



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

September 25, 1998

**H.R. 1833**

**The Tribal Self-Governance Amendments of 1998**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on March 25, 1998*

CBO estimates that H.R. 1833 would increase authorizations of appropriations by less than \$500,000 during 1999 and 2000. Because enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, and tribal governments.

H.R. 1833 would amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to establish a permanent tribal self-governance program within the Indian Health Service (IHS). Under existing demonstration authority, the IHS and tribes enter into funding agreements whereby the tribe assumes administrative and programmatic duties that were previously performed by the federal government. Because the current demonstration authority does not end until 2006, and because the provisions of the new permanent program would not be significantly different from current law, CBO estimates that establishing a permanent program would have no federal budgetary impact over fiscal years 1998 to 2003. Under the existing demonstration program, IHS may select 30 new tribes each year to participate. Under the bill, the number would be raised to 50. Because in recent years fewer than 10 new tribes each year have become eligible to participate, CBO assumes that this change in law would have no effect.

H.R. 1833 would authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1999 and 2000 for the IHS to conduct a study and report to Congress on the feasibility of expanding self-governance compacts to include programs operated by units of the Department of Health and Human Services other than the IHS. CBO estimates that this study would cost less than \$500,000.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Dorothy Rosenbaum. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.