



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

April 17, 2003

S. 243

**A bill concerning participation of Taiwan in the
World Health Organization**

As reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on April 9, 2003

S. 243 would authorize the Secretary of State to initiate a plan to obtain observer status for Taiwan at the World Health Assembly to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, in May 2003. CBO estimates that enacting S. 243 would result in no significant additional costs to the federal government because initiation of the plan would not add significantly to the State Department's workload. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts.

S. 243 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.

On March 10, 2003, CBO transmitted an estimate for H.R. 441, a bill to amend Public Law 107-10 to authorize a United States plan to endorse and obtain observer status for Taiwan at the annual summit of the World Health Assembly in May 2003 in Geneva, Switzerland, and for other purposes, as ordered reported by the House Committee on International Relations on March 5, 2003. Both bills would authorize the Secretary of State to initiate a plan to obtain observer status for Taiwan at the World Health Assembly and neither would have any significant costs.

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