



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

July 1, 2008

**H.R. 1907
Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 25, 2008

SUMMARY

H.R. 1907 would direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to establish a program to protect land near coastal areas and estuaries. Under the program, NOAA would make grants to coastal states that wish to purchase eligible lands or other property interests. For that purpose, the bill would authorize the appropriation of \$60 million for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that carrying out the proposed grant program would cost \$240 million over the 2009-2013 period and \$60 million after 2013. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 1907 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 H.R. 1907 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					2009- 2013
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	60	60	60	60	60	300
Estimated Outlays	20	40	60	60	60	240

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 1907 will be enacted near the beginning of fiscal year 2009 and that the entire amount authorized will be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013. Estimated outlays are based on historical patterns for similar grants made by NOAA.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 1907 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. The grant program authorized by the bill would require matching funds from participating governments. Any costs to those states, including matching funds, would result from complying with conditions for receiving federal assistance.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On May 7, 2007, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1142, the Coastal and Estuarine Land Protection Act, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on April 25, 2007. H.R. 1907 and S. 1142 are very similar, but S. 1142 would authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary for the proposed grant program for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, while H.R. 1907 would authorize the appropriation of \$60 million for that purpose for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013.

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