



# CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

December 5, 2017

## **S. 2070**

### **Kevin and Avonte's Law of 2017**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on November 16, 2017*

#### **SUMMARY**

S. 2070 would authorize the appropriation of \$2 million annually over the 2018-2022 period for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to make grants to locate missing persons. The bill also would limit the distribution of the *Federal Register* throughout the government. CBO estimates that implementing S. 2070 would have a net cost of \$2 million over the 2018-2022 period, assuming appropriation actions consistent with the bill.

Enacting S. 2070 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 2070 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

S. 2070 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary effects of S. 2070 are shown in the following table. The effects of this legislation fall within budget functions 750 (administration of justice) and 800 (general government).

|  | By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars |      |      |      |      | 2018-2022 |
|--|--|------|------|------|------|-----------|
|  | 2018                                   | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |           |
| <b>INCREASES OR DECREASES (-) IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b> |  |      |      |      |      |           |
| DOJ Grants   |  |      |      |      |      |           |
| Authorization Level  | 2                                      | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2    | 10        |
| Estimated Outlays  | *                                      | 1    | 1    | 2    | 2    | 7         |
| <i>Federal Register</i> Distribution                                   |  |      |      |      |      |           |
| Estimated Authorization Level  | -1                                     | -1   | -1   | -1   | -1   | -5        |
| Estimated Outlays  | -1                                     | -1   | -1   | -1   | -1   | -5        |
| Total Changes  |  |      |      |      |      |           |
| Estimated Authorization Level  | 1                                      | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 5         |
| Estimated Outlays  | -1                                     | *    | *    | 1    | 1    | 2         |

Notes: \* = between zero and \$500,000; components may not sum to totals because of rounding; DOJ = Department of Justice.

## BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted around the beginning of 2018.

S. 2070 would authorize the appropriation of \$2 million annually over the 2018-2022 period for DOJ to make grants to state and local governments and nonprofit organizations for programs to locate missing persons with dementia or developmental disabilities. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts and using the historical rate of spending for similar activities, CBO estimates that implementing this provision of the bill would cost \$7 million over the 2018-2022 period.

Title IV of S. 2070 would amend federal law to prohibit the Government Printing Office (GPO) from furnishing a printed copy of the *Federal Register* without charge to a Member of Congress or any employee of the U.S. government unless specifically requested. The *Federal Register* compiles and organizes thousands of rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential documents, and notices generated by federal departments and agencies.

Using information from the National Archives and Records Administration and GPO, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would end the distribution of about 1,000 copies of the *Federal Register* that are distributed daily for free. In addition around 1,500 copies are produced for agencies, depository libraries, and subscribers. The average *Federal Register* has 300 pages and costs \$4.50 to produce and distribute. CBO estimates

that eliminating those free copies of the *Federal Register* would lower costs by \$1 million annually.

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

## **INCREASE IN LONG TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS**

CBO estimates that enacting S. 2070 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

## **MANDATES**

S. 2070 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

## **PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATES**

On August 4, 2017, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 195, the Federal Register Printing Savings Act of 2017, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on July 26, 2017. On February 22, 2017, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 195 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on February 14, 2017. The two versions of H.R. 195 are identical to title IV of S. 2070, and CBO's estimates of the budgetary effects are the same.

## **ESTIMATE PREPARED BY**

Federal Costs: Mark Grabowicz (for DOJ) and Matthew Pickford (for GPO)  
Mandates: Rachel Austin

## **ESTIMATE APPROVED BY**

H. Samuel Papenfuss  
Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis