



October 6, 2004

Honorable Tom Delay  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Delay:

As you requested, CBO has prepared a cost estimate for H.R. 5226, a bill to respond to recent natural disasters adversely affecting agricultural producers, as introduced on October 6, 2004. CBO estimates that this legislation would provide assistance to producers totaling \$2.858 billion over the 2005-2007 period, as shown in the enclosed table. In addition, the legislation would cap total spending for the Conservation Security Program, resulting in savings relative to CBO's baseline of \$2.858 billion over the 2006-2014 period. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting this bill would have no net cost over the 2005-2014 period.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Jim Langley, who can be reached at 226-2860.

Sincerely,

Douglas Holtz-Eakin

Enclosure

cc: Honorable Bob Goodlatte  
Chairman  
Committee on Agriculture

Honorable Charles W. Stenholm  
Ranking Minority Member

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**ESTIMATED BUDGETARY IMPACT OF H.R. 5226, AS INTRODUCED ON OCTOBER 6, 2004**

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	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Crop Disaster Assistance										
Estimated Budget Authority	2,843	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	2,564	282	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cap on Conservation Security Program										
Estimated Budget Authority	0	-56	-191	-297	-349	-375	-388	-395	-401	-406
Estimated Outlays	0	-56	-191	-297	-349	-375	-388	-395	-401	-406
Total										
Estimated Budget Authority	2,843	-41	-191	-297	-349	-375	-388	-395	-401	-406
Estimated Outlays	2,564	226	-179	-297	-349	-375	-388	-395	-401	-406

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Source: Congressional Budget Office

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