



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 17, 2010

H.R. 4493 **Bunitan Tasi Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 5, 2010

SUMMARY

H.R. 4493 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish certain environmental research and education programs on the island of Guam. The bill also would allow the Secretary to collect and spend donations to support those activities.

Based on information from the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$15 million over the 2011-2015 period. Enacting the legislation could increase offsetting receipts (from private donations) and associated direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. However, CBO estimates that the net effects would be negligible for each year. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues.

H.R. 4493 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 H.R. 4493 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2011- 2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	4	3	3	3	3	16
Estimated Outlays	3	3	3	3	3	15

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted by the end of fiscal year 2010 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar activities.

H.R. 4493 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish certain environmental research and education programs on the island of Guam. Based on information from the FWS, CBO estimates that implementing the new programs would cost \$1 million in 2011 for start-up activities and \$3 million annually for additional staffing and ongoing activities. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$15 million over the 2011-2015 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. H.R. 4493 could increase offsetting receipts (from private donations) and associated direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. However, CBO estimates that any increase in offsetting receipts would be less than \$500,000 a year and would be offset by similar increases in direct spending. The net budgetary changes that are subject to pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in the following table.

CBO Estimate of Pay-As-You-Go Effects for H.R. 4493, the Bunitan Tasi Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 5, 2010

By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars												2010-	2010-
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		2015	2020
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (-) IN THE DEFICIT													
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 4493 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Jeff LaFave

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Melissa Merrell

Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Theresa Gullo

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis