



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

January 6, 2010

### **S. 2852**

#### **Renewable Energy Environmental Research Act of 2009**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,  
and Transportation on December 17, 2009*

### **SUMMARY**

S. 2852 would authorize the appropriation of \$100 million a year over the 2010-2014 period for a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) program to support the development of renewable energy through enhanced research and data distribution. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$431 million over the 2010-2014 period and \$69 million after 2014. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 2852 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 2852 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (environment and natural resources).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2010- 2014
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Authorization Level	100	100	100	100	100	500
Estimated Outlays	49	85	97	100	100	431

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted early in calendar year 2010 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar NOAA programs.

S. 2852 would authorize the appropriation of \$100 million a year over the 2010-2014 period for a NOAA program to support the development of renewable energy. Of those amounts, up to \$50 million a year would be used to fund grants to states and universities to carry out activities that support the program. The bill also would direct NOAA to develop a research plan for the program and to establish a digital library that would allow the public online access to data and other resources to support renewable energy development. Finally, the bill would require NOAA to submit biennial reports to the Congress describing activities conducted under the program. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2852 would cost \$431 million over the 2010-2014 period and \$69 million after 2014.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 2852 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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