



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

March 31, 2008

**S. 579**

**Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act of 2007**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
on March 13, 2008*

**SUMMARY**

S. 579 would amend the Public Health Service Act to explicitly authorize the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to make grants to public or nonprofit organizations for the purpose of conducting collaborative multidisciplinary and multi-institutional research on environmental factors that may contribute to the development of breast cancer.

S. 579 would authorize the appropriation of \$40 million a year for fiscal years 2008 through 2012 for those activities. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$10 million in 2009 and \$145 million over the 2009-2013 period, assuming the appropriation of the amounts authorized for 2009 and subsequent years. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts.

The bill 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. 579 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 550 (health).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>					
Authorization Level	40	40	40	40	0
Estimated Outlays	10	24	38	43	30

**BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

Two institutes of the NIH, the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), currently support four collaborative Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Centers, which study how chemical, physical, and social factors in the environment affect the development of breast cancer. According to officials at NIEHS, those institutes spent approximately \$5 million on those research centers in fiscal year 2007 and plan to spend a similar amount each year through fiscal year 2009. S. 579 would provide statutory authorization for similar breast cancer and environmental research grants administered through the NIH.

In addition, S. 579 would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish within the NIH a nine- member Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Panel, which would set research priorities and make recommendations for the program.

For carrying out the above activities, the bill would authorize the appropriation of \$40 million a year for fiscal years 2008 through 2012. Based on information provided by the NIH regarding the time needed to solicit and award grants, CBO estimates that none of the \$40 million authorized for fiscal year 2008 could be obligated if it were appropriated later this year. The estimate assumes that the amounts authorized for fiscal years 2009 through 2012 would be appropriated near the beginning of each fiscal year. Using historical patterns of spending for similar programs, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$10 million in 2009 and \$145 million over the 2009-2013 period.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 579 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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