

Hicks-Ray Associates



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TO: WESTCAS Membership
FROM: Fred B. Hicks and Tom Ray
SUBJECT: DC Updates

If you are getting confused with regard to where things stand on the FY11 Federal budget, not to mention the FY12 budget, don't feel bad. There have been so many continuing resolutions, so many statements about cutting the budget.....this year, next year.....in 2040.....you name it.

But for WESTCAS members who are still tuned into this process here is an update based on the premise that "you can't tell the players without their numbers."

The FY11 Budget

On Wednesday, the House will consider H.R. _____[doesn't have a number yet] "Making further continuing appropriations for the Department of Defense and other agencies."

This is the agreement that was hammered out between House and Senate negotiators a few minutes to midnight on Friday. The bill will be debated in the House [which is where all appropriations measures originate] and then be taken up by the Senate. Despite anguished cries from both sides of the isle and all parts of the political spectrum, this legislation will pass the Congress and be signed into law by President Obama.

Anybody bothered by the fact that the FY11 budget has yet to be finalized although we're more than six months into the process? If you like the current situation, you're in luck because many observers believe that the FY12 appropriations cycle will be the same.

FY12 Budget Resolution

Thursday, the House considers H. Con. Res _____[no number yet]. This is Representative Paul Ryan's House Budget Committee legislation setting overall spending levels for FY12 and attempts to make projections for Federal spending many years into the future. This is just the House take on this issue. The Senate has its own Budget Resolution process. There is no possibility that the Senate would pass the Ryan bill.

Who says politics is boring?

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