



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

June 27, 2008

**S. 2756**

**Child Protection Improvements Act of 2008**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on May 22, 2008*

**SUMMARY**

S. 2756 would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million for fiscal year 2008 for a Department of Justice (DOJ) program to perform background checks for volunteers and employees of organizations that provide services to children. The bill also would authorize the appropriation of \$1 million annually over the 2009-2013 period for a DOJ program to help these organizations interpret criminal histories.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2756 would cost \$10 million over the 2009-2013 period. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 2756 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.

**ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budget impact of S. 2756 is shown in the following table. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2009- 2013
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Program for Youth Service Organization						
Background Checks						
Estimated Authorization Level	5	0	0	0	0	5
Estimated Outlays	4	1	0	0	0	5
Program to Assist Youth Service Organizations in Interpreting Criminal Histories						
Authorization Level	1	1	1	1	1	5
Estimated Outlays	1	1	1	1	1	5
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	6	1	1	1	1	10
Estimated Outlays	5	2	1	1	1	10

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

The bill's authorization of a \$5 million appropriation for background checks could be provided in either 2008 or a subsequent year. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the initial \$5 million in funding will be provided for fiscal year 2009 to assist youth service organizations with background checks. CBO assumes that the necessary amounts will be appropriated by the start of each fiscal year and that spending will follow the historical spending patterns for similar activities.

In addition, S. 2756 would permit DOJ to collect fees to provide background checks and to carry out other provisions in the bill. We expect that such fees would be classified as offsetting collections and would be credited to the salaries and expenses appropriation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). This is the same budgetary treatment accorded to fees currently collected by the FBI. We estimate that the collections and spending of these fees would have no significant net effect on discretionary spending in any year.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 2756 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. To the extent that this bill

would result in organizations using the federal program instead of state programs to obtain criminal history checks for their employees and volunteers, it could result in lost revenues from fees for some states.

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