



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

September 4, 2001

**H.R. 1042**

**An act to prevent the elimination of certain reports**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs  
on August 2, 2001*

H.R. 1042 would reinstate the requirement for federal agencies to prepare certain reports. Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost about \$3 million in 2002 and an average of \$1 million annually thereafter. Because the legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 1042 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-66) terminated many periodic reports that federal agencies were required to submit to the Congress, effective May 15, 2000. This bill would restore the statutory requirements for 29 specific reports. According to the affected agencies, most of the reports are still being prepared in response to other statutory or administrative directives. At least two major reports have been terminated, however: the National Energy Plan (prepared by the Department of Energy), and the Great Lakes research report (prepared by the Department of Commerce). Based on information from the Energy Department, CBO estimates that preparing the energy plan would cost an average of \$2 million every two years. CBO estimates that the Department of Commerce would spend about \$1 million in 2002 to develop the information required for the initial Great Lakes research plan. Annual costs would decline in future years as the report becomes routine. The cost of preparing other reports affected by this legislation is not expected to be significant.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Julie Middleton. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.