



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

June 3, 2015

H.R. 23
National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act
Reauthorization of 2015

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
on February 26, 2015*

SUMMARY

H.R. 23 would reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program (NWIRP), which was created to improve the understanding of windstorms and their effects and to develop measures to reduce the damage they cause. The act also would establish an interagency committee to oversee and coordinate activities of federal agencies participating in the program. Under H.R. 23, the committee would be directed to develop a strategic plan that sets goals for the program to mitigate the loss of life and property from future storms.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 23 would cost \$42 million over the 2016-2020 period. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply because enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 23 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 23 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 250 (general science, space, and technology), 300 (natural resources and environment), 370 (commerce and housing credit), and 450 (community and regional development).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2016- 2020
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Federal Emergency Management Agency						
Authorization Level	5	5	0	0	0	11
Estimated Outlays	3	5	2	0	0	11
National Science Foundation						
Authorization Level	10	10	0	0	0	19
Estimated Outlays	2	6	6	3	1	18
National Institute of Standards and Technology						
Authorization Level	4	4	0	0	0	8
Estimated Outlays	3	4	1	0	0	8
National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration						
Authorization Level	2	2	0	0	0	5
Estimated Outlays	1	2	1	0	0	5
Total						
Authorization Level	21	21	0	0	0	43
Estimated Outlays	10	18	10	3	1	42

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

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 23 will be enacted near the end fiscal year 2015 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated in fiscal years 2016 and 2017. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for this program.

For each of fiscal years 2016 and 2017, H.R. 23 would authorize appropriation of about \$21 million for the federal agencies that participate in the windstorm reduction program. Specifically, for each of those years, the act would authorize appropriations of \$5.3 million for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, \$9.7 million for the National Science Foundation, \$4.1 million for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and \$2.3 million for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out the NWIRP. Assuming appropriation those amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the act would cost \$42 million over the 2016-2020 period.

CBO estimates that roughly \$54 million was obligated in 2014 by federal agencies for windstorm-related activities. However, those agencies do not have sufficient information available to compare the activities authorized in H.R. 23 with the amounts obligated in 2014.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 23 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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