



Republican Presidential Candidate Spending Analysis – John McCain

Total Annual Spending: \$92.437 billion

Category	Annualized Spending (in millions)	Total Cost (in millions)	# of Proposals	# of Proposals with a Cost Estimate	# Proposals with Unknown Cost
Economy, Transportation, and Infrastructure	\$5,441	\$51,195	12	5	7
Education, Science, and Research	\$7,353	\$33,137	6	5	1
Energy, Environment, and Agriculture	\$58,611	\$291,855	12	4	8
Health Care	\$9,637	\$47,508	18	8	10
Homeland Security and Law Enforcement	\$1,502	\$3,005	8	2	6
National Defense and International Relations	\$22,562	\$112,628	17	5	12
Veterans	\$2,209	\$11,045	4	2	2
Miscellaneous	(\$14,878)	(\$14,398)	8	3	5
Grand Total	\$92,437	\$535,975	85	34	51

Category	Program	Annualized Cost (in millions)	Total Cost (in millions)	# of Years
Economy, Transportation, and Infrastructure	A. Financial Regulation [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	B. Free Trade Agreement – Colombia [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	C. Free Trade Agreement – Indonesia	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	D. Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) – Thailand, Malaysia, and South Korea	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	E. Housing – HOME Plan [*New]	\$337	\$1,683	5
	F. Housing – Mortgage Abuse Task Force [*Update]	\$2	\$10	5
	G. Housing – Mortgage and Financial Institutions (MFI) Trust [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	H. Housing – NeighborWorks Mortgage Assistance	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	I. Infrastructure – Katrina Recovery [*New]	\$1,600	\$32,000	20
	J. Labor – National Commission on Workplace Flexibility and Choice [*New]	\$2	\$2	1
	K. Labor – Unemployment Compensation for Older Workers	\$3,500	\$17,500	5
	L. Labor – Worker Retraining	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
Economy, Transportation, and		\$5,441	\$51,195	

Infrastructure Subtotal				
Education, Science, and Research	A. Digital Passport Scholarships [*New]	\$50	\$250	5
	B. D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program [*New]	\$7	\$7	1
	C. Education Accountability and Competition	\$1,800	\$5,400	3
	D. Online Education [*New]	\$50	\$250	5
	E. Special Education Programs [*New]	\$5,446	\$27,230	5
	F. Student Loan Continuity Plan	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
Education, Science, and Research Subtotal		\$7,353	\$33,137	
Energy, Environment, and Agriculture	A. Alcohol Fuels Development	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	B. Automobile Energy Efficiency [*Update]	\$300	\$300	1
	C. Clean Coal Technologies [*New]	\$2,000	\$10,000	5
	D. Electric Grid [*Update]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	E. Farm Subsidies [*New]	(\$169)	(\$845)	5
	F. Flexible-Fuel Vehicles	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	G. Nuclear Energy [*Update]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	H. Oil Exploration and Drilling [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	I. Pollution Cap-and-Trade Program	\$56,480	\$282,400	5
	J. Sugar Quotas	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	K. Technology Partnerships	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	L. Utility and Automaker Partnerships	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
Energy, Environment, and Agriculture Subtotal		\$58,611	\$291,855	
Health Care	A. Association Health Care Plans	\$6	\$31	5
	B. Autism Prevention [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	C. Community Health Centers	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	D. Disease Management, Individual Case Management, and Health & Wellness	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	E. Disease Prevention	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	F. Drug Re-Importation	(\$540)	(\$2,700)	5
	G. Flexible Training Account	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	H. Generic Drugs	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	I. Guaranteed Access Plan [*Update]	\$8,500	\$42,500	5
	J. Health Care Competition across State Lines	\$56	\$280	5
	K. Health Insurance Portability	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	L. Medicaid and Medicare Payment Systems [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	M. Medical Tort Reform	(\$890)	(\$4,452)	5
	N. Online Health Records	\$169	\$169	1
	O. Prescription Subsidies for the Affluent	(\$520)	(\$2,600)	5
	P. Refundable Health Insurance Tax Credit	\$2,856	\$14,280	5
	Q. Risk Adjustment Bonuses for Medicaid	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
R. State Children's Health Insurance Program Health (SCHIP)	Unknown.	N/A	N/A	
Health Care Subtotal		\$9,637	\$47,508	
Homeland Security and Law Enforcement	A. Adam Walsh Act and Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	B. Border Security	\$1,500	\$3,000	2
	C. Criminal Alien Program [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A

	D. Cyber Security [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	E. Guantánamo Bay Cuba Detention Facility Closure	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	F. Intelligence Reform	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	G. Inter-Agency Force on Human Trafficking [*New]	\$2	\$5	3
	H. Training for Prosecutors in Handling Deportation [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
Homeland Security and Law Enforcement Subtotal		\$1,502	\$3,005	
National Defense and International Relations	A. Afghanistan – Afghan National Military [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	B. Afghanistan – Federal Coordinator [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	C. Afghanistan – Non-Military Assistance [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	D. Afghanistan – Presidential Envoy [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	E. Afghanistan – U.S. Brigades [*New]	\$3,600	\$18,000	5
	F. Armed Forces [*Update]	\$15,000	\$75,000	5
	G. Civil Military Agency [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	H. Cuba [*Update]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	I. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	J. International Nuclear Treaties and Institutions [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	K. League of Democracies [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	L. Multinational Nuclear Enrichment Centers [*New]	\$45	\$45	1
	M. Reservists Equipment	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	N. Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	O. Strategic Arms Reduction [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	P. Theater and National Missile Defense	\$1,917	\$9,583	5
	Q. Transfer of Educational Benefits	\$2,000	\$10,000	5
National Defense and International Relations Subtotal		\$22,562	\$112,628	
Veterans	A. Access to Health Care	\$60	\$300	5
	B. Military Retiree Health Care [*New]	\$2,149	\$10,745	5
	C. Reservist Benefits [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	D. Veterans' Care Access Card [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
Veterans Subtotal		\$2,209	\$11,045	
Miscellaneous	A. Civil Service Reform	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	B. Discretionary Spending [*New]	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)	1
	C. Earmarks [*Update]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	D. Emergency Operations Centers	\$120	\$600	5
	E. Procurement Programs [*New]	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	F. Program Review [*Update]	\$2	\$2	1
	G. Reforming Procurement Programs	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
	H. Transparency	Unknown.	N/A	N/A
Miscellaneous Total		(\$14,878)	(\$14,398)	
Grand Total		\$92,437	\$535,975	

Economy, Transportation, and Infrastructure: \$5.441 billion

A. Financial Regulation [*New]:

“The current system promotes confusion, encourages bureaucratic infighting and creates incentives for financial firms to cut corners. We need to enhance regulatory clarity by holding the same financial activity to one regulatory standard. We don't need a dozen federal agencies doing the job badly – we need the best federal agencies to do the job right.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/informing/news/Speeches/9a604256-0519-46e6-a1ce-e70798b39ec2.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

B. Free Trade Agreement – Colombia [*New]:

“John McCain will push to ratify the Colombia Free Trade Agreement.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/2140c123-1d63-4dce-adcf-91eb697efd86.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: The United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act was introduced in the 110th Congress as H.R. 5724 and S. 2830. A cost estimate is unavailable.

Note: The primary impact of free trade bills is generally on federal revenues. Depending on the terms of the legislation, there may be some outlays as well. For example, see the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate for H.R. 3688, the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (110th Congress).

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdoc.cfm?index=8790&type=1>

C. Free Trade Agreement – Indonesia:

“A new economic partnership initiative with Indonesia would help spur growth and strengthen market institutions in the world's largest Muslim country.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/bba416b9-372d-4c2e-ac02-866a37db0c86.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

D. Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) – Thailand, Malaysia, and South Korea:

“Completing FTAs with Thailand, Malaysia, and South Korea, in concert with the agreements we have already struck with Australia and Singapore, should set the stage for an ambitious Pacific-wide effort to liberalize trade. By concluding bilateral and regional trade agreements, by revitalizing the Doha round of global trade talks, and by ensuring that America stands on the

cutting edge of global commerce, we can ensure that the benefits of open markets reach all 50 of our states.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/informing/News/PressReleases/bba416b9-372d-4c2e-ac02-866a37db0c86.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

E. Housing – HOME Plan [*New]:

“John McCain has proposed a new ‘HOME Plan’ to provide robust, timely and targeted help to those hurt by the housing crisis. Under his HOME Plan, every deserving American family or homeowner will be afforded the opportunity to trade a burdensome mortgage for a manageable loan that reflects their home’s market value.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/downloads/jobsforamerica.pdf>

Cost: \$337 million (\$1.683 billion over five years).

Source: The link above includes this quote from the *Tucson Citizen*, “That [HOME] plan has many of the elements of a proposal by Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., and Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn., requiring participating lenders to forgive part of the loan principal and then write a new loan that would be backed by the federal government through the Federal Housing Administration.” A CBO estimate is available for Rep. Frank’s FHA Housing Stabilization and Homeownership Retention Act of 2008, H.R. 5830.

<http://www.cbo.gov/doc.cfm?index=9190>

F. Housing – Mortgage Abuse Task Force [*Update]:

“John McCain [c]alls [f]or [t]he [i]mmediate [f]ormation [o]f [a] Justice Department Mortgage Abuse Task Force. The Task Force will aggressively investigate potential criminal wrongdoing in the mortgage industry and bring to justice any who violated the law. The DOJ Task Force will offer assistance to State Attorney Generals [sic] who are investigating abusive lending practices.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/169de714-b6f0-4ea9-947e-383b5f4e7f14.htm>

“I am ... calling for an immediate DOJ task force to aggressively investigate potential criminal wrongdoing in the mortgage lending and securitization industry.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/dccd627d-47b6-492c-afbd-6c7100054d7b.htm>

Cost: \$2 million (\$10 million over five years).

Source: A similar task force offering assistance to state Attorneys General by the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission to monitor the oil and gas industry was created by S. 2557 (109th Congress), the Oil and Gas Industry Antitrust Act of 2006. This legislation was not sponsored by Senator McCain.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/72xx/doc7215/s2557.pdf>

G. Mortgage and Financial Institutions (MFI) Trust [*New]:

“To ensure that people are able to stay in their homes and safeguard the life savings of Americans by protecting our financial system and capital markets, John McCain is calling for the formation of a Mortgage and Financial Institutions Trust (MFI). ...

The MFI will minimize the use of taxpayer money by having an orderly process to address the market crisis. Working with the private sector and regulators, the MFI will help identify troubled institutions and take action to strengthen them before they become insolvent. ...

The MFI Will Be Part Of The U.S. Department Of The Treasury. The MFI will be managed by a board of directors consisting of at least the Secretary of the Treasury, Federal Reserve Chairman, Chairman of the FDIC and two public members. The Secretary of the Treasury will be Chairman of the Board. ...

Troubled institutions will voluntarily come to the MFI.

The MFI will provide liquidity loans at reasonable interest rates. The MFI will receive warrants for controlling interest in troubled institutions.

Troubled financial institutions that enter the MFI will keep operating as private companies with the help of the MFI.

The MFI will supervise the sale of loan assets at market prices and purchase them as necessary.

The MFI will eventually, and at its discretion, sell the loans to the private sector.

The MFI will have a predetermined tenure during which to dispose of the loans.

The MFI will return all profits to the U.S. Department of the Treasury and taxpayers.”
<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/7d3490d0-677a-4912-9c3c-356c9da1eab4.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

H. Housing – NeighborWorks Mortgage Assistance:

“John McCain [w]ill [b]olster [g]roups [l]ike NeighborWorks America [t]hat [p]rovide [m]ortgage [a]ssistance [t]o [h]omeowners [i]n [t]heir [c]ommunities.”
<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/169de714-b6f0-4ea9-947e-383b5f4e7f14.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: NeighborWorks America is requesting an additional \$30 million for Fiscal Year 2009 over its 2008 appropriation to continue operations (\$5 million) and provide

mortgage mitigation assistance (\$25 million).

<http://www.nw.org/network/policy/documents/FY2009BudgetJustification.pdf>

I. Infrastructure – Katrina Recovery [*New]:

“During a whirlwind visit to New Orleans, McCain laid out some priorities for the city’s recovery. ... He also called for investment in more extensive Category 5 hurricane protection and the restoration of the barrier islands and wetlands that protect New Orleans from storm surge.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/NewsReleases/d9a7248a-95fc-477a-be73-f75de7445f2c.htm>

Cost: \$1.6 billion (\$32 billion over 20 years).

Source: According to *The Times-Picayune*, “After Katrina hit the New Orleans area in 2005, Congress directed the Corps [of Engineers] to both improve the New Orleans area levee system by 2012 to protect from a hurricane with a 1-in-100 chance of hitting in a given year, and study how to build a Category 5 protection system in the long term.”

http://blog.nola.com/times-picayune/2007/07/corps_not_planning_category_5.html

It is unknown how much it would cost to speed up the target date by one year to 2011.

As for protection from a Category 5 storm, Louisiana state officials told *The New York Times* that, “The cost estimates are still fuzzy, but the work would easily cost more than \$32 billion ... and could take decades to complete.”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/11/29/national/nationalspecial/29flood.html?pagewanted=print>

J. Labor – National Commission on Workplace Flexibility and Choice [*New]:

“John McCain is calling for [a] National Commission on Workplace Flexibility and Choice. This Commission would bring together a bi-partisan set of leaders representing workers, small and large employers, labor, and academics. The Commission would make recommendations to the President on how modernizing our nation’s labor laws and training programs can help workers better balance the demands of their job with family life and to enable workers to more easily transition between jobs.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Issues/JobsforAmerica/workplaceflex.htm>

Cost: \$2 million (first-year cost).

Source: This proposal is similar to legislation such as H.R. 2024 and S. 1195 (110th Congress), which would establish the Comprehensive Entitlement Reform Commission to recommend changes to entitlement programs. The companion bills authorize \$2 million, which is a typical cost for bills that create commissions.

K. Labor – Unemployment Compensation for Older Workers:

“John McCain [w]ill [p]rovide [s]pecial, [t]argeted [a]ssistance [f]or [o]lder [w]orkers. Because training is often inefficient for older workers, those 55 years of age and older who have built up

an LEB [Lost Earnings Buffer Account] will be eligible for a Lost Earnings Supplement. The supplement of up to 50 percent of their earnings loss (up to a maximum of \$10,000) for two years will be rewarded for those who find work inside 26 weeks.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/4dbd2cc7-890e-47f1-882f-b8fc4cfec78.htm>

Cost: \$3.5 billion (\$17.5 billion over five years).

Source: “A Fairer Deal for America’s Workers in a New Era of Offshoring,” published by the Brookings Institution.

http://www3.brookings.edu/es/commentary/journals/tradeforum/2005btf_brainard.pdf

L. Labor – Worker Retraining:

“The U[n]employment I[n]surance system must be more effective in helping those who have lost a job. John McCain will modernize and transform our current programs by consolidating redundant federal programs, strengthening community colleges and technical training and giving displaced workers more choices to find their way back to productive and prosperous lives.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/169de714-b6f0-4ea9-947e-383b5f4e7f14.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Education, Science, and Research: \$7.353 billion

A. Digital Passport Scholarships [*New]:

“John McCain [w]ill [o]ffer \$250 [m]illion [f]or Digital Passport Scholarships [t]o [h]elp [s]tudents [p]ay [f]or [o]nline [t]utors [o]r [e]nroll [i]n [v]irtual [s]chools. Low income students will be eligible to receive up to \$4,000 to enroll in an online course, SAT/ACT prep course, credit recovery or tutoring services offered by a virtual provider.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/b9a7c28f-141c-4008-b724-debd2df51642.htm>

Cost: \$50 million (\$250 million over five years).

Note: NTUF assumes this funding will be spread over five years.

B. D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program [*New]:

“The budget for the Opportunity Scholarships is currently \$13 million. John McCain believes that this extremely successful program should expand to at least \$20 million benefiting nearly a thousand more families.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/b9a7c28f-141c-4008-b724-debd2df51642.htm>

Cost: \$7 million (first-year cost).

C. Education Accountability and Competition:

“No one should have to wait until they are laid off to build a better life. We can start right now by improving the accountability of public education at the primary and secondary level[s] ... and helping provide parents with choices for their children’s education.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/32676e3b-4492-4fc4-b0e9-e01efe5ccebe.htm>

Cost: \$1.8 billion (\$5.4 billion over three years).

Source: Senator McCain has not sponsored or cosponsored any bills related to this issue since the 106th Congress, when he introduced S. 1512: A bill to provide educational opportunities for disadvantaged children, and for other purposes. The bill provided \$1.8 billion a year over three years for states to award scholarships that “may be redeemed for elementary or secondary education for the children at any of a broad variety of public and private schools, including religious schools.” The bill also would have eliminated authority to use sugar as collateral for loans and it would have eliminated the sugar price support and production adjustment programs for sugarcane and sugar beets. These reforms would have provided outlay savings to partially offset the costs of the scholarship program.

D. Online Education [*New]:

“John McCain [w]ill [a]llocate \$250 [m]illion [t]hrough [a] [c]ompetitive [g]rant [p]rogram [t]o [s]upport [s]tates [t]hat [c]ommit [t]o [e]xpanding [o]nline [e]ducation [o]pportunities.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/b9a7c28f-141c-4008-b724-debd2df51642.htm>

Cost: \$50 million (\$250 million over five years).

Note: NTUF assumes this funding will be spread over five years.

E. Special Education Programs [*New]:

“I would fully fund special education program but also make sure teachers don’t just put discipline problems in those programs, that screening is a little more conscientious.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/NewsReleases/ec18c57f-a3fe-420f-9a88-d24b9e4e7b0b.htm>

Cost: \$5.446 billion (\$27.23 billion over five years).

Source: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 1159 (110th Congress): A bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full federal funding of such part. The text appropriates the funding increases over five years. Senator McCain is not a cosponsor.

F. Student Loan Continuity Plan:

“John McCain [i]s [p]roposing [a] [s]tudent [l]oan [c]ontinuity [p]lan. Students face the possibility that the credit crunch will disrupt loans for the fall semester. John McCain calls on the federal government and the 50 governors to anticipate problems and expand the lender-of-last resort capabilities for each state’s guarantee agency.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/1ad1df45-57a9-4bd4-b71f-9d5c011d14c5.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: H.R. 5715, the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008, became Public Law 110-227 in January 2008. Its companion, S. 2815, was not sponsored by Senator McCain. This law allows for deferral on PLUS loan payments, raises limits on unsubsidized loans, and expands eligibility of the SMART grant program, while also bolstering the lender-of-last-resort mission by “requir[ing] guaranty agencies to carry out the functions of the lender-of-last-resort program on a school-wide basis rather than an individual-borrower basis when requested by an institution that meets standards set out by the Secretary.” It also “would clarify that the Secretary of Education has the authority to advance federal funds to guaranty agencies serving as lenders of last resort who do not have sufficient capital to originate guaranteed loans.” It is uncertain how Senator McCain would further expand student financing.

Energy, Environment, and Agriculture: \$58.611 billion

A. Alcohol Fuels Development:

“Alcohol fuels made from corn, sugar, switch grass and many other sources, fuel cells, biodiesel derived from waste products, natural gas, and other technologies are all promising and available alternatives to oil. I won’t support subsidizing every alternative or tariffs that restrict the healthy competition that stimulates innovation and lower costs. But I’ll encourage the development of infrastructure and market growth necessary for these products to compete, and let consumers choose the winners.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Legislation sponsored by Senator McCain, S. 280, the Climate Stewardship and Innovation Act of 2007 (mentioned later in this section) creates a “Climate Technology Financing Board,” which may grant loans and loan guarantees for up to three “biofuels production facilities ... maximizing the use of cellulosic biomass” from proceeds from credit auctions in section 253, but does not detail exact amounts. It is unclear whether McCain would promote additional alcohol-based alternatives through federal outlays or targeted tax credits.

B. Automobile Energy Efficiency [*Update]:

“John McCain [w]ill [p]ropose [a] \$300 [m]illion [p]rize [t]o [i]mprove [b]attery [t]echnology [f]or [f]ull [c]ommerical [d]evelopment [o]f [p]lug-[i]n [h]ybrid [a]nd [f]ull [e]lectric [a]utomobiles. A \$300 million prize should be awarded for the development of a battery package that has the size, capacity, cost and power to leapfrog the commercially available plug-in hybrids or electric cars. That battery should deliver a power source at 30 percent of the current costs.”
<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/f1a7b94c-5df9-4635-9b06-5618454bb82d.htm>

Cost: \$300 million (first-year cost).

Note: This replaces an item in the original analysis:

“With some of the savings from cutting subsidies for industries that can stand on their own, we can establish a national challenge to improve the cost, range, size, and weight of electric batteries for automobiles. ... Affordable battery-powered vehicles that can meet average commuter needs could help us cut oil imports in half.”
<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: \$1 million (\$5 million over five years).

Source: Although Senator McCain was not a sponsor of the underlying legislation, a related provision was included within S. 357 (110th Congress): A bill to improve passenger automobile fuel economy and safety, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce dependence on foreign oil, and for other purposes.

CBO has a cost estimate for the battery development provision in the bill: “The bill would require DOT [the Department of Transportation] to administer a grant program to support research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of electric battery technologies and to establish a council of industry advisors. Under current law, DOE [the Department of Energy] administers a similar program that costs about \$10 million annually. CBO expects that the grants authorized in the bill would likely augment the program as administered by DOE. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the grant program would cost \$1 million annually.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/81xx/doc8185/s357.pdf>

C. Clean Coal Technologies [*New]:

“John McCain will commit \$2 billion annually to advancing clean coal technologies. Some believe that marketing viable clean coal technologies could be over 15 years away. John McCain believes that this is too long to wait, and we need to commit significant federal resources to the science, research and development that advance this critical technology. Once commercialized, the U.S. can then export these technologies to countries like China that are committed to using their coal – creating new American jobs and allowing the U.S. to play a greater role in the international green economy.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/0fde5172-01fb-4782-8882-adb0e9798dd5.htm>

Cost: \$2 billion (\$10 billion over five years).

D. Electric Grid [*Update]:

“We must also redesign our national electric grid in a smarter, more efficient way. In some cases, our national power transmission system has not been built to match supply and demand. And the result is an excess of power where it’s not needed, and a shortage of power where it is needed. In the long term, this will require a serious investment to upgrade our national grid to meet the demands of the 21st century – which will include a capacity to charge the electric cars that will one day fill the roads and highways of America. And to save both money and electrical power for our people and businesses, we will also need to deploy SmartMeter technologies. These new meters give customers a more precise picture of their overall energy consumption, and over time will encourage a more cost-efficient use of power.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/49a335bf-34f5-462c-aff8-108de6fc48c8.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: This replaces a less specific quotation that was included in the original analysis.

E. Farm Subsidies [*New]:

“If I am elected president, I will seek an end to all farm subsidies that are not based on clear need.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/f083c0bb-3470-437a-88c7-dabf2079f140.htm>

Cost: -\$169 million (*savings*) (-\$845 million over five years).

Source: This estimate is from 2005. In the *Budget of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2006*, President Bush proposed to reduce “the payment limit cap for individuals to \$250,000 for commodity payments, including all types of marketing loan gains, while removing the three-entity-rule.”

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2006/pdf/budget/agriculture.pdf>

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2006/pdf/budget/tables.pdf> (Table S-6)

F. Flexible-Fuel Vehicles:

“Flexible-fuel vehicles aren’t futuristic pie in the sky. ... We can provide fuel options and improve the fuel efficiency of our vehicle fleet by making them out of high tech materials that improve their strength and safety.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: It is unclear if Senator McCain would enforce this policy through the use of federal regulatory powers or through incentives that may or may not affect outlays.

G. Nuclear Energy: [*Update]:

“John McCain will put his administration on track to construct 45 new nuclear power plants by 2030 with the ultimate goal of eventually constructing 100 new plants.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/0fde5172-01fb-4782-8882-adb0e9798dd5.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: In 2003, S. 14 (108th Congress) contained a provision to furnish federal loan guarantees for the construction of the next generation of nuclear power plants. CBO estimated “that the net present value of amounts recovered by the government on its loan guarantee from continued plant operations following a default and the project’s technical and regulatory risk would result in a subsidy cost of 30 percent[,] or about \$375 million over the 2011-2013 period.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/42xx/doc4206/s14.pdf>

Note: H.R. 2764, the Consolidated Appropriations Act (passed into law in the 110th Congress) contained \$20.5 billion in loan guarantees for the nuclear industry for nuclear power facilities.

http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/industries/industrials/article/usec-statement-loan-guarantees-nuclear-power-industry_419253_6.html

H. Oil Exploration and Drilling [*New]:

“John McCain [w]ill [c]ommit [o]ur [c]ountry [t]o [e]xpanding [d]omestic [o]il [e]xploration. The current federal moratorium on drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf stands in the way of energy exploration and production.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/17671aa4-2fe8-4008-859f-0ef1468e96f4.htm>

“Republican U.S. presidential candidate John McCain said on Wednesday he would support incentives to encourage states to develop potential oil fields but would not try to force them to exploit potential resources, especially in environmentally sensitive areas.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/NewsReleases/8c7b6d17-6489-4053-8bd3-808fdf4ec9f5.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Opening more federal lands to leasing could generate offsetting receipts, credits against spending, in the federal budget. For example, see the CBO cost estimate for leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and in the Outer Continental Shelf.

<http://www.cbo.gov/doc.cfm?index=6828>

I. Pollution Cap-and-Trade Program:

“This is why I have joined with Joe Lieberman to pursue a market-based, cap-and-trade system that will bolster our economic competitiveness and achieve appropriate limits on greenhouse gas emissions as efficiently and effectively as possible without harming our economy.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: \$56.48 billion (\$282.4 billion over five years).

Source: Senator McCain is a cosponsor of S. 280 (110th Congress), which creates a cap-and-trade system of emission allowances. The proceeds of the auction for the allowances will be used to administer the program, as well as provide funding for other programs that are established in the bill. A CBO cost estimate is available for a related cap-and-trade bill in the 110th Congress, S. 2191, the America’s Climate Security Act of 2007.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/91xx/doc9120/s2191.pdf>

J. Sugar Quotas:

“John McCain [w]ill [e]nd [p]olicies [t]hat [c]ontribute [t]o [h]igher [t]ransportation [a]nd [f]ood [c]osts. ... Sugar quotas drive up food prices and hurt Americans. However, we cannot take the wrong direction and cut off trade for American goods.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/169de714-b6f0-4ea9-947e-383b5f4e7f14.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: The cost of sugar and refined food products purchased by the U.S. government may decrease as a result of this measure, but an estimate of the potential savings is not available.

K. Technology Partnerships:

“I want to spend less money on government bureaucracies, and, where the private sector isn’t moving out of regulatory fear, to form the partnerships necessary to build demonstration models of promising new technologies such as advanced nuclear power plants, coal gasification, carbon capture and storage, and renewable power so we can take maximum advantage of our most abundant resources. And I’ll make it a national mission to develop a catalyst capable of breaking down carbon dioxide into useful chemical building blocks, and rendering it a new source of revenue and opportunity.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/informing/news/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Although Senator McCain was not a sponsor of this legislation, a model for the approach he described was proposed in S. 517 (107th Congress): A bill to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology

transfer and partnerships. This bill was sponsored by two Democrats and two Republicans. At the time, CBO estimated it would cost \$55 million over five years.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/28xx/doc2858/S517.pdf>

Note: A related program is included in S. 280, the Climate Stewardship and Innovation Act of 2007, cited above. It is unknown whether or not the technology partnerships would be funded under the cap-and-trade program.

L. Utility and Automaker Partnerships:

“I’ll work to promote real partnerships between utilities and automakers to accelerate the deployment of plug-in hybrids.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: It is unclear whether this would be achieved by a tax credit or by federal grants. An example of the latter is contained in a CBO estimate for H.R. 5656 (109th Congress): A bill to provide for federal energy research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities, and for other purposes. It includes \$136 million (\$1.3 billion over five years) for plug-in hybrid vehicle technology development.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/73xx/doc7391/hr5656.pdf>

Health Care: \$9.637 billion

A. Association Health Care Plans:

“[My plan] promotes robust health care markets by, among other things, allowing families to purchase insurance ... through any willing provider such as an association or a church.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: \$6 million (\$31 million over five years).

Source: CBO cost estimate for H.R. 525 (109th Congress): A bill to improve access and choice for entrepreneurs with small businesses with respect to medical care for their employees.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/62xx/doc6265/hr525.pdf>

B. Autism Prevention [*New]:

”As President, John McCain will work to advance federal research into autism, promote early screening, and identify better treatment options, while providing support for children with autism so that they may reach their full potential.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/content/?guid=24dc9c37-e739-4aa3-8a88-ebae650a2f11>

Cost: Unknown.

C. Community Health Centers:

“Community health centers need to be expanded.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/07b94e42-9466-4c24-8bc0-68a7c83d960d.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

D. Disease Management, Individual Case Management, and Health & Wellness:

“A [s]pecific [p]lan of [a]ction: [e]nsuring [c]are for [h]igher [r]isk [p]atients ... John McCain [w]ill [p]romote [p]roper [i]ncentives. John McCain will work with Congress, the governors, and industry to make sure this approach is funded adequately and has the right incentives to reduce costs such as disease management, individual case management, and health and wellness programs.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/19ba2f1c-c03f-4ac2-8cd5-5cf2edb527cf.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: In the past, Senator McCain has advocated the creation of nonprofit entities to support the health and wellness activities of government agencies. One such legislative example was S. 555 (108th Congress), the Native American Health and Wellness Foundation Act of 2003. CBO estimated this legislation at \$3 million over 4 years. It is unclear if Senator McCain would use the same methodology on a nationwide scale.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/42xx/doc4288/s555.pdf>

E. Disease Prevention:

“We must make fundamental reforms to our health care system that benefit hard-working American families. ... To ease the burden placed on businesses and individuals, we must open up the avenues of competition, improve the quality of care and put greater emphasis on disease prevention.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/26d10a09-714f-4012-b0d9-6f8d8ba0ca11.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Source: Senator McCain is a sponsor of related legislation, S. 2115 (109th Congress): A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve provisions relating to Parkinson’s disease research. A cost estimate is unavailable.

F. Drug Re-Importation:

“My plan ... permits the safe re-importation [sic] of drugs to keep competition vigorous.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: -\$540 million (*savings*) (-\$2.7 billion over five years).

Source: CBO cost estimate for H.R. 380 (110th Congress): A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the importation of prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/87xx/doc8729/hr380Ltr.pdf>

G. Flexible Training Account:

“Workers will have access to a flexible training account that permits them to ... use leftover funds to keep their health insurance.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/169de714-b6f0-4ea9-947e-383b5f4e7f14.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

H. Generic Drugs:

“My plan harnesses market competition to lower pharmaceutical costs by fostering a more efficient process for bringing cheaper generic drugs to consumers sooner”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Senator McCain was a sponsor of S. 812 (107th Congress): A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide greater access to affordable pharmaceuticals. Title I of the legislation would revise provisions concerning the timing of generic drug availability. No cost estimate is available.

I. Guaranteed Access Plan [*Update]:

“John McCain [w]ill [w]ork [w]ith [s]tates [t]o [e]stablish [a] Guaranteed Access Plan. As President, John McCain will work with governors to develop a best practice model that states can follow – a Guaranteed Access Plan or GAP – that would reflect the best experience of the states to ensure these patients have access to health coverage. One approach would establish a nonprofit corporation that would contract with insurers to cover patients who have been denied insurance and could join with other state plans to enlarge pools and lower overhead costs. There would be reasonable limits on premiums, and assistance would be available for Americans below a certain income level.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/19ba2f1c-c03f-4ac2-8cd5-5cf2edb527cf.htm>

Cost: \$8.5 billion (\$42.5 billion over five years).

Source: “Mr. Holtz-Eakin has suggested the federal government might need to spend \$7 billion to \$10 billion to subsidize these pools – an estimate he calls ‘extremely preliminary.’ Many experts said that is nowhere near enough, particularly given the large number of people with pre-existing conditions who would need this help if employers send their workers out to the open market.”

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121236916701936663.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

Note: This item was previously included with an unknown cost.

J. Health Care Competition across State Lines:

“[My plan] promotes robust health care markets by, among other things, allowing families to purchase insurance across state lines”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: \$56 million (\$280 million over five years).

Source: CBO cost estimate for H.R. 2355, the Health Care Choice Act of 2005 (109th Congress): A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for cooperative governing of individual health insurance coverage offered in interstate commerce. This bill was reintroduced in the 110th Congress as H.R. 4460.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/66xx/doc6639/hr2355.pdf>

K. Health Insurance Portability:

“John McCain believes that insurance reforms should increase the variety and affordability of insurance coverage available to American families by fostering competition and innovation. . . . Insurance should be innovative, moving from job to home, job to job, and providing multi-year coverage.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/19ba2f1c-c03f-4ac2-8cd5-5cf2edb527cf.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

L. Medicaid and Medicare Payment Systems [*New]:

“John McCain will reform the payment systems in Medicaid and Medicare to compensate providers for diagnosis, prevention, and care coordination.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/56dd9cf4-3487-4aa3-8bc3-58a2731d1703.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

M. Medical Tort Reform:

“[My plan] focuses on tort reform to stop frivolous lawsuits which enrich trial lawyers while raising health costs for everyone else.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: -\$890 million (*savings*) (-\$4.452 billion over five years).

Source: CBO cost estimate for H.R. 5 (109th Congress): A bill to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive

burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system. The cost estimate is from the 108th Congress. Although the bill was reintroduced and passed by the House in the 109th Congress, CBO did not update its estimate. It was also reintroduced in the 110th Congress as H.R. 2580 and S. 243, which is not cosponsored by Senator McCain.
<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/40xx/doc4091/hr5.pdf>

N. Online Health Records:

“We need to do a whole lot of things ... including putting health care records online ...”
<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/2e4d3703-851b-46b3-abbf-2fe38cdce592.htm>

Cost: \$169 million (first-year cost).

Source: President Bush offered a similar proposal in his 2007 State of the Union Address.
<http://www.ntu.org/main/page.php?PageID=115>

O. Prescription Subsidies for the Affluent:

“John McCain [b]elieves [t]hat [w]e [s]hould [n]ot [s]ubsidize [t]he [p]rescription [d]rugs [o]f America’s [m]ost [a]ffluent [i]ndividuals. He will propose reforms to reduce the large subsidies in the Medicare drug program.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/1ad1df45-57a9-4bd4-b71f-9d5c011d14c5.htm>

Cost: -\$520 million (*savings*) (-\$2.6 billion over five years).

Source: Related legislation has been introduced in the form of S. 2662 (110th Congress), the Medicare Funding Warning Response Act of 2008. Cost is derived from a CBO estimate for the portion of S. 2662 pertaining to Medicare Part D subsidies. Senator McCain is not a cosponsor of this legislation.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/90xx/doc9051/s2662.pdf>

P. Refundable Health Insurance Tax Credit:

“[My plan] provides all individuals with a refundable tax credit of \$2,500 and families with a \$5,000 credit toward the purchase of health insurance, and rewards innovative insurance by allowing any money remaining to be deposited in tax-free Health Savings Accounts.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: \$2.856 billion (\$14.28 billion over five years).

Source: In his FY 2008 Budget, President Bush offered a similar health insurance tax credit proposal that had a refundable component. An estimate is available in Table S-5 of the *Budget of the United States Government* under “Outlay Effects of Tax Proposals.”

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2008/pdf/budget/tables.pdf>

Q. Risk Adjustment Bonuses for Medicaid:

“John McCain believes that insurance reforms should ... require any state receiving Medicaid to develop a financial ‘risk adjustment’ bonus to high-cost and low-income families to supplement tax credits and Medicaid funds.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/19ba2f1c-c03f-4ac2-8cd5-5cf2edb527cf.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: CBO determined the Medicare Advantage Risk Adjustment included in the 2005’s Deficit Reduction Act (S. 1932) would save \$1.4 billion in the first year. A cost estimate for Medicaid “risk adjustment” bonuses is unavailable.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/70xx/doc7028/s1932conf.pdf>

R. State Children’s Health Insurance Program Health (SCHIP):

“I think that we can make health care affordable and available without a mandate. Million[s of] children that haven’t taken advantage of the SCHIP ... because they just haven’t signed up.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/07b94e42-9466-4c24-8bc0-68a7c83d960d.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: In the past, Senator McCain has supported the extension of the availability of allotments beyond the original time frame (S. 312, 108th Congress) and has sponsored S. 556, which would have ended cost sharing under the SCHIP and Medicaid programs for Indians. According to CBO, “The provisions also would require that payments by Medicaid and SCHIP for services provided directly by those programs could not be reduced by the amount of cost sharing that Indians otherwise would pay.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/60xx/doc6026/s556.pdf>

Homeland Security and Law Enforcement: \$1.502 billion

A. Adam Walsh Act and Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces [*New]:

“John McCain is a strong proponent of ... fully implementing the Adam Walsh Act including lifetime registration for child sexual offenders, and funding the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces that employ many sheriffs’ deputies across the nation to track purveyors of child pornography.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/9a94b20a-6531-4f93-819a-2ff31e2bf75f.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

B. Border Security:

“As President, I will secure the border. I will restore the trust Americans should have in the basic competency of their government.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/informing/issues/68db8157-d301-4e22-baf7-a70dd8416efa.htm>

Cost: \$1.5 billion (\$3 billion over two years).

Source: Senator McCain is a cosponsor of related legislation, S. 2348 (110th Congress): A bill to ensure control over the United States border and to strengthen enforcement of the immigration laws. The text appropriates \$3 billion for two years.

Note: In the spring of 2007, while he was a declared candidate for the Republican nomination, Senator McCain was also an advocate of comprehensive immigration and border security reform efforts in Congress. An amendment he sponsored with Senator Kennedy, S.A. 1150 to S. 1348, would have increased legal immigration levels and provided for increased border security enforcement initiatives. CBO estimated this would increase spending by \$29.5 billion over five years. However, Senator McCain has not explicitly articulated that he would work to pass the initiatives in S.A. 1150 as President.
<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdoc.cfm?index=8179&type=1>

If Senator McCain is advocating constructing of a border fence as reported by the *Keene Sentinel*, that could have an additional cost which will depend on the length of additional wall (approximately \$3 million/mile according to CBO), and how much new technology is used (the Department of Homeland Security estimates the virtual wall will cost \$7.6 billion over four years). Currently, \$1.225 billion is appropriated for border security to complete 670 miles of fence.

<http://www.sentinelsource.com/print.asp?ArticleID=172087&SectionID=31&SubSectionID=454>

http://www.nytimes.com/cq/2007/07/11/cq_3057.html

<http://www.pcworld.com/article/id,129294/article.html>

C. Criminal Alien Program [*New]:

“... [A]s president, I will expand the Criminal Alien Program. We will require that the federal government assume more of the costs to deport and detain criminal aliens – because this is a problem of the federal government’s own making.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/fb5c9689-00b3-490a-905a-5b455e47f4b8.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

D. Cyber Security [*New]:

“To protect our energy supply, air and rail transport, banking and financial services, we need to invest far more in the task of cyber security. In this new century, and especially with the threat of

terrorist attacks, every state, local, and federal agency concerned with public safety should have access [sic] a shared repository of information.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/fb5c9689-00b3-490a-905a-5b455e47f4b8.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

E. Guantánamo Bay Cuba Detention Facility Closure:

“We must close the detention facility at Guantánamo and come to a common international understanding on the disposition of dangerous detainees under our control.”

http://www.ft.com/cms/s/c7e219e2-f4ea-11dc-a21b-000077b07658,dwp_uuid=73adc504-2ffa-11da-ba9f-00000e2511c8,print=yes.html#

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Senator McCain has not detailed his plan to manage the current detainees of Guantánamo Bay.

F. Intelligence Reform:

“As President, John McCain will ensure that America has the quality intelligence necessary to uncover plots before they take root, the resources to protect critical infrastructure and our borders against attack” <http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/054184f4-6b51-40dd-8964-54fcf66a1e68.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

G. Inter-Agency Force on Human Trafficking [*New]:

“As President, I’ll increase cooperation and communication between all agencies of the federal government by establishing an Inter-Agency Task Force on Human Trafficking, whose purpose will be to focus exclusively on the prosecution of human traffickers and the rescue of their victims. The Task Force will strengthen cooperation between federal officials, state and local law enforcement and prosecutors to ensure that jurisdictional issues are not a barrier to success, and that we have a coordinated international response to this scourge. I will require the Task Force agencies to report directly to me on the status of the problem and the progress we are making to defeat this stain on the reputation and character of the United States.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/1564183f-02f9-456f-b31b-a387a83482d3.htm>

Cost: \$2 million (\$5 million over three years).

Source: A related Task Force was included in H.R. 3244 (106th Congress): A bill to combat trafficking of persons, especially into the sex trade, slavery, and slavery-like conditions in the United States and countries around the world through prevention, through prosecution and enforcement against traffickers, and through protection and assistance to victims of trafficking. A CBO estimate is available.

<http://www.cbo.gov/doc.cfm?index=1811&type=0>

H. Training for Prosecutors in Handling Deportation [*New]:

“John McCain’s administration will facilitate training and seek cross-designation of state and local prosecutors to handle the legal proceedings required to expedite deportation.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/9a94b20a-6531-4f93-819a-2ff31e2bf75f.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

National Defense and International Relations: \$22.562 billion

A. Afghanistan – Afghan National Military [*New]:

“We need to at least double the size of the Afghan army to 160,000 troops. To pay for this increase, the international community should share the costs. The United States and our allies should establish an international trust fund to provide long-term financing for the Afghan army.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/e92e0317-02b3-4345-82f9-9eac8bb0a50d.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

B. Afghanistan – Federal Coordinator [*New]:

“John McCain will appoint an Afghanistan czar to ensure commanders have what they need to win.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/e92e0317-02b3-4345-82f9-9eac8bb0a50d.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

C. Afghanistan – Non-Military Assistance [*New]:

“John McCain [w]ill [i]ncrease [o]ur [n]on-[m]ilitary [a]ssistance [t]o [t]he Afghan [g]overnment. Through a multi-front plan, we will increase assistance to the Afghan government to strengthen its institutions, the rule of law, and the economy. Essential to success of the mission in Afghanistan is getting control of narcotics trafficking. Alternative crops must be able to get to market and traffickers must be arrested and prosecuted by enhanced Special Courts. We should agree on specific governance and development benchmarks with the Afghan government and then work with them closely to ensure they are met.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/e92e0317-02b3-4345-82f9-9eac8bb0a50d.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

D. Afghanistan – Presidential Envoy [*New]:

“John McCain will enhance our regional diplomatic efforts by appointing a special presidential envoy [to Afghanistan].”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/e92e0317-02b3-4345-82f9-9eac8bb0a50d.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

E. Afghanistan – U.S. Brigades [*New]:

“John McCain supports sending at least three additional brigades to Afghanistan. Our commanders on the ground say they need these troops, and thanks to the success of the surge, these forces are becoming available, and our commanders in Afghanistan must get them.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/e92e0317-02b3-4345-82f9-9eac8bb0a50d.htm>

Cost: \$3.6 billion (\$18 billion over five years).

Source: According to a February 2008 report, personnel expenses per brigade engaged in Iraq and Afghanistan are \$1.2 billion a year.

http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/89xx/doc8971/02-11-WarCosts_Letter.pdf

Note: The total cost would be lower if the additional troop levels in Afghanistan are not maintained for five years.

F. Armed Forces [*Update]:

“As president, I would bring the Army and Marines from the currently planned level of roughly 750,000 to 900,000. This will cost real money, some \$15 billion annually, but it will not require a draft any more than similar levels did in the 1980s.”

http://www.realeclearpolitics.com/articles/2007/07/address_to_the_concord_chamber.html

Cost: \$15 billion (\$75 billion over five years).

G. Civil Military Agency [*New]:

“I would ... set up a new civil military agency patterned after the Office of Strategic Services in World War II.”

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/pdf/mccain-9-27-2007.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

H. Cuba [*Update]:

“I would provide more material assistance and moral support to the courageous human rights activists who bravely defy the regime every day, and increase Radio and TV Marti and other

means to communicate directly with the Cuban people.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/c6208dbe-e868-4917-b4e6-f56c363d20c7.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: The State Department’s Congressional Budget Justification for Foreign Operations notes, “The FY 2009 request for Cuba is significantly less than the FY 2008 estimate. FY 2009 funding is intended to sustain efforts to encourage democratic change initiated during the surge of funding in FY 2007 and FY 2008, as mandated through the CAFC II report, which recommended an annual investment of \$20 million thereafter until there is clear evidence of a democratic transition in Cuba. The reductions are primarily reflected in civil society programs.”

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/101368.pdf>

Note: This item updates an earlier quote that was not as specific regarding which programs would be increased.

I. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) [*New]:

“Increase IAEA funding and enhance the intelligence support it receives: The UN Security Council should require that international transfers of sensitive nuclear technology be disclosed in advance, and further require that undisclosed transfers be deemed illicit and subject to interdiction.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/74797d36-8fe4-449a-b760-ccae5e866c99.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

J. International Nuclear Treaties and Institutions [*New]:

“John McCain will work to strengthen existing international treaties and institutions to combat proliferation and develop new ones where necessary. [The U.S. should move quickly] ... to interdict the spread of nuclear weapons and material under the Proliferation Security Initiative. John McCain will increase funding for American nonproliferation efforts, including the Cooperative Threat Reduction programs established by the landmark Nunn-Lugar legislation.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/74797d36-8fe4-449a-b760-ccae5e866c99.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

K. League of Democracies [*New]:

“John McCain, the virtually certain Republican presidential nominee, has endorsed the concept of a new global compact of more than 100 democratic countries to advance shared views and has discussed the idea with French and British leaders.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/NewsReleases/1a5070b5-6b78-4495-b655-072db0d059aa.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

L. Multinational Nuclear Enrichment Centers [*New]:

“To persuade countries to forego enrichment and reprocessing, I would support international guarantees of nuclear fuel supply to countries that renounce enrichment and reprocessing, as well as the establishment of multinational nuclear enrichment centers in which they can participate.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/e9c72a28-c05c-4928-ae29-51f54de08df3.htm>

Cost: \$45 million (first-year cost).

Source: Related legislation has been introduced in the form of H.R. 885 (110th Congress): To support the establishment of an international regime for the assured supply of nuclear fuel for peaceful means and to authorize voluntary contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency to support the establishment of an international nuclear fuel bank. A CBO cost estimate is available.

<http://www.cbo.gov/doc.cfm?index=8173>

M. Reservists Equipment:

“I will also work to ensure that our Reserve Forces are provided adequate modern equipment, access to training and full-time support personnel to perform their many missions and to maintain their readiness.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/8dab2db1-25e0-43cc-afb0-5b92959f3938.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: The cost of this proposal is not completely clear, but could be significant. According to an article in *Government Executive*: “In 2007, the service received \$17 billion for equipment reset, a significant jump from the \$8.6 billion it got in 2006. Army officials have said they will need \$12 billion to \$13 billion per year for reset efforts as long as combat continues in Iraq, and up to two years after troops are withdrawn.”

<http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/1207/122007g1.htm>

N. Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage [*New]:

“I would seek to establish an international repository for spent nuclear fuel that could collect and safely store materials overseas that might otherwise be reprocessed to acquire bomb-grade materials.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/e9c72a28-c05c-4928-ae29-51f54de08df3.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

O. Strategic Arms Reduction [*New]:

“John McCain will seek to reduce the size of our nuclear arsenal to the lowest number possible consistent with our security requirements and global commitments, moving as rapidly as possible to a significantly smaller force.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/74797d36-8fe4-449a-b760-ccae5e866c99.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

P. Theater and National Missile Defense:

“John McCain strongly supports the development and deployment of theater and national missile defenses.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/054184f4-6b51-40dd-8964-54fcf66a1e68.htm>

Cost: \$1.917 billion (\$9.583 billion over five years).

Source: CBO letter to Representative Ellen Tauscher: “In response to your request of April 20, 2007, the Congressional Budget Office has completed a preliminary assessment of the cost of the Missile Defense Agency’s and Air Force’s plans for developing, fielding, and operating a fleet of airborne lasers (ABL) as part of the ballistic missile defense system.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/87xx/doc8722/05-09-ABL-Estimate.pdf>

Note: Should Senator McCain’s plan include more than ABL, the cost would be higher.

Q. Transfer of Educational Benefits:

“To boost retention, this plan would allow members who served six years or more to transfer part or all their post-service education benefits to a spouse or child. There’s no official cost estimate for this alternative, but government analysts had calculated that such a program would run \$1 billion to \$2 billion a year.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/5f86aaa0-379e-4725-9962-6e34e9949c9f.htm>

Cost: \$2 billion (\$10 billion over five years).

Veterans: \$2.209 billion

A. Access to Health Care:

“John McCain believes that all military retirees, even if they are not eligible for VA health care, should be provided with meaningful access to health care. The federal government should ease

the burden of health care costs on those people who have dedicated their careers to protecting our freedom.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/9cb5d2aa-f237-464e-9cdf-a5ad32771b9f.htm>

Cost: \$60 million (\$300 million over five years).

Source: Senator McCain is a cosponsor of S. 1606 (110th Congress), the Dignified Treatment of Wounded Warriors Act: A bill to provide for the establishment of a comprehensive policy on the care and management of wounded warriors in order to facilitate and enhance their care, rehabilitation, physical evaluation, transition from care by the Department of Defense to care by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and transition from military service to civilian life, and for other purposes. While a cost estimate is unavailable for S. 1606, CBO scored a related bill in the House, H.R. 1538 (110th Congress), the Wounded Warrior Assistance Act: A bill to amend Title 10, United States Code, to improve the management of medical care, personnel actions, and quality of life issues for members of the Armed Forces who are receiving medical care in an outpatient status, and for other purposes.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/79xx/doc7905/hr1538.pdf>

B. Military Retiree Health Care [*New]:

“John McCain ... believes that it is especially important to ensure retired service personnel enjoy full health care and benefits comparable to that received by retired federal employees.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/054184f4-6b51-40dd-8964-54fcf66a1e68.htm>

Cost: \$2.149 billion (\$10.745 billion over five years).

Source: Senator McCain sponsored S. 407, the “Keep Our Promise to America’s Military Retirees Act” (109th Congress): A bill to restore health care coverage to retired members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes. A CBO estimate is available for the version of the bill that was introduced in the 108th Congress.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/57xx/doc5766/hr3474.pdf>

C. Reservist Benefits [*New]:

“John McCain believes that the fundamental role of reservists has changed over the last decade, and given their invaluable role and the tremendous sacrifices that these men and women have made, they should receive additional benefits than those that they have traditionally been granted.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/9cb5d2aa-f237-464e-9cdf-a5ad32771b9f.htm>”

Cost: Unknown.

Note: An increase in education benefits for veterans, including reservists and members of the National Guard, who served in Afghanistan and Iraq was included in H.R. 2642, which became law. It is unclear what specific additional benefits Senator McCain would support.

D. Veterans' Care Access Card [*New]:

“I believe that we should give veterans the option to use a simple plastic card to receive timely and accessible care at a convenient location through a provider of their choosing.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/3d837545-5ac8-4124-929c-33c3f0ee9fe5.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Miscellaneous: -\$14.878 billion

A. Civil Service Reform:

“John McCain will provide the leadership necessary to control spending, including ... [r]eform [of] [o]ur [c]ivil [s]ervice [s]ystem [t]o [p]romote [a]ccountability [a]nd [g]ood [p]erformance [i]n [o]ur [f]ederal [w]orkforce.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/b61edf42-a65d-4c4d-b038-6123db8fc2a5.htm>

Cost: Unknown

Source: Related legislation, H.R. 5439 (110th Congress), establishes the Civil Service Reform Commission to study and report to the President and Congress on: (1) the federal compensation system; (2) recruiting individuals for the federal workforce; (3) expediting and improving hiring processes; (4) retaining a high-quality federal workforce and providing continuing professional education to maintain the quality of such workforce; (5) policies and barriers related to the termination of under-performing workers; (6) the role and oversight of federal contractors and issues related to contractor assumption of traditionally federal duties; and (7) proposed legislation to implement recommended improvements. The JOBS Act included a similar Blue Ribbon Commission scored by CBO at \$2 million per year (\$10 million over five years).

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h5439ih.txt.pdf)

[bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h5439ih.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h5439ih.txt.pdf)

B. Discretionary Spending [*New]:

“Freeze non-defense, non-veterans discretionary spending for a year and use those savings for deficit reduction.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Issues/JobsforAmerica/reform.htm>

“McCain also said he wants to freeze for one year about \$800 billion in non-military, non-veterans-related discretionary spending. That would save about \$15 billion, said McCain senior policy adviser Doug Holtz-Eakin.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/NewsReleases/1460e6aa-fbb6-4cf5-9241-e5df4f303c8a.htm>

Cost: -\$15 billion (*savings*) (first-year cost).

C. Earmarks [*Update]:

“Take back earmark funds. The McCain Administration will reclaim billions of add-on spending from earmarks and add-ons in FY 2007 and 2008.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Issues/JobforAmerica/reform.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Eliminating earmarks does not necessarily reduce spending. If the earmarked funds are returned to the agencies’ general appropriations and are not rescinded, no savings would result.

D. Emergency Operations Centers:

“We’re going to clear away the bureaucratic obstacles to disaster response, and establish clear, straight lines of communication among federal, state, and local agencies. We’re going to give first-responders in our states and cities every tool they need to move fast, work together, and save lives. We’re going to give them allies, too – the same kind of partners who rushed to the Gulf Coast after Katrina but were turned away or told to wait. Every Emergency Operations Center will have a unit run by trained experts from local businesses, with the skills and technology to track assets and send them where they are needed, when they are needed.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/def1dbb0-0f3d-443e-b37e-4af149ad0759.htm>

Cost: \$120 million (\$600 million over five years).

Source: Related legislation has been introduced, in the form of H.R. 5351 (109th Congress): A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a Directorate of Emergency Management, to codify certain existing functions of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes. Specifically, the estimate is based on the additional amounts that state and local governments would receive to “improve emergency preparedness.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/72xx/doc7246/hr5351REV.pdf>

Note: H.R. 1 (110th Congress), which was passed into law, created a new grant program for states and regions to improve the interoperability of emergency communications systems used by police, firefighters, and other first responders. A CBO cost estimate is available. It is unclear how Senator McCain would improve communication among agencies.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdoc.cfm?index=7780&type=1>

E. Procurement Programs [*New]:

“Reform procurement programs and cut wasteful spending in defense and non-defense programs.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Issues/JobforAmerica/reform.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

F. Program Review [*Update]:

“A McCain Administration would perform a comprehensive review of all programs, projects and activities of the federal government, and then propose a plan to modernize, streamline, consolidate, reprioritize and, where needed, terminate individual programs. McCain could use the bi-partisan commission structure used for the Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC). Such a commission could be required to report to the President who would then submit the recommendations to the Congress for a straight up or down vote.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Issues/JobsforAmerica/reform.htm>

“A McCain Administration will review all special spending provisions to end subsidies to high-income individuals and corporations [sic]”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Issues/JobsforAmerica/reform.htm>

Cost: \$2 million (first-year cost).

Note: This cost is only for the commission that would be established to conduct the review (these types of commissions usually cost around \$2 million for staff and general expenses). NTUF is unable to estimate possible future savings that might result from the program review because it is unknown what the specific proposals would be or whether Congress would approve them.

The review program would probably be similar to the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) currently being used by the federal government. According to an Office of Management and Budget spokesman, the budget for PART mostly consists of information technology expenses for PARTWeb (a data collection system) and ExpectMore.gov (a Web site). The annual expense is about \$325,000 per year, excluding personnel.

G. Reforming Procurement Programs:

“John McCain will provide the leadership necessary to control spending, including ... [r]eform [of] [p]rocurement [p]rograms”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/b61edf42-a65d-4c4d-b038-6123db8fc2a5.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Senator McCain sponsored S. 32 (110th Congress): A bill to reform the acquisition process of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes. A cost estimate is unavailable.

H. Transparency:

“We’re going to make every aspect of government purchases and performance transparent. Information on every step of contracts and grants will be posted on the Internet in plain and simple English. We’re not going to hide anything behind accounting tricks and bureaucratic doubletalk that a linguist with a Ph. D in accounting couldn’t decipher.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/48474414-5864-4de8-921e-d2d51de82bdd.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Source: Senator McCain sponsored the “Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006,” P.L.109-282, “direct[ing] the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to oversee the creation of a single comprehensive searchable Web site that would include information on all federal grants, contracts, and other funding awarded to public and private organizations.” It is uncertain what additional steps Senator McCain would take.

Fiscal Quotes:

“We became paralyzed by the demands of competing special interests and the narrow, selfish partisanship of both parties has crippled our efforts to reform government and face squarely the problems the people expect us to fix. We need to reform and modernize our transportation system, our energy use, our public education; our Tax Code; our health care system; our telecommunications laws; the way we assist displaced workers; respond to emergencies; even the way we defend our national security. We need to balance the federal budget and stop spending money on things that are not the business of government. We need to repair Social Security and Medicare now, not when they’re completely insolvent and some unluckier generation of Americans is stuck with the problem. None of these daunting challenges can be addressed without genuine and lasting reform. It is essential to our security and our continued economic vitality. And beyond providing more choices in the marketplace; or a secure old age; or enhanced security; reforming government so that it meets real needs with basic competence will help restore America’s pride in the way we govern ourselves, and remind us all, those of us lucky enough to serve and those who elect us, what a special thing it is to be an American.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/48474414-5864-4de8-921e-d2d51de82bdd.htm>

“John McCain has proposed comprehensive health care reforms that will reduce the growth in Medicare spending, protect seniors against rising Medicare premium payments, and preserve the advancements in medical science central to providing quality care.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/Issues/0b8e4db8-5b0c-459f-97ea-d7b542a78235.htm>

“John McCain will repeal the 54-cents-per-gallon tax on imported sugar-based ethanol, increasing competition and lowering prices of gasoline at the pump.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Issues/JobsforAmerica/relief.htm>

“[John McCain] will ... establish [a] permanent tax credit equal to 10% of wages spent on R&D:”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/56dd9cf4-3487-4aa3-8bc3-58a2731d1703.htm>

“John McCain will prohibit new cellular telephone taxes.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/56dd9cf4-3487-4aa3-8bc3-58a2731d1703.htm>

“John McCain will provide the leadership necessary to control spending, including ... [e]liminating [e]armarks, [w]asteful [s]ubsidies [a]nd [p]ork-[b]arrel [s]pending.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/b61edf42-a65d-4c4d-b038-6123db8fc2a5.htm>