



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 8, 2010

S. 1311

Gulf of Mexico Restoration and Protection Act

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

SUMMARY

S. 1311 would authorize appropriations for the Gulf of Mexico Program Office within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The office would be responsible for many activities related to supporting efforts to monitor, restore, and protect the water quality and marine ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico. This legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$90 million over the 2011-2014 period for program costs and grants to nonprofit organizations, state and local governments, colleges and universities, and interstate agencies for various activities, including researching the effects of environmental changes on the water quality of the Gulf of Mexico and developing and implementing restoration programs associated with the gulf's ecosystem.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized funds, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1311 would cost \$87 million over the 2011-2015 period and \$3 million after 2015.

Pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply to this legislation because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 1311 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. 1311 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	15	25	25	25	0	90
Estimated Outlays	7	17	24	25	14	87

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 1311 will be enacted near the beginning of fiscal year 2011 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated in each year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar grants and programs.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1311 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. State and local governments, public colleges, and universities could benefit from grants authorized by the bill.

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