



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 20, 2005

S. 1017

Water Resources Research Act Amendments of 2005

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on June 8, 2005*

SUMMARY

S. 1017 would authorize the appropriation of \$94 million over the 2006-2010 period to carry out the Water Resources Research Act of 1984. Under that act, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) provides grants to research and technology institutes at American colleges and universities for research and education on water resources. Funding for those grants expires at the end of fiscal year 2005.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1017 would cost \$14 million in fiscal year 2006 and \$87 million through 2010. The remaining \$7 million authorized would be spent in 2011. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. S. 1017 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). Any costs to state, local, or tribal governments would result from complying with conditions for receiving federal aid.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each year and that outlays will follow the historical spending patterns for these grant programs. The estimated impact of S. 1017 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					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending for Research Institutes						
Under Current Law						
Budget Authority ^a	6	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	6	1	0	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	18	18	18	20	20
Estimated Outlays	0	14	16	18	19	20
Spending for Research Institutes						
Under S. 1017						
Authorization Level ^a	6	18	18	18	20	20
Estimated Outlays	6	15	16	18	19	20

a. The 2005 level is the amount appropriated for that year for USGS grants under the Water Resources Research Act.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1017 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The bill would reauthorize grants for the 2006-2010 period for water resources research and technology institutes established under the Water Resources Research Act of 1984. This reauthorization would update the level of grant money available, and while state and local governments may incur some costs to match federal funds, those costs would be incurred voluntarily.

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