

H.R. 4275, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program, and for other purposes

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on September 20, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2024	2020-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	13	89	100
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	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

H.R. 4275 would authorize the appropriation of \$20 million annually over the 2020-2024 period for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program. That program provides grants and technical assistance for projects that have been identified in a management plan approved under the EPA's National Estuary Program to improve the ecological health of the basin. In 2019, EPA received appropriations totaling \$1 million to carry out the program. The bill also would require EPA to ensure the basin's management plan is revised at least every five years, expand the geographic definition of the basin, and allow EPA to use up to 5 percent of the appropriated funds to administer the program.

Assuming appropriation of the specified amounts and based on spending patterns for similar programs, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$89 million over the 2020-2024 period and \$11 million after 2024. The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).



Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 4275

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars					2020-2024
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Authorization	20	20	20	20	20	100
Estimated Outlays	13	17	19	20	20	89

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