



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

December 3, 2007

S. 1675

Local Community Radio Act of 2007

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation on October 30, 2007*

S. 1675 would change the criteria for licensing low-power radio stations by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Such stations are operated by noncommercial entities and broadcast very weak signals (100 watts or less) that reach a limited geographic area. The bill would repeal some of the engineering requirements that currently limit the number of low-power radio stations that can operate in certain areas.

CBO estimates that implementing the bill would have no significant effect on spending subject to appropriation and would not affect direct spending or revenues. Easing the restrictions on low-power radio stations likely would increase the number of applications for such licenses. Based on information from the FCC, CBO estimates that the administrative costs of processing additional license applications would be negligible and that there would be no change in the FCC's offsetting collections because noncommercial entities do not pay application or regulatory fees for such licenses.

S. 1675 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. To the extent that public entities choose to apply for and develop new radio stations, they would voluntarily incur some costs.

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