



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

March 9, 1999

**S. 334**

**A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to remove the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to license projects on fresh waters in the state of Hawaii**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on March 4, 1999*

CBO estimates that enacting this bill would have no net effect on the federal budget. S. 334 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments. The bill would limit FERC's authority to license certain hydroelectric projects in Hawaii, leaving the state with that authority. Because Hawaii already licenses and regulates these projects, the bill would not require Hawaii to take any action.

S. 334 may have a minor impact on FERC's workload. Because FERC recovers 100 percent of its costs through user fees, any change in its administrative costs would be offset by an equal change in the fees that the commission charges. Hence, the bill's provisions would have no net budgetary impact.

Because FERC's administrative costs are limited in annual appropriations, enacting S. 334 would not affect direct spending or receipts. Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply to the bill.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Kim Cawley (for federal costs) and Lisa Cash Driskill (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.