



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

July 10, 2008

**H.R. 3815
Homeland Security Open Source
Information Enhancement Act of 2008**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Homeland Security on June 26, 2008

H.R. 3815 would authorize the appropriation of whatever sums are necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013 for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to establish a program to collect and analyze open source (publicly available) information and disseminate reports and other products based on that analysis. The bill would direct the department to focus those efforts on foreign terrorist organizations and vulnerabilities of the nation's infrastructure. Based on information from DHS, CBO expects that the department would hire about 10 people to carry out the activities required by the bill. We estimate that the additional staff would cost about \$1 million annually over the 2009-2013 period, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 3815 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.

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