



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

October 29, 2003

**S. 1567**

**Department of Homeland Security Financial Accountability Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs  
on October 22, 2003*

S. 1567 would amend the Chief Financial Officers Act and the Homeland Security Act to require the President to appoint a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to be confirmed by the Senate to oversee the financial accounting practices of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). In addition, DHS would be required to submit a performance and accountability report that incorporates a program performance report and, after fiscal year 2004, submit an audit of its internal financial controls to the Office of Management and Budget and to the Congress.

The DHS currently employs a CFO who has the same duties and responsibilities as CFOs in other agencies. According to DHS, it currently complies with the provisions of the Chief Information Officers Act. Based on information from DHS, we estimate that the requirement to prepare an audit of the department's internal financial controls would cost \$4 million a year, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 1567 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.

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