



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 2, 2012

S. 2104 **Water Resources Research Amendments Act of 2012**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on June 21, 2012*

SUMMARY

S. 2104 would reauthorize grants from the U.S. Geological Survey to colleges and universities to support research related to increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of new and existing water treatment systems. This legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$7.5 million a year over the 2013-2017 period for such grants. In addition, S. 2104 would authorize the appropriation of \$1.5 million annually over the 2013-2017 period for the Secretary of the Interior to fund additional research and to synthesize the results of research conducted by colleges and universities on interstate water issues.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized funds, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2104 would cost \$42 million over the 2013-2017 period. Enacting S. 2104 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 2104 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. 2104 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					2013- 2017
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Research Grants						
Authorization Level	8	8	8	8	8	38
Estimated Outlays	6	7	8	8	8	35
Funding for Additional Research						
Authorization Level	2	2	2	2	2	8
Estimated Outlays	1	2	2	2	2	7
Total Changes						
Authorization Level ^a	9	9	9	9	9	45
Estimated Outlays	7	8	9	9	9	42

Note: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

a. The United States Geological Survey received a \$7 million appropriation in 2012 for the Water Resources Research Act Program.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 2104 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2012 and that the specified amounts will be appropriated for each year starting in 2013. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for those activities.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 2104 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. The bill would benefit institutes of higher education that participate as research and technology centers under the Water Resources Act of 1984. Any costs to those entities would be incurred voluntarily as a condition of receiving federal assistance.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Jeff LaFave

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Melissa Merrell

Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Theresa Gullo

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis