**Policy Details**

|  |
| --- |
| **Weekly Legislative Update** |
| 04-28-2008 |
| **On the Hill****Final Budget Resolution may rest on Tuesday meeting of House “Blue Dog” Democrats** The House “Blue Dog” Democrats have been committed to getting reconciliation instructions included in the final budget resolution for an offset AMT patch. These provisions were included in the House budget resolution but not in the Senate’s, which does not have the votes necessary to pass a final budget resolution with such provisions. The Blue Dogs will be meeting on Tuesday to consider alternatives to reconciliation instructions that will ensure that pay-as-you-go rules are adhered to during the appropriations process. Reconciliation instructions for the AMT patch remain a major obstacle in negotiations of the final budget resolution.**Senate committee holds hearing on surface transportation financing mechanisms** The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held a hearing last week with members of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Commission. The questions focused on financing mechanisms laid out in the report, particularly in light of recently introduced legislation by Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) which calls for a summer “gas tax holiday.” The Commission Study had previously recommended an increase in the gas tax in order to support necessary transportation infrastructure maintenance and improvements. Jack Schenendorf, vice chairman of the commission told the Committee that “suspending taxes just sends the wrong signal” about the needs of our infrastructure.**Calendar** |