



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 2, 2010

S. 1353

Dale Long Emergency Medical Service Providers Protection Act

*As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary
on December 3, 2009*

SUMMARY

S. 1353 would make members of certain rescue squads or ambulance crews eligible for benefits paid to public safety officers who die or are permanently disabled as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty. The bill also would cancel \$5 million from the unobligated balances of the Assets Forfeiture Fund of the Department of Justice (DOJ). CBO estimates that enacting the bill would increase direct spending by \$1 million over the 2010-2015 period and by \$6 million over the 2010-2020 period.¹ CBO also estimates that spending from appropriated funds would increase by less than \$500,000 in any year to make additional payments to disabled public safety officers.

Because enacting S. 1353 would affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply to the legislation. S. 1353 would not affect revenues.

S. 1353 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1353 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

1. Different time periods apply for the current pay-as-you-go rules in the House of Representatives and the Senate. Enacting the bill would have no significant impact on direct spending over the 2010-2014 period and would increase direct spending by \$5 million over the 2010-2019 period.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars											2010-	2010-
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2020
CHANGES IN DIRECT SPENDING ^a													
Public Safety Officers Death Benefits													
Estimated Budget Authority	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	11
Estimated Outlays	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	11
Assets Forfeiture Fund													
Estimated Budget Authority	-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-5	-5
Estimated Outlays	-2	-2	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-5	-5
Total Changes													
Estimated Budget Authority	-4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Estimated Outlays	-1	-1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6

a. In addition, CBO estimates that spending from appropriated funds would increase by less than \$500,000 in any year to make additional payments to disabled public safety officers.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

Under current law, the families of public safety officers (including members of publicly operated rescue squads or ambulance crews) who have died as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty are eligible for a one-time payment of about \$310,000. Public safety officers who have been permanently disabled are eligible for the same payment; however, this payment is subject to the availability of appropriations. S. 1353 would extend this benefit to members of rescue squads or ambulance crews operated by nonprofit entities. Currently, such individuals are not considered eligible for the payment. The bill's provisions would apply to incidents occurring on or after June 1, 2009.

During the past five years, about 20 members of nonprofit rescue squads or ambulance crews have died in the line of duty. Based on this experience, CBO expects that a few persons each year, on average, would be affected by the provisions of S. 1353. Thus, we estimate that enacting the bill would increase direct spending by about \$1 million annually. (The cost could be less than \$500,000 in some years and could exceed \$1 million in others.) Also, we estimate that spending from appropriated funds would increase by less than \$500,000 in any year to make additional payments to disabled public safety officers.

S. 1353 would cancel \$5 million from the unobligated balances of the DOJ Assets Forfeiture Fund. CBO estimates that this cancellation would reduce direct spending by \$2 million in 2010 and 2011 and by \$1 million in 2012.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. The net changes in outlays and revenues that are subject to those pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in the following table.

CBO Estimate of Pay-As-You-Go Effects for S. 1353, as reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on December 3, 2009

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars												2010-	2010-
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2020	
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (-) IN THE DEFICIT														
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	-1	-1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	

Note: Numbers may not sum to totals because of rounding.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1353 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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