



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 1, 2012

S. 1673 **Safeguarding American Agriculture Act of 2012**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs on April 25, 2012*

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1673 would cost about \$1 million from appropriated funds in fiscal year 2013 and negligible amounts in subsequent years. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 1673 would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide opportunities for promotion of agriculture specialists working for Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The bill also would require DHS to develop plans to better recruit and retain agriculture specialists and to upgrade equipment and other resources available to such employees. In addition, S. 1673 would authorize DHS and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to rotate personnel in CBP and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (in USDA) to promote interagency experience.

Based on information from DHS, we estimate that it would cost about \$1 million in 2013 to carry out the bill's activities. CBO anticipates that S. 1673 would not require implementing the plan to acquire upgraded equipment or other resources for agriculture specialists. If DHS sought appropriated funds to acquire additional equipment, the cost to implement this legislation would be greater.

S. 1673 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.