



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 5, 2006

H.R. 5143 **H-Prize Act of 2006**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on May 3, 2006

SUMMARY

H.R. 5143 would authorize the appropriation of \$11 million a year over the 2007-2016 period for a new program at the Department of Energy (DOE) to award prize money for achievements in the development of hydrogen energy technologies. Such technologies could include advances in the production and storage of hydrogen, advancements in hydrogen-powered vehicles, or innovations that transform hydrogen distribution and production technologies for energy purposes. The bill would require DOE to enter into an agreement with a private, nonprofit entity to administer the prize competition. Such an entity may contribute its own funds toward the prizes authorized in the bill.

Assuming the availability of appropriated funds, and based on information from DOE, CBO estimates that implementing the prize program would cost \$2 million in 2007 and \$39 million over the 2007-2011 period (with additional spending of the authorized amounts after 2011). We estimate that enacting the bill would have no effect on direct spending or revenues. H.R. 5143 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA); any costs to state, local, or tribal governments would be incurred voluntarily.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 5143 is shown in the following table. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$11 million a year over the 2007-2016 period to administer and award prizes for advancements in technologies using hydrogen. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 250 (general science, space, and technology).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Authorization Level	11	11	11	11	11
Estimated Outlays	2	7	10	10	10

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R 5143 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Funding authorized in the bill may benefit institutions of higher education that compete for funds in connection with hydrogen research. Any costs they might incur to comply with the requirements of the competition would be incurred voluntarily.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

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