



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

August 17, 2006

S. 1902

Children and Media Research Advancement Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
on March 8, 2006*

SUMMARY

S. 1902 would direct the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to promote research on the effects of electronic media on children. The bill would authorize the appropriation of such sums as are necessary to implement those policies. Based on information from CDC and comparison with similar activities, assuming appropriation of necessary funds, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1902 would cost less than \$500,000 in 2007 and about \$5 million over the 2007-2011 period. S. 1902 would not affect direct spending or receipts.

S. 1902 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1902 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 550 (health).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011

CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION

Estimated Authorization Level	1	1	1	1	1
Estimated Outlays	*	1	1	1	1

Note: * = increase of less than \$500,000. Amounts do not sum to totals in the text because of rounding.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

S. 1902 would modify the Public Health Service Act to require the CDC to pursue research on the effects of electronic media—including television, movies, DVDs, video games, digital music, the Internet, and cell phones—on childhood development. In particular, the CDC would be required to contract with either the National Academy of Sciences or another research organization to conduct a study summarizing existing research on the topic and to provide recommendations for future research. Taking account of the recommendations of that report, the Director of the CDC would then be required to provide grants to fund research on the effects of electronic media on the cognitive, physical, and socio-behavioral development of youth. The bill would authorize the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for that research for fiscal years 2007 through 2011.

We estimate that the CDC would require the appropriation of \$1 million for 2007 to contract with the National Academy of Sciences or a similar organization for the initial report. In subsequent years the CDC would fund research in each of the three areas targeted by the bill—at a cost of about \$400,000 per area per year—for a total of about \$1.2 million per year for fiscal years 2008 through 2011. That estimate is based on comparison with past CDC activities and information provided by CDC staff. Based on historical rates of spending for funds appropriated to CDC, and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1902 would cost less than \$500,000 in 2007 and about \$5 million over the 2007-2011 period.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1902 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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