



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 30, 2007

### **H.R. 2446** **Afghanistan Freedom Security Support Act of 2007**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs  
on May 23, 2007*

#### **SUMMARY**

H.R. 2446, through amendments to the Afghanistan Freedom Support Act of 2002, would authorize the appropriation of about \$2 billion a year for economic and military assistance to the government of Afghanistan for fiscal years 2008 through 2010. By comparison, the recently enacted 2007 emergency supplemental appropriations act, H.R. 2206, provided an estimated \$685 million for economic and military assistance to Afghanistan for 2007.

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2446 would cost \$719 million in 2008, and almost \$5.8 billion over the 2008-2012 period, assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts.

H.R. 2446 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 2446 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 050 (national defense) and 150 (international affairs).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Spending Under Current Law						
Budget Authority <sup>a</sup>	685	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	581	443	210	125	64	31
Proposed Changes						
Economic and Development Assistance						
Authorization Level	0	1,745	1,745	1,745	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	614	1,287	1,533	1,039	412
Military and Other Assistance						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	325	325	325	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	105	225	284	199	89
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	2,070	2,070	2,070	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	719	1,512	1,817	1,238	501
Spending Under H.R. 2446						
Estimated Authorization Level <sup>a</sup>	685	2,070	2,070	2,070	0	0
Estimated Outlays	581	1,162	1,722	1,942	1,302	532

a. The 2007 level is the estimated amount appropriated for aid to Afghanistan in that year.

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

H.R. 2446 would authorize the appropriation of more than \$1.7 billion a year for humanitarian and economic assistance and \$320 million a year for military assistance. In addition, the bill would authorize the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for the operation of Radio Free Afghanistan. For the purposes of this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted before the start of fiscal year 2008. Additionally, CBO estimates that spending for all programs authorized in this bill will follow historical spending patterns for similar programs.

### **Economic and Development Assistance**

Title I would authorize the appropriation of more than \$1.6 billion a year for the 2008-2010 period for economic and development assistance. Those funds could be used for

humanitarian assistance, economic development including reconstruction, and programs related to political and social issues, such as anticorruption efforts and assistance for women.

In addition to the general authorization above, Title I also would authorize the appropriation of specific amounts over the 2008-2010 period for the following programs:

- \$15 million a year for a contribution to the United Nations Drug Control Program,
- \$10 million a year for a pilot program to promote crop substitution and develop alternatives to poppy production,
- \$5 million a year for the Afghan Ministry of Women's Affairs,
- \$10 million a year for the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission,
- \$30 million a year for grants to nongovernmental organizations led by Afghans that would conduct activities to support women and girls, including constructing and operating schools, orphanages, and health care clinics, and
- \$75 million a year for the purchase of diesel and other resources to provide electricity to major Afghan cities over the short term.

Accordingly, CBO estimates that implementing Title 1 would cost about \$600 million in 2008 and almost \$4.9 billion over the 2008-2012 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

### **Military and Other Assistance**

Title II would authorize the President to provide defense articles, defense services, and military education and training services to Afghanistan and other countries which participate in military, peacekeeping, or policing operations in Afghanistan. Section 201 would authorize the President to use up to \$300 million a year over the 2008-2010 period in funding for the Department of Defense to provide such goods and services to those qualified countries assisting in Afghanistan. Section 203 would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million a year for the President to provide a subsidy of up to five percent for countries that buy military equipment that would be used in Afghanistan. Finally, section 213 would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million a year to provide training for military personnel from other countries that would be deployed to Afghanistan. CBO estimates that

implementing Title II would cost about \$100 million in 2008 and almost \$900 million over the 2008-2012 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

Section 306 would authorize the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary over the 2008-2010 period for radio broadcasts to Afghanistan. Under current law, Radio Free Afghanistan spends \$5 million a year to broadcast 12 hours a day in local languages. Based on information from the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), CBO estimates BBG would maintain that level of broadcasting at a cost of \$4 million in 2008 and \$15 million over the 2008-2012 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

### **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

H.R. 2446 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandate as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local or tribal governments.

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