



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

September 25, 2008

**H.R. 3815
Homeland Security Open Source
Information Enhancement Act of 2008**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs on September 23, 2008*

H.R. 3815 would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to establish a program to collect and analyze open source (publicly available) information and disseminate reports and other products based on that analysis. Based on information from DHS, CBO expects that the department would hire about 10 people to carry out the activities required by the act. We estimate that the additional staff would cost about \$1 million annually over the 2009-2013 period, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 3815 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.

On July 10, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 3815 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Homeland Security on June 26, 2008. The two versions of the legislation are similar and the estimated cost is the same.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.