



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 27, 2017

H.R. 1431 **EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2017**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
on March 9, 2017*

H.R. 1431 would require the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to make various changes related to the qualifications of members serving on the Science Advisory Board (SAB) and to expand disclosure requirements for members of the board. The SAB was established in 1978 by the Congress with a broad mandate to advise the EPA on technical matters related to science. About \$4 million was allocated for SAB activities in 2016. Some of the bill's proposed changes include requiring the EPA to solicit nominations from the public and from relevant federal agencies, such as the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Energy, and Health and Human Services. Nominees would be required to file a written report disclosing certain financial relationships and interests. Additionally, the bill would require the EPA to make risk or hazard assessments available to the SAB and to publish the board's advice, comments, and views in the Federal Register.

Based on the cost of similar types of activities, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost less than \$500,000 annually for personnel and administrative expenses. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting H.R. 1431 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. 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 2028.

H.R. 1431 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jon Sperl. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.