

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 27, 2001

H.R. 2505 Human Cloning Prohibition Act of 2001

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 24, 2001

H.R. 2505 would prohibit any person or entity from performing or attempting to perform human cloning, participating in the human cloning process, or shipping or importing an embryo produced by human cloning. Anyone prosecuted and convicted under H.R. 2505 would be subject to both criminal and civil fines and up to 10 years in prison. Collections of criminal and civil penalties are recorded in the budget as governmental receipts (revenues). Criminal fines are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and spent in subsequent years. Because H.R. 2505 could affect direct spending and receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. Based on information from the Department of Justice, CBO expects there is little likelihood that many cases would be prosecuted under the bill. Therefore, CBO estimates that enacting this legislation would have a negligible effect on receipts and direct spending.

H.R. 2505 would impose an intergovernmental and private-sector mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) because it would prohibit public and private entities from performing human cloning as defined in the bill. According to government and industry sources, there is limited, if any, human cloning currently being performed by public or private entities. CBO, therefore, estimates that the bill would impose minimal costs on state, local, or tribal governments, or the private sector. Thus, the direct costs of the mandate would not exceed the thresholds established by UMRA (\$56 million for intergovernmental mandates and \$113 million for private-sector mandates in 2001, adjusted annually for inflation).

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Lanette J. Walker (for federal costs), Shelley Finlayson (for the state and local impact), and Paige Piper/Bach (for the private-sector). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.