



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

June 5, 2008

S. 1738
Combating Child Exploitation Act of 2008
As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on May 15, 2008

SUMMARY

S. 1738 would authorize the appropriation of \$1.059 billion over the 2009-2016 period for programs to prevent the exploitation of children and to investigate and prosecute offenders. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1738 would cost \$569 million over the 2009-2013 period, with remaining amounts spent in subsequent years. Enacting the legislation could affect direct spending and revenues, but CBO estimates that any such effects would be insignificant in any year.

S. 1738 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budget impact of S. 1738 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2009-2013
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	120	127	127	127	127	628
Estimated Outlays	75	118	123	126	127	569

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1738 would cost \$569 million over the 2009-2013 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds. Enacting the bill could affect direct spending and revenues, but we estimate that any such effects would be insignificant in any year.

Spending Subject to Appropriations Action

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted by the beginning of fiscal year 2009. We also assume that the authorized amounts will be appropriated by the start of each fiscal year and that spending will follow historical spending patterns for similar activities.

S. 1738 would authorize the appropriation of \$659 million over the 2009-2016 period for Department of Justice programs to combat the exploitation of children, including grants to state and local governments to investigate and prosecute individuals who exploit children online. In addition, the bill would authorize the appropriation of \$400 million over the same period for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Immigration and Customs Enforcement in the Department of Homeland Security, and the United States Postal Service to hire additional personnel for programs to protect children against exploitation.

Direct Spending and Revenues

S. 1738 would establish new federal crimes relating to exploitation of children. Because those prosecuted and convicted under the bill could be subject to criminal fines, the federal government might collect additional fines if the legislation is enacted. Criminal fines are recorded as revenues, then deposited in the Crime Victims Fund, and later spent. CBO expects that any additional revenues and direct spending would not be significant because of the relatively small number of cases affected.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1738 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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