



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 18, 1999

### **S. 249**

### **Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children Protection Act**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on March 4, 1999*

#### **SUMMARY**

S. 249 would authorize the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2000 through 2004 for the Missing Children program administered by the Department of Justice and for the Runaway and Homeless Youth program administered by the Department of Health and Human Services. Assuming appropriation of the necessary funds, CBO estimates that implementing S. 249 would result in additional discretionary spending of about \$273 million over the 2000-2004 period (if the programs are funded at the 1999 level for all years) or \$289 million (if they are funded with adjustments for inflation after 1999).

This legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts, so pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 249 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would have no impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments. Any requirements imposed on state and local governments would be a condition of aid.

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

For the purposes of this estimate, CBO assumes that appropriations would be provided by the start of each fiscal year and that outlays would follow the historical spending rates for the authorized activities. Because S. 249 would authorize such sums as necessary for the affected programs, CBO estimated spending under two different sets of assumptions, representing continued funding at current levels of appropriations with and without adjustment for anticipated inflation. (The 1999 appropriations for these programs total \$76.2 million—\$59.0 million for the Runaway and Homeless Youth program and \$17.2 million for the Missing Children program.) Current law authorizes such sums as may be necessary for the Missing Children program through fiscal year 2001. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 750 (administration of justice) and 500 (education, training, employment, and social services).

By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars

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	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
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**SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION**

**Without adjustment for inflation**

Spending Under Current Law						
Estimated Authorization Level <sup>a</sup>	76	17	17	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	70	59	24	14	7	1
Proposed Changes						
Missing Children						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	0	0	17	17	17
Estimated Outlays	0	0	0	4	10	16
Runaway and Homeless Youth						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	59	59	59	59	59
Estimated Outlays	0	15	52	58	59	59
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	59	59	76	76	76
Estimated Outlays	0	15	52	62	69	75
Spending Under S. 249						
Estimated Authorization Level	76	76	76	76	76	76
Estimated Outlays	70	74	76	76	76	76

**With adjustment for inflation**

Spending Under Current Law						
Estimated Authorization Level	76	18	18	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	70	59	24	15	7	1
Proposed Changes						
Missing Children						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	0	0	18	19	19
Estimated Outlays	0	0	0	4	11	18
Runaway and Homeless Youth						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	60	61	63	64	65
Estimated Outlays	0	15	53	60	63	64
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	60	61	81	83	84
Estimated Outlays	0	15	53	64	74	82
Spending Under S. 249						
Estimated Authorization Level	76	78	79	81	83	84
Estimated Outlays	70	74	77	79	81	83

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a. The 1999 level is the amount appropriated for that year for the Missing Children program (\$17 million) and for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program (\$59 million). Current law authorizes such sums as may be necessary for the Missing Children program through 2001.

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**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 249 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Funds authorized in this bill for grants and technical assistance would benefit state and local programs targeted at missing, exploited, and runaway children. Any requirements imposed on state and local governments would be conditions for receiving such aid.

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