



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

October 14, 1999

**S. 1119**

**A bill to amend the Act of August 9, 1950, to continue funding of the  
Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works  
on September 29, 1999*

S. 1119 would reauthorize through fiscal year 2009 programs carried out under the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA). CBO estimates that enacting this bill would have no impact on the federal budget because these programs have permanent authority to spend amounts in the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund (ARTF). The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 1119 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

Wetlands Conservative Projects carried out under the CWPPRA are funded with a portion of the excise taxes deposited into the ARTF. Specifically, these programs receive annual direct spending authority equal to the previous year's excise taxes on fuels used in small engines or 18 percent of that year's deposits to the sport fish restoration account of the ARTF, whichever is greater. In 1998, the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century reauthorized the collection of small engine fuels taxes through fiscal year 2005. CBO estimates that direct spending authority for these programs will range between \$60 million and \$70 million annually over the next five years. If the excise tax is not reauthorized after 2005, spending from the ARTF would decline significantly.

The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.