



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

September 5, 2013

S. 376

Drought Information Act of 2013

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation on July 30, 2013*

SUMMARY

S. 376 would amend the National Integrated Drought Information System Act of 2006. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$14.5 million annually over the 2014-2018 period for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to maintain a system to provide early warnings of droughts by collecting and disseminating information and coordinating research on drought conditions. In 2013, the agency received \$12 million to carry out similar activities.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$65 million over the 2014-2018 period and \$8 million after 2018. Enacting S. 376 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 376 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 376 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					2014- 2018
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	15	15	15	15	15	73
Estimated Outlays	9	12	14	15	15	65
Note: Amounts may not sum to totals because of rounding.						

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2013 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for this program.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 376 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

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