



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

March 10, 2000

S. 577

**A bill to provide for injunctive relief in federal district court
to enforce state laws relating to the interstate transportation
of intoxicating liquor**

As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on March 2, 2000

CBO estimates that implementing S. 577 would cost less than \$500,000 annually, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Because enactment of the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 577 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 577 would permit a state to bring a civil action in federal district court to obtain an injunction against an entity that has violated a state law relating to the interstate transportation of intoxicating liquor. Implementing this bill could increase costs to federal courts to the extent that states seek federal jurisdiction in such cases. Based on information from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, CBO estimates that any increase in federal costs would be less than \$500,000 a year because of the relatively small number of cases expected and the short period of time required to adjudicate most cases of this type. These additional costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

State tax revenues could increase if civil actions under the bill result in a shift to more legal sales of alcohol, which would be taxable. CBO has no basis for reliably estimating the magnitude of any such increases.

On July 26, 1999, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 2031, the Twenty-First Amendment Enforcement Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 20, 1999. These two bills are similar and the estimated costs are the same.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Lanette Keith (for federal costs), and Theresa Gullo (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.