



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 22, 2008

H.R. 135

Twenty-First Century Water Commission Act of 2007

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
on May 15, 2008*

SUMMARY

H.R. 135 would establish the Twenty-First Century Water Commission. The commission's responsibilities would include projecting future water supply and demand in the United States, studying the management of that supply, and preparing a comprehensive strategy for its management in the future. The bill would require the commission to complete that work within five years.

Assuming appropriation of the amount specified in the legislation, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 135 would cost \$12 million over the 2009-2013 period. Enacting H.R. 135 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 135 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 135 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					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2009-2013
CHANGING IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	3	3	3	3	0	12
Estimated Outlays	2	3	3	3	1	12

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 135 will be enacted near the beginning of fiscal year 2009 and that the \$12 million authorized to be appropriated by the bill will be provided over the next four years. Estimates of spending are based on historical spending patterns of similar activities.

H.R. 135 would require the President and the Congress to appoint 11 members of the commission before it could meet. CBO expects that the commission would hold its first meeting in the second half of fiscal year 2009 and that the commission would issue its final report in 2013.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 135 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS ESTIMATE:

On October 15, 2007, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 135, the Twenty-First Century Water Commission Act of 2007 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 10, 2007. The Natural Resources Committee’s version of the bill would authorize the appropriation of \$9 million for the proposed commission.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Tyler Kruzich

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Neil Hood

Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Theresa Gullo

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis