



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 12, 2016

S. 3038 **Coastal Coordination Act of 2016**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
on June 15, 2016*

SUMMARY

S. 3038 would reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA), which governs federal and state environmental management of coastal areas. The bill would authorize appropriations for grants to state and local governments and other coastal zone management programs administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The bill also would authorize NOAA, in consultation with Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, to create programs for the conservation and restoration of the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 3038 would cost \$423 million over the 2017-2021 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. Enacting S. 3038 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 3038 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

S. 3038 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 effect of S. 3038 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					2017- 2021
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Coastal Zone Management Grants						
Authorization Level	80	80	80	80	80	400
Estimated Outlays	24	44	60	72	80	280
National Estuarine Research Grants						
Authorization Level	25	25	25	25	25	125
Estimated Outlays	20	24	25	25	25	119
Gulf of Mexico Coordination Programs						
Authorization Level	5	5	5	5	5	25
Estimated Outlays	4	5	5	5	5	24
Total Costs						
Authorization Level	110	110	110	110	110	550
Estimated Outlays	48	73	90	102	110	423

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

CBO assumes S. 3038 will be enacted near the start of 2017 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar programs. In 2015, NOAA allocated about \$65 million to all Coastal Zone Management activities, including Coastal Zone Management grants and National Estuarine Research grants.

The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$80 million annually through 2021 for NOAA to award grants to manage, preserve, and restore coastal wetlands. CBO estimates that those grants would cost \$280 million over the 2017-2021 period with the remainder being spent after 2021.

S. 3038 also would authorize the appropriation of \$25 million annually through 2021 for NOAA to award grants to states and private entities to fund research on estuaries. CBO estimates that those grants would cost \$119 million over the 2017-2021 period.

Finally, S. 3038 would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million annually for NOAA to coordinate with Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida to develop and implement programs to restore and conserve the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem. Those programs would include methods to improve water quality, protect living resources,

improve wildlife habitats, and otherwise strengthen the gulf's ecosystem. CBO estimates that implementing that program would cost \$24 million over the 2017-2021 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 3038 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would benefit coastal states and local governments by authorizing federal grants and technical assistance for coastal management programs. Any costs incurred by those entities, including matching contributions, would result from participation in voluntary federal programs.

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