



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

November 2, 2005

**S. 967**

**Prepackaged News Story Announcement of Act of 2005**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,  
and Transportation on October 20, 2005*

CBO estimates that enacting S. 967 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. S. 967 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.

S. 967 would amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit federal agencies from producing prepackaged news stories without disclaimers that identify the government as the source. A prepackaged news story is a complete, ready-to-use news item designed to be indistinguishable from a news story produced by an independent author or news organization. In addition, the legislation would require the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate rules governing when the government disclaimers can be modified or removed.

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