

H.R. 1568, SAVE Right Whales Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 1, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2019	2019-2024	2019-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Deficit Effect	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	24	50
Pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

* = between -\$500,000 and zero.

H.R. 1568 would authorize the appropriation of \$5.3 million annually from 2019 through 2029 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to provide competitive grants for projects to conserve a particular species of whales, known as the North Atlantic right whales, (\$5.0 million) and to conduct surveys using a device known as a continuous plankton recorder on an ongoing basis (\$0.3 million).

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1568 would cost \$50 million over the 2019-2029 period and \$3 million after 2029. The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, would fall into budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 1568

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars											2019-2024	2019-2029
	2019 ^a	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029		
Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation													
Authorization	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	32	58
Estimated Outlays	0	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	24	50

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding; n.a. = not applicable.

a. H.R. 1568 would authorize appropriations totaling \$5.3 million for 2019. CBO does not estimate any outlays for those authorizations because appropriations for 2019 have already been provided.



Under the bill, NOAA also would be authorized to accept and spend monetary gifts to supplement appropriated funds provided for the right whale conservation grants. The receipt and spending of such gifts are recorded in the budget as direct spending. Because any money received would probably be spent soon thereafter, CBO estimates that the net effect on direct spending would be negligible.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Robert Reese. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.