



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

June 29, 2016

**S. 2205
Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts Act of 2015**

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on April 27, 2016

SUMMARY

S. 2205 would authorize the Attorney General to make grants to Indian tribes to establish courts to address the treatment of alcohol and drug abuse among convicted offenders. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million a year through fiscal year 2020.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 2205 would cost \$31 million over the 2017-2021 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply because enacting S. 2205 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

S. 2205 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of S. 2205 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					2017-2021
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	10	10	10	10	0	40
Estimated Outlays	2	5	7	9	8	31

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

CBO assumes that S. 2205 will be enacted near the start of fiscal year 2017 and that spending will follow historical patterns for similar programs.

The bill would authorize the Attorney General to award grants to Indian tribes to develop tribal courts that would provide continuing supervision for offenders and other individuals with substance abuse problems. The bill also would allow the courts to combine substance abuse services with sanctions for applicable offenders such as drug testing and treatment to prevent relapse. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million per year through 2020 for those purposes. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the grant program would cost \$31 million over the 2017-2021 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 2205 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Tribal governments would benefit from grants authorized in the bill to assist in establishing tribal courts that address the treatment of drug and alcohol abuse. Any costs to the tribal governments would result from complying with conditions of assistance.

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