

**H.R. 886, Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on May 23, 2023

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2023	2023-2028	2023-2033
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	40	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes
		<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 886 would authorize appropriations for the Marine Debris Program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The bill also would authorize NOAA, under that program, to receive funds from other federal agencies and nonfederal entities. In addition, the bill would authorize an appropriation for the Marine Debris Foundation and would allow the foundation to match contributions from foreign governments and from tribal, regional, and nongovernmental organizations. Both the program and the foundation support efforts to remove plastics, discarded fishing gear, and other harmful materials from the marine environment.

CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$40 million over the 2023-2028 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized and estimated amounts. The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

See also

[CBO's Cost Estimates Explained](#), [CBO Describes Its Cost-Estimating Process](#), [Glossary](#)



**Table 1.  
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 886**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2023-2028
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
Marine Debris Program							
Estimated Authorization	0	15	15	*	*	*	30
Estimated Outlays	0	13	15	2	*	*	30
Marine Debris Foundation							
Authorization	0	0	10	0	0	0	10
Estimated Outlays	0	0	4	2	2	2	10
Total Changes							
Estimated Authorization	0	15	25	*	*	*	40
Estimated Outlays	0	13	19	4	2	2	40

\* = between zero and \$500,000.

### Marine Debris Program

H.R. 886 would reauthorize the appropriation of \$15 million for 2024 and 2025 for NOAA to operate the Marine Debris Program. Under current law, \$15 million is authorized to be appropriated in 2023 and NOAA allocated \$6 million for the program in 2023. Based on historical spending patterns, CBO estimates that the reauthorization for the Marine Debris Program would cost \$30 million over the 2024-2028 period.

The bill also would authorize NOAA to accept contributions for the program from other federal agencies and nonfederal entities. The contributions would be classified as offsetting receipts (or reductions in direct spending). Any spending of those contributions would be subject to future appropriation. Using information from NOAA, CBO expects that those contributions would be insignificant in every year and over the 2023-2033 period.

### Marine Debris Foundation

H.R. 886 would extend the current authorization of appropriations for the Marine Debris Foundation to match contributions it receives through 2025. Under current law, the foundation has an annual authorization of appropriation of \$10 million through 2024; the Congress has not appropriated any funds for the foundation to date. CBO estimates that extending the authorization for the foundation would cost \$10 million over the 2024-2028 period.

The bill also would authorize the foundation to match contributions it receives from foreign governments and from tribal, regional, and nongovernmental organizations. Under current law, the foundation is authorized to receive federal matching funds only for contributions from private individuals and state or local governments. The foundation also is authorized to invest appropriated funds in Treasury securities and to spend any credited interest without further appropriation.



The collection and spending of contributions as well as the spending of credited interest are classified in the budget as direct spending. CBO estimates that the net effect on direct spending from the additional contributions to the foundation would be insignificant over the 2024-2033 period because those collections would be spent quickly. CBO also expects that the spending of interest credited to the account would be insignificant.

### **Previous Estimates**

On June 7, 2023, CBO transmitted a [cost estimate for S. 318](#), the Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on March 22, 2023. On August 1, 2023, CBO transmitted a [cost estimate for H.R. 886](#), the Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 17, 2023. Those two bills are similar, as are CBO's estimates of their budgetary effects. This version of H.R. 886, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, is similar to the other two bills, except that it would authorize appropriations for marine debris cleanup and remediation and matching contributions for the same activities. CBO's estimates reflect those differences.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Aurora Swanson. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

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