



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

July 30, 2012

H.R. 6063
Child Protection Act of 2012

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 10, 2012

SUMMARY

H.R. 6063 would amend certain laws that establish federal crimes related to child pornography and would reauthorize funding through 2018 for the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$121 million over the 2013-2017 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. Enacting H.R. 6063 could affect direct spending and revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, CBO estimates that any net effects would be insignificant in any year.

H.R. 6063 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. 6063 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2013-2017
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	*	60	60	60	60	240
Estimated Outlays	*	7	24	39	51	121

Notes: Current law authorizes \$60 million annually through fiscal year 2013 for the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program.

* = less than \$500,000.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 6063 will be enacted near the start of 2013 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated each year beginning with fiscal year 2014.

Current law authorizes appropriations of \$60 million a year through fiscal year 2013 for grants and technical assistance to ICAC task forces. (Funding for the ICAC Task Force Program in 2012 totals about \$30 million, CBO estimates.) H.R. 6063 would extend the \$60 million authorization level through 2018. The legislation also would raise the cap on grant funding for ICAC training programs from \$2 million to \$4 million annually for each organization. Based on historical patterns for ICAC and similar programs, CBO estimates that fully funding grants to ICAC task forces would cost \$121 million over the 2014-2017 period.

CBO estimates that implementing other provisions of H.R. 6063 would have an insignificant impact on federal spending. Those provisions would:

- Increase the maximum prison sentence from 10 years to 20 years for child pornography offenses involving children under the age of 12;
- Direct the U.S. Sentencing Commission to review federal sentencing guidelines related to certain child abuse crimes;
- Allow the U.S. Marshals Service to issue administrative subpoenas to investigate unregistered sex offenders; and
- Require the Department of Justice to submit a report to the Congress on the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System within 90 days after enactment.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

Enacting H.R. 6063 could affect direct spending and revenues; however, CBO estimates that any net effects would be insignificant for each year. Under the legislation, district courts would be required to issue protective orders to prevent harassment or intimidation of a minor victim or witness. The bill could increase direct spending by extending witness protective services, which are funded through a mandatory appropriation, to those individuals. Any such increases would be insignificant because of the small number of witnesses and victims likely to be affected.

In addition, because those prosecuted and convicted under H.R. 6063 would be subject to increased criminal fines, the federal government might collect additional fines if the bill is enacted. Criminal fines are recorded as revenues, deposited in the Crime Victims Fund,

and later spent. CBO expects that any additional revenues and direct spending would not be significant because of the small number of cases likely to be affected.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 6063 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On October 12, 2011, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1981, the Protecting Children from Internet Pornographers Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 27, 2011. Provisions of both bills related to administrative subpoenas, protection of child witnesses, and review of sentencing guidelines are similar, and the estimated costs for those provisions are the same.

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