



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

October 26, 2007

H.R. 3877

Mine Communications Technology Innovation Act

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science and Technology
on October 24, 2007*

H.R. 3877 would establish a research and development program at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to develop communications systems for underground mines. The program would focus on identifying existing methods that have been effective, adapting existing technology, and encouraging technological innovation in such communication systems. NIST, working with the mining industry and other federal agencies, also would be required to develop industry-wide standards for communication in underground mines.

Based on information from NIST, CBO estimates that implementing the provisions of H.R. 3877 would cost about \$1 million over the 2008-2012 period, subject to appropriation of the amounts authorized to be appropriated to NIST in the America COMPETES Act. Enacting H.R. 3877 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 3877 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 contact for this estimate is Susan Willie. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.