CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

October 15, 2002

H.R. 2155

A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to make it illegal to operate a motor vehicle with a drug or alcohol in the body of the driver at a land border port of entry, and for other purposes

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on October 9, 2002

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2155 would have no significant cost to the federal government. Enacting the bill could affect direct spending and revenues, but CBO estimates that any impact on direct spending and revenues would not be significant. H.R. 2155 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.

H.R. 2155 would make it a federal crime to operate a motor vehicle at a United States land border port of entry while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Because the bill would establish a new federal crime, the government would be able to pursue cases that it otherwise would not be able to prosecute. However, we expect H.R. 2155 would apply to a relatively small number of offenders, so any increase in costs for law enforcement, court proceedings, or prison operations would not be significant. Any such costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Because those prosecuted and convicted under H.R. 2155 could be subject to criminal fines, the federal government might collect additional fines if the legislation is enacted. Collections of such fines are recorded in the budget as revenues, which are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and later spent. CBO expects that any additional revenues and direct spending would not be significant because of the relatively small number of cases involved.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.