



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

March 18, 2008

S. 2449

Sunshine in Litigation Act of 2008

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on March 6, 2008

S. 2449 would, under certain conditions, prevent federal judges from issuing protective orders restricting the use of litigation records that could influence public health or safety. The bill would take effect 30 days after enactment and would apply to protective orders in civil actions or arrangements entered on or after that date.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 2449 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill could alter and possibly increase the workloads of federal attorneys, court staff, and judges. CBO estimates, however, that any resulting increase in spending would total less than \$500,000 a year, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting S. 2449 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 2449 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 Leigh Angres. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.