Reconciliation Resolution

A concurrent resolution (i.e., a resolution that the President does not sign) reported pursuant to reconciliation instructions in a congressional budget resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives or the Secretary of the Senate to make specified changes in bills and joint resolutions that have not been enrolled to bring direct spending or revenue laws into conformity with the budget resolution.

Reduction

Cancellation of the availability of budgetary resources previously provided by law before the authority would otherwise lapse. Reductions can be account specific and across-the-board. (*See also* Rescission; Sequestration.)

Refunds

Either (1) the return of money that the government improperly collected or collected in excess of the amount owed (for example, refund is money owed to taxpayers by the government when their total tax payments are greater than their total tax) or (2) money returned as an appropriation by outside sources for payments that the government made in error, overpayments, or adjustment for previous amounts disbursed. (*See also under* Offsetting Collections *under* Collections.)

Reimbursement

A sum (1) that is received by an agency as a payment for commodities sold or services furnished either to the public or to another government account and (2) that is authorized by law to be credited directly to specific appropriation and fund accounts. Reimbursements between two accounts for goods or services are usually expenditure transactions/transfers.

Anticipated reimbursements are, in the case of transactions with the public, estimated collections of expected advances to be received or expected reimbursements to be earned. In transactions between government accounts, anticipated reimbursements consist of orders expected to be received for which no orders have been accepted. Agencies cannot obligate against anticipated reimbursements without specific statutory authority. (*See also* Offsetting Collections *under* Collections; Unfilled Customer Orders.)