



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

September 14, 2012

**H.R. 6016
Government Employee Accountability Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
on June 27, 2012*

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 6016 would not have a significant impact on federal spending. Enacting the bill could affect revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, CBO estimates that any effects would be insignificant for each year.

H.R. 6016 would allow agencies to place Senior Executive Service (SES) employees on unpaid administrative leave for up to 180 days if they are accused of misappropriation of funds, misconduct, neglect of duty, or malfeasance. Currently, investigations of such offenses generally require agencies to initially place employees on paid leave, but later those employees may be suspended indefinitely without pay. Since administrative leave for misconduct is not tracked separately it is difficult to quantify the number of instances that it has occurred, but according to the Office of Personnel Management and other federal agencies, it is very uncommon. CBO assumes that citations for such misconduct will continue to be uncommon and therefore only a few SES employees would be subject to unpaid leave over the 2013-2022 period.

Implementing this bill would lead to lower discretionary spending for salaries and expenses for those placed on unpaid administrative leave, but CBO estimates that such reductions would be small. Because affected employees would not receive a salary for a period of time, they also would not make scheduled retirement contributions, resulting in a reduction in revenues. CBO estimates that those reductions would not be significant.

H.R. 6016 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 Santiago Vallinas. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.