S. 556, which was introduced by Senator Kennedy (D-MA), was ordered to be reported from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. This bill has not been considered by the full Senate.*

***Note: Similar legislation (H.R. 2123) was introduced by Representative Mike Castle (R-DE) on May 5, 2005 and was passed in the House of Representative by a vote of 231 – 184 on September 22, 2005, but was not taken up in the Senate. Details of the vote in the House of Representatives are listed in the table below:*

| | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NOES</u> | <u>PRES</u> | <u>NV</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| REPUBLICAN | 208 | 10 | | 12 |
| DEMOCRATIC | 23 | 173 | | 6 |
| INDEPENDENT | | 1 | | |

| | | | |
|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| TOTALS | 231 | 184 | 18 |
|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|

Background

Head Start was established in 1965 by President Lyndon B. Johnson as part of the War on Poverty to provide early childhood development services to low-income children. Head Start is the federal government's largest effort to prepare the nation's most disadvantaged children for school.

Head Start provides a range of services including education, nutrition, health, and parent training, to over 900,000 children and their families living in poverty. The program is administered by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Federal Head Start funds are provided directly to local grantees, rather than through States. Programs are locally designed and administered by a network of more than 1,600 public and private non-profit and for-profit agencies, or by grantees who operate about 2,600 programs nationwide. Grantees are required to reserve at least ten percent of their slots for children with disabilities. In 1994, Early Head Start was established to serve pre-natal mothers and infants and toddlers under the age of three.

Legislative History

Head Start was last reauthorized in 1998 for FY1999-FY2003. Head Start funding for the entirety of FY2007 was not settled until after four continuing resolution measures were passed, the first three providing temporary funding at Head Start's FY2006 annual rate. Ultimately, the fourth CR ([H.J.Res. 20](#)), signed into law ([P.L. 110-5](#)) on February 15, 2007, included \$6.889 billion for Head Start, an increase of approximately \$100 million above the FY2006 level provided in the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Act ([P.L. 109-149](#)). Supplemental dedicated funding for Head Start was included in the FY2006 Defense Appropriations Act ([P.L. 109-148](#)), which provided \$90 million for Head Start to serve children displaced by the Gulf Coast hurricanes of 2005 and to help with the costs of renovating affected facilities. (Of the \$90 million provided, only \$74 million was awarded, based on grantee requests.) The President's budget for FY2008 proposes funding Head Start at \$6.789 billion, the same as FY2006, but \$100 million less than what was ultimately provided for FY2007 (CRS: [RL30952 -- Head Start: Background and Issues](#)).

During the Committee markup of H.R. 1429, Resident Commissioner Luis Fortuno (R-PR) offered an amendment to protect the rights of religious organizations to hire on a religious basis when they take part in the Head Start program and would ensure that religious organizations are not discriminated against on the basis of their religious character. This amendment was defeated along a party-line vote of 19-26, with all Democrats present voting against it and all Republicans present voting in support of the amendment.

**Note: In the 109th Congress, the House passed H.R. 2123, the School Readiness Act, on September 22, 2005, by a recorded vote of 231-184 ([Roll no. 493](#)). H.R. 2123 included*

Section 7, which allowed faith-based and community-based organizations to be designated as Head Start agencies. The Senate received the bill, but no action was taken.

***Note: Rep. John Boehner (R-OH) offered an amendment to H.R. 2123 which is similar to the amendment offered by Rep. Luis Fortuno (R-PR) to H.R. 1429 in the Committee. Rep. Boehner's amendment was accepted by a vote of 220 – 196, on September 22, 2005. Details of the vote in the House of Representatives are listed in the table below:*

| | <u>AYES</u> | <u>NOES</u> | PRES | <u>NV</u> |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| REPUBLICAN | 210 | 9 | | 11 |
| DEMOCRATIC | 10 | 186 | | 6 |
| INDEPENDENT | | 1 | | |
| TOTALS | 220 | 196 | | 17 |

Summary

H.R. 1429:

Authorization of funds

- Authorizes \$7.35 billion for fiscal year 2008, and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2009-2012.
- Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to make available up to \$20 million in 2008, and such sums as may be necessary through 2012 for research, demonstration, and evaluation activities, of which up to \$7 million shall be available each year to carry out impact studies.

(Section 4)

Allotment of funds

- Directs the Secretary of HHS to set aside 13% of the amount appropriated each year for the following programs:
- Indian Head Start Programs: at least 3.5 % of each year's funding, which must be at least the same level of funding received in 2007.
- Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs: at least 5% of each year's funding:
 - Payments to Territories and freely associated states including: Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands and the Republic of Palau.

**Note: After 2009, the Republic of Palau will no longer receive payments.*

- At least 2% of the amount appropriated each year for training and technical assistance activities to foster program quality and management improvement shall include the following:
 - At least 50% for local Head Start agencies to make program improvements; and,
 - At least 30% for both (1) the Migrant and Seasonal Head Start and (2) the Indian Head Start program.
- Funds appropriated for section 639(a) that exceed the adjusted prior year appropriation will be used for the following:
 - At least 25% to improve the compensation, salary scales, and benefits of educational staff, family service workers, and child counselors.
- Ongoing professional development for teachers in the areas of:
 - Early language and literacy;
 - Early mathematics;
 - Cognitive skills;
 - Approaches to learning;
 - Creative arts;
 - Science;
 - Physical health and development; and,
 - Social and emotional development.
- Improving the qualifications and skills of educational staff including postsecondary coursework.
- Ensuring that the physical environments of Head Start programs are “conductive to providing effective program services to children and families, and are accessible to individuals with disabilities.”
- Hiring additional, qualified classroom staff to reduce the child to teacher ratio.

- Ensuring that the staff of Head Start programs have qualified staff that can “promote language skills and literacy growth in children,” and skills that are proven indicators of later reading achievement.
- Increasing the hours of program operation.
- Improving the compensation and benefits of the staff of Head Start agencies.
- Transportation costs associated with transporting Head Start children safely:
 - Remaining funds are distributed as grants to the States, with each state receiving equal grant funds as it received in FY2007, and any additional funds remaining will be distributed “proportionally on the basis of the number of children less than 5 years of age from families whose income is below the poverty line.”
- Of the grant funds, states that submit written requests will be awarded collaboration grants to fund collaboration between Head Start agencies and entities that “carry out other activities designed to benefit low-income family and children.” These states shall appoint a State Director of Head Start Collaboration, who shall conduct an assessment of the state’s Head Start collaboration needs, and develop a strategic plan to meet those needs:
 - The amount of funding reserved for Early Head Start programs will increase gradually over 5 years from at least 12% in 2008, to 20% in 2012.
- Requires the Secretary of HHS to issue regulations establishing requirements for the safety features, and the safe operation, of vehicles used by Head Start agencies to transport children participating in Head Start programs.

Annual Consultations

- Requires the Secretary of HHS to meet with each affected Head Start Region, tribal government operating Head Start programs, and Early Head Start programs each year, and publish a detailed report of each meeting within 90 days of the meeting.

Enrollment of Homeless Children

- Requires the Secretary of HHS to issue rules and regulations to establish policies and procedures to remove barriers to enrollment and participation of homeless children in Head Start programs, including those that:
 - Ensure that homeless children are identified and prioritized for enrollment;

- Allow homeless families to apply to, enroll in, and attend Head Start programs while the required documents such as proof of residency, immunization records, and birth certificates are being obtained; and,
- Coordinate Head Start programs with Homeless assistance programs.

(Section 5)

Designation of Head Start Agencies

- Authorizes the Secretary of HHS to designate qualified members of the following groups as Head Start Agencies: local public or private nonprofit agencies, including community-based and faith-based organizations, or for profit agencies.
- Requires the Secretary to convene a panel of 7 “experts” to develop a fair and transparent system for evaluating grant renewal applications for qualified Head Start agencies within six months of enactment of this legislation.
 - The panel is required to submit a report to the Secretary with a proposal for a system of grant application review within one year of being convened, and the Secretary is required to report to Congress with a proposal for a system of grant application review within six months of receiving the panel’s recommendations.
 - Once the system of grant application review is implemented, successful grant applicants will be recognized as Head Start agencies for a period of 5 years, and unsuccessful applicants may enter into an open competition for the grant(s). The Secretary shall conduct an open competition for the grant and select the most qualified applicant in the community.

(Section 6)

Quality Standards and Monitoring of Head Start Agencies and Programs

- Requires the Secretary of HHS to review and revise as necessary the Head Start program performance standards to better support classroom instructional practices, identification of special needs, and program evaluation. The areas to be reviewed include:
 - Services provided (Health, nutritional, parental involvement, transitional, and social services);
 - Early learning standards related to school readiness with minimum requirements for specific skills that children in the program should be developing; and,

- Administrative and financial management standards.
- Requires the Secretary of HHS to suspend implementation of the National Reporting System, which is used to conduct ongoing child assessments.
- Requires the Secretary of HHS to develop and use a “risk-based assessment system” to review Head Start agencies (including delegate agencies) and programs which will include:
 - A full review of each Head Start Agency once every 3 years;
 - A review of each newly designated Head Start agency immediately after the completion of the first year the agency carries out a Head Start program; and,
 - Follow up reviews, including unannounced reviews as appropriate, with programs with one or more findings of deficiencies within one year of finding a deficiency.
- Authorizes the Secretary of HHS to inform a Head Start Agency when a deficiency is found during an assessment and to set a timeframe for the deficiency to be corrected, and to terminate the designation of the agency as a Head Start agency if the deficiency is not corrected in a timely manner.
- Requires the Secretary of HHS to publish an annual report detailing the findings of the Head Start agency and program reviews and assessments that year. This report shall be made public and made available to all parents with children receiving assistance from an affected Head Start agency or program.
- Requires each Head Start Agency and delegate agency to conduct an annual, comprehensive self assessment of its effectiveness and progress in meeting program goals and objectives, and identify its areas of strength and weakness, and a plan to improve upon their weaknesses.
- Requires each Head Start Agency to report to the Secretary on a regular basis on their enrollment levels, with explanations if the level of enrollment is less than enrollment level for which the agency is receiving funding.

(Section 7)

Family and Community Involvement

- Requires Head Start agencies to establish procedures to involve parents and area residents in the “decisions that influence the character of programs affecting their interests,” and offer family services to parents of participating children including:

- Family literacy services and parenting skills training;
 - Mental health services; and,
 - Substance abuse counseling and information on maternal depression and on drug-exposed infants and fetal alcohol syndrome.
- Permits Head Start agencies to offer the following services to parents of participating children if they choose:
- Training in basic child development;
 - Regular in-home visitation; and,
 - Any other activity designed to help such parents become full partners in the education of their children.
- Requires Head Start agencies to conduct with each participating family, a family needs assessment that includes consultation with the parents about the benefits of the services that the agency can offer.
- Requires each Head Start agency to work with local educational agencies to provide training to parents of participating children and to inform those parents of their rights and responsibilities concerning the education of their children, and to enable those parents to:
- Understand and work with schools in order to communicate with teachers and other school personnel;
 - Support the schoolwork of their children; and,
 - Participate as appropriate in decisions relating to the education of their children.

Program Governance

- Requires each Head Start agency to establish a shared governance structure consisting of (1) an independent *governing body* with legal and fiscal responsibility for administering and overseeing programs and (2) a parent *policy council* and parent policy committee to ensure that the agency operates a high quality Head Start program in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws.

The Governing Body

- The governing body shall consist of independent volunteers with experience in early childhood development, a licensed attorney, and either financial management or accounting experience. Members of the governing body will receive training in management, ethics, and financial literacy.
- The governing body's duties include:
 - Approving all major policies of the agency;
 - Approving all major financial expenditures of the agency; and,
 - Approving all policies, applications, and decisions of the Policy Council.
- The governing body shall establish an audit and finance committee whose primary responsibilities will include:
 - Approving the annual operating budget of the agency;
 - Reviewing and recommending independent auditors who “will report all critical accounting policies and practices to the audit and finance committee;” and,
 - Monitoring agency actions to correct any audit findings or other actions necessary to comply with applicable laws governing financial statements and accounting practices.

The Policy Council

- Creates a Policy Council. The Policy Council will be composed of either parents of children currently enrolled in Head Start or Early Head Start (this also includes parents of children that were enrolled in Head Start the previous year) or members of the community. Parents will be the majority of members on the Policy Council and each member of the Policy Council will serve terms of 2 years for no more than 3 terms (or 6 years).
- The Policy Council must approve and submit to the governing body decisions on matters including:
 - The strategic direction of the program;
 - Selection of delegate agencies and their service areas;
 - Recruitment, selection, and enrollment priorities;

- Funding applications and amendments to funding applications for Head Start or Early Start prior to the submission of such applications;
- Budget planning for program expenditures; and,
- Decisions regarding employment of Head Start staff other than the director and executive director.

Impasse Policy

- Requires the creation of an impasse policy on how Head Start agencies will implement shared decision-making, including a process for resolving any impasse between the Governing Body and the Policy Council.

(Section 9)

Head Start Transition and Alignment with K-12 Education

- Allows for a Head Start agency to collaborate and coordinate with private and public entities to improve the services to Head Start children and families. This collaboration and coordination must ensure a smooth transition to elementary school for children, provide for shared use of transportation, and enhance the efficiency of provided services.
- Calls for the implementation of a research-based curriculum that promotes school readiness in the areas of language and cognitive development, early reading, pre-mathematics skills, and other areas. This curriculum must be aligned with state early learning standards of the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework.
- Requires that each Head Start agency to enroll at full capacity (100% enrollment) and maintain a waiting list.
- Requires all Head Start agencies to develop an annual technical assistance and training program.
- Orders Head Start agencies to employ stringent financial restraints. Specifically, the bill calls for “strong fiscal controls, including the employment of well-qualified fiscal staff with a history of successful management of a public or private organization.”
- Requires that Head Start outreach programs include efforts to reach homeless families through their school-based liaisons.
- Ensures that each Head Start agency takes steps to coordinate with local educational agencies to promote continuity of services and effective transitions

from Head Start to school, including:

- A systematic procedure for transferring Head Start program records (with parental consent) for each child to the school the child enrolls;
- Organizing and participating in joint training, including transition related training for school staff and Head Start staff;
- Conducting meetings involving parents, kindergarten or elementary school teachers, and Head Start program teachers to discuss the educational, development, and other needs of individual children; and,
- Developing and implementing a system to increase program participation of underserved populations of eligible children.

(Section 10)

Memoranda of Understanding

- Requires each Head Start agency to enter into a “memorandum of understanding” with local education agencies or councils that handle state-funded pre-kindergarten programs to coordinate the plans of Head Start activities in that area.

State Early Learning Council

- Provides that grants may be awarded for the purpose of creating a State Early Learning Council to coordinate early childhood services development system in a state. The goal of the State Early Learning Council is to improve the communications between each related organization in the state, help create early learning standards, and to help with to early elementary grades.
- Funds distributed to a State for this program may not exceed 50% of the total cost of the Early Learning Council.

(Section 11)

- Sets administrative requirements to file an annual report to be made public regarding the financial standings of each Head Start agency, and sets polices for obtaining facilities.

(Section 12)

Participation in Head Start Programs

- Permits children referred to Head Start from child welfare services and homeless children to be considered for participation in Head Start programs.
- Denies military basic housing allowance to be considered as income when trying to determine the eligibility of a child for Head Start.
- Permits slots used for Head Start to be transferred to Early Start slots provided an application is approved and then approved by the Secretary.
- Allows for, in certain circumstances, low-income families that are at or above the poverty line, but below 130% of the poverty line, to be eligible for program assistance.
- Allows for Indian Tribes that operate Head Start and Early Start programs to switch slots between Early Start and Head Start at any time.

(Section 13)

Head Start Program with Children under the Age of 3

- Permits the Secretary to make grants to family-centered services for low-income families with children 3 years of age or younger, including pregnant women, to promote child development and parental skills. Requires 5 to 10% of these funds to funding training for this program.

Training Standards

- Mandates that no later than September 30, 2009, all teachers in Early Head Start programs to have a minimum of a child development associate credential and training in early childhood development.
- Outlines standards for training, qualifications, and the conduct of home visits for home visitor staff in Early Head Start programs.

(Section 14)

Parental Consent for Health Care Services

- Defines the term “health care service” as “any non-emergency intrusive examination, and any screening, including but not limited to, a medical, dental, developmental, mental health, social or behavioral screening.”
- Requires any Head Start agency to receive a written consent of a parent before any health care service is administered to a child. Also requires written permission from a parent before a child can be referred to a health care service.

(Section 15)

- Allows the Secretary to terminate or reduce financial assistance before the appeal process is concluded. The recipient or applicant may appeal this action, but no Head Start funds may be used for the reimbursement of legal fees.

(Section 16)

- Requires each Head Start agency to file an annual report detailing its administrative expenses.

(Section 17)

Technical Assistance and Training

- Provides for technical training and assistance to Head Start agencies to develop specialized training for personnel handling homeless children and children with limited proficiency in English and their families.
- Gives priority to technical training and assistance that must be used for classroom-focused training. At least half of the funds marked for technical training and assistance must be used for this purpose.
- Provides technical assistance and training with an entity that has the experience to assist Head Start agencies to provide family literacy services, in order to improve the quality of such family literacy services.
- Targets minority men for Head Start teaching positions.

(Section 18)

Staff Qualifications

- Mandates that each Head Start classroom in a center-based program be assigned 1 teacher that has demonstrated competency in:
 - Planning and implementing learning experiences that advance the development of children;
 - Establishing and maintaining a safe, healthy learning environment;
 - Supporting the social and emotional development of children; and,
 - Encouraging the involvement of the families of the children in a Head Start program and supporting the development of relationships between

children and their families.

- Requires that by September 30, 2013, 50% or more of all Head Start teachers nationwide in center-based programs have a baccalaureate, advanced degree in early childhood care, or an advanced degree in a field related to early childhood education with experience in teaching preschool children. Also, the bill requires that 2 years after this requirement's effective date, that all teachers hired by Head Start meet the above mentioned requirements or are enrolled in a program of study leading to an associate degree in early childhood education or a related field.
- Allows the Secretary to use Head Start programs to develop, test, and disseminate new ideas based on existing scientific research for addressing the needs of low-income preschool children and their families and communities.

(Section 19)

- Requires the Secretary to report to Congress on the participation of children with limited English proficiency in Head Start.
- Requires the Secretary to report to Congress on children affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita that participated in Head Start programs.

(Section 21)

- Prohibits any employee of a Head Start agency from earning more than a level II Executive Schedule rate of pay (\$168,000).

(Section 22)

- Prohibits the use of funds for propaganda or pre-packaged news stories unless the text or audio makes it clear that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Amendments

(Below are the summaries of the amendments that were made in order by the Rules Committee and may be offered on the floor of the House of Representatives. The summaries appear as they were published by the Rules Committee.)

1) Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) The amendment would instruct the Secretary of HHS to create partnerships between Head Start and the HBCUs. These partnerships would increase the number of associate, baccalaureate, and advanced degrees in early childhood education that are earned by Head Start staff and parents of Head Start students.

- 2) Rep. Tom Price (R-GA)** The amendment allows eight states to coordinate Head Start with state-run early childhood development programs through a demonstration program.
- 3) Rep. Joe Sestak (D-PA)** The amendment authorizes the Secretary of HHS to carry out a program to forgive Stafford loans for Head Start and Early Head Start teachers who have earned a bachelor's degree in a field related to early childhood education and who commit to teach in the program for a minimum of 3 years.
- 4) Rep. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)** The amendment revises the training and technical assistance program for Early Head Start by ensuring that training and technical assistance are provided by entities with specific expertise in infant and toddler development. The amendment also directs 50 percent of training and technical assistance funds directly to the grantees for the purposes of program improvement.
- 5) Rep. John Mica (R-FL) (*Revised*)** The amendment amends Section 18 of the bill to require that the Secretary certify that at least 50 percent of all Head Start teachers nationwide meet certain degree requirements by September 30, 2011, two years earlier than required under the current legislation.
- 6) Rep. Patrick Kennedy (D-RI)** The amendment would define “inclusive classrooms” as Head Start classrooms that include both children with disabilities and children without disabilities. It would make certain funds in the bill available to increase the understanding of the impact of Head Start services delivered in inclusive classrooms on both children with and without disabilities and to assist Head Start programs in improving the quality of inclusive classrooms.
- 7) Rep. Adam Putnam (R-FL)** The amendment strikes the development and implementation of the application review system, including the expert panel provision. In addition, the amendment strikes designation when no entity has priority and instead designates competition – calling for the automatic re-competition for agency designation every five years, regardless of performance.
- 8) Rep. Jon Porter (R-NV) (*Revised*)** The amendment requires that Head Start grantees, before hiring individuals, obtain (1) a state, Federal, or tribal criminal record check in all jurisdictions where the grantee provides services, (2) a state, Federal, or tribal criminal record check as required by the jurisdictions where they provide services, or (3) a criminal record check as otherwise required by Federal law.
- 9) Rep. Russ Carnahan (D-MO)** The amendment provides that, in the event that the amounts appropriated to carry out the program do not exceed the funds appropriated for the prior year, Head Start grantees may negotiate with the Secretary a reduced funded enrollment level if the grantee can demonstrate that such reduction is necessary to maintain the quality of services.

10) Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX) The amendment would require the states or agencies that administer the Head Start program to describe the type of assessment used to determine the rate of progress made by students with Limited English Proficiency.

11) Rep. Heath Shuler (D-NC) The amendment outlines the history and importance of allowing faith-based and community-based organizations to participate in Head Start programs. It inserts language into the Head Start Reauthorization that explicitly states that faith-based and community-based organizations will continue to be eligible to participate in the Head Start program on the same basis as other organizations.

12) Rep. Zack Space (D-OH) (Revised) The amendment amends the criteria for the allocation of resources for technical assistance and training to include consideration of barriers in rural areas to professional development, parent involvement, home visits, and health screening. The amendment also requires the Secretary to consider the needs of rural and urban areas when entering contracts with entities in each state for the purposes of technical and training assistance.

Additional Views

The Bush Administration issued a Statement of Administration Policy on May 1, 2007, in opposition to various sections of H.R. 1429 for the following reasons:

“The Administration strongly opposes the termination of the National Reporting System (NRS), which would eliminate the one assessment tool that measures children’s progress in Head Start using a consistent methodology. Data from NRS help inform where Head Start grantees are performing well and where they need technical assistance, and have already led to local program improvements. NRS is a critical tool to ensure that Head Start programs prepare children to succeed in school. Terminating the NRS -- particularly without proposing any alternative -- would be a significant step backwards for Head Start.

“The Administration opposes the unworkable and overly prescriptive allocations and set-asides in the bill, including those for Early Head Start, “quality improvement,” and technical assistance. The Administration opposes new provisions that would allow programs to enroll higher-income children before ensuring that all of the neediest children are afforded an opportunity to participate.

“The Administration strongly encourages the House to amend H.R. 1429 to ensure that faith-based organizations are not asked to forfeit their religious hiring autonomy as a condition of receiving Head Start grants. The Administration believes that such provisions should be applied to all federally funded social service programs so faith-based organizations may operate on an equal level with every other organization competing to provide services.”

Cost

“CBO estimates that the bill would authorize additional appropriations of \$6.0 billion in 2008 and \$36.8 billion over the 2008-2012 period, assuming that annual authorizations are adjusted for inflation when specific annual appropriation levels are not provided. (Without such inflation adjustments, the authorizations would total about \$35.4 billion over the 2008-2012 period.) CBO estimates that appropriation of the authorized levels would result in additional outlays of \$33.1 billion over the 2008-2012 period, assuming annual adjustments for inflation. (Outlays would total about \$31.9 billion without adjustments for inflation.) Enacting H.R. 1429 would not affect direct spending or receipts.” Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate March 22, 2007.
<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/79xx/doc7902/hr1429.pdf>

Staff Contact:

For questions or further information contact Matt Lakin or Chris Vieson at (202) 226-2302.