



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

November 4, 2011

**H.R. 822
National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity Act of 2011**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on October 25, 2011

H.R. 822 would permit persons who are authorized to carry concealed firearms in their state of residence to carry concealed handguns in other states, under certain circumstances. The bill also would require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit to the Congress a study on the laws and regulations of states that currently authorize nonresidents to carry concealed handguns.

Based on the costs of similar GAO activities, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 822 would have no significant cost to the federal government. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 822 would impose an intergovernmental mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) by preempting some state laws that limit the ability of nonresidents to carry concealed weapons. Laws allowing individuals to carry concealed weapons vary from state to state and range from allowing anyone to carry such weapons without a permit to prohibiting nonresidents from carrying concealed weapons and requiring residents to complete training and meet other conditions before obtaining a permit. Some states recognize permits issued by other states and some do not. If enacted, the bill would require states that currently do not recognize permits to carry concealed weapons issued by other states to recognize those permits for nonresidents. The costs for states to comply with that mandate would include the cost to change protocols and train law enforcement officers.

The bill also could result in the loss of revenue for some states. Currently, some states issue permits to nonresidents and charge fees ranging from \$20 to \$140 for those permits. If this bill is enacted and individuals have a permit to carry concealed weapons from their resident state, they would no longer need to purchase nonresident permits in other states they visit. There is no data on how many individuals this may affect, but the loss to states that issue nonresident permits could total a few million dollars annually.

CBO estimates that the total costs for states to comply with the preemption, including the training costs for law enforcement and the lost revenue from the nonresident permit fees,

would be small and would not exceed the threshold established in UMRA (\$71 million in 2011, adjusted annually for inflation).

H.R. 822 contains no private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Mark Grabowicz (for federal costs) and Melissa Merrell (for the intergovernmental impact). The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.