



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

August 9, 2005

**S. 158**

**Long Island Sound Stewardship Act of 2005**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works  
on July 20, 2005*

**SUMMARY**

S. 158 would promote the conservation and improvement of the Long Island Sound ecosystem, including the Peconic Bay area. Based on information from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), CBO estimates that implementing S. 158 would cost \$117 million over the 2006-2010 period, assuming the appropriation of the necessary amounts.

The bill would establish the Long Island Sound Stewardship Initiative and Advisory Committee. The committee would identify natural areas within the Long Island Sound ecosystem to be protected and improved. S. 158 would authorize the appropriation of \$25 million annually over the 2006-2013 period for EPA to provide grants to state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners for the procurement and enhancement of sites within the Long Island Sound ecosystem, and to cover the committee's administrative costs.

This legislation also would extend the authority to appropriate funding through 2009 to EPA to operate the Office of the Management Conference of the Long Island Sound Study and to provide grants to implement the Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans as provided under section 119(f) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. Under current law, this authority expires in 2005.

Enacting S.158 would not affect direct spending or receipts. S. 158 contains no intergovernmental or new private-sector mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). The bill would benefit state and local governments in New York and Connecticut; any costs they incur would result from complying with conditions for receiving federal assistance.

## ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 158 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 158 will be enacted near the start of fiscal year 2006 and that the amounts authorized by the bill will be appropriated near the start of each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar grant programs. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Spending Under Current Law for the Protection of the Long Island Sound						
Budget Authority <sup>a</sup>	3	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	3	1	1	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Long Island Sound Stewardship Initiative and Advisory Committee						
Authorization Level	0	25	25	25	25	25
Estimated Outlays	0	13	20	24	25	25
Office of the Management Conference of the Long Island Sound Study						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	3	3	3	3	0
Estimated Outlays	0	1	2	3	3	1
Total Proposed Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	28	28	28	28	25
Estimated Outlays	0	14	22	27	28	26
Spending Under S. 158 for the Protection of the Long Island Sound						
Estimated Authorization Level	3	28	28	28	28	25
Estimated Outlays	3	15	23	27	28	26

a. The 2005 level is the amount appropriated for that year to EPA to fund the Office of Management and Conference of the Long Island Sound Study and to provide grants to implement the Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan as provided under section 119(f) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 158 contains no intergovernmental or new private-sector mandates as defined by UMRA. The states of New York and Connecticut would benefit from federal assistance for protecting and enhancing sites within the Long Island Sound ecosystem. Any costs to those states, including matching funds, would result from complying with conditions for receiving federal assistance.

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