



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

May 10, 2012

S. 1763
Stand Against Violence and Empower Native Women Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on December 8, 2011

SUMMARY

S. 1763 would amend various laws and programs related to violence against Native American women. The legislation would expand grants to tribal governments and tribal coalitions for programs to strengthen criminal justice and law enforcement capabilities related to violence against women. Additionally, S. 1763 would expand penalties for certain violent crimes.

Based on information from the Department of Justice and the Department of the Interior, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1763 would cost \$192 million over the 2012-2017 period, subject to appropriation of the necessary funds.

Enacting S. 1763 also would affect direct spending and revenues because those prosecuted and convicted under the bill could be subject to criminal fines; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. Criminal fines are recorded as revenues, deposited in the Crime Victims Fund, and later spent. CBO expects that any additional revenues and direct spending would not be significant because of the small number of cases likely affected.

S. 1763 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 budgetary impact of S. 1763 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 450 (community and regional development).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars						2012- 2017
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION							
Estimated Authorization Level	39	40	39	40	40	41	239
Estimated Outlays	6	28	39	39	40	40	192

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 1763 will be enacted in 2012, that the necessary funds will be provided for each year, and that spending will follow historical patterns for similar programs.

Spending Subject to Appropriation

S. 1763 would authorize \$1 million for each of fiscal years 2012 and 2013 for a baseline study of violence against Native American women to be completed within three years of enactment. The legislation also would authorize whatever sums are necessary for grants to tribal governments or their designees to improve law enforcement, the court system, and detention facilities. In 2012, about \$38 million was appropriated for similar grants to tribal governments.

Assuming that spending for grants under S. 1763 would be in line with existing grant programs, that they would supplement rather than supplant those grants, and that appropriations would be provided as necessary each year, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$192 million over the 2012-2017 period.

Direct Spending and Revenues

S. 1763 would establish new federal crimes, broaden the coverage of existing crimes related to violence against women in tribal areas, and expand existing penalties. Enacting the bill could increase collections of criminal fines (which are recorded in the budget as revenues) for violations of the bill's provisions. CBO estimates that any additional collections would not be significant because of the relatively small number of additional cases likely to be affected. Criminal fines are recorded as revenues, deposited in the Crime Victims Fund, and subsequently spent without further appropriation.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1763 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 March 29, 2012, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1925, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2011, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on February 7, 2012. Title IX of S. 1925 contains provisions very similar to those in S. 1763, and the cost estimates reflect the difference in the authorized levels of funding.

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