



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 28, 1999

### **H.R. 1882**

#### **Small Business Review Panel Technical Amendments Act of 1999**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Small Business on May 25, 1999*

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1882 would cost about \$2 million each year over the 2000-2004 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. H.R. 1882 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The bill 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.

Under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (SBREFA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) must convene panels, prior to publishing regulations, to analyze the potential impact of those regulations on small businesses. Panels consist of employees of the agency proposing the regulation, the Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Panels collect advice from representatives of the small business that would be affected and submit a report to the agency proposing the regulation.

H.R. 1882 would amend SBREFA to include the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), thus requiring that agency to convene panels to analyze some of the regulations it intends to issue. The bill also would change the panel process by allowing small business representatives to make oral presentations to panels, extending the period of review, requiring agencies to print reports by panels in the Federal Register, and making agencies provide more information.

Based on the number of regulations the IRS expects to issue each year and the experiences of EPA and OSHA, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1882 would cost the IRS less than \$2 million a year. (We expect that the bill would apply to fewer than 10 IRS regulations each year.) In addition, CBO estimates that implementing the changes to the panel review process would cost EPA, OSHA, OMB, and SBA less than \$500,000 a year.

The CBO staff contacts are Mark Hadley, and Cynthia Dudzinski. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.