



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

September 3, 2004

S. 1230
Homeland Security Geographic Information Act of 2004
As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs on July 21, 2004

S. 1230 would amend the Homeland Security Act to require the Chief Information Officer (CIO) at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to establish an Office of Geospatial Management to oversee the efficient use and coordination of the department’s geographic information. In addition, the CIO’s office would be responsible for leading and coordinating the geographic needs of the department’s emergency planning and critical infrastructure protection efforts.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1230 would cost \$4 million in 2005 and \$70 million over the 2005-2009 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues. S. 1230 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. 1230 is shown in the following table. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 800 (general government).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Estimated Authorization Level	5	10	15	20	25
Estimated Outlays	4	9	14	19	24

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted near the start of fiscal year 2005 and that spending will follow historical patterns for similar programs.

DHS currently has a Geospatial Management Office within the CIO's office. According to that office, it is working with limited authority to coordinate the agency's geospatial activities. This work includes surveying the existing geospatial capabilities of DHS agencies and emergency management needs. Since its inception, the office has spent about \$1 million to perform its current responsibilities.

S. 1230 would codify and expand the current duties of the CIO's office to provide geographic information and technology. This includes all information systems within DHS that involve locational data including maps. That office would ensure that geographic information to plan, prevent, and respond to emergencies is available to all DHS agencies, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Infrastructure Protection Center. The office also would assure the interoperability of the department's geographic information systems.

Based on information from DHS, CBO estimates that the new office would eventually need about \$25 million a year to carry out its responsibilities under S. 1230. CBO expects that the office would steadily expand its budget and staff over three to four years before it reached that level of effort. We estimate that implementing the bill would cost \$70 million over the 2005-2009 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1230 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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