



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

August 29, 2008

**S. 642
Environmental Justice Act of 2007**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on July 31, 2008*

S. 642 would require the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to fully implement certain recommendations made by EPA's Inspector General and the Comptroller General of the United States in various reports. Those recommendations include requiring EPA to consider how its programs and policies affect low-income and minority communities and to identify those programs and policies that have a disproportionately large and adverse health or environmental impact on such communities.

According to EPA, many of the activities required under this legislation are already underway. CBO estimates, based on information from EPA, that implementing this legislation would increase costs by less than \$500,000 annually over the 2009-2013 period, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 642 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Susanne S. Mehlman. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.