



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

November 30, 2009

**S. 1224
Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and
Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2009**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation on November 19, 2009*

SUMMARY

S. 1224 would reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The bill would authorize appropriations totaling \$79 million over the 2011-2014 period to support certain activities carried out by the Chesapeake Bay Office. The bill also would authorize that office to accept donations of funds, property, and services for use in implementing its programs.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1224 would cost \$68 million over the 2011-2014 period and \$11 million after 2014. Enacting the legislation would have no net impact on revenues or direct spending.

S. 1224 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 S. 1224 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					2010- 2014
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level ^a	0	17	19	21	23	79
Estimated Outlays	0	11	16	19	22	68

a. Numbers in table do not sum to totals because of rounding.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes the bill will be enacted early in calendar year 2010 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated each year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for NOAA’s Chesapeake Bay Office.

S. 1224 would authorize appropriations totaling \$79 million over the 2011-2014 period for the Chesapeake Bay Office of NOAA. The bill would authorize that office to expand grant programs that promote the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The bill also would authorize the director of the office to carry out certain activities that would enhance watershed monitoring. Finally, the bill would require the office to prepare a biennial report for the Congress that identifies progress made in protecting and restoring the Bay.

Additionally, S. 1224 would authorize the Chesapeake Bay Office to accept donations of funds, property, and services for use in implementing its programs. Based on information from NOAA, CBO expects that most of those donations would be in-kind support from other federal agencies. CBO estimates that monetary donations received by the office would not exceed \$500,000 per year.

Authorization for the Chesapeake Bay Office expired in 2006. In fiscal years 2007 through 2009, the office received appropriations ranging from \$12 million to \$19 million annually, including \$15 million in fiscal year 2009. It has not yet received a full-year appropriation for 2010.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1224 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On August 20, 2009, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1771, the Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2009, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 29, 2009. The two bills are similar, and the CBO cost estimates are the same.

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