



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 13, 2010

H.R. 305 **Horse Transportation Safety Act of 2009**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
on July 29, 2010*

H.R. 305 would prohibit the interstate transportation of horses in motor vehicles containing two or more levels and establishes a civil penalty for violators. Because CBO expects that few penalties would be imposed and that enforcement of this new prohibition would occur as part of current safety reviews of commercial vehicles, we estimate that enacting H.R. 305 would have no significant impact on the federal budget.

Pay-as-you-go procedures apply to the legislation because the bill would create a new civil penalty of \$500 for violations of the law. Civil fines are recorded in the budget as revenues and deposited into the general fund of the Treasury. Based on information from the Department of Transportation, CBO estimates that the number of violations would be small and would not result in a significant impact on the federal budget.

H.R. 305 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The prohibitions in H.R. 305 would impose a private-sector mandate, as defined in UMRA. That mandate would primarily affect entities that transport horses to rodeos or feeding centers. Based on information from the United States Department of Agriculture and industry experts, CBO estimates that the cost of the mandate would fall below the annual threshold established in UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$141 million in 2010, adjusted annually for inflation).

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