



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

April 15, 2008

**S. 2606**

**United States Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security  
and Governmental Affairs on April 10, 2008*

**SUMMARY**

S. 2606 would reauthorize the United States Fire Administration (USFA) through 2012. The USFA conducts research and development on fire-related technology, collects and disseminates information about fire and other emergency incidents, and provides training to firefighters and emergency responders. Based on historical expenditure data and assuming appropriation of the specified amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2606 would cost \$291 million over the 2009-2013 period. Enacting this legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 2606 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

**ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 2606 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 450 (community and regional development).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Spending Under Current Law for the U.S. Fire Administration						
Budget Authority	43	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	42	13	0	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	70	72	74	76	0
Estimated Outlays	0	49	71	73	75	23
Spending Under S. 2606 for the U.S. Fire Administration						
Authorization Level	43	70	72	74	76	0
Estimated Outlays	42	62	71	73	75	23

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

S. 2606 would authorize the appropriation of \$292 million over the 2009-2013 period for the USFA to carry out research and development activities related to fire technology, collect and disseminate information through the National Fire Data Center, and provide training to firefighters and emergency responders. Such funding would include up to \$5 million over three years to upgrade the National Fire Incident Reporting System to accommodate real-time, Web-based incident reporting. In 2008, the Congress appropriated about \$43 million to the USFA (see Public Law 110-161).

S. 2606 also would expand several functions of the USFA. The bill would direct the National Fire Academy (NFA) to provide training to firefighters and emergency responders on: incidents occurring in the wildland-urban interface (areas where structures and other human development intersect with undeveloped land), multi-jurisdictional fires, hazardous materials incidents, and advanced emergency medical services. The bill would increase the amount of appropriated funds that could be used for training programs from 4 percent to 7.5 percent and would authorize the USFA to enter into contracts with certain organizations to provide on-site training. The bill also would direct USFA to issue several reports on the NFA curriculum and ongoing agency research.

Based on historical expenditure patterns, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2606 would cost \$291 million over the 2009-2013 period. This estimate assumes that the bill will be

enacted by the end of fiscal year 2008 and that the amounts authorized by the bill will be appropriated for each fiscal year.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 2606 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Those governments would benefit from the authorization of appropriations in this bill for grants, training, and technical assistance.

## **PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE**

On March 3, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 4847, the United States Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Science and Technology. The two bills are similar, and their estimated costs are identical.

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