



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 3, 2002

### **S. 1867**

#### **A bill to establish the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, and for other purposes**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs on March 21, 2002*

S. 1867 would establish the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States. The commission would be made up of 14 members appointed by the President and the Congress, and charged with analyzing the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. It would evaluate the evidence developed by government agencies regarding the attacks, detail the circumstances surrounding the attacks, and report its findings to the President and the Congress, including recommendations for corrective measures to prevent future acts of terrorism. The commission would prepare an initial report within six months of its first meeting and a final report a year later. S. 1867 would authorize the appropriation of \$3 million for the commission to carry out its duties.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1867 would cost about \$3 million over the 2002-2004 period, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Because S. 1867 would authorize the commission to accept and spend gifts, which could affect both governmental receipts and direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. CBO estimates that any effect on receipts or direct spending would be insignificant.

S. 1867 would require state, local, or tribal governments and entities in the private sector, if subpoenaed, to provide testimony and evidence related to matters the commission determines to be advisable. Such a requirement would be both an intergovernmental and private-sector mandate under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). CBO expects that the commission would likely exercise its subpoena power sparingly and that the costs to comply with a subpoena would not be significant. Thus, CBO estimates that the intergovernmental and private-sector costs of the mandate would be below the relevant thresholds established by UMRA (\$58 million for intergovernmental mandates and \$115 million for private-sector mandates in 2002, adjusted annually for inflation).

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Matthew Pickford (for federal costs), Susan Sieg Tompkins (for state and local costs), and Paige Piper/Bach (for the private-sector impact). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.