



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

April 22, 2010

S. 3111
Faster FOIA Act of 2010

As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on April 19, 2010

S. 3111 would establish a commission to identify methods for reducing delays in processing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. The commission also would investigate the recent increase in the number of exemptions from FOIA that agencies have issued to prevent the release of information. The 16-member commission would have one year to report its findings and recommendations. Members would be appointed within 60 days of enactment and would serve without pay but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. The commission would terminate 30 days after submitting its final report. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) would provide staff for the commission.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 3111 would cost about \$1 million, mostly in fiscal year 2011. That estimate assumes that the commission would employ approximately 10 GAO employees for about a year. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 3111 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.