Congress Has Multiple Options to Complete Budget

Hypothetical Budget Outcomes: Funding Categories and Duration

- **Regular Order**: A regular order budget consists of 12 separate appropriations bills funding programs through a full fiscal year.

- **Omnibus**: An omnibus budget combines unfinished appropriations categories into one bill and funds programs through a full fiscal year.

- **Continuing Resolution (CR)**: A CR funds all programs for a finite amount of time.

**Description**
- Regular Order: A regular order budget consists of 12 separate appropriations bills funding programs through a full fiscal year.
- Omnibus: An omnibus budget combines unfinished appropriations categories into one bill and funds programs through a full fiscal year.
- CR: A CR funds all programs for a finite amount of time.

**Conditions for Use**
- Regular Order: Used when all subcommittees successfully negotiate individual program funding levels.
- Omnibus: Used when regular order fails but a full fiscal year budget with some funding changes is still desired and can be agreed upon.
- CR: Used when regular order fails and funding changes cannot be agreed upon; keeps government open.

**Funding Flexibility**
- Regular Order: Flexible; funding levels and designations from prior years can be adjusted to fit current needs.
- Omnibus: Flexible; funding levels and designations from prior years can be adjusted to fit current needs.
- CR: Inflexible; continues current spending levels and designations for the time period of the resolution.

*Sources: National Journal Research, 2014*