



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 6, 2010

S. 1252 **Oceans and Human Health Reauthorization Act of 2010**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation on March 24, 2010*

SUMMARY

S. 1252 would authorize the appropriation of \$60 million over the 2010-2014 period for research on oceans and human health issues. Those funds would be used by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to finance an oceans and human health initiative and a public health information and outreach program.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1252 would cost \$57 million over the 2010-2015 period—of which \$4 million stems from an existing appropriation for 2010—and \$3 million after 2015. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to this legislation because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 1252 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. 1252 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-
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2015
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION							
Spending Under Current Law ^a							
Budget Authority	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Estimated Outlays	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
Proposed Changes							
Estimated Authorization Level	8	12	12	12	12	0	56
Estimated Outlays	1	9	12	13	13	5	53
Estimated Spending Under S. 1252							
Estimated Authorization Level	12	12	12	12	12	0	60
Estimated Outlays	4	10	12	13	13	5	57

a. NOAA's Oceans and Human Health Program has already received an appropriation of \$4 million for 2010.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the authorized funds will be appropriated in equal amounts over the 2010-2014 period and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for similar NOAA programs.

S. 1252 would authorize the appropriation of \$60 million over the 2010-2014 period for NOAA's Oceans and Human Health Program. Most of those funds would be used to provide grants to public and private research centers and individuals. An additional portion of those funds would be used to fund the collection and dissemination of research findings and other information on the relationship between oceans and human health. Since 2006, appropriations for activities related to the Oceans and Human Health Program have averaged \$4 million a year, including \$4 million in 2010. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost an additional \$53 million over the 2010-2015 period and \$3 million after 2015.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1252 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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