



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 4, 2008

H.R. 6064

National Silver Alert Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 30, 2008

SUMMARY

H.R. 6064 would direct the Department of Justice (DOJ) to establish a national communications network to assist efforts to locate missing senior citizens. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million annually over the 2009-2013 period for DOJ to make grants to states for activities to support the network, to be known as the Silver Alert program. In addition, the legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$2 million annually over the 2009-2014 period and another \$4 million annually over the 2009-2019 period for DOJ to make grants to state and local governments and other organizations for programs to locate missing adults.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 6064 would cost \$59 million over the 2009-2013 period, with remaining amounts spent in subsequent years. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 6064 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 6064 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2009- 2013
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
DOJ Grant Programs						
Authorization Level	16	16	16	16	16	80
Estimated Outlays	4	8	12	14	16	54
DOJ Costs for Silver Alert Program						
Estimated Authorization Level	1	1	1	1	1	5
Estimated Outlays	1	1	1	1	1	5
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	17	17	17	17	17	85
Estimated Outlays	5	9	13	15	17	59

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 6064 would cost \$59 million over the 2009-2013 period, with additional amounts spent in subsequent years. Based on information from DOJ, we estimate that it would cost about \$1 million annually to establish and administer the Silver Alert program. CBO assumes that the authorized and estimated amounts will be appropriated near the start of each fiscal year and that spending will follow historical spending patterns for similar activities.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 6064 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Assuming appropriation of authorized amounts, state and local governments would benefit from grants for training, education, and equipment to locate missing senior citizens. Any costs to those governments, including matching funds, would be incurred voluntarily.

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