



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 20, 2009

### **H.R. 1672** **Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative** **Reauthorization Act of 2009**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources  
on November 18, 2009*

H.R. 1672 would reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act and codify aspects of the initiative, including the composition and goals of the Northwest Straits Advisory Commission. The bill also would require the Commission to submit an annual report to the Congress. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1672 would cost \$2 million a year over the 2010-2014 period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

The Northwest Straits Initiative is an intergovernmental partnership that restores and protects marine resources along the northwest coast of Washington state. The initiative is led by the Northwest Straits Advisory Commission, composed of federal, state, and county representatives who provide resources and support to county governments working to achieve the initiative's goals.

Congressional authorization for the Northwest Straits Initiative expired in 2004. In fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the initiative received appropriations ranging from \$1 million to \$2 million annually, including \$1.6 million in fiscal year 2009. It has not yet received a full-year appropriation for 2010.

H.R. 1672 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.

On July 22, 2009, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 668, the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2009, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on July 8, 2009. The two bills are similar, and the CBO cost estimates are the same.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jeff LaFave. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.