



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 23, 2011

### **H.R. 872** **Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
on June 21, 2011*

H.R. 872 would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and states authorized to issue permits under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) from requiring a permit for some discharges of pesticides authorized for use under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Under H.R. 872, public and private entities would no longer need to obtain an NPDES permit for discharges of pesticides from point sources except in cases where the application of the pesticide would not fall under FIFRA, or in cases where the discharge is regulated as a stormwater, municipal, or industrial discharge under the Clean Water Act. Under a recent court ruling, the requirement to obtain an NPDES permit for those pesticide discharges will become effective on October 31, 2011; at that time, pesticide applications not covered by an NPDES permit will be subject to a fine.

Based on information from EPA, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 872 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Any administrative savings to EPA that might result from issuing fewer permits would be negligible because EPA has delegated the authority to issue most NPDES permits to states.

Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to H.R. 872 because the act would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 872 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.

On March 11, 2011, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 872 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Agriculture on March 9, 2011. Also, On March 18, 2011, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 872 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on March 16, 2011. The three versions of the legislation are nearly identical, and the CBO cost estimates are the same.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Susanne S. Mehlman. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.