



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 4, 2017

H.R. 1758 **Brownfields Reauthorization Act of 2017**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
on July 27, 2017*

H.R. 1758 would authorize the appropriation of \$250 million annually over the 2018-2022 period for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide grants to clean up brownfields and support state brownfield programs. (Brownfields are properties where the presence, or potential presence, of a hazardous substance complicates the expansion or redevelopment of the property.) Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1758 would cost \$958 million over the 2018-2022 period; the remainder would be spent in years after 2022.

Enacting H.R. 1758 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1758 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 1758 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 H.R. 1758 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- 2022
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION							
Cleanup Grants							
Authorization Level	0	200	200	200	200	200	1,000
Estimated Outlays	0	68	142	172	186	194	762
State Response Program Grants							
Authorization Level	0	50	50	50	50	50	250
Estimated Outlays	0	3	43	50	50	50	196
Total Increases							
Authorization Level	0	250	250	250	250	0	1,250
Estimated Outlays	0	71	185	222	236	244	958

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 1758 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2017, that the specified amounts will be appropriated in each year starting in 2018, and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for the brownfields program. The Congress provided \$126 million for brownfields grant programs in 2017.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DEFICIT AND DIRECT SPENDING

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1758 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 1758 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. The bill would benefit state, local, and tribal governments by authorizing federal grants for brownfield cleanup activities and programs. Any costs those governments might incur, including matching contributions, would result from participating in a voluntary federal program.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On July 21, 2017, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 3017, the Brownfields Enhancement, Economic Redevelopment, and Reauthorization Act of 2017, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on June 28, 2017. H.R. 3017 is similar to H.R. 1758. However, CBO's estimated costs for H.R. 1758 are higher because H.R. 1758 would authorize appropriations through 2022, whereas H.R. 3017 would authorize appropriations through 2021.

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