

## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 13, 2009

## H.R. 1088 Mandatory Veteran Specialist Training Act of 2009

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on May 6, 2009

H.R. 1088 would require the Department of Labor (DOL) to accelerate the training currently provided to certain employees who assist eligible veterans in finding suitable training and employment. New employees and current employees hired since the beginning of 2006 who have not yet received training would be required to complete the training within a year. CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost approximately \$3 million over the 2010-2014 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

Under current law, affected employees are required to complete training through the National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute (NVTI) within three years of being hired. Based on information from the DOL and NVTI, CBO estimates that a backlog of approximately 600 current employees and an estimated 300 new employees would need accelerated training. CBO estimates that the training cost, including two five-day courses, travel, and lodging, would be approximately \$3,500 per person. Once those employees have been trained, costs for such training would return to the level under current law.

H.R. 1088 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. States that receive grants for providing employment and training service to veterans would be required to comply with new requirements for training state personnel. Any costs those governments incur to comply with the new grant conditions would be incurred voluntarily.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Camille Woodland. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.