

Legislative Bulletin.....April 4, 2011

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H.R. 1246—To reduce the amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Defense for printing and reproduction

H.R. 1246—To reduce the amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Defense for printing and reproduction (Rep. West, R-FL)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, April 4, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1246 reduces the following accounts by 10% from their FY 2012 authorized levels:

- ◆ Operation and Maintenance for the Army, for printing and reproduction.
- ◆ Operation and Maintenance for the Navy, for printing and reproduction.
- ◆ Operation and Maintenance for the Marine Corps, for printing and reproduction.
- ◆ Operation and Maintenance for the Air Force, for printing and reproduction.
- ◆ Operation and Maintenance for Defense-wise activities, for printing and reproduction.

Additional Background: According to the House Armed Services Committee, “the Department of Defense (DOD) proposes to spend \$357 million on printing and reproduction services in fiscal year 2012 (FY12). While paper copies are often necessary for mission accomplishment, DOD should be encouraged to reduce spending on high quality, glossy color prints (such as the ones accompanying the FY12 budget rollout and other reports and briefings to Congress). Favoring a plain, black and white copy that uses both sides of the paper can still get the job done, and with emergent technologies such as electronic documentation the Department should be encouraged to process information without the use of paper printing and reproduction.”

Committee Action: None. On March 29, 2011, the bill was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Armed Services, which took no further action.

Administration Position: In a Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is unavailable.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 1246 is unavailable at press time. However, the House Armed Service Committee estimates the bill will create “\$35.7 million in savings in FY12, reaching nearly \$180 million in savings through FY16.”

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.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: Rep. West's constitutional authority statement, available in the Congressional Record, states the constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution (Clauses 12, 13, 14, 16, and 18), which grants Congress the power to raise and support an Army; to provide and maintain a Navy; to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces; to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia; and to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the foregoing powers.

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