



Senate May Vote on Tax Bill Before Midnight

According to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, a Senate vote on the tax deal legislation may come “sometime before midnight” tonight if he reaches an agreement with Senate Republicans to act before the 30 hours of debate time runs out at 12:30 a.m. If passed, the legislation moves to the House of Representatives, on whose floor it could be voted as early as Wednesday.



On Monday evening, the Senate voted 83-15 in a cloture vote to advance the legislation for a vote. However, Senate procedures indicate that following a cloture vote, a bill could be debated for an additional 30 hours.

Unsurprisingly, following the cloture vote, 27 amendments were filed in the Senate to be added to the tax deal, which may hold up the bill’s passage.

The [Atlanta Journal Constitution](#) explains, “Senators of both parties have introduced everything from a completely new bill, to expansion and extension of certain tax breaks and modifications of individual provisions.”

The list of the amendments is as follows:

- SA 4775 Stabenow, et al — Expansion of Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit
- SA 4776 Cantwell/Murray — Extension and Expansion of New Clean Renewable Energy Bonds
- SA 4777 Cantwell — Timber Reit Modernization
- SA 4778 Cantwell — Renewal Community Tax Incentives
- SA 4779 Cantwell — Extension of Build America Bonds
- SA 4780 Warner/Chambliss — Sense of the Senate on Federal Debt and the Budget Deficit
- SA 4781 Murray/Cantwell — Grants for specific energy property
- SA 4782 Menendez — Additional Standard Deduction for Real Property Taxes for Non-itemizers
- SA 4783 Bingaman/Snowe — Advanced Energy Tax Incentives
- SA 4784 Cardin — Surety Bonds
- SA 4785 Cardin — Elimination of REIT Ratable Share Limitation for ARRA Grants
- SA 4786 Wyden et al — Extension of Build America Bonds
- SA 4787 Levin — Modification of Estate Tax Language
- SA 4788 Nelson FL — Credit for Electricity Produced at Certain Open-Loop Biomass Facilities
- SA 4789 Dorgan — Alternative Motor Vehicle Credit for certain Hybrids
- SA 4790 Feinstein — Extension of Income Tax Credit for Alcohol Used as Fuel
- SA 4791 Feinstein — Extension of Income Tax Credit for Alcohol Used as Fuel
- SA 4792 Feinstein — Extension of Income Tax Credit for Alcohol Used as Fuel
- SA 4793 Sanders — Substitute for Entire Bill
- SA 4794 Merkley et al — Extension of Tax Relief for All Making Less than \$1 Million



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on December 14, 2010

SA 4795 Brown OH — Substitute for Entire Bill
SA 4796 Sanders — Substitute for Entire Bill
SA 4797 Lincoln — Timber REIT Modernization
SA 4798 Shaheen — Credit for Electricity Produced at Certain Open-Loop Biomass Facilities
SA 4799 Collins ME — Strikes Provision on Wood Stoves
SA 4800 Coons — Changes Effective Date on Some Bond-Related Provisions
SA 4803 Ensign — Substitute for Entire Bill

In addition to the amendments, Senator Tom Coburn had hoped to have a Senate vote on at least one of his plans to offset the billions of dollars the legislation is said to cost by cutting spending elsewhere.

According to *San Francisco Gate*, however, “Without an agreement from all senators, none of [the amendments] will receive a vote.”

In the House, Democrats continue to maintain hopes of toughening estate tax language, despite the possibility that such a change could threaten the compromise to which the Senate and White House agreed.

Congressional Daily writes, “House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) indicated Monday that House leaders would at least try to revise the bill. Hoyer, speaking at the National Press Club, said the House was looking at possible changes to the estate tax provisions, although he did not specify what those changes would be.”

Hoyer also predicts that more than 53 Democrats in the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Caucus will vote in favor of the Senate-passed legislation.

President Obama, who has expressed an understanding of House Democrats’ concerns, added, “But that’s the nature of compromise. I urge the House of Representatives to act quickly on this important matter.”

A House Democrat aide reports that the bill can come to the House floor as early as Wednesday.



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