



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

September 21, 2006

S. 3630

**A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
to reauthorize a program relating to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin,
and for other purposes**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on September 13, 2006*

SUMMARY

CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$84 million over the next five years, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. S. 3630 would extend the authorization of appropriations for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program through 2011. (That authorization terminated in 2005.) The legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$20 million annually through 2011 for this program. Such funding would be used to support public education projects and efforts to restore the ecological health of the lake basin.

Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. S. 3630 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

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted near the beginning of fiscal year 2007 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year, beginning with fiscal year 2007. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for ongoing activities. The estimated budgetary impact of S. 3630 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and the environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law for the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program						
Budget Authority ^a	2	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	1	1	0	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	20	20	20	20	20
Estimated Outlays	0	8	17	19	20	20
Spending Under S. 3630 for the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program						
Authorization Level ^a	2	20	20	20	20	20
Estimated Outlays	1	9	17	19	20	20

a. The 2006 level is the amount appropriated for that year to EPA to implement the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S 3630 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Louisiana and Mississippi, and local governments in those states, that participate in the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program would benefit from the bill's reauthorization of grants, research, and restoration activities for the basin. Any costs to participate in the program would be incurred voluntarily.

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