



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 26, 1999

H.R. 46

Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 1999

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on March 24, 1999

H.R. 46 would authorize the award of a medal to public safety officers cited by the Attorney General for extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty. The bill would create a Medal of Valor Review Board composed of 11 members appointed by the Congress and the President. The board would be supported by a new office within the Department of Justice. It would be authorized to conduct hearings and collect information from federal agencies to evaluate the applications of prospective recipients and could recommend up to six candidates to the Attorney General each year.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 46 would cost about \$250,000 annually. CBO assumes that the board would rely primarily on hearings and testimony provided by witnesses and would meet no more than 10 days each year. We expect that the new office at the Department of Justice would provide only administrative services. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 46 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.