



The Daily Whip

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2003

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Ten "One Minutes" Per Side	???

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

Yesterday, the House began six hours of general debate on the Iraq supplemental appropriations bill under a unanimous consent agreement reached on Tuesday. Today, the House will utilize the remaining time available under such agreement and consider the Rule recommended last night by the Rules Committee for the Iraq supplemental appropriations bill. If the Rule is adopted, the House will use the additional debate time and follow the amendment process outlined in the Rule.

H.Res. 198 - Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that France, Germany, and Russia can initially best contribute to the reconstruction of Iraq by the forgiveness of outstanding debt between both Iraq and France, Iraq and Germany, and Iraq and Russia (*Sponsored by Rep. Cole / International Relations Committee*) (Under Unanimous Consent)

H.R. 3289 - Supplemental Appropriations Act for FY04 (*Sponsored by Rep. Young (FL) / Appropriations Committee*) (Subject to a Rule). This bill provides \$86.9 billion for U.S. military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and for relief and reconstruction efforts in both countries. The bill includes \$65.2 billion for the U.S. military (\$17.14 billion for military personnel; \$39.88 billion for Operation and Maintenance accounts; and \$5.62 billion for procurement); \$18.6 billion for Iraq relief and reconstruction (\$3.2 billion for security and law enforcement; \$1.3 billion for justice, public safety and civil society infrastructure; \$5.65 billion for electrical generation and distribution infrastructure; \$2.1 billion for rebuilding oil infrastructure; \$4.3 billion for water resources and sanitation; \$793 million for health care programs; \$858 million for the operating expenses of the Coalition Provisional Authority); and \$1.2 billion for Afghanistan relief and reconstruction.

The Rules Committee has recommended an open rule that provides for one hour of general debate; waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for provisions prohibiting funding for the Lateral Repatriation Program; and provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The Rule permits any amendment that does not require waivers of points of order to be considered under the five-minute rule. However, it does not provide the waivers for important Democratic amendments including a substitute amendment by Ranking Member Obey.

Therefore, **Democrats are urged to VOTE NO on the Previous Question on the Rule** in order to allow the House to consider the Obey substitute.

The Obey Substitute would:

- (1) take \$4.6 billion from the Iraq reconstruction portion of the bill and add this amount to programs that enhance the quality of life for active and reserve forces and their families including health care and personal assistance. The substitute would add funds to repair and replace equipment used in operations; allow the Army to increase the number of active duty troops from 480,000 to 500,000; and include funds to construct water treatment facilities for our troops in Iraq;
- (2) create accountability by requiring a detailed report from the President describing how funds in the previous supplemental have been spent, how funds appropriated in this bill will be spent, and the level and types of funding needed for future military and reconstruction initiatives;
- (3) convert \$7 billion to loans at a trust fund at the World Bank to leverage additional World Bank loans; and
- (4) pay for the entire \$87 billion bill by canceling the tax rate cut for individuals with incomes in the top 1%.

Daily Quote...

"Once again we have a government that baldly insists on telling us what we know is not true."

Richard Cohen in today's Washington Post, regarding the Bush Administration's statements regarding Iraq and complaints that the American people are not getting the truth on the ground in Iraq through the national news media