



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

October 17, 2012

S. 3546
**A bill to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974
to reauthorize a provision to ensure the survival
and continuing vitality of Native American languages**

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on September 20, 2012

SUMMARY

S. 3546 would authorize through 2017 a grant program to preserve Native American languages. CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost about \$60 million over the 2013-2017 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to this legislation because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 3546 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 S. 3546 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 450 (community and regional development) and 500 (education, training, employment, and social services).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2013-2017
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	8	15	15	16	16	70
Estimated Outlays	5	11	14	15	15	60

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the end of 2012 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for this program.

The legislation would authorize the Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance grant program through 2017. The authority to appropriate funds for that program expired at the end of fiscal year 2012. In that year, about \$15 million was appropriated for grants under this program. Funding allocations for those grants from the amounts provided under the 2013 continuing resolution for the first half of the fiscal year have not yet been determined, but assuming the program receives funding at the same rate as in 2012, CBO estimates that an additional \$8 million would be needed in 2013 to maintain the historical funding level for the program. Based on information from the Administration for Native Americans (an office within the Department of Health and Human Resources), CBO estimates that implementing S. 3546 would cost about \$60 million over the 2013-2017 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 3546 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Enacting this legislation would benefit Indian tribes.

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