



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 10, 2006

H.R. 1871 **Volunteer Pilot Organization Protection Act of 2006**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on March 2, 2006

H.R. 1871 would provide immunity to volunteer pilot organizations, their employees, officers, and volunteer pilots from liability in certain civil suits alleging harm resulting from such individuals acting within the scope of the organization's mission. Such organizations typically provide wilderness rescue or medical evacuation services.

CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would result in no significant costs to the federal government. Enacting H.R. 1871 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 1871 contains an intergovernmental mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA), but CBO estimates that the resulting costs, if any, would not be significant and would be well below the threshold established in that act (\$64 million in 2006, adjusted annually for inflation). The bill contains no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

H.R. contains an intergovernmental mandate because it would preempt certain state liability laws. Specifically, the bill would exempt volunteer pilots and volunteer pilot organizations from liability under state tort laws for injuries that may occur during the course of their volunteer activities. CBO estimates that the resulting costs, if any, would not be significant and would be well below the threshold established in UMRA.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Gregory Waring (for federal costs) and Melissa Merrell (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.