



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 18, 2017

S. 1586 **Great Lakes Environmental Sensitivity Index Act of 2017**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
on August 2, 2017*

SUMMARY

S. 1586 would authorize the appropriation of \$7.5 million for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to update the environmental sensitivity index (ESI) maps for each coastal area of the Great Lakes.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1586 would cost \$7.5 million over the 2018-2022 period, subject to appropriation of the authorized amounts.

Enacting S. 1586 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

S. 1586 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 effect of S. 1586 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					2018- 2022
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	7.5	0	0	0	0	7.5
Estimated Outlays	5	2	*	*	0	7.5

Note: * = less than \$500,000.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2017, that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for fiscal year 2018, and that spending will follow historical patterns for similar programs.

S. 1586 would authorize the appropriation of \$7.5 million for NOAA’s Office of Response and Restoration to update the ESI maps for the Great Lakes’ coastal areas. ESI maps provide a concise summary of coastal resources that are at risk if an oil spill occurs nearby. The information provided by those maps allows NOAA to establish protection priorities and identify cleanup strategies for locations vulnerable to substantial environmental damage from oil spills. In 2017, NOAA did not allocate any funding for activities related to ESI mapping.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting S. 1586 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1586 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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