



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

December 1, 2017

H.R. 2504

**A bill to ensure fair treatment in licensing requirements
for the export of certain echinoderms**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on November 8, 2017

H.R. 2504 would exempt exporters of certain species of sea creatures from having to obtain export licenses from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Under H.R. 2504, an export license would not be required to ship sea cucumbers and sea urchins to foreign markets.

Enacting the bill would reduce offsetting receipts (which are treated as reductions in direct spending) from fees that the USFWS charges for export licenses. H.R. 2504 also could reduce receipts from inspection fees because exporters of the affected products would no longer be required to clear shipments directly with the USFWS. CBO estimates that enacting the bill would reduce such fees by less than \$500,000 a year. Because the USFWS is authorized to retain and spend proceeds from those activities, any reduction in fee collections would be offset by a similar reduction in direct spending.

Because enacting the bill would affect direct spending pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, the net effect on direct spending would be negligible. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 2504 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 2504 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

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