



# The Daily Whip

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**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2003**

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
<b>10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business</b> <b>Ten "One Minutes" Per Side</b>	<b>9:00 – 10:00 p.m.</b>

**\* \* \* TODAY AND TOMORROW WE EXPECT IMPORTANT VOTES ON AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEDULED APPROPRIATIONS BILLS. ATTENDANCE IS CRITICAL. PLEASE NOTIFY THE DEMOCRATIC WHIP'S FLOOR STAFF IF YOU WILL BE ABSENT.**

## FLOOR SCHEDULE

**H.R. 2989** - Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (*Istook - Appropriations*) (Subject to a Rule).

**Possible consideration of H.R. 2765** - District of Columbia Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (*Frelinghuysen - Appropriations*) (Under Unanimous Consent with one hour of general debate).

**Motion to go to Conference on H.R. 6** -Energy Policy Act of 2003- **Motion to Instruct Conferees.**

**Cooper Motion to Instruct Conferees on the Child Tax Credit.** The motion instructs conferees to insist on the Senate-passed Child Tax Credit Measure and is identical to the one that passed in the House on June 12th, 205-201. It also instructs Conferees to report out a conference report no later than the second legislative day after adoption of this motion.

## BILL SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

**H.R. 2989 - Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (*Istook / Appropriations*) (Subject to a Rule).** This bill provides \$89.3 billion for FY04. Funding in this bill include: \$58.41 billion for the Transportation Department (\$14.03 billion for the Federal Aviation Administration; \$34.58 billion for the Federal Highway Administration; \$7.23 billion for the Federal Transit Administration; and \$1.09 billion for the Federal Railroad Administration); \$11.27 billion for the Treasury Department (\$10.35 for the Internal Revenue Service); \$776 million for the Executive Office of the President; \$17.5 billion for the Office of Personnel Management; \$65 million for the U.S. Postal Service; and \$500 million for the Election Assistance Commission.

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 as specified in the report, waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with the prohibition against unauthorized appropriations or legislative provisions; and provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. However, the Rule blocks several Democratic amendments, including the Olver Amendment to provide additional funding (\$500 million) for Amtrak.

Germane amendments will be considered under the five-minute rule. Several important amendments are expected including:



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- **Hastings (FL) Amendment.** To prohibit the use of funds to be used by the Office of Management and Budget (under OMB Circular A-76) to require agencies to: (1) establish an inventory of inherently governmental activities performed by Federal employees; (2) establish or implement any streamlined competition; (3) require any follow-up competition for public-private competitions won by federal employees; or (4) implement the tradeoff source selection process for any activities other than information technology activities.
- **Van Hollen Amendment.** To prevent OMB from spending any funds to implement the A-76 rewrite changes that were finalized on May 29 regarding federal employees and contractors.
- **Petri/Olver Amendment.** To strike the bill language that eliminates the current requirement that states use 10% of their highway allocations under the Surface Transportation Program for transportation enhancements.

## Daily Quote...

"The projected 10-year deficit of \$1.4 trillion (\$3.8 trillion if the "off-budget" Social Security surplus is excluded) is the most pessimistic outlook CBO has published since 1997. Even so, the official baseline understates the likely deficits because it does not assume policy changes such as the extension of expiring tax cuts, or the enactment of a Medicare prescription drug benefit. And, it assumes a substantial slowdown in the recent 5-year growth rate of appropriations - from 7.7 percent annually to 2.7 percent."

- The Concord Coalition, August 26, 2003 (the same day CBO released its new budget estimates)