



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

March 17, 2005

**H.R. 185**

**Program Assessment and Results Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Government Reform  
on March 10, 2005*

H.R. 185 would amend the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 to require the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to review, to the maximum extent practicable, each program activity in the federal government at least once every five years. The review, to be performed by government employees, would focus on the purpose, design, strategic plan, management, results, and other appropriate measures of each program. Results of those reviews would be submitted to the Congress.

Most of the provisions of H.R. 185 would codify and expand the current practices of OMB regarding federal program assessments. OMB currently reviews program performance through its Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) which was developed to assess and improve program performance throughout the federal government. Based on information from OMB, CBO estimates that implementing this bill would not significantly increase the ongoing costs of reviewing federal programs. To the extent that reviews lead to improved program performance, subsequent legislation could modify the budgets of federal program operations.

Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 185 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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