



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

April 16, 2012

H.R. 3563
Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Modernization Act of 2012
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Homeland Security on March 28, 2012

SUMMARY

H.R. 3563 would authorize appropriations totaling \$67 million over the 2013-2017 period for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to modernize the Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS), a system for issuing nationwide alerts regarding emergency situations. The bill also would establish a committee to develop and submit recommendations for continuing and improving the system. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3563 would result in discretionary spending totaling \$38 million over the next five years and \$29 million in subsequent years after 2017, assuming appropriation of the specified amounts.

Enacting this legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 3563 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3563 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 450 (community and regional development).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2013-2017
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	13	13	13	13	13	67
Estimated Outlays	5	8	10	13	13	38

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted by the end of 2012 and that amounts specified will be appropriated for each year.

H.R. 3563 would authorize the appropriation of \$13.4 million per year over the 2013-2017 period (for a total of \$67 million) for DHS to modernize and implement IPAWS. The annual authorization level is roughly the same amount that CBO estimates was allocated for that activity in 2012.

IPAWS utilizes multiple technologies (for example, satellite radios, computers, and cellular phones) in addition to traditional radio and television communications to provide information about an impending or ongoing emergency situation. The bill specifies several criteria that a modernized IPAWS would be required to meet. DHS is currently pursuing several of these criteria under Executive Order 13407. Other goals not specified by that order, but set forth by the bill, include ensuring that state and local governments and other stakeholders are trained to use the system, as appropriate, and that nationwide tests be conducted at least once every three years.

The bill also would establish an advisory committee to develop recommendations to continue improvements to IPAWS. Within one year of enactment, the committee would be required to submit a report outlining those recommendations.

Based on the rate of prior spending by DHS for similar activities, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3563 would result in discretionary spending totaling \$38 million over the next five years and \$29 million in later years, assuming appropriation of the specified amounts.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 3563 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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