



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 3, 1999

H.R. 2336 **United States Marshals Service Improvement Act of 1999**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 20, 1999

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 2336 would result in no significant cost or savings to the federal government. Because the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 2336 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no effect on state, local, or tribal governments.

Under current law, U.S. Marshals are appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, and many are compensated according to the executive level pay schedule. H.R. 2336 would enable the Attorney General to appoint U.S. Marshals beginning on January 1, 2002, and require that compensation for all U.S. Marshal positions be consistent with the general schedule pay rates. (Any vacancies occurring before January 1, 2002, would be filled as they are currently—by Presidential appointment.) Because those appointees subject to the general schedule pay rates would also be eligible for overtime pay, their total compensation would probably not differ on average by more than \$500 from the compensation currently provided to those U.S. Marshals who are receiving executive level pay. Currently, 26 U.S. Marshals receive executive level pay; thus, CBO estimates that any net savings realized would be less than \$15,000 each year beginning in fiscal year 2002.

H.R. 2336 also would require the General Accounting Office (GAO) to conduct a study detailing the number of U.S. Marshals chosen by the Attorney General who are women or people of color. Based on information from GAO, CBO estimates that completing this study would cost less than \$500,000, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Susanne S. Mehlman. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.