



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

August 8, 2011

**H.R. 1932
Keep Our Communities Safe Act of 2011**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 14, 2011

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1932 would have no significant costs to the federal government. Enacting H.R. 1932 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. H.R. 1932 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.

H.R. 1932 would clarify numerous provisions in current laws and regulations relating to the detention of aliens who are ordered removed from the United States. The bill also would clarify many procedural issues in the appeals process that are available to aliens who contest their detention or removal. In addition, H.R. 1932 would authorize the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to detain such aliens for longer than six months under certain circumstances.

According to DHS, most aliens who receive a final order of removal are removed from the United States well within six months. In many cases under current law, DHS detains aliens only as long as necessary to determine whether the individual, upon removal, would be accepted by his home country or by another country. If such acceptance is deemed unlikely, then generally the detainee is released. CBO anticipates that this policy will continue under the provisions of H.R. 1932 because the legislation would not require DHS to hold aliens for a certain length of time. Thus, we do not expect a large increase in the number of detainees who are held for long periods of time, and we estimate that H.R. 1932 would not significantly increase DHS detention costs.

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