



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

November 7, 1997

**S. 1115
Comprehensive One-Call Notification Act of 1997**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
on November 4, 1997*

SUMMARY

S. 1115 would authorize the appropriation of \$6 million over fiscal years 1999 and 2000 for a one-call notification program that would provide states with grants to improve existing "one-call" systems already in place in certain states and localities. A one-call notification system is a central tracking system that excavators can use to avoid damaging underground facilities such as natural gas pipelines and other utilities. S. 1115 would require the Secretary of Transportation to report to the Congress on the implementation of the new one-call program and on the best practices for preventing damages to underground facilities and for providing effective and efficient notification service to excavators and operators of such facilities.

Because the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 1115 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments except as a condition of receiving federal grants.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1115 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 400 (transportation).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002

CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION

Estimated Authorization Level	a	1	5	0	0
Estimated Outlays	a	a	3	2	1

a. Less than \$500,000.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For purposes of this estimate, CBO assumes that the amounts authorized in the bill will be appropriated before the start of each fiscal year for grants to states: \$1 million for 1999 and \$5 million for 2000. In addition, the bill would authorize the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for administration for fiscal years 1998, 1999, and 2000. But based on information from the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), CBO estimates that the cost of completing the reports and studies on the new program would be negligible.

ESTIMATED IMPACT ON STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

S. 1115 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments except as a condition of receiving federal grants. Currently, all states except Alaska and Hawaii have one-call notification programs in place. This legislation would encourage uniformity among the various programs, but any additional costs would be minimal.

ESTIMATED IMPACT ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR

This bill would impose no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

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