



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

June 19, 2006

H.R. 5450

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on June 14, 2006

H.R. 5450 would provide statutory authority for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which was created administratively in 1970. In addition to codifying the agency's functions, authorities, and responsibilities, the bill would require NOAA to prepare new reports and policy statements.

Based on information from NOAA, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 5450 would have no significant impact on the federal budget and no effect on direct spending or revenues. We estimate that complying with the additional reporting requirements and making the minor changes to personnel authorized by the bill would cost less than \$500,000 annually, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

H.R. 5450 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. The bill would codify the authority of NOAA to enter into grants and cooperative agreements with state, local, and tribal governments. Any costs incurred by those entities as a result of participating in the grants and cooperative agreements would be voluntary.

On May 26, 2005, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 50, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on May 19, 2005. H.R. 50 is very similar to H.R. 5450, and the cost estimates for the two bills are identical.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.