



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

February 25, 2014

S. 970

Water Resources Research Amendments Act of 2013

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on February 6, 2014*

SUMMARY

S. 970 would authorize appropriations for grants from the U.S. Geological Survey to colleges and universities to support research related to increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of new and existing water treatment systems. This legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$7.5 million a year through 2018 for such grants. In addition, S. 970 would authorize the appropriation of \$1.5 million annually through 2018 for the Secretary of the Interior to fund additional research and to synthesize the results of research conducted by colleges and universities on interstate water issues.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 970 would cost \$39 million over the 2014-2019 period. Enacting S. 970 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 970 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 970 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						2014-
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION							
Research Grants							
Authorization Level	2	8	8	8	8	0	32
Estimated Outlays	1	7	8	8	8	2	32
Funding for Additional Research							
Estimated Authorization Level	1	2	2	2	2	0	7
Estimated Outlays	1	2	2	2	2	*	7
Total Changes ^a							
Estimated Authorization Level	3	9	9	9	9	0	39
Estimated Outlays	2	8	9	9	9	2	39

Notes: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding; * = less than \$500,000.

a. The United States Geological Survey received a \$6.5 million appropriation in 2014 for the Water Resources Research Act program.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 970 will be enacted in fiscal year 2014 and that the specified amounts will be appropriated for each year including a supplemental appropriation for 2014. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for those activities.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 970 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. The bill would benefit institutes of higher education that participate as research and technology centers under the Water Resources Act of 1984. Any costs to those entities would be incurred voluntarily as a condition of receiving federal assistance.

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