



# BUDGET COMMITTEE



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## **Senate Budget Committee Chairman Gregg Applauds Final House Passage of Deficit Reduction Act**

WASHINGTON – Senate Budget Committee Chairman Judd Gregg today applauded final House approval of the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA).

“The Deficit Reduction Act, which will reduce mandatory spending and the deficit by nearly \$40 billion over five years, is a good first step in trying to reign in the growth of mandatory spending programs,” said Chairman Gregg. “If left unchecked, the rapidly growing cost of these programs will significantly undermine the economic opportunities we leave to future generations.”

The House passed the DRA conference report on December 19, 2005, and sent it to the Senate for final consideration before adjourning for the year. The Senate then approved the DRA on December 21, 2005, after stripping the bill of three minor provisions as a result of a point of order.

“I congratulate Speaker Hastert and House Budget Committee Chairman Nussle for their leadership in overseeing passage of this important legislation,” Chairman Gregg said. “There is much more to be done, however. I am hopeful that we can build upon this success during the fiscal year 2007 budget process, and continue to reduce the short-term deficit, curb non-defense discretionary spending, and slow the rate of growth of entitlement spending programs to more affordable levels.”

Today’s House passage of the DRA, as amended, sends the bill to the White House for the President’s signature.