



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 5, 2010

### **H.R. 1741**

### **Witness Security and Protection Grant Program Act of 2010**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on February 25, 2010*

Current law authorizes the appropriation of \$20 million annually through fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to make grants to fund a variety of programs to improve the criminal justice system, including grants to state, local, and tribal governments to protect witnesses to violent crimes. H.R. 1741 would amend this program by directing DOJ to make grants to protect witnesses in certain court proceedings and by providing guidelines for the administration of those grants. Because the act would not change the authorization of funding for this program, CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would have no significant cost to the federal government. Enacting H.R. 1741 would not affect direct spending or revenues, therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 1741 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

On May 21, 2009, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1741 as ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on May 20, 2009. That version of the legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$30 million for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014 for DOJ to make grants to state, local, and tribal governments for programs to protect witnesses in certain court proceedings. CBO estimated that implementing that version of H.R. 1741 would cost \$100 million over the 2010-2014 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.