



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 5, 2007

H.R. 1068

A bill to amend the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science and Technology on
February 28, 2007*

H.R. 1068 would amend existing statutory guidelines for interagency research and development (R&D) within the National High-Performance Computing Program. The bill would realign program objectives with the current R&D priorities of individual agencies, repeal authorizations for activities that are technologically outdated, and emphasize more current issues, such as providing researchers sustained access to the most advanced computing systems in the world. In addition, the bill would direct the program's advisory committee to provide the Congress with an evaluation of program funding, management, and effectiveness at least once every two years.

Nondefense R&D on high-performance computing is conducted at six agencies: the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the National Institutes of Health, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Department of Commerce, and the Environmental Protection Agency. CBO expects that implementing H.R. 1068 would have no effect on individual agency requirements but would update and realign the goals of overall R&D policy as overseen by the Office of Science and Technology Policy. As such, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1068 would have no significant net impact on the federal budget.

H.R. 1068 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, and tribal governments.

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