



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

February 5, 2007

S. 255

New Mexico Water Planning Assistance Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on January 31, 2007*

SUMMARY

S. 255 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Geological Survey, to provide technical assistance and grants to the state of New Mexico for developing comprehensive water plans, conducting water resources mapping, and implementing a study of groundwater resources (including potable, brackish, and saline water resources). The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$3 million annually over the 2008-2012 period for technical assistance and grants. S. 255 would require nonfederal grantees to pay 50 percent of total project costs.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$14 million over the 2008-2012 period and an additional \$1 million after that period. Enacting S. 255 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 255 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. Federal spending authorized by this bill would benefit the state of New Mexico, and any expenditures made by the state to satisfy the bill's matching requirement would be made voluntarily.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 255 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment). For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 255 will be enacted near the end of 2007. Based on historical spending patterns for similar projects, CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost \$14 million over the 2008-2012 period and an additional \$1 million after that period.

	By Fiscal Year, In Millions of Dollars				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Authorization Level	3	3	3	3	3
Estimated Outlays	2	3	3	3	3

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 255 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Federal spending authorized by this bill would benefit the state of New Mexico, and any expenditures made by the state to satisfy the bill’s matching requirement would be made voluntarily.

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