



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

August 27, 2008

H.R. 6475

Daniel Webster Congressional Clerkship Act of 2008

As ordered reported by the Committee on House Administration on July 30, 2008

H.R. 6475 would direct the House of Representatives and the Senate to hire a total of 12 law-school graduates as clerks for one-year terms beginning within three months of their graduations. The clerks would be compensated at the same rate as clerks employed by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. For this purpose, the bill would authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary for fiscal year 2009 and each year thereafter.

Assuming the availability of appropriated funds, CBO estimates that carrying out H.R. 6475 would cost about \$1 million a year beginning in 2010. The estimate is based on the assumption that most of the first group of clerks would be hired near the end of fiscal year 2009. Based on information provided by the U.S. courts, we expect that each clerk would receive a salary of about \$60,000 plus benefits. Enacting the bill would have no effect on revenues or direct spending.

The bill 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 Deborah Reis. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.