



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

April 19, 2017

**S. 675**

**Long Island Sound Restoration and Stewardship Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works  
on April 5, 2017*

**SUMMARY**

S. 675 would require the Long Island Sound office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to study the impact of climate change on the Long Island Sound watershed, to develop conservation strategies, and to increase public education about the watershed. In addition, the bill would authorize appropriations through 2023 for activities related to those purposes and for the EPA to operate the Office of the Management Conference of the Long Island Sound Study.

Assuming appropriation of the specified and estimated amounts, CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$274 million over the 2017-2022 period.

Enacting S. 675 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting S. 675 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

S. 675 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 S. 675 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						2017- 2022
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
<b>INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>							
Conservation and Management Plan							
Authorization Level	0	40	40	40	40	40	200
Estimated Outlays	0	9	34	40	40	40	163
Long Island Sound Stewardship Grants							
Authorization Level	0	25	25	25	25	25	125
Estimated Outlays	0	10	21	25	25	25	106
Office of the Management Conference of the Long Island Sound Study							
Estimated Authorization Level	0	1	1	1	1	1	5
Estimated Outlays	0	1	1	1	1	1	5
Total Changes							
Estimated Authorization Level	0	66	66	66	66	66	330
Estimated Outlays	0	20	56	66	66	66	274

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 675 will be enacted by the end of fiscal year 2017, that the specified and estimated amounts will be appropriated each year, and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for the existing programs. A full-year appropriation for the EPA has not yet been enacted for 2017, however, the Long Island Sound program run by the agency received appropriations of about \$4 million on an annualized basis for 2017 to carry out some of the activities, including making grants for conservation and research projects, that would be authorized by S. 675. Specifically, the bill would:

- Authorize the appropriation of \$40 million annually over the 2018-2023 period for the EPA to make grants for conservation and research projects as part of implementing a comprehensive conservation and management plan for the Long Island Sound, and for administrative costs;
- Authorize the appropriation of \$25 million annually over that same period for the EPA to provide grants to state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners to procure and enhance ecologically important sites within the Long Island Sound watershed, and for administrative costs; and

- Authorize the appropriation of whatever sums are necessary for the EPA to operate the Office of the Management Conference of the Long Island Sound Study, which CBO estimates would cost about \$5 million over the 2018-2022 period.

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

### **INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DEFICIT AND DIRECT SPENDING**

CBO estimates that enacting S. 675 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. 675 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would benefit state and local governments, as well as public institutions of higher education, by authorizing grants for environmental projects in the Long Island Sound. Any costs incurred by those entities, including matching contributions, would be incurred voluntarily.

### **ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:**

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