

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 6, 2004

S. 1194

Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act of 2004

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on September 30, 2004

SUMMARY

S. 1194 would authorize the appropriation of \$50 million for fiscal year 2005 and such sums as may be necessary for the 2006-2009 period for the Department of Justice to make grants to state and local governments to improve the treatment of criminal offenders with mental illnesses or substance abuse disorders. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$172 million over the 2005-2009 period, assuming the appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting S. 1194 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 1194 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). The creation of a new grant for mental health programs in the state, local, or tribal justice systems would benefit those governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1194 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the authorized amounts will be appropriated near the start of each fiscal year and that outlays will follow the historical rate of spending for similar programs. For the 2006-2009 authorization levels, CBO estimated the necessary funding levels by adjusting the fiscal year 2005 authorization level for anticipated inflation. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Estimated Authorization Level	50	51	52	53	55
Estimated Outlays	11	26	37	45	53

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1194 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would benefit state, local, and tribal governments by authorizing a joint grant program between those justice systems and social service providers. These grants could be used for planning and implementing alternative court systems for defendants with mental illness, creating training and treatment programs, and coordinating efforts of state and local governments. Any costs to those governments would be incurred voluntarily as conditions of receiving federal aid.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On October 28, 2003, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1194, as reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on October 23, 2003. The two versions of the bill are similar, though the authorization levels and timing of the authorizations differ and the cost estimates reflect those differences.

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