



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 1, 2001

### **H.R. 1661**

**A bill to extend indefinitely the authority of the states of Washington, Oregon, and California to manage a Dungeness crab fishery until the effective date of a fishery management plan for the fishery under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 16, 2001*

H.R. 1661 would allow Washington, Oregon, and California to continue to manage commercial fishing for Dungeness crabs in federal waters adjacent to their states until the Pacific Fishery Management Council develops a formal fishery management plan for the area. Under existing law, the states' authority to manage their Dungeness crab fisheries will expire on September 30, 2001.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1661 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. The three states would continue to manage their Dungeness crab fisheries largely at state expense. H.R. 1661 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

The bill contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Any costs to states to continue regulating their fisheries would be incurred voluntarily.

H.R. 1661 would reauthorize an existing mandate on owners of vessels that fish for Dungeness crabs in federal waters adjacent to the states of California, Oregon, and Washington. Based on information provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, CBO estimates that the direct costs of extending the existing mandate would fall well below the annual threshold established by UMRA (\$113 million in 2001, adjusted annually for inflation).

The staff contacts for this estimate are Deborah Reis (for federal costs), and Lauren Marks (for the private-sector impact). The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.