



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 4, 2015

H.R. 1759 **ALERT Act of 2015**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on April 15, 2015

H.R. 1759 would require federal agencies to provide certain information to the public regarding proposed and final regulations. The bill would require federal agencies to submit information for a proposed new supplement to the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions (a semiannual compilation of the federal regulations under development) that would be published monthly. The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) would be required to post that information on the Internet on a monthly and annual basis. With certain exceptions, regulations would not be effective until six months after they have appeared in the proposed monthly report.

CBO estimates that preparing the monthly supplemental reports for 3,000 to 4,000 final regulations each year would cost less than a million dollars a year, subject to the availability of appropriated funds, over the 2016-2020 period. Because agencies routinely monitor the status of regulations that are being processed, CBO does not expect this additional reporting requirement would add a significant administrative burden. Based on information from the Congressional Research Service about the current regulatory process, CBO also expects that the requirements in H.R. 1759 would not significantly delay the implementation of final regulations.

Enacting H.R. 1759 could affect direct spending by some agencies (such as the Tennessee Valley Authority) because their operating costs are covered by receipts from the sale of goods, fees, and other collections. Therefore pay-as-you-go procedures apply. Because most of those agencies can make adjustments to the amounts collected, CBO estimates that any net changes in direct spending by those agencies would not be significant. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues.

H.R. 1759 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.