



H.R. 6083 – To authorize funding for the National Advocacy Center

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 6083 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 John Spratt (D-SC) on May 19, 2008. The House Committee on the Judiciary ordered the bill to be reported, as amended, by voice vote on July 16, 2008.

H.R. 6083 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 29, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.R. 6083 authorizes the Attorney General to award a grant to a national non-profit organization to conduct a training program for State and local prosecutors, as well as to improve the professional skills of State and local prosecutors. The Attorney General is also authorized to provide a grantee with assistance to carry out comprehensive continuing legal education programs.

The bill authorizes \$6.5 million for each of the fiscal years 2009 – 2012 for the purposes of this Act.

BACKGROUND

The National Advocacy Center (NAC) is operated by the Department of Justice, and is located in Columbia, South Carolina on the campus of the University of South Carolina. The NAC was built to train federal, state, and local prosecutors and litigators in advocacy skills and management of legal operations. It is estimated that more than 10,000 prosecutors and other lawyers will train annually at the NAC.

There are three training organizations currently located at the NAC. Programs for federal government personnel are provided by the Office of Legal Education of the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys and by the National Bankruptcy Training Institute. Programs for state and local prosecutors are provided by the National District Attorneys Association. The National Advocacy Center contains 262,000 square feet of classroom and conference space. The facilities at the NAC include ten full-size courtrooms equipped with state-of-the-art audio technology for training.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that “implementing the legislation would cost \$26 million over the 2009-2013 period.” [Full CBO Estimate](#)

STAFF CONTACT

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