



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 28, 2012

S. 2018 **Long Island Sound Restoration and Stewardship Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on June 21, 2012*

SUMMARY

S. 2018 would require the Long Island Sound office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to study the impact of climate change on the Long Island Sound watershed and develop strategies to increase public education about that area. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$254 million over the 2013-2017 period.

This legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$40 million annually over the 2013-2016 period for EPA to implement the Long Island Sound comprehensive conservation and management plan. S. 2018 also would authorize the appropriation of \$25 million annually over that same period for EPA to provide grants to states and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners to procure and enhance sites within the Long Island Sound ecosystem, and to cover administrative costs. (Such grants are referred to in the bill as Long Island Sound Stewardship grants.)

In addition, this legislation would extend the authority to appropriate funding through 2016 for EPA to operate the Office of the Management Conference of the Long Island Sound Study.

Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to S. 2018 because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 2018 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 S. 2018 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					2013- 2017
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Grants to Support Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan						
Authorization Level	40	40	40	40	0	160
Estimated Outlays	18	34	40	40	22	154
Long Island Sound Stewardship Grants						
Authorization Level	25	25	25	25	0	100
Estimated Outlays	11	21	25	25	14	96
Office of the Management Conference of the Long Island Sound Study						
Estimated Authorization Level	1	1	1	1	0	4
Estimated Outlays	1	1	1	1	0	4
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	66	66	66	66	0	264
Estimated Outlays	30	56	66	66	36	254

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 2018 will be enacted near the beginning of fiscal year 2013, that the specified and necessary amounts will be appropriated in each year starting in 2013, and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for the existing programs. In addition, CBO estimates that about \$4 million would be needed over the next four years to operate the Office of the Management Conference of the Long Island Sound Study.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 2018 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. States would benefit from grants authorized in the bill. Any costs to those governments would be incurred voluntarily as a condition of federal assistance.

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