



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

August 5, 2015

S. 833
**Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Earthquake
Protection and Improvement Act**

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs on July 22, 2015

S. 833 would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to spend no more than \$402 million to replace or renovate specified facilities in California to reduce the risk that those facilities would sustain major damage from seismic activity. The bill also would authorize VA to spend \$159 million to build and renovate facilities in New York. Funding for all of those projects has already been provided in appropriations legislation dating back to 2004 (and as recently as 2015).

In addition, S. 833 would require VA to prepare a report on the department's efforts to protect facilities that are at high risk of damage from tsunamis and volcanic activity. CBO estimates that implementing that provision would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2016-2020 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting S. 833 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 833 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Ann E. Futrell. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.