



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

July 6, 2009

**S. 479  
Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network  
Continuing Authorization Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works  
on June 10, 2009*

**SUMMARY**

S. 479 would authorize funding for the Chesapeake Bay Initiative, a program carried out by the National Park Service (NPS) and other federal agencies to conserve resources in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$5 million over the 2010-2014 period.

The bill 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. 479 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	
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Estimated Authorization Level	1	1	1	1	1	5
Estimated Outlays	1	1	1	1	1	5

**BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 479 will be enacted near the end of 2009 and that the amounts estimated to be necessary will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for this program.

S. 479 would authorize (indefinitely) the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary for projects carried out under the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998. Based on recent appropriations for the initiative, CBO estimates that the NPS would spend about \$1 million annually under the bill, mostly for grants to nonfederal entities. The previous authorization of appropriations for the program, which expired at the end of fiscal year 2008, was \$3 million annually, but appropriations have generally been about one-third of that amount each year.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 479 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. State and local governments could benefit from grants authorized by the bill.

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