



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 8, 2010

H.R. 4715 **Clean Estuaries Act of 2010**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on June 30, 2010*

SUMMARY

H.R. 4715 would extend the authorization of appropriations for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) National Estuary Program through fiscal year 2016. Under current law, \$35 million is authorized to be appropriated each year through 2010, and enacting this legislation would increase that level to \$75 million in subsequent years. Under the National Estuary Program, EPA develops plans for attaining or maintaining water quality in an estuary. CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$323 million over the 2011-2015 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

Enacting H.R. 4715 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 4715 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 this legislation 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						
Authorization Level	75	75	75	75	75	375
Estimated Outlays	34	64	75	75	75	323

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 4715 will be enacted in 2010 and that the amounts authorized will be appropriated each fiscal year beginning in 2011. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for the National Estuary Program.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 4715 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On March 9, 2010, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 4715, the Clean Estuaries Act of 2010, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on March 3, 2010. The two versions of the legislation are similar; however, the legislation ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works would authorize the appropriation of a greater amount each year over the 2011-2016 period. Those differences in authorization levels are reflected in the CBO cost estimates.

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