



## H.R. 3986 – JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 3986 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 James Oberstar (D-MN) on October 29, 2007. H.R. 3986 passed the House by voice vote on December 11, 2007. The bill subsequently passed the Senate, as amended, by unanimous consent on June 26, 2008.

H.R. 3968 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 16, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.R. 3986, as amended by the Senate, reauthorizes funding for maintenance, repair, security, and capital projects at the John F. Kennedy Center.

*Note: Senate amendments to H.R. 3986, as passed by the House, authorizes amounts for the Kennedy Center for fiscal years 2011 and 2012.*

The following amounts are authorized for maintenance, repair, and security:

- o FY2008: \$20.2 million;
- o FY2009: \$21.8 million;
- o FY2010: \$22.5 million;
- o FY2011: \$23.5 million; and
- o FY2012: \$24.5 million

*Note: The current authorization level for FY2005-FY2007 is \$18 million for each year.*

The following amounts are authorized for capital projects:

- o FY2008: \$23.15 million;
- o FY2009: \$16 million;
- o FY2010: \$17 million.
- o FY2011: \$17 million; and
- o FY2012: \$18.5 million

*Note: The current authorization level for FY2005-FY2007 is \$18 million for each year.*

The bill also authorizes such sums as may be necessary for the Kennedy Center's Board to study, plan, design, engineer, and construct a photovoltaic (solar power) system for the roof of the Kennedy Center.

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### BACKGROUND

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is the sole national memorial to former President John F. Kennedy in Washington, D.C. The building's construction was first authorized by legislation signed into law by President Eisenhower in 1958. Following John F. Kennedy's assassination, Congress designated the building as a memorial to John F. Kennedy. The Kennedy Center first opened to the public in 1971. Honorary Chairs of the Kennedy Center include First Lady Laura Bush, Senator Hillary Clinton, and Former First Lady Nancy Reagan. Officers of the Board of the Kennedy Center include Steven A. Schwarzman (Chairman), Michael M. Kaiser (President), and Jean Kennedy Smith (Secretary).

As a federal memorial, the Kennedy Center receives funding for building upkeep. Events and programs at the Kennedy Center are paid for almost entirely through ticket sales and private donations. Congress provides additional funding for educational programs at the Kennedy Center through the Arts in Education grant program.



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## COST

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that “implementing H.R. 3986 would increase outlays by \$23 million in 2009 and \$150 million over the 2009-2013 period.”

[CBO cost estimate for H.R. 3986](#)

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## STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Justin Hanson at 6-2302.