



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

June 27, 2008

**H.R. 5618  
National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2008**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science and Technology  
on June 25, 2008*

**SUMMARY**

H.R. 5618 would authorize funding for the national sea grant program, which is administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that spending for the program from those appropriations would total \$316 million over the 2009-2013 period. An additional \$182 million would be spent after 2013, including \$100 million authorized to be appropriated for 2014. Enacting H.R. 5618 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 5618 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. 5618 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- 2013
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Authorization Level	66	73	80	86	93	398
Estimated Outlays	20	55	74	80	87	316

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

H.R. 5618 would authorize the appropriation of \$498 million, including \$398 million over the 2009-2013 period and \$100 million for fiscal year 2014, for the national sea grant program. Those amounts are used by NOAA for grants, fellowships, and related administrative functions under the program. For this estimate, CBO assumes that all amounts authorized by H.R. 5618 will be appropriated near the start of each fiscal year and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for the sea grants program. In 2008, \$57 million was appropriated for this program.

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

H.R. 5618 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The bill would benefit public universities by reauthorizing the national sea grant college program, which provides grants to improve marine resource conservation, management, and utilization. Any costs state, local, or tribal governments might incur, including matching funds, would result from complying with conditions of aid.

## **PREVIOUS ESTIMATE**

On May 6, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 5618 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 30, 2008. The two versions of the legislation are similar and the estimated costs are the same.

**ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:**

Federal Cost: Tyler Kruzich

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

Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

**ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:**

Peter H. Fontaine

Assistant Director for Budget Analysis