



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

April 27, 2003

**H.R. 2771**

**A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize the  
New York City Watershed Protection Program**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
on April 22, 2004*

**SUMMARY**

H.R. 2771 would reauthorize the New York City Watershed Protection program for fiscal years 2004 through 2010 and would authorize the appropriation of \$15 million for the program each year. Authority for the program expired at the end of fiscal year 2003. Under the bill, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would provide the state of New York with grants to assist in protecting New York City's water supply sources.

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2771 would cost \$68 million over the 2005-2009 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. Enacting H.R. 2771 would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 2771 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. 2771 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted near the beginning of fiscal year 2005. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for the New York City Watershed Protection program. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Spending Under Current Law for New York City Watershed Protection						
Budget Authority	5	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	5	3	0	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	15	15	15	15	15
Estimated Outlays	0	8	12	15	15	15
Spending Under H.R. 2771 for New York City Watershed Protection						
Authorization Level <sup>a</sup>	5	15	15	15	15	15
Estimated Outlays	5	11	12	15	15	15

a. The 2004 level is the amount appropriated for that year for the New York City Watershed Protection Program.

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 2771 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The state of New York would benefit from federal assistance in protecting and enhancing the water supply system of New York City. Any costs to the state, including matching funds, would be conditions of aid.

## PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On August 29, 2003, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1425, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize the New York City Watershed Protection Program, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on July 30, 2003. S. 1425 would reauthorize the New York City Watershed Protection Program only for 2004 while H.R. 2771 would reauthorize the program through 2010. CBO's cost estimates reflect that difference.

**ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:**

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