



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 28, 2004

### **S. 2547** **Migratory Bird Treaty Reform Act of 2004**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works  
on June 23, 2004*

#### **SUMMARY**

S. 2547 would amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to clarify that only species that are native to the United States are protected under that act, which governs the conservation of migratory birds. Title II of the bill would reauthorize funding for projects carried out under the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act through fiscal year 2008. (The current authorization to fund this program expires after fiscal year 2005.) The Secretary of the Interior uses this funding primarily to help finance research and conservation programs in North and South America.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing title II would cost \$30 million over the 2006-2009 period. We estimate that enacting title I would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues. S. 2547 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 budgetary impact of S. 2547 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the entire amounts authorized by the bill will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Outlay estimates are based on recent spending patterns for conservation programs. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Spending Under Current Law for Neotropical Bird Conservation Programs						
Authorization Level <sup>a</sup>	4	5	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	4	5	1	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	0	5	10	15	0
Estimated Outlays	0	0	4	7	10	9
Spending Under S. 2547 for Neotropical Bird Conservation Programs						
Authorization Level <sup>a</sup>	4	5	5	10	15	0
Estimated Outlays	4	5	5	7	10	9

a. The 2004 level is the amount appropriated for that year for neotropical migratory bird conservation. The 2005 level is the amount authorized under current law.

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 2547 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

## PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On May 27, 2004, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 4114, the Migratory Bird Treaty Reform Act of 2004, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 5, 2004. H.R. 4114 and S. 2547 are very similar, and the estimated costs of the two pieces of legislation are identical.

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