



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 16, 2004

S. 1164 **Abrupt Climate Change Research Act of 2003**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation on March 9, 2004*

SUMMARY

S.1164 would establish a new research program within the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and would authorize the appropriation of \$60 million for such a program. This new program would be responsible for conducting research on “abrupt climate change,” which the bill defines as “a change in the climate that occurs so rapidly or unexpectedly that human or natural systems have difficulty adapting to the climate as changed.” The research activities would include the development of advanced geophysical models and the testing of such models against a global database containing records of past climate changes.

CBO estimates that implementing S.1164 would cost a total of \$60 million over the 2005-2009 period, assuming appropriation of the amount authorized. Enacting S.1164 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S.1164 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

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted by the beginning of 2005. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$60 million over the 2005-2009 period, assuming appropriation of \$60 million in 2005. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns of similar scientific programs. The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1164 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				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Authorization Level	60	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	24	27	9	0	0

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S.1164 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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