



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

June 19, 2006

S. 2321

Louis Braille Bicentennial—Braille Literacy Commemorative Coin Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing,
and Urban Affairs on June 14, 2006*

S. 2321 would authorize the U.S. Mint to produce a \$1 silver coin in calendar year 2009 to commemorate the life and legacy of Louis Braille. The legislation would specify a surcharge of \$10 on the sale of each coin and would designate the National Federation of the Blind (NFB), a membership organization, to receive the income from the surcharge to further its programs to promote Braille literacy. CBO estimates that enacting S. 2321 would have no significant net impact on the budget over the 2007-2012 period.

Sales from the coins that would be authorized by S. 2321 could raise as much as \$4 million in surcharges if the Mint sells the maximum number of authorized coins. However, the experience of recent commemorative coin sales suggests that receipts would be about \$3 million. Those receipts would be recorded in the budget as offsetting receipts, mostly in fiscal year 2009. By law, the Mint must ensure that it does not lose money producing commemorative coins before transferring any surcharges to a recipient organization. CBO expects that condition would be met and that receipts from the surcharges would be transferred to the NFB in fiscal year 2012.

S. 2321 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 Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.