

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Program Summary by Budget Activity

(Dollars in thousands)

Budget Activity	FY 2010	FY 2011		FY 2012	
	Actual	Estimated	Estimated	\$ Change	% Change
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau	\$9,200	\$142,825	\$329,045	\$186,220	130%
Total Cost of Operations	\$9,200	\$142,825	\$329,045	\$186,220	130%

Summary

The *Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010* (Dodd-Frank Act) established the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (CFPB or Bureau) as an independent bureau within the Federal Reserve System and made it responsible for protecting consumers from abusive financial services practices. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to perform certain functions of the Bureau until the Director of the Bureau is appointed. On the designated transfer date, July 21, 2011, certain consumer protection authorities will transfer to the Bureau from seven existing federal agencies.

Once fully established, the CFPB will have important authorities under the Dodd-Frank Act and other consumer laws to look out for consumers as they borrow money or use other financial services. Among other things, the new consumer agency will:

- Conduct rule-making, supervision, and enforcement for Federal consumer financial protection laws;
- Restrict unfair, deceptive, or abusive acts or practices;
- Create a center to take consumer complaints;
- Promote financial education;
- Research consumer behavior;

- Monitor financial markets for new risks to consumers; and
- Enforce laws that outlaw discrimination and other unfair treatment in consumer finance.

The CFPB plans to have six primary divisions: Supervision and Enforcement; Consumer Engagement and Education; Research, Markets, and Regulations; External Affairs; General Counsel; and Chief Operating Officer.

The CFPB is funded by authorized transfers from the Federal Reserve System, subject to limits established in the Dodd-Frank Act. The CFPB is also authorized to request up to \$200 million in discretionary appropriations if the amount transferred by the Federal Reserve System is not sufficient. The CFPB is not requesting a discretionary appropriation in FY 2011 or FY 2012.