



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 29, 2006

### **H.R. 4126** **Chesapeake Bay Restoration Enhancement Act of 2006**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
on September 20, 2006*

#### **SUMMARY**

CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$231 million over the next five years, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. H.R. 4126 would extend the authorization of appropriations for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Chesapeake Bay Program through 2011. That authorization terminated in 2005. The legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$30 million annually through 2011 to fund general program activities associated with the Chesapeake Bay Program. In addition, H.R. 4126 would authorize the appropriation of \$20 million annually through 2011 to provide grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations to support projects aimed at restoring the ecological health of the bay.

Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts. H.R. 4126 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA); the bill would benefit state, local, and tribal governments, and any costs would be incurred voluntarily.

#### **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 amounts authorized will be appropriated for each fiscal year, beginning with 2007. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for ongoing activities. The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 4126 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
<b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Spending Under Current Law on the Chesapeake Bay Program						
Authorization Level <sup>a</sup>	22	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	22	2	0	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
General Program Implementation						
Authorization Level	0	30	30	30	30	30
Estimated Outlays	0	27	30	30	30	30
Implementation Assistance Grants						
Authorization Level	0	20	20	20	20	20
Estimated Outlays	0	8	17	19	20	20
Total						
Authorization Level	0	50	50	50	50	50
Estimated Outlays	0	35	47	49	50	50
Spending Under H.R. 4126 on the Chesapeake Bay Program						
Authorization Level <sup>a</sup>	23	50	50	50	50	50
Estimated Outlays	22	37	47	49	50	50

a. The 2006 level is the amount appropriated for that year to EPA to implement the Chesapeake Bay Program.

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

H.R. 4126 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. State and local governments that participate in activities to restore the Chesapeake Bay would benefit from grant funds authorized in the bill. Any costs incurred to satisfy reporting and matching requirements of those grants would be incurred voluntarily.

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