



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

May 25, 2011

**S. 623  
Sunshine in Litigation Act of 2011**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on May 19, 2011*

S. 623 would, under certain conditions, prevent federal judges from issuing protective orders restricting the use of litigation records that could influence public health or safety. The bill would take effect 30 days after enactment and would apply to protective orders in civil actions or arrangements entered on or after that date.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 623 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill could alter and possibly increase the workloads of federal attorneys, court staff, and judges. However, CBO estimates that any resulting increase in spending would be small and subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting S. 623 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 623 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 Martin von Gnechten. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo.