



Legislative Bulletin.....June 12, 2007

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Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today

Total Number of New Government Programs: 0

Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations: \$5 million over five years

Effect on Revenue: Insignificant increase

Total Change in Mandatory Spending: \$0

Total New State & Local Government Mandates: 0

Total New Private Sector Mandates: 0

Number of Bills Without Committee Reports: 3

Number of Reported Bills that Don’t Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority: 0

H.R. 2358 — Native American \$1 Coin Act (*Kildee, D-MI*)

Order of Business: H.R 2358 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, June 12, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2358 would direct the Secretary of Treasury to design and mint a new series of one dollar coins bearing the current “Sacagawea” design on the front and depicting designs of historic contributions made by Native Americans on the back. The commemorative design on the back of the coin would change every calendar year. The issue date of the coin along, with the phrases “E Pluribus Unum” and “In God We Trust,” would appear incused around the edge of the coin.

The bill would reduce the percentage of one dollar coins that must be “Sacagawea” coins would be reduced from 1/3 to 1/5. H.R. 2358 would also direct the Secretary to encourage the use of the Native American design coin.

Additional Information: According to the Financial Services Committee, “This bill is designed to save taxpayers \$50-100 million a year by creating demand for ‘Sacagawea-design’ dollar coins which under current law must comprise one-third of all US dollar coins minted annually. Modeled after the popular 50-state quarter program, H.R. 2358 leaves the Sacagawea design on the front of the coin, but changes the reverse each year to represent different contributions of Native Americans to the United States.”

Initially offered to the general public, the Sacagawea coin has significantly decreased in mintage since it was produced. H.R. 2348 is intended to spark interest in the coin by adding new, collectable designs annually. The bill also reduces the percentage of Sacagawea coins that are required to be made in order to make room for the new Presidential series of one dollar coins.

According to the U.S. Mint and the CBO, coins are cheaper to use than paper money, particularly since they stay in circulation thirty or forty years, while the average dollar bill wears out after just eighteen months. However, according to a PBS NewsHour report in 1997, surveys have shown that 75 percent of the public prefers a paper dollar to a coin and past efforts to encourage the public to use dollar coins have not been successful. In March of 2002, after supplies outpaced demand for the Sacagawea Golden Dollar \$1 coin, the U.S. Treasury halted production.

The CBO Cost Estimate for the House companion bill stated, “Taking into account the experience of the 50 State Quarters program and the public’s continued resistance to the use of dollar coins, CBO expects that the new \$1 Presidential coin would increase the public’s interest in collecting coins, but it would continue to face barriers to widespread circulating use.”

Committee Action: H.R. 2356 was introduced on May 17, 2007 and referred to the Committee on Financial Services, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO estimate for H.R. 2356 is not available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates? No.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

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H.Res. 329 — Congratulating the Barton College men’s basketball team for winning the 2007 NCAA Division II Men’s Basketball National Championship (Jones, R-VA)

Order of Business: H.Res. 329 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, June 12, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 329 would express that the House of Representatives, “congratulates the Barton College men’s basketball team for winning the 2007 NCAA Division II Men’s Basketball National Championship.”

The resolution lists the following findings

- “the Barton College Bulldogs of Wilson, North Carolina, defeated Winona State University of Rochester, Minnesota, the undefeated and defending NCAA Division II Men’s Basketball National Champions, 77-75 on March 24, 2007, to become the 2007 NCAA Men's Basketball National Champions;
- “Anthony Atkinson of Barton College, the Elite Eight most valuable player, scored 10 points in the final 39 seconds of the game, including a layup at the buzzer, to give Barton College the NCAA Division II men’s basketball title and its first NCAA championship in any sport;
- “Barton College played and won 9 overtime games during the 2006-2007 season to finish the season 31-5, including winning its last 21 games, a school record;
- “Barton College, a school with just 1,000 students, defeated teams during the Elite Eight from schools with much larger student bodies (Grand Valley State, Michigan, 23,000 students, Cal State San Bernardino, 17, 000 students, and Winona State University, 8,000 students);
- “Coach Ron Lievens of Barton College, who had served as a graduate assistant at Winona State University, summed up the Barton College victory: ‘I don’t see how any ending could be any better for any team—ever’;
- “Barton College continues the long tradition of North Carolina schools winning NCAA basketball championships;
- “Barton College was founded in 1902 as Atlantic Christian College and changed its name in 1990; and

- “Barton College was named a ‘Best Southeastern College’ for 2006 by the Princeton Review.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 329 was introduced on April 23, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates? No.

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H.R. 2637 — To amend the Fair Labor Standards Act, with respect to civil penalties for child labor violations (*Woosley, D-CA*)

Order of Business: H.R. 2637 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, June 12, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2637 would increase the civil penalty for the violation of child labor laws up from \$10,000 per violation to \$11,000 for each violation and \$50,000 if that violation results in the death or serious injury any person under the age of 18. In addition, any person who willfully or repeatedly violates the law concerning wages would be subject to a penalty of \$1,100 for each offense.

Committee Action: H.R. 2637 was introduced on June 8, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO estimate for H.R. 2356 is not available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates? No.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

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H.Res. 474 — Recognizing the immeasurable contributions of fathers in the healthy development of children, supporting responsible fatherhood, and encouraging greater involvement of fathers in the lives of their children, especially on Father’s Day (McIntyre, D-NC)

Order of Business: H.Res. 474 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, June 12, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 474 would express that the House of Representatives,

- “commends the millions of fathers who serve as wonderful, caring parents for their children;
- “calls on fathers across the United States to use Father’s Day to reconnect and rededicate themselves to their children’s lives, to spend Father’s Day with their children, and to express their love and support for their children;
- “urges men to understand the level of responsibility fathering a child requires, especially in the encouragement of the moral, academic, and spiritual development of children; and
- “encourages active involvement of fathers in the rearing and development of their children, including the devotion of time, energy, and resources.”

The resolution lists the following findings:

- “fathers factor significantly in the lives of children;
- “fathers play an important role in teaching their children life lessons and preparing them to succeed in school and in life;
- “children with involved fathers are more likely to do well in school, have a better sense of well-being, and have fewer behavioral problems;
- “supportive fathers promote the positive physical, social, emotional, and mental development of children;
- “promoting responsible fatherhood can help increase the chances that children will grow up with two caring parents;
- “when fathers are actively involved in the upbringing of children, the children demonstrate greater self-control and a greater ability to take initiative; responsible fatherhood can help reduce child poverty;
- “responsible fatherhood strengthens families and communities; and
- “Father’s Day is the third Sunday in June.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 474 was introduced on June 11, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates? No.

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H.Res. 455 — Supporting the goals and ideals of National Internet Safety Month (*Bean, D-IL*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 455 is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, June 12, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 474 would express that the House of Representatives,

- “supports the goals and ideals of recognizing National Internet Safety Month;
- “recognizes that National Internet Safety Month provides the citizens of the United States with an opportunity to learn more about--
 - “the dangers of the Internet; and
 - “the importance of being safe and responsible online;
- “commends and recognizes national and community organizations for—
 - “promoting awareness of the dangers of the Internet; and
 - “providing information and training that develops critical thinking and decision-making skills that are needed to use the Internet safely; and
- “calls on Internet safety organizations, law enforcement, educators, community leaders, parents, and volunteers to increase their efforts to raise the level of awareness for the need for online safety in the United States.”

The resolution lists the following findings:

- “on May 16, 2007, the United States Senate passed a resolution designating June 2007 as ‘National Internet Safety Month’;
- “there are more than 1,000,000,000 Internet users worldwide;
- “in the United States, 35,000,000 children in kindergarten through grade 12 have Internet access;
- “approximately 80 percent of the children of the United States in grades 5 through 12 are online for at least 1 hour per week;
- “approximately 41 percent of students in grades 5 through 12 do not share with their parents what they do on the Internet;
- “approximately 24 percent of students in grades 5 through 12 have hidden their online activities from their parents;
- “approximately 31 percent of the students in grades 5 through 12 have the skill to circumvent Internet filter software;
- “61 percent of the students admit to using the Internet unsafely or inappropriately;
- “20 percent of middle school and high school students have met face-to-face with someone they first met online;
- “56 percent of parents feel that online bullying of children is an issue that needs to be addressed; and,

- “61 percent of parents want to be more personally involved with Internet safety.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 455 was introduced on June 5, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates? No.

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H.R. 251 — Truth in Caller ID Act of 2007 *(Engel, D-NY)*

Order of Business: H.R. 251 is scheduled for consideration on Tuesday, June 12, 2006, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 251 would amend the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 227) to prohibit any person in the U.S., in connection with any telecommunication service or VOIP (voice over Internet protocol) service, to cause any caller identification service to “transmit misleading or inaccurate caller identification information, with the intent to defraud or cause harm.” The bill directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to promulgate regulations to carry out this Act within six months of enactment.

Committee Action: H.R. 251 was introduced on January 5, 2007, and referred to House Committee on Energy and Commerce. On February 2, 2007, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, which took no official action.

Cost to Taxpayers: CBO estimates that enacting and enforcing H.R. 251 would cost \$5 million over the 2008 – 2012 period. Civil fines levied under the bill would also increase revenue by an insignificant amount.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: Yes. The bill creates a new federal law.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is not available. However, House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports

contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution” [*emphasis added*].

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