



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 21, 2002

H.R. 4477 **Sex Tourism Prohibition Improvement Act of 2002**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on June 19, 2002

H.R. 4477 would establish new federal crimes relating to interstate or international travelers (or persons facilitating such travel) who engage in illegal sexual activity. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would not result in any significant cost to the federal government. Because enactment of H.R. 4477 could affect direct spending and receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply to the bill; however, CBO estimates that any impact on direct spending and receipts would not be significant.

S. 166 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no direct costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

Because H.R. 4477 would establish new federal crimes, the government would be able to pursue cases that it otherwise would not be able to prosecute. CBO estimates that any increase in costs for law enforcement, court proceedings, or prison operations would not be significant because of the small number of additional cases likely to be affected. Any such costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Because those prosecuted and convicted under H.R. 4477 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 governmental receipts (revenues), which are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and later spent. CBO expects that any additional receipts and direct spending would be negligible because of the small number of cases affected.

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