



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

November 4, 1997

H.R. 429

NATO Special Immigrant Amendments of 1997

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on October 29, 1997

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 429 would have no net impact on the federal budget. Enacting H.R. 429 would affect direct spending, so pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. However, we estimate that the amounts involved would be much less than \$500,000 a year. This legislation contains no new intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would have no impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 429 would make certain employees of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and their families eligible for special immigrant visas. The bill's provisions would affect about 130 individuals. The fee for a special immigrant visa is \$80, so enacting the bill could increase fees collected by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) by about \$10,000 over the next several years. The INS would spend the fees as direct spending in the year that they are collected, so there would be no net budgetary impact from enacting H.R. 429.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.