



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

May 5, 2005

**S. 898**

**Patient Navigator Outreach and Chronic Disease Prevention Act of 2005**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
on April 27, 2005*

S. 898 would amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants for the development and operation of programs that provide “patient navigator” services. Patient navigators assist patients in overcoming obstacles to the prompt diagnosis and treatment of health problems, in part by identifying sources of care and insurance, coordinating referrals, and facilitating enrollment in clinical trials. The bill also would require the Secretary to conduct a study and report to the Congress within six months of completion of the grant program.

The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$2 million in 2006, \$5 million in 2007, \$8 million in 2008, \$6.5 million in 2009, and \$3.5 million in 2010. Based on spending patterns for similar programs, and assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 898 would cost \$23 million from 2006 through 2010. The legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts.

S. 898 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. If state, local, or tribal governments choose to participate in the grant program as authorized by the bill, any costs resulting from grant conditions would be incurred voluntarily.

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