



# CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 15, 2017

## **S. 829** **AFG and SAFER Program Reauthorization Act of 2017**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security  
and Governmental Affairs on May 17, 2017*

### **SUMMARY**

S. 829 would extend through 2023 the authorization of appropriations for two programs—Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) and Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG). The authorization for those programs expires at the end of fiscal year 2017. Assuming appropriation of the full amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 829 would cost about \$4.8 billion over the 2018-2022 period, and \$5.2 billion in years after 2022.

Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting S. 829 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

S. 829 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 effect of S. 829 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 450 (community and regional development).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars						2017- 2022
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
<b>INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>							
Estimated Authorization Level	0	1,611	1,649	1,688	1,728	1,770	8,446
Estimated Outlays	0	32	436	1,171	1,521	1,653	4,813

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 829 will be enacted near the end of 2017 and that the estimated amounts will be appropriated each fiscal year.

Under current law, \$750 million was authorized in 2013 for the SAFER program, which provides grants to fire departments to facilitate retention and hiring of personnel, and another \$750 million for the AFG program, which provides grants to fire departments, state fire-training academies, and other organizations. The law provides that those specified amounts be adjusted each year for the change in the Consumer Price Index through 2017. Under S. 829, that authorization of appropriations would be extended through 2023.

Including the adjustments for anticipated inflation, CBO estimates that S. 829 would authorize the appropriation of about \$8.4 billion, in total, over the next five years for the two programs. Based on historical spending patterns, CBO estimates that implementing S. 829 would cost about \$4.8 billion over the 2018-2022 period and another \$5.2 billion in years after 2022. In 2017, a total of \$690 million was appropriated for those grant programs.

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

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

CBO estimates that enacting S. 829 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 829 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. State, local, and tribal governments would benefit from grants reauthorized in the bill to fund specialized training for first responders. Any costs to state, local, or tribal governments would result from complying with conditions of assistance.

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