



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

February 9, 2004

### **H.R. 1292** **Remote Sensing Applications Act of 2004**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on February 4, 2004*

#### **SUMMARY**

H.R. 1292 would authorize the appropriation of \$15 million a year over the 2005-2009 period for a new program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to encourage the use of geospatial and remote sensing data by state, local, and tribal governments. The bill would authorize grants to demonstrate how such data could be used for land use planning, forest management, and other policy decisions. In addition, NASA would be required to study the cost-effectiveness of such applications, evaluate the program, and prepare certain reports for the Congress.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost \$59 million over the 2005-2009 period. Enacting H.R. 1292 would have no effect on direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 1292 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. 1292 is shown in the following table. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the amounts authorized will be appropriated near the beginning of each fiscal year and that outlays will follow historical patterns for such activities. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 250 (general science, space, and technology).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>CHANGE IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>					
Authorization Level	15	15	15	15	15
Estimated Outlays	4	11	14	15	15

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

H.R. 1292 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The bill would benefit state and local governments, as well as public universities and research centers, by providing grants to encourage the use of geospatial technologies. Any costs to these entities for matching federal funds or to comply with reporting requirements would be conditions of aid and thus voluntary.

### **ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:**

Federal Costs: Kathleen Gramp  
 Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Greg Waring  
 Impact on the Private Sector: Jean Talarico

### **ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:**

Robert A. Sunshine  
 Assistant Director for Budget Analysis