



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 6, 2009

S. 878 **Clean Coastal Environment and Public Health Act of 2009**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on June 18, 2009*

SUMMARY

S. 878 would authorize the appropriation of \$60 million a year over the 2010-2013 period for the water quality program that benefits coastal states under the Clean Water Act. Under this program, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides grants to state or local governments to support their efforts to monitor the quality of coastal waters and notify the public when beach water does not meet established standards. This legislation also would authorize the appropriation of such sums as necessary for EPA to manage the program through 2013.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized funds (including amounts necessary for administrative costs), CBO estimates that implementing S. 878 would cost \$244 million over the 2010-2014 period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 878 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. 878 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						
Beach Protection Grants						
Authorization Level	60	60	60	60	0	240
Estimated Outlays	48	60	60	60	12	240
Administrative Support						
Estimated Authorization Level	1	1	1	1	0	4
Estimated Outlays	1	1	1	1	0	4
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	61	61	61	61	0	244
Estimated Outlays	49	61	61	61	12	244

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 878 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2009, that the specified amounts will be appropriated in each year starting in 2010, and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for the existing program. In 2009, about \$10 million was appropriated to EPA for grants to support efforts to monitor beach water. CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$244 million over the next five years, including \$4 million to administer the grant program.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 878 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 June 10, 2009, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 2093, the Clean Coastal Environmental and Public Health Act of 2009, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on June 4, 2009. Both H.R. 2093 and S. 878 would reauthorize the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act, but H.R. 2093 would authorize grants of \$40 million a year through 2014.

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