

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 27, 2007

S. 1845 Security from Political Interference in Justice Act of 2007

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on September 20, 2007

S. 1845 would require biannual reports on communications between White House and Department of Justice (DOJ) employees regarding ongoing civil or criminal matters. Under the bill, the White House and DOJ would report to the Congress the names of its employees who engaged in those communications. The bill would provide a reporting exemption for communications between officials specified in the bill. Those officials would include the attorney general, deputy attorney general, and the associate attorney general within DOJ, and the President, Vice President, White House counsel, and counselor to the President.

CBO estimates that the cost of implementing S. 1845 would be insignificant. Any such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 1845 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Leigh Angres. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.