



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

April 15, 2005

**S. 335**

**A bill to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security  
and Governmental Affairs on April 13, 2005*

S. 335 would reauthorize the Congressional Award Act through fiscal year 2009. The Congressional Award Program recognizes excellence in public service and personal development among young people. The program is overseen by the Congressional Award Board, a nonprofit organization that receives no federal funding.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 335 would cost less than \$500,000 a year, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. In addition, by requiring the U.S. Mint to design and strike medals at the request of the Congressional Award Board, S. 335 would increase direct spending by less than \$500,000 a year.

Under S. 335, the Congressional Award Board would continue to receive in-kind services from the federal government. Those services consist of free office space in the Ford House Office Building, including maintenance and utilities, and the performance of an annual audit by the Government Accountability Office. CBO estimates that the board's continued use of such services would cost less than \$500,000 a year in appropriated funds.

In addition, young people recognized by the Congressional Award Program are awarded medals produced by the U.S. Mint. Based on information from the board and the Mint, CBO estimates that reauthorizing the program would increase direct spending from the U.S. Mint Public Enterprise Fund by less than \$500,000 annually.

S. 335 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 for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.