

---

<sup>906</sup>(...continued)

#### THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle B of Title XV (Budget Process) of the House-passed bill amends the Congressional Budget Act (CBA) of 1974 (P.L. 93-344, as amended) . . . to make various changes in the congressional budget process. (In addition, Subtitle B extends the discretionary spending limits in the CBA of 1974, which are used for purposes of sequestration under the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act, through fiscal year 1998 . . . ).

Title XIV (Enforcement Procedures) of the Senate amendment amends the [Congressional Budget Act] of 1974 only the purpose of extending certain procedures in Title VI of that Act (including the discretionary spending limits).

The conference agreement includes the Senate language. . . .

#### 1. BUDGET RESOLUTION COVERAGE AND ENFORCEMENT

##### *Current Law*

The Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 put in place temporary provisions in Title VI of the Budget Act to make the congressional budget process fit with the sequestration scheme that was also a part of the 1990 Budget Enforcement Act. These provisions were only temporary since Congress was venturing into new procedural territory and needed to see how the changes would play out. Titles III (Congressional Budget Process) and VI of the [Congressional Budget Act] of 1974 establish the requirements for the coverage and enforcement of the budget resolution. Each year, Congress adopts a concurrent resolution on the budget setting forth levels of spending, revenues, the deficit, and the public debt that reflect broad congressional budget policies and priorities. In general, budgetary legislation first effective in a fiscal year may not be considered until the budget resolution for that year has been adopted, with different exceptions specified for the House and Senate — including an exception in the House for regular appropriations measures considered after May 15.

The budget resolution is enforced principally through two means: (1) points of order under the [Congressional Budget Act] of 1974, which may be raised against legislation in violation of budget resolution levels or other [Congressional Budget Act] requirements, and (2) reconciliation instructions to House and Senate committees to bring existing spending, revenue, and debt limit laws within their jurisdiction into conformity with budget resolution levels.

In particular, procedures under Section 302 and Section 311 of the  
(continued...)