



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

May 19, 2009

**S. 529
Great Cats and Rare Canids Act of 2009**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on May 14, 2009*

SUMMARY

S. 529 would require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to establish a grant program to protect and conserve rare species of cats (such as leopards) and canids (such as wolves). For that purpose, the bill would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014. In addition, the bill would authorize whatever amounts are necessary for a study of species that might be eligible for assistance.

Assuming appropriation of the amounts authorized for grants or estimated to be needed for the required study, CBO estimates that implementing S. 529 would increase discretionary spending by \$20 million over the 2010-2014 period and by \$6 million after 2014. The bill also would authorize the USFWS to collect and spend donations from non-federal sources, but CBO estimates that any new offsetting receipts and associated direct spending would be minimal and would have no net effect on the federal budget.

The bill 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 S. 529 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2010- 2014
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	6	5	5	5	5	26
Estimated Outlays	3	3	4	5	5	20

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the authorized amounts will be provided as specified in the bill for fiscal years 2011 through 2014. Based on the cost of similar activities, we estimate that additional funding of \$1 million would be needed in fiscal year 2010 for the required study on feline and canine species. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar programs.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 529 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Deborah Reis
 Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Ryan Miller
 Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Theresa Gullo
 Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis