



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

August 22, 2012

**H.R. 6190
Asthma Inhalers Relief Act of 2012**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce
on August 1, 2012*

H.R. 6190 would direct the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to allow the distribution, sale, and consumption of the remaining inventories of over-the-counter asthma inhalers that contain chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) through August 1, 2013. Sales of this type of inhaler have been phased out under the Clean Air Act and the Montreal Protocol, an international treaty to reduce ozone-depleting substances, such as CFCs. (An example of such an inhaler was sold under the brand name, Primatene Mist.)

According to EPA, under this legislation, the agency would end enforcement of the ban on the sale and distribution of inhalers that contain CFCs, but it would continue to verify that such inhalers are not manufactured or imported. CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would have no significant impact on the federal budget because of the limited amount of EPA resources dedicated to those activities. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to H.R. 6190 because the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

This bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Susanne S. Mehlman. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.