



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

January 10, 2012

**S. 1108
10 Million Solar Roofs Act of 2011**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on December 15, 2011*

SUMMARY

S. 1108 would direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program to support efforts by state and local governments to develop best practices to use in permitting certain solar energy projects. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1108 would cost \$109 million over the 2012-2017 period. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to this legislation because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 1108 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 S. 1108 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 270 (energy).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars						2012-2017
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION							
Authorization Level	0	0	50	50	50	0	150
Estimated Outlays	0	0	14	26	37	32	109

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

S. 1108 would authorize the appropriation of \$50 million annually over the 2012-2016 period for the Secretary of Energy to make grants to state and local governments to support efforts to standardize and improve the efficiency of local permitting processes for solar energy projects with less than one megawatt of capacity. The bill would specify terms and conditions for the use of such grants and require the Secretary of Energy to report to the Congress on the program's impact.

To carry out those activities, S. 1108 would authorize the Secretary to use funds already authorized to be appropriated under section 399A of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. That provision authorizes appropriations totaling \$250 million in each of fiscal years 2012 and 2013 for grants and loans to local governments and other public institutions for a variety of energy-related activities; no funds are authorized for those purposes in later years. Thus, relative to current law, S. 1108 would authorize no net increase in funding in 2012 and 2013 but would effectively authorize the appropriation of \$50 million in each of fiscal years 2014 through 2016. Assuming appropriation of those amounts, CBO estimates that resulting spending would total \$109 million through 2017, with \$41 million in additional spending occurring in later years.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1108 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined UMRA. Local governments would benefit from grants authorized in the bill. Any costs to those governments would be incurred voluntarily as conditions of federal assistance.

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