

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 2006 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2005 amount, the 2006 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 2006 follows:

[In thousands of dollars]

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2005	\$31,166,027
Budget estimate of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2006	29,730,600
House bill, fiscal year 2006	30,283,530
Senate bill, fiscal year 2006	31,763,050
Conference agreement, fiscal year 2006	31,009,000
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year	-157,027
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2006	+1,278,400
House bill, fiscal year 2006	+725,470
Senate bill, fiscal year 2006	-754,050

DAVID L. HOBSON,
RODNEY P.
FRELINGHUYSEN,
TOM LATHAM,
ZACH WAMP,
JO ANN EMERSON,
JOHN DOOLITTLE,
MICHAEL K. SIMPSON,
DENNIS R. REHBERG,
JERRY LEWIS,
PETER J. VISCLOSKEY,
CHET EDWARDS,
ED PASTOR,
JAMES E. CLYBURN,
MARION BERRY,
DAVID R. OBEY,

Managers on the Part of the House.

PETE V. DOMENICI,
THAD COCHRAN,
MITCH MCCONNELL,
ROBERT F. BENNETT,
CONRAD BURNS,
LARRY E. CRAIG,
CHRISTOPHER S. BOND,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
WAYNE ALLARD,
HARRY REID,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
PATTY MURRAY,
BRON L. DORGAN,
DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
TIM JOHNSON,
MARY L. LANDRIEU,
DANIEL K. INOUE,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4176

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 4176.

This bill involves public lands that cross our adjacent districts. The gentleman's name was added to the bill erroneously.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was no objection.

THE NOMINATION OF JUDGE
ALITO TO THE U.S. SUPREME
COURT

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I hope that as this Congress, particularly the other body, begins to proceed with their hearings on Judge Alito, that no precedents will be made.

I, frankly, believe that this is one of the most important confirmation processes that we will see in our lifetimes, for it has the possibility of altering the Court drastically to one position versus another. For any Member of this body or Congress to suggest that there may not be a need for a filibuster to me is suggesting that there is no need for principles.

The legacy or the history of Judge Alito is of many different kinds, many different decisions. My view is that his nomination and confirmation will alter this Court and not make it the balanced Court that Americans have come to believe in. So I would warn those who would automatically suggest that a filibuster is not appropriate. Hearings are appropriate and maybe an up-or-down vote ultimately, but it may be that a filibuster is appropriate to save the United States Supreme Court.

PRAYERS FOR TORNADO VICTIMS

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Two a.m. Sunday morning in Newburgh, Indiana, the rains came down, the winds blew and beat against the homes of that community, and it fell with a great crash.

□ 1930

It was the worst loss of life for a tornado in the State of Indiana since April 1974.

Nancy Grimes said to me today in an e-mail of the experience, "It had to be the scariest thing I have ever been through. The noise and the debris hitting our house was incredible. I think I screamed for 5 to 10 minutes during the duration, and then there was total calm. And the next morning I cried when I walked out onto our front porch and saw the destruction." She spoke of finding a needlepoint Christmas ornament with the word "Hope" stitched into it. She wrote, "It will certainly find a place on our Christmas tree this year."

I urge my fellow Hoosiers and all Americans who have watched the grim reports from southern Indiana and northern Kentucky to be generous in prayer, to take every opportunity to come to the material aid of the families and communities affected by this horrendous tornado.

WORKING TOWARDS ALTERNATIVE
FUEL SOURCES

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I wanted to say that while I cannot stand filling up my car at \$3 a gallon, like anybody else, there is one good thing about it, and that is that there are a lot of people out there thinking, well, what alternatives are there to fossil fuel energy? What other ways can we get fossil fuel out of the ground? What other ways can we buy it from other countries? We do not really like being 58 percent dependent on the Middle East for fossil fuels.

So, at \$3 a gallon, people have almost daily reminders: What can we come up with? Hydrogen-powered cars such as the type General Motors is working on, and they had it last week at the Capitol. They will be really up and running probably in 5 to 10 years. Very exciting.

Ethanol. In Brazil, 40 percent of the cars run on ethanol. In America, only 3 percent do. There are fuel cells, there is even nuclear power. There are all kinds of things, new types of electrical cars that we need to be putting money into.

The Republican Congress has put money and tax credits towards research and development so that our universities, our labs, our start-up enterprises can come up with alternative fuel sources, and I am proud that we are moving in the right direction, but we need to do it faster.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

INFLUENZA PREPAREDNESS AND
PREVENTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, today I have introduced the Influenza Preparedness and Prevention Act, authorizing legislation that takes urgently needed steps towards preparing our Nation for the threat of pandemic flu. As an appropriator, I have rarely introduced authorizing legislation. It is something I have only done a handful of times in my career in the House, but I firmly believe this looming catastrophe calls for action.

In 1918, the Spanish flu killed 40 million people worldwide, and more died from the flu than through combat during World War I. Experts warn us that we are overdue for another pandemic flu outbreak. Although this avian flu