

H.R. 1437, PRECIP Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology on November 16, 2021

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2026	2022-2031
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	50	80
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 2032?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 1437 would direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to improve precipitation estimates for the United States. The bill would authorize the appropriation of specific amounts for each fiscal year through 2030, totaling \$80 million, for the following activities:

- \$47 million to create unified guidance for federal agencies and private entities on best practices for producing precipitation estimates,
- \$31.5 million to produce improved estimates of precipitation frequency and volume, and
- \$1.5 million to contract with the National Academy of Sciences to produce a report on current precipitation estimate practices, their shortcomings, and ways they can be improved.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) provided NOAA with advance appropriations totaling \$492 million over the 2022 to 2026 period for flood mapping and water modeling activities, including modernized studies of precipitation frequency and volume. The authorization of appropriations in H.R. 1437 would be in addition to the funds already provided.



For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 1437 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2022. Using historical spending patterns for similar research and activities, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1437 would cost \$50 million over the 2022-2026 period and \$80 million over the 2022-2031 period.

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. 1437

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars										2022-2026	2022-2031
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031		
Authorization	18	18	17	6	5	5	4	4	3	0	64	80
Estimated Outlays	*	5	9	21	15	11	8	5	4	2	50	80

* = between zero and \$500,000.

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