



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 7, 2012

S. 1894 **Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary
on September 20, 2012*

S. 1894 would narrow the immunity of foreign states and their employees or agents against lawsuits from victims of terrorist acts, grant U.S. district courts jurisdiction over certain terrorism-related cases, and extend the statute of limitations for civil actions pertaining to terrorist acts. CBO estimates that implementing S. 1894 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Enacting S. 1894 could increase revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, CBO estimates that any effects would not be significant in any year. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending.

Under the bill, it is possible that district courts would hear additional terrorism-related cases. The Departments of Justice and State often review such cases and issue recommendations to those courts. However, based on information from both agencies, CBO estimates that no additional personnel would be required to implement the bill and thus, that the bill would have insignificant discretionary costs over the 2013-2017 period.

Enacting S. 1894 could increase revenues from a \$2,275 fee collected by the Department of State for judicial assistance provided to U.S. citizens in other countries. Based on information from the department, CBO estimates that additional revenues deposited in the Treasury would not be significant over the 2013-2022 period.

S. 1894 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Sunita D'Monte and Martin von Gnechten. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.