



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 18, 2009

S. 49

Public Corruption Prosecution Improvements Act

As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on March 12, 2009

SUMMARY

S. 49 would broaden the coverage of current laws against public corruption and would increase penalties for such offenses. The legislation would expand the number of offenses relative to fraud committed by public officials that could be federally prosecuted. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$25 million for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2013 mostly for the Department of Justice to investigate and prosecute violators of the bill's provisions.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$100 million over the 2010-2014 period. S. 49 could affect direct spending and revenues, but we estimate that any such effects would not be significant.

S. 49 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 49 is shown in the following table. CBO assumes that the amounts authorized by the bill will be appropriated by the start of each fiscal year and that outlays will follow the historical rate of spending for similar activities. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2010-2014
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	25	25	25	25	0	100
Estimated Outlays	15	25	25	25	10	100

In addition to the costs shown in the table, enacting S. 49 could increase collections of criminal fines for violations of the bill's provisions. CBO estimates that any additional collections would not be significant because of the relatively small number of additional cases likely to be affected. Criminal fines are recorded as revenues, deposited in the Crime Victims Fund, and subsequently spent without further appropriation.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 49 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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