



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
PAY-AS-YOU-GO ESTIMATE**

September 30, 1998

**H.R. 3096**

**An Act to Correct a Provision Relating to Termination of Benefits  
for Convicted Persons**

*As cleared by the Congress on September 28, 1998*

H.R. 3096 would amend Title 5 of the U.S. Code to correct a reference to Title 18 of the code. The section to be amended causes individuals convicted of fraud in the application or receipt of benefits under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) to forfeit their entitlement. Although the current wording in Title 5 is not precisely the same as the section it references in Title 18, 103 individuals have had their benefits terminated upon conviction of fraud under FECA since 1993, when the law first became effective. Absent this change, the ability of the Department of Labor to terminate fraudulently collected benefits could be affected. However, there have been no cases where the inconsistent wording has been used as a defense against a charge of fraud. It is unlikely, therefore, that enactment of this bill would have any significant effect on the federal budget.

This estimate was prepared by Christina Hawley Sadoti and approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.