



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 11, 2008

H.R. 3032

A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election to federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate

*As ordered reported by the Committee on House Administration
on April 2, 2008*

H.R. 3032 would amend federal law to allow any candidate for federal office the option of granting an individual the responsibility of disbursing any campaign funds in the event of the candidate's death. Under current law, that role lies with the campaign treasurer. The Federal Election Commission (FEC) would be responsible for regulating the process and registering the information.

Based on information from the FEC and subject to the availability of appropriated funds, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3032 would cost the FEC about \$500,000 in 2009. That amount includes one-time computer-related expenses as well as the cost of formulating new regulations. In future years, the legislation would increase general administrative costs of the FEC, but we estimate those costs would not be significant.

Enacting H.R. 3032 could affect federal revenues by increasing collections of fines for violations of campaign finance law. Such collections are recorded in the budget as revenues and, in certain cases, may be spent without further appropriation. CBO estimates any additional revenues and direct spending under H.R. 3032 would be insignificant because of the small number of anticipated violations.

The legislation 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 Matthew Pickford. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.