



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

October 7, 1999

**H.R. 1451**

**Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act**

*As passed by the House of Representatives on October 4, 1999*

H.R. 1451 would establish a commission to study and recommend to the Congress activities for commemorating the bicentennial, in 2009, of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. The commission, consisting of 11 members, would have four years to report on its findings and recommendations. Members would serve without pay, but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. In addition, the commission could hire staff. The legislation would terminate the commission four months after it submits its final report.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary funds, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1451 would cost the federal government a total of between \$1 million and \$1.5 million over the 2000-2004 period. That estimate assumes that the commission would hire a staff of three individuals and would terminate in fiscal year 2004. Because H.R. 1451 would authorize the commission to accept and use gifts, which would affect both governmental receipts and direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. CBO estimates that neither the receipts nor the spending would exceed \$500,000. H.R. 1451 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.

The CBO staff contact is John R. Righter. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.