



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 7, 2010

S. 987 **International Protecting Girls by Preventing** **Child Marriage Act of 2010**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
on September 21, 2010*

S. 987 would authorize the President to provide assistance to developing countries to reduce the incidence of child marriage and would require him to develop and implement a multiyear strategy to prevent such marriages and to promote the empowerment of girls. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$67 million over the 2011-2015 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting S. 987 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to this legislation.

S. 987 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.

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 987 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 150 (international affairs). For this estimate, CBO assumes that the estimated authorizations will be appropriated each fiscal year and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for similar and existing programs.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2011- 2015
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	21	21	21	22	22	108
Estimated Outlays	1	10	16	19	20	67

Note: Components do not sum to totals because of rounding.

The bill would require the President to target assistance to countries that have rates of child marriage exceeding 40 percent and to replicate or expand successful efforts to prevent child marriages. According to the International Center for Research on Women, 21 countries—mostly in Africa—have rates of child marriage that are at least that high. Based on information from the U.S. Agency for International Development on current programs to prevent child marriage, CBO estimates that the agency would require annual appropriations of \$1 million per country to implement similar or expanded programs in the 21 high-priority countries, for a total of \$21 million in 2011 and \$107 million over the 2011-2015 period. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$66 million over the 2011-2015 period. (The remainder would be spent after 2015.)

CBO estimates that the administrative costs of implementing the bill's requirements to develop and carry out a multiyear strategy to prevent child marriage and to submit reports to the Congress would cost less than \$500,000 each year and would total \$1 million over the 2011-2015 period, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Sunita D'Monte. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.