



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

June 6, 2008

**H.R. 6063
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Authorization Act of 2008**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science and Technology on June 4, 2008

SUMMARY

H.R. 6063 would authorize the appropriation of \$20.2 billion for activities of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for 2009. CBO estimates that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) would need an additional \$5 million over the 2009-2013 period under the bill for planning and reporting requirements related to space research. Assuming appropriation of the authorized and necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 6063 would cost \$20.1 billion over the 2009-2013 period. Enacting H.R. 6063 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 6063 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. 6063 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 250 (general science, space, and technology), 300 (natural resources and environment), and 800 (general government).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2009-
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
National Aeronautics and Space Administration:						
Space Operations						
Authorization Level	6,075	0	0	0	0	6,075
Estimated Outlays	4,495	1,458	61	30	0	6,044
Science						
Authorization Level	4,932	0	0	0	0	4,932
Estimated Outlays	2,861	1,726	197	49	49	4,882
Exploration						
Authorization Level	3,886	0	0	0	0	3,886
Estimated Outlays	1,904	1,788	78	38	38	3,846
Cross-Agency Support						
Authorization Level	3,300	0	0	0	0	3,300
Estimated Outlays	1,782	1,485	33	0	0	3,300
Human Space Flight Gap						
Authorization Level	1,000	0	0	0	0	1,000
Estimated Outlays	740	240	10	5	0	995
Aeronautics						
Authorization Level	853	0	0	0	0	853
Estimated Outlays	410	393	26	9	9	847
Education						
Authorization Level	128	0	0	0	0	128
Estimated Outlays	15	54	33	18	6	126
Inspector General						
Authorization Level	36	0	0	0	0	36
Estimated Outlays	31	5	0	0	0	36
Subtotal						
Authorization Level	20,210	0	0	0	0	20,210
Estimated Outlays	12,237	7,149	438	149	102	20,076
OSTP and NOAA Activities						
Estimated Authorization Level	2	2	*	*	*	5
Estimated Outlays	2	2	*	*	*	5
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	20,212	2	*	*	*	20,215
Estimated Outlays	12,239	7,151	438	149	103	20,081

Notes: OSTP = Office of Science and Technology Policy; NOAA = National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

* = less than 500,000.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 6063 will be enacted before the end of 2008 and that the entire amounts authorized and estimated to be necessary will be appropriated. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for existing programs.

H.R. 6063 would authorize the appropriation of \$20.2 billion for activities of NASA in 2009. CBO estimates that the appropriation of that amount, plus an additional \$5 million over the 2009-2013 period for NOAA and OSTP reporting requirements, would result in discretionary outlays of \$20.1 billion over the 2009-2013 period.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

For 2008, NASA received an appropriation of \$17.3 million. H.R. 6063 would authorize the appropriation of \$20.2 billion in 2009 for the following NASA programs, including:

- *Space Operations*: \$6.1 billion to support the International Space Station, final missions and retirement of the Space Shuttle, and launch and rocket propulsion testing;
- *Science*: \$4.9 billion for Earth research and planetary science, planetary radar observations, astrophysics, heliophysics, and suborbital research, and support of the Mars exploration program;
- *Exploration*: \$3.9 billion to support the Ares I launch and Orion crew vehicles, lunar precursor robotic program, exploration risk mitigation research, and other exploration technology;
- *Cross-Agency Support*: \$3.3 billion to manage center and agency concerns, the innovative partnership program, and facilities and laboratory construction and maintenance;
- *Human Space Flight Gap*: \$1 billion to accelerate the initial operating capability of the next-generation space shuttle and associated ground support and launch systems;
- *Aeronautics*: \$853 million to research and develop aircraft safety and capabilities, (including evaluating airspace, space weather, and environmental concerns), create a joint aeronautics research and development advisory council, and award university grants;

- *Education*: \$128 million to attract and retain students in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and
- *Inspector General*: \$36 million to conduct investigations into the ongoing operations of the agency.

OSTP and NOAA Activities

CBO estimates that an additional \$5 million over the 2009-2013 period would be necessary under the bill for NOAA and OSTP planning and reporting requirements concerning export control policies in the aerospace industry; space weather; and other space-related issues.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 6063 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. The legislation would authorize grants to institutions of higher education, including public universities, to establish one or more center for Research on Aviation Training. Any costs to state, local, or tribal governments would result from complying with conditions of aid.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Leigh Angres

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Neil Hood

Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Peter H. Fontaine

Assistant Director for Budget Analysis