



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 2, 2017

S. 577 **Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2017**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs on May 17, 2017*

S. 577 would require agencies to post the Internet address of the website (regulations.gov), which would contain a summary of every rule the agencies propose. Under the bill, those summaries could not exceed 100 words in length. Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and the June 1, 1998, Presidential Memorandum on Plain Language require agencies to use plain language in all proposed and final rules. Thus, CBO expects that preparing the short summary of proposed rules under S. 577 would have no significant cost.

Enacting the bill would affect direct spending by agencies not funded through annual appropriations; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. CBO estimates, however, that any net increase in spending by those agencies would not be significant. Enacting S. 577 would not affect revenues.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 577 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

S. 577 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 contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.