



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

April 1, 2008

**H.R. 3825
Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2008**

As reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on March 13, 2008

SUMMARY

H.R. 3825 would amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grant programs and other initiatives to promote expanded screening of newborns and children for heritable diseases.

CBO estimates that the act would authorize the appropriation of \$47 million for 2009 and \$229 million over the 2009-2013 period. Assuming the appropriation of those amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the act would cost \$24 million in 2009 and \$199 million over the 2009-2013 period. H.R. 3825 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 3825 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3825 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 550 (health).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
HRSA Activities					
Authorization Level	39	39	39	40	40
Estimated Outlays	20	35	37	40	40
CDC Activities					
Authorization Level	6	6	6	6	6
Estimated Outlays	2	5	6	6	6
Contingency Planning (CDC and HRSA)					
Estimated Authorization Level	2	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	2	0	0	0	0
Total Changes Under					
Estimated Authorization Level	47	45	45	46	46
Estimated Outlays	24	40	43	46	46

Note: HRSA = Health Resources and Services Administration; CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

The activities authorized under H.R. 3825 would be carried out by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The estimate is based on historical spending patterns for similar activities, and assumes that the authorized amounts would be appropriated near the beginning of each fiscal year.

The act would direct HRSA to establish grant programs to promote expanded screening of newborns and children for heritable diseases, and to establish a clearinghouse on heritable diseases. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$39 million for 2009 and \$197 million over the 2009-2013 period for those activities. CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would cost \$20 million in 2009 and \$172 million over the 2009-2013 period.

H.R. 3825 also would authorize CDC to implement programs to promote quality in clinical laboratories that test for heritable diseases and to create a surveillance program for heritable disorders. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$6 million for 2009 and \$30 million over the 2009-2013 period. CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would cost \$2 million in 2009 and \$25 million over the 2009-2013 period.

In addition, the act would direct CDC and HRSA to collaborate to create a national contingency plan for newborn screening in the event of a public health disaster. CBO estimates that it would cost \$2 million in 2009 to develop that plan, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 3825 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. State and local governments that participate in newborn and child screening programs would benefit from funds authorized by the bill.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On April 1, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate of S. 1858, the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2007, as passed by the Senate on December 13, 2007. The two bills are very similar, except that S. 1858 would authorize appropriations for the 2008-2012 period (rather than the 2009-2013 period specified in H.R. 3825). CBO's estimate for S. 1858 differs from that for H.R. 3825 because the amounts specified for appropriation in each year are different.

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