



No. 5

April 4, 2005

## **S. 600 — Foreign Affairs Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2006 and 2007**

Calendar No. 48

Reported as an original bill from the Committee on Foreign Relations on March 10, 2005, by a vote of 18-0; S. Rept. 109-35.

### **NOTEWORTHY**

- It is expected that the Senate will begin consideration of S. 600, the Foreign Affairs Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2006 and 2007 on Tuesday, April 5. At press time, no unanimous consent agreement had been reached.
- According to CBO, this is the first comprehensive foreign assistance authorization act since the mid-1980s, authorizing funding for most existing assistance programs and also several new ones.
- The Act —
  - authorizes funding and activities for the Department of State and the United States international broadcasting activities, the Peace Corps, foreign assistance programs including the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and for other purposes for fiscal years 2006 and 2007.
  - authorizes appropriations of \$29.8 billion for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 2006 and 2007. It also authorizes appropriations totaling \$345 million for the Peace Corps through FY 2007.
  - meets every funding request submitted by the President in the FY 2006 federal budget request.
- The House has yet to mark up a State Department reauthorization bill this year.

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## HIGHLIGHTS

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- S. 600, the bill reported by the Foreign Relations Committee:
  - Represents the first comprehensive foreign assistance authorization act since the mid-1980s, authorizing funding for most existing assistance programs and also several new ones.
  - Authorizes total appropriations of \$29.8 billion for FY 2006 for Department of State, foreign assistance programs, and related agencies.
- As part of the total package, this bill authorizes foreign assistance spending of \$18.39 billion for FY 2006.
- According to CBO, the bill raises direct spending by \$33 million in 2006 and by \$87 million over the 2006-2015 period, but CBO estimates that the net effect on government receipts would be less than \$500,000 a year.
- The bill represents a 13-percent increase over last year’s appropriated level and a 10.7-percent increase, as calculated by the CBO, over last year’s baseline amount.
- It increases funding the Millennium Challenge Corporation by 100 percent over last year’s appropriation, thus funding the program at \$3 billion.
- It implements the Stabilization and Reconstruction Civilian Management Act, which builds State Department capacity to organize and lead the civilian component of stabilization and reconstruction missions overseas. The bill establishes in law the office at the Department of State that will anticipate and plan for the difficulties of rebuilding stable societies in post-conflict situations. The bill authorizes \$24 million in funds for FY 2006.
- It includes the “Safe Water: Currency for Peace Act of 2005,” which authorizes a five-year pilot program to assist countries that have a high rate of water-borne illness, with alternative funding mechanisms such as investment insurance, investment guarantees, or loan guarantees to develop sustainable water infrastructure systems.
- It increases funding for non-proliferation and anti-terrorism programs by \$41 million to a total of \$440 million.
- It includes executive branch initiatives targeting democracy, governance, and economic development in the Middle East, including the Department of State’s Middle East Partnership Initiative, which the bill funds at \$150 million, as well as \$150 million

of the funds pledge by President Bush in February 2005 for programs in the West Bank and Gaza.

— It funds international broadcasting efforts at \$651.9 million, which is an increase of \$60.3 million.

— It authorizes the following for public diplomacy efforts: \$8 million on public diplomacy writ large and \$430.4 million for Educational and Cultural Exchanges (which is an increase of \$74.5 million).

— It funds HIV/AIDS assistance at \$3.2 billion, increased from \$2.9 billion appropriated last year and meeting the President's request.

— It authorizes \$345 million for the Peace Corps in FY 2006.

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## BILL PROVISIONS

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### **Title I (Highlights) — Authorization of Appropriations**

This title includes the authorization of funds for foreign affairs administration (Sec. 101), U.S. educational, cultural, and public diplomacy programs (Sec. 102), international organization contributions (Sec. 103), international commission funds (Sec. 104), and international broadcasting operations (sec. 111).

- **(Sec. 101 Administration of Foreign Affairs)** Provides \$4.47 billion for Diplomatic and Consular Programs and \$1.52 billion for Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance, among other things.
- **(Sec. 102 International Organizations and Conferences)** Authorizes \$1.29 billion for FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007) for the Department of State to carry out the authorities, functions, duties, and responsibilities with respect to international organizations.
- **(Sec. 102(b) Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities)** Authorizes \$1.03 billion for FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007) for international peacekeeping activities.
- **(Sec. 105 Centers and Foundations)** Provides \$10 million for the Asia Foundation, \$13.02 million for the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West, and \$80 million for the National Endowment for Democracy for FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).

- **(Sec. 111 U.S. International Broadcasting Activities)** Authorizes \$641 million for international broadcasting operations, and \$10.89 million for broadcasting capital improvements for FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).

## **Title II (Highlights) — Department of State Basic Authorities and Activities**

- **(Sec. 210 Removal of contracting prohibition regarding Libya)** Repeals Section 406(c) of the Omnibus Diplomatic and Antiterrorism Act of 1986, which made persons doing business with Libya ineligible for contract(s) awarded under that act.
- **(Sec. 211 American Institute in Taiwan facilities enhancement)** Authorizes “such sums as may be necessary” to construct the American Institute in Taiwan’s compound. Original sum authorized in 2000 was \$75 million.
- **(Sec. 213 Victims of crime in foreign countries)** Authorizes the Secretary of State to establish a Victims of Crime office in the Bureau of Consular Affairs. This office is to provide services to American victims of violent crimes overseas, to maintain a database to track these incidents reported to overseas missions, and to administer financial assistance to victims who need it.
- **(Sec. 215 Strengthening U.S. education programs in the Islamic world)** Provides scholarships for students in the Islamic world to study at U.S. institutions of higher education (that are chartered and accredited) in order to nurture U.S. values and ideals in the Islamic world, foster mutual respect for U.S. and Islamic values and culture, and improve mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people in the Islamic world. The Secretary of State shall utilize existing authorities under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (MECEA) to carry out this program.

## **Title III (Highlights) — Organization and Personnel of the Department of State**

- **(Sec. 303(b) Danger pay allowances)** Increases the cap for hardship and danger pay for Foreign Service personnel from 25 percent of salary to 35 percent.
- **(Sec. 305 Fellowship of Hope)** This section clarifies the authority of the existing exchange program with the European Union and NATO and allows for such one-year professional exchanges to occur with “agencies, international organizations, foreign governments, or other bodies.”
- **(Sec. 318 Provision of living quarters and allowances to the United States Representatives to the United Nations)** Increases from 30 to 40 the number of U.S.

government officials (defined as “members of the Foreign Service”) who may be provided housing by the Secretary of State while serving at the U.S. mission to the United Nations in New York City. Also makes the housing allowance not taxable, consistent with the overseas housing benefit.

## **Title IV (Highlights) — International Organizations**

- **(Sec. 401 Limitation on the United States’ share of assessments for United Nations peacekeeping operations)** Establishes a permanent ceiling of 27.1 percent for U.S. payments to the United Nations peacekeeping budget (*See “Possible Amendments” section for more details*).
- **(Sec. 403 Report to Congress on implementation of the Brahimi Report)** Requires the Secretary of State to submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees assessing the progress made to implement the recommendations of the 2000 Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (known as the ‘Brahimi Report’) and U.S. support of U.N. progress in this area.
- **(Sec. 404 Sense of Congress on the U.N. budgetary discipline and management reform)** Expresses the sense of Congress that the U.N. should comply with its commitments to budgetary discipline and management reform.

## **Title V (Highlights) — Broadcasting Board of Governors**

- **(Sec. 502 Middle East Broadcasting Networks)** Authorizes the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN) as a non-federal grantee organization and to formally establish the MBN in permanent law. Congress has previously appropriated funds on an annual basis for the MBN’s two channels as well as Radio Sawa, all broadcasting in Arabic.
- **(Sec. 503 Improving signal delivery to Cuba)** Authorizes the Office of Cuba Broadcasting to use additional frequencies to better deliver its service to Cuba.
- **(Sec. 504 Extending Authority of Radio Free Asia)** Extends from September 30, 2009 to September 30, 2015 the Broadcasting Board of Governors’ existing authority to make grants to operate Radio Free Asia.

## **Title VI (Highlights) — Consular Authorities**

- **(Sec. 601 Technical amendments to Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004)**
  - Amends section 7209(d) of the Intelligence Act to include the Secretary of Homeland Security, who has the authority under Section 233 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to make agreements with the airlines on secure transit passage areas.
  - Amends section 7201(c) of the Intelligence Act to require that technologies acquired and deployed under a plan required by that section be compatible with systems used by the Department of State, to the extent feasible, in addition to those of the Department of Homeland Security.
  - Amends Section 5506 of the Intelligence Act to require the Attorney General to consult with the Secretary of State on a report required under that section that addresses implementation of inadmissibilities for visa processing, among other topics.

## **Title VII (Highlights) — Reconstruction and Stabilization**

- **(Sec. 705 Authority to provide assistance for reconstruction and stabilization crises)** Provides the President with the authority, after consultations with Congress, to determine that it is in the national interest to provide assistance to a country or region that is in, or transitioning from, conflict or civil strife, and to provide such assistance from the \$100 million emergency fund authorized in this section as well as from other financial sources.
- **(Sec. 706 Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization)** Creates in permanent law the Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization within the State Department headed by a Coordinator who is appointed by the Secretary. The Coordinator will have the rank of “Ambassador-at-Large,” and will be appointed with the advice and consent of the Senate. This section also outlines the functions of the Office and the Coordinator.
- **(Sec. 707 Response Readiness Corps)** Authorizes the Secretary of State, in coordination with the USAID Administrator, to establish a Response Readiness Corps that consists of both active duty (no more than 250) and reserve personnel (at least 500) non-federal employees) to provide assistance in support of stabilization and reconstruction activities overseas.
- **(Sec. 709 Service related to stabilization and reconstruction)** Designates that certain service or assignment in these areas should be considered among the favorable factors for promotion of employees of Executive agencies.

- **(Sec. 711 Authorization of appropriation)** Authorizes \$24 million for FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007) for personnel, education, training, equipment, and travel costs.

## **Title VIII (Highlights) — Miscellaneous Provisions**

- **(Sec. 802 Fellowships for multidisciplinary training on Nonproliferation Issues)** Authorizes the Secretary of State to expend \$2 million to organize a new program on nonproliferation, bringing foreign students to U.S. centers and academic institutions who specialize in nonproliferation studies to encourage the next generation of experts to focus on the risks of weapons of mass destruction.
- **(Sec. 803 Reporting requirements to U.S. International Agreements)** Twice amends the Case-Zablocki Act (1 U.S.C. 112b), which requires that the texts of international agreements other than treaties be provided to the Congress. The first amendment provides that such agreements be provided directly to the Committee on Foreign Relations and the House Committee on International Relations. The second changes an annual reporting requirement under the Act. Under current law, the report is submitted by the President; this section changes the law to require that the Secretary of State submit it instead.
- **(Sec. 808 Authorization of appropriation for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom)** Authorizes \$3 million for FY 2006 for the Commission on International Religious Freedom.
- **(Sec. 811 Terrorism in West Africa)** Requires the Secretary of State, in consultation with other cabinet officials, to formulate a comprehensive three-year strategy to combat international terrorism in West Africa.

## **Title XXI (Highlights) — Authorization of Appropriations**

### ***Subtitle A—Development Assistance and Related Programs Authorization***

- **(Sec. 2101 Development Assistance)** Authorizes \$1.1 billion for Development Assistance programs in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- **(Sec. 2102 Child survival and health programs fund)** Authorizes \$1.25 billion for child survival, health, and family planning programs in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- **(Sec. 2105 International organizations and programs)** Authorizes \$281.9 million for voluntary contributions to international organizations and programs in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).

- ***(Sec. 2107 International disaster and famine assistance)*** Authorizes \$655.5 million in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- ***(Sec. 2108 Transition Initiatives)*** Authorizes \$325 million in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY2007) for the Transition Initiatives Program administered by USAID, including assistance to develop, strengthen and preserve democratic institutions and processes, revitalize basic infrastructure, and foster the peaceful resolution of conflict.
- ***(Sec. 2109 Assistance for Independent States of the Former Soviet Union)*** Authorizes \$482 million for programs in the Freedom Support Act (FSA) account for the Independent States of the former Soviet Union in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- ***(Sec. 2110 Assistance for Eastern Europe and the Baltic States)*** Authorizes \$382 million for the Support for Eastern Europe Democracies (SEED) account in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- ***(Sec. 2113 Millennium Challenge Corporation)*** Authorizes \$3 billion in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- ***(Sec. 2115 Peace Corps)*** Authorizes \$345 million in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- ***(Sec. 2116 Middle East Partnership Initiative)*** Authorizes the use of \$120 million in Economic Support Funds for the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) programs and activities in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY2007), and requires the Secretary of State to provide a report on the MEPI to Congress within 180 days after enactment of this bill and annually thereafter.
- ***(Sec. 2117 Assistance to combat the avian flu)*** Authorizes \$25 million in International Famine and Disaster Assistance to prevent and respond to a possible outbreak of avian flu in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).

***Subtitle B—Counternarcotics, Security Assistance, and Related Programs Authorizations***

- ***(Sec. 2121 International narcotics control and law enforcement)*** Authorizes \$1.25 billion for international narcotics and law enforcement assistance in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007). Of this, \$734.5 million is authorized for the Andean Counterdrug Initiative.
- ***(Sec. 2122 Economic Support Fund)*** Authorizes \$3.03 billion in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- ***(Sec. 2123 International Military Education and Training)*** Authorizes \$86.7 million in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).

- *(Sec. 2124 Peacekeeping Operations)* Authorizes \$195.8 million for voluntary Peacekeeping Operations programs in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- *(Sec. 2125 Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining, and Related programs)* Authorizes \$440.1 million in FY2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).
- *(Sec. 2126 Foreign Military Financing Program)* Authorizes \$4.58 billion in FY 2006 (and such sums as may be necessary for FY 2007).

## **Title XXII (Highlights) — Amendments to General Foreign Assistance Authorities**

### *Subtitle A—Foreign Assistance Act Amendments and Related Provisions*

- *(Sec. 2202 Assistance for nongovernmental organizations)* States that restrictions on assistance to a country are not to be construed to bar assistance to that country that is provided through U.S. non-governmental organizations using funds provided for development assistance, assistance for Eastern Europe and the former Soviet States, and ESF assistance. This section also requires notification to the relevant committees 15 days in advance of the obligation of funds pursuant to this authority, and clarifies that this authority may not be used to furnish assistance through nongovernmental organizations to the central government of a country.
- *(Sec. 2204 Authority to accept excess lethal property)* Permits the Secretary of State to receive excess lethal property from other agencies of the U.S. government for the purpose of providing such property to foreign governments. Currently, the Secretary can only receive excess non-lethal property. This section requires the Secretary to notify Congress before obligating funds to obtain excess lethal property.
- *(Sec. 2209 Restrictions on economic support funds for Lebanon)* Permits assistance to address the needs of southern Lebanon.
- *(Sec. 2214 Military Coups)* Prohibits assistance to a country if the duly elected head of government of such country is deposed by decree or military coup. Exempted from this restriction is assistance to promote democratic elections, and a presidential waiver would permit assistance upon a determination that such assistance is important to the U.S. national security interest.
- *(Sec. 2221 Special debt relief for the poorest countries)* Authorizes the President to forgive certain debts owed by the poorest countries to the United States.

- *(Sec. 2224 Middle East Foundation)* Authorizes the establishment of a Middle East Foundation (MEF), funded through MEPI, and authorizes the Secretary of State to designate an appropriate private, nonprofit organization as the MEF.
- *(Sec. 2226 Millennium Challenge assistance for certain countries)* Makes permanent a provision in the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) legislation authorizing up to 10 percent of MCA funding to assist countries that initially fail to meet the requirements for eligibility.

***Subtitle B—Arms Export Control Amendments and Related Provisions***

- *(Sec. 2231 Thresholds for advance notice to Congress of sales or upgrades of defense articles, design and constructions services, and major defense equipment)* Raises the minimum dollar thresholds at which sales of certain defense articles, designs, and construction services, and major defense articles must be reported to Congress.
- *(Sec. 2234 Extension of Pakistan waivers)* Extends the authority granted in previous legislation to make inapplicable through FY 2006 foreign assistance restrictions relating to coups and loan defaults regarding Pakistan.

**Title XXIII — Radiological Terrorism Security**

- Requires the Secretary to submit a report within 180 days after the enactment of this title (and on an annual basis thereafter) detailing the preparations made at U.S. diplomatic missions abroad to detect and mitigate such a radiological terrorist attack, listing improvements for radiological safety and consequence management at those missions, and providing a rank-ordered list of the missions where such improvements are the most critical, among other requirements.

**Title XXIV (Highlights) — Global Pathogen Surveillance**

- *(Sec. 2404 Priority for certain countries)* Requires that priority in assistance allocations be given to those countries that permit personnel from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control to investigate infectious disease outbreaks on their territory, provide early notification of such outbreaks, and share pathogen surveillance data with appropriate U.S. governmental entities and international health organizations.
- *(Sec. 2405 Restriction)* Restricts foreign nationals' access to certain biological substances that may be used as, or in, a biological weapon.
- *(Sec. 2412 Assistance for regional health networks and expansion of Foreign Epidemiology Training Programs)* Authorizes the President to provide assistance for the

purposes of enhancing the surveillance and reporting capabilities of the WHO and existing regional networks.

- *(Sec. 2413 Authorization of appropriations)* Authorizes \$35 million in FY 2006 in funds from the “Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining, and Related Programs” account.

## **Title XXV (Highlights) – Reporting Requirements and Other Matters**

### *Subtitle B–Other matters*

- *(Sec. 2513 Support for Justice Sector in Central African States and the African Union)* Authorizes funding to help establish African judicial capacity, specifically that of the African Union, and requires a report by the President within six months of passage that addresses U.S. efforts made to strengthen judicial capacity in Africa.
- *(Sec. 2515 Global Peace Operations)* Authorizes \$114.4 million in FY 2006 to support the Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) that consolidates the programs for training peacekeepers globally, while concentrating on Africa.
- *(Sec. 2516 Assistance to combat HIV/AIDS in certain countries in the Caribbean region)* Adds the following countries to the list of those eligible to receive assistance under the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Dominican Republic.
- *(Sec. 2520 Requirement for report on U.S. policy toward Haiti)* Requires that the Secretary of State provide a report outlining the Administration’s plans for the stabilization and reconstruction of Haiti for FY 2006 and FY 2007.
- *(Sec. 2522 Drug price transparency in the emergency plan for AIDS relief)* Requires a report by the Coordinator of U.S. Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally on the procurement of antiretroviral drugs under the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

## **Title XXVI (Highlights) — Safe Water**

*(Sec. 2604 Pilot Program for water sustainability infrastructure development and capacity building)* Authorizes the President, in coordination with the USAID Administrator and the President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, to carry out a five-year pilot program for clean water sustainability infrastructure development.

*(Sec. 2605 Safe Water Strategy)* Requires the Secretary of State, in coordination with USAID Administrator and other federal agencies, to assess current activities, and develop and implement a national strategy to meet the objectives of expanding access to safe water and sanitation, including supporting and providing sound water management, and improve hygiene for people around the world.

## **Title XXVII (Highlights) — Protection of Vulnerable Populations During Humanitarian Emergencies**

- *(Sec. 2711 Requirement to develop comprehensive strategy)* Directs the Secretary of State, in consultation with USAID Administrator, to develop an integrated strategy for the protection of vulnerable populations, especially women and children, during humanitarian emergencies around the world and to provide Congress with a strategy within 180 days.
- *(Sec. 2712 Designation of coordinator)* Directs that within 60 days, the Secretary of State, in coordination with USAID Administrator, designates an official at the Department of State or USAID as Protection Coordinator.
- *(Sec. 2734 International military education and training)* Adds a component to the International Military and Training Program focused on training foreign militaries to protect civilians who are refugees and internally displaced persons.
- *(Sec. 2735 Sense of Congress regarding actions of U.N. peacekeepers)* Expresses the sense of Congress that the U.N. Secretary General should further strengthen U.N. policies to protect civilians from sexual abuse and exploitation by U.N. personnel involved in U.N. peacekeeping operations. It also states that the Secretary of State should consider suspending military assistance to those countries that do not investigate allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse by their troops participating in U.N. peacekeeping operations or that do not hold perpetrators of such abuse and exploitation accountable.
- *(Sec. 2742 Protection assistance)* Authorizes funding for activities such as security assessments for refugee and internally displaced camps, reunification services for children separated from their families, or training for local law enforcement activities to investigate cases of rape.

## **Title XXVIII (Highlights) — Conventional Arms Disarmament**

- *(Sec. 2804 Global Program for the Safeguarding and Elimination of Conventional Arms)* Authorizes the Secretary of State to conduct a global program to secure, remove, or eliminate stocks of MANPADS, other conventional weapons and munitions, as well as related equipment and facilities that are determined by the Secretary of State to pose a proliferation threat.

- *(Sec. 2807 Authorization of appropriations)* Increases authorization for activities under the Office of Conventional Arms Threat Reduction for small arms, light weapons, abandoned ordnance, and poorly secured munitions to \$20 million for FY 2006.

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## ADMINISTRATION POSITION

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At press time, the Administration had not yet offered an official position on S. 600.

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## COST

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According to the CBO cost estimate summary, S. 600 would authorize appropriations of almost \$30 billion in FY 2006 and such sums as may be necessary in FY 2007 for the Department of State, international assistance programs, and related agencies. The bill also contains provisions that would raise the cost of discretionary programs for famine and reconstruction assistance, debt relief, public diplomacy, personnel, and other programs over the FY 2007-2010 period. CBO estimates that those provisions and the indefinite authorizations for FY 2007 would require appropriations of \$34 billion over those four years. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost about \$59 billion over the FY 2006-2010 period, assuming the appropriation of the necessary amounts.

CBO estimates that S. 600 would raise direct spending by \$33 million in FY 2006 and by \$87 million over the FY 2006-2015 period. S. 600 also would increase governmental receipts (i.e., revenues) by an insignificant amount each year by creating new criminal penalties related to law enforcement and protective functions of State Department special agents and guards. Finally, the Joint Committee on Taxation estimates that the bill would lower revenues by less than \$500,000 a year by exempting employees of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York City from paying taxes on their housing allowance.

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## **POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS**

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As part of the Manager's amendment package, Sec. 401 of this bill will be struck.

No unanimous consent agreement had been reached at press time, and so additional amendments are possible, but none were available. RPC will provide e-mail updates for any amendments offered.

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