



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

May 23, 2003

**S. 686  
Poison Control Center Enhancement and Awareness Act  
Amendments of 2003**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
on May 14, 2003*

S. 686 would reauthorize the poison control program, which will expire in 2004, for the 2005-2009 period. That program, which is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration, provides grants to regional poison control centers, maintains a toll-free poison information number, and conducts media campaigns to promote poison prevention. In addition to those activities, the bill would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to help collect and analyze data from poison control centers.

The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$36 million in each of years 2005 through 2009 for the following purposes: \$30 million per year for grants to poison control centers, \$2 million per year for the maintenance of the toll-free number, \$1.5 million per year for the media campaign, and \$2.5 million for data analysis. Based on past spending for this program, CBO estimates that implementing S. 686 would cost \$11 million in 2005 and \$142 million over the 2005-2009 period, assuming the appropriation of the authorized amounts. Enacting S. 686 would have no effect on direct spending or receipts.

This legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. State, local, and tribal governments that operate poison control centers could benefit from some of the support activities authorized by the bill.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Alexis Ahlstrom. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.