



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

June 26, 2008

**S. 1779
Tribal Health Promotion and Tribal Colleges and Universities
Advancement Act of 2007**

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on April 24, 2008

SUMMARY

S. 1779 would authorize the appropriation of \$51 million annually over the 2009-2017 period for grants to tribal colleges and universities for a variety of disease prevention and health promotion activities. CBO estimates that implementing S. 1779 would have discretionary costs of \$189 million over the 2009-2013 period and \$444 million over the 2009-2018 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. CBO also estimates that enacting the bill would increase direct spending by \$4 million over the 2009-2013 period and \$18 million over the 2009-2018 period.

S. 1779 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1779 is shown in the following table. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 550 (health).

By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2009- 2013	2009- 2018
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CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION

Grants to Tribal Colleges and Universities to Prevent Disease and Promote Health

Authorization Level	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	0	257	462
Estimated Outlays	3	38	47	51	51	51	51	51	51	49	189	444

CHANGES IN DIRECT SPENDING

Tribal College and University Rural Health Equity Endowment Fund

Estimated Budget Authority	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	4	0	6	19
Estimated Outlays	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	18

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 1779 will be enacted in late 2008 and implemented in 2009, that the authorized amounts will be provided for each year, and that spending will follow historical patterns for similar programs.

Spending Subject to Appropriation

S. 1779 would authorize the appropriation of specified amounts for grants to tribal colleges and universities for a variety of disease prevention and health promotion activities. The bill would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to provide grants to promote community-based health and wellness fairs, health promotion and disease prevention programs, construction and renovation of community wellness centers, and development and expansion of public health professional degree programs in public health. The bill also would establish within HHS the Office on Tribal College and University Programs to administer the programs authorized by the bill and coordinate activities relating to tribal colleges and universities. Based on historical spending patterns for grants to minority institutions of higher education, CBO estimates that implementing these provisions would cost \$189 million over the 2009-2013 period and \$444 million over the 2009-2018 period.

Direct Spending

S. 1779 would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to establish the Tribal College and University Rural Health Equity Endowment Fund. The bill would appropriate \$9 million per year to the fund for fiscal years 2009 through 2017 and would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to invest the amounts in interest-bearing obligations of the United States. On the last day of each fiscal year, the bill would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer the interest earned on the amounts in the fund to the Secretary of HHS, who in turn would be directed to distribute the funds to tribal colleges and universities for the purpose of establishing endowments for training programs for health care professionals. CBO estimates that direct spending from these endowments would be \$4 million over the 2009-2013 period and \$18 million over the 2009-2018 period.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1779 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the UMRA. Tribal governments and entities, including tribal colleges and universities, would benefit from the grant programs authorized in the bill.

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