



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 11, 1999

S. 292

A bill to preserve the cultural resources of the Route 66 corridor and to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on March 4, 1999*

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that the National Park Service (NPS) would spend \$5 million over the next five years to implement S. 292. The government would spend another \$5 million over the following five years. Because S. 292 would allow the NPS to accept donations, the bill could affect federal revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. We estimate, however, that any amounts collected would be insignificant. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. State, local, and tribal governments might incur some costs as a result of the bill's enactment, but these costs would be voluntary.

S. 292 would direct the Secretary of the Interior (acting through the NPS) to create a program for preserving the Route 66 corridor. For that purpose, the NPS would be authorized to accept donations, conduct research, make grants, execute cost-sharing agreements, and provide technical assistance to nonfederal parties. The bill would authorize the appropriation of a total of \$10 million over the 2000-2009 period for these purposes.

Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming appropriation of the \$10 million authorized, CBO estimates that the agency would spend about \$5 million between 2000 and 2004. We estimate that about \$3 million would be used to establish guidelines and programs required by the bill in 2000 and 2001. The NPS would need about \$1 million annually thereafter to carry out the new programs.

The bill would authorize the NPS to accept donations from nonfederal sources. The amounts of donations collected are not likely to be significant.

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