

from raising in revenues" are also included in the definition of "direct costs." In this way, the act allows for consideration of the impact of federal legislation on the revenue-raising capabilities of these governments.

The CBO statement must also include an assessment of whether the bill authorizes or otherwise provides funding to cover the costs of the mandates. For intergovernmental mandates, the cost statement must estimate the appropriations needed to fund such authorizations for up to 10 years after the mandate is effective.

CBO must "to the greatest extent practicable" prepare statements for conference agreements if they contain mandates not previously considered by either House or if they impose greater direct costs than the previously considered versions of the bill. If an individual Senator requests it, CBO must prepare estimates of the costs of intergovernmental mandates contained in an amendment the Senator may wish to offer.

The Congress may also call on CBO to do analyses at other stages of the legislative process. If asked by the chair or ranking minority member of a committee, and to the extent practicable, CBO will: conduct special studies on legislative proposals; compare an agency's estimate of the costs of proposed regulations implementing a federal mandate with CBO's estimate prepared when the law was enacted; and conduct continuing studies to enhance comparisons of budget outlays, credit authority, and tax expenditures. CBO's ability to carry out those additional activities will depend on available resources.

Although the act does not specifically require CBO to analyze the cost of mandates in appropriation bills, a point of order would lie against legislative provisions in such bills—or amendments to such bills—that increase the direct costs of intergovernmental mandates but do not have the appropriate CBO statement. CBO will also be required, when requested, to assist committees by preparing studies of legislative proposals containing federal mandates. For intergovernmental mandates, CBO is directed to solicit information or comments from elected officials and to consider establishing advisory panels.

Enforcement and Implementation Mechanisms Related to CBO's Work. A point of order will now lie against any reported bill unless the committee has published a CBO statement about mandate costs. A point of order will also lie against any bill, amendment, motion, or conference report that would increase the direct costs of federal intergovernmental mandates by more than \$50 million, unless it provides spending authority or authorizes appropriations sufficient to cover those costs. Such authorizations would have to be specified for each year up to 10 years after the effective date, and—in the Senate—would have to be consistent with the estimated costs of the bill, amendment, motion, or conference report as determined by the Budget Committee. Finally, a point of order will lie against any bill, amendment, motion, or conference report that would increase the direct costs of federal intergovernmental mandates by more than \$50 million, unless it provides a procedure for terminating or scaling back mandates if agencies determine that funds are not sufficient to cover those costs.

How CBO Is Responding. Although CBO has been preparing estimates of the impacts of federal legislation on state and local governments since 1982, the passage of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act has signaled Congressional interest in having more and better information on the costs of mandates. This heightened interest on the part of the Congress makes it clear that CBO must devote more time and resources to providing the Congress with high quality and timely estimates.

CBO has done several things to enhance our state and local government cost-estimating efforts. Most important, we have established a new unit in the Budget Analysis Division—the State and Local Government Cost Estimates Unit. In addition to preparing cost estimates, the unit will do special studies related to mandates and their budgetary impacts and will provide ongoing support to Congressional committees as they address the issues of intergovernmental mandates. The new unit is currently staffed with a unit chief and four analysts who have begun developing those capabilities.

For private-sector analyses, CBO has hired additional staff in our program divisions to prepare cost estimates and to conduct special studies when requested. The policy divisions also will provide ongoing support to congressional committees as they address the issues of private-sector mandates.

New Responsibilities of Congressional Committees. The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act also contains a number of new requirements for committees. In general, when an authorizing committee reports a bill or joint resolution that includes a federal mandate, the report must identify and describe those mandates and include a statement from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office on their estimated costs. If that statement cannot be published with the report, the committee is responsible for ensuring that it is published in the Congressional Record in advance of floor consideration. The committee is responsible for promptly providing CBO with a copy of the bill and for identifying mandates contained in the bill.

In addition, the report must contain a qualitative and, if practical, a quantitative assessment of costs and benefits anticipated from the mandates (including the effects on health and safety and the protection of the natural environment). Finally, the committee must state the degree to which a federal mandate affects both the public and private sectors, and the effect on the competitive balance between those sectors if federal payments are made to compensate for costs imposed on the public sector.

If the bill imposes intergovernmental mandates, the committee report shall contain a statement of how those mandates are to be funded by the federal government; whether the committee intends for the mandate to be partially or fully funded; how the funding mechanism relates to the expected direct costs to the respective levels of state, local, and tribal governments; and any existing source of funds in addition to those already identified that would assist governments in meeting the direct costs of the mandate.

Bills must also provide for agencies to determine whether funds are sufficient to cover the costs of new intergovernmental mandates. If funding is insufficient, the agency must notify the authorizing committee within 30 days of the beginning of the fiscal year. The agency can submit a reestimate of the costs or recommend a less costly approach. If the Congress takes no action within 60 days, the mandate becomes ineffective.

For amended bills, joint resolutions and conference reports, the committee of conference shall ensure, to the greatest extent possible, that the Director of CBO prepare a statement if the amended form contains a federal mandate not previously considered by either House, or contains an increase in the direct costs of a previously considered mandate.

Finally, the committees are required to identify in their annual views and estimates reports to the Budget Committees, issues that they will consider that will have costs for state, local, or tribal governments or for the private sector.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE—INTERGOVERNMENTAL MANDATE STATEMENT FOR BILLS ON THE HOUSE CALENDAR

(AS OF JANUARY 23, 1996)

Committee: Resources.

Bills that do not contain mandates: H.R. 260—National Park System Reform Act of 1995; H.R. 1077—BLM Reauthorization Act of 1995; H.R. 1122—Alaska Power Administration Sale Act; H.R. 1175—Marine Resources Revitalization Act of 1995; H.R. 1675—National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act of 1995; H.R. 1745—Utah Public Lands Management Act of 1995; H.R. 1815—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1995; H.R. 2402—Snowbasin Land Exchange Act of 1995; H.R. 2726—A bill to make certain technical corrections in laws relating to Native Americans; and S. 1341—Saddleback Mountain-Arizona Settlement Act of 1995.

Bills that contain mandates, but aggregate net costs are below \$50 million: None.

Bills that require further review: None.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE—PRIVATE SECTOR MANDATE STATEMENT FOR BILLS ON THE HOUSE CALENDAR

(AS OF JANUARY 23, 1996)

Committee: Resources.

Bills that do not contain mandates: H.R. 1077—BLM Reauthorization Act of 1995; H.R. 1122—Alaska Power Administration Sale Act; H.R. 1175—Marine Resources Revitalization Act of 1995; H.R. 1815—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1995; H.R. 2402—Snowbasin Land Exchange Act of 1995; H.R. 2726—A bill to make certain technical corrections in laws relating to Native Americans.

Bills that require further review: H.R. 260—National Park System Reform Act of 1995; H.R. 1675—National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act of 1995; H.R. 1745—Utah Public Lands Management Act of 1995; and S. 1341—Saddleback Mountain-Arizona Settlement Act of 1995.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

TRADE DEFICITS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the Presidential campaigns, particularly the Republican primary campaign, is in the full swing right now, and there has been a lot of derogatory comments made by one candidate or another about their opponents.

I think we have a good field of Republican candidates, and I wish they would quit the terrible rhetoric about one another and really stick to the facts. I think if they do that, the American people will find them to be the kind of people they want to elect President and will elect the nominee we can all live with and be happy with and can elect in November to the Presidency of the United States.

One of the problems that I have is that there has been a lot of misinformation about one of the candidates,