



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

January 29, 2008

H.R. 2517

Protecting Our Children Comes First Act of 2007

As passed by the House of Representatives on December 5, 2007

SUMMARY

H.R. 2517 would authorize the appropriation of \$40 million for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as necessary for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2013 for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to continue funding the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). The act also would authorize the appropriation of such sums as necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013 for other DOJ programs to prevent the abduction of children and assist the families of missing children. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2517 would cost about \$260 million over the 2008-2013 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 2517 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 2517 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law for Programs Authorized by H.R. 2517						
Budget Authority ^a	50	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	48	38	23	14	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	15	67	69	71	73	75
Estimated Outlays	3	19	38	54	70	72
Spending Under H.R. 2517						
Budget Authority/Estimated Authorization Level ^a	65	67	69	71	73	75
Estimated Outlays	51	57	61	68	70	72

a. The 2008 level is the amount appropriated for that year for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and other programs authorized by the act.

For fiscal year 2008, the Congress appropriated a total of \$50 million for NCMEC and the other missing children programs authorized by H.R. 2517. Based on appropriations in recent years, we expect that \$25 million of that total will be provided for NCMEC, so H.R. 2517 would require additional 2008 funding of \$15 million. CBO estimated the authorization levels for 2009 through 2013 for the programs authorized by the act by adjusting the 2008 funding level for anticipated inflation.

CBO assumes that the amounts authorized by the act will be appropriated by the beginning of each fiscal year, except 2008, for which supplemental appropriations would be required, and that outlays will follow the historical spending rates for those activities.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 2517 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On January 22, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1829, the Protect Our Children First Act of 2007, as reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on December 13, 2007. CBO estimated that implementing that bill would cost about \$185 million over the 2009-2013 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

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