



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

December 3, 1999

**H.R. 2280**  
**Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 1999**

*As cleared by the Congress on November 19, 1999*

H.R. 2280, enacted as Public Law 106-118, will increase the amounts paid in 2000 to veterans for disability compensation and to their survivors for dependency and indemnity compensation by the same cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) payable to Social Security recipients, an increase of 2.4 percent. The increase took effect on December 1, 1999, and the results of the adjustment will be rounded to the next lower dollar.

CBO estimates that the COLA increase will add about \$314 million to outlays in 2000 and about \$377 million a year to outlays thereafter. However, a COLA equal to that payable to Social Security recipients is assumed in the budget resolution baseline, pursuant to section 257 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, and savings from rounding it down were achieved by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-33). As a result, the act will have no budgetary effect relative to the baseline and will not affect pay-as-you-go scoring.

This estimate was prepared by Evan Christman. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.