



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

July 12, 2002

H.R. 3215
Combating Illegal Gambling Reform and Modernization Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on June 18, 2002

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3215 would not result in any significant cost to the federal government. Enacting H.R. 3215 could affect direct spending and receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply to the bill, but CBO estimates that any such effects would not be significant. H.R. 3215 would impose both intergovernmental and private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. CBO's analysis of those mandates is contained in a separate statement on mandates.

H.R. 3215 would further restrict gambling businesses involving interstate or foreign commerce by prohibiting, with certain exceptions, the use of communications facilities to transmit bets or wagers or information assisting in the placing of bets or wagers. The bill would thus enable the federal government to pursue cases that it otherwise would not be able to prosecute. However, CBO expects that any increase in costs for law enforcement, court proceedings, or prison operations would not be significant because of the small number of additional cases likely to be affected. Any such costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Because those prosecuted and convicted under H.R. 3215 could be subject to criminal fines, the federal government might collect additional fines if the bill is enacted. Collections of such fines are recorded in the budget as governmental receipts (revenues), which are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and later spent. CBO expects that any additional receipts and direct spending would be negligible because of the small number of cases involved.

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