



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

July 19, 2002

H.R. 5132

**A bill to express the sense of Congress concerning the fiscal year 2003
end strengths needed for the Armed Forces
to fight the War on Terrorism**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Armed Services on July 18, 2002

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 5132 would have no impact on the federal budget. Because the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 5132 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.

H.R. 5132 would express the sense of the Congress that the increases in end-strength authorizations for the armed forces for fiscal year 2003 recommended by the Senate and House of Representatives in their respective versions of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 are wholly appropriate and justified by the increased missions and tempo of operations associated with prosecution of the war against terrorism. In addition, the bill would express the sense of the Congress that the President and the Secretary of Defense should not reduce, or seek to reduce, the number of members of the armed forces, and that the President should support the increase in end-strength levels for the armed forces recommended by the Senate and House of Representatives for fiscal year 2003 because of the demands of the war against terrorism.

The determination of end strengths for the armed forces will affect spending by the Department of Defense, but this legislation would neither authorize nor fund any particular end strength. Rather, it affirms Congress's support for end strengths specified in the defense authorization bill. Hence, H.R. 5132, by itself, would have no budgetary impact.

The CBO staff contact is Matthew Schmit. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.