



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

March 27, 2009

**H.R. 151
Daniel Webster Congressional Clerkship Act of 2009**

*As ordered reported by the Committee on House Administration
On March 25, 2009*

H.R. 151 would direct the House of Representatives and the Senate to hire a total of 12 law-school graduates as clerks for one-year terms. The clerks would be compensated at the same rate as clerks employed by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. For this purpose, the bill would authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary for fiscal year 2010 and each year thereafter.

Assuming the availability of appropriated funds, CBO estimates that carrying out H.R. 151 would cost about \$1 million a year beginning in 2010. This estimate is based on the assumption that most of the first group of clerks would be hired near the beginning of that year. Based on information provided by the U.S. courts, we expect that each clerk would receive a salary of about \$60,000 plus benefits. Enacting the bill would have no effect on revenues or direct spending.

H.R. 151 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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