



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 18, 2002

### **H.R. 3917** **Flight 93 National Memorial Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on July 10, 2002*

H.R. 3917 would establish a memorial at the crash site of United Airlines flight 93 in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. The bill also would establish a 15-member commission to advise the National Park Service (NPS) and the Congress on the planning, design, and management of the memorial, which would be administered as a unit of the National Park System. The NPS and the commission would be authorized to accept and spend donations for the acquisition and development of the memorial site.

Based on information provided by the NPS and on the costs of establishing other national and private memorials, CBO estimates that acquiring property and developing the flight 93 memorial would cost around \$10 million, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts over the next five or six years. This estimate includes land acquisition and site construction as well as annual commission operations and federal technical assistance over the next six years. We estimate that costs to operate the memorial after construction would be about \$500,000 annually, also assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

Both development and operating costs could vary significantly, however, depending on the design chosen and the level of public participation in this project. Costs could be lower, for example, if a substantial portion of the land necessary for the memorial is donated. Conversely, costs could be higher if the chosen design for the memorial includes a major building such as a museum. Finally, the cost of establishing the memorial could be offset by donations from private sources, and such donations might be substantial, but there is no basis for estimating such future revenues and direct spending. Because the bill could affect revenues and direct spending, pay-as-you-go-procedures would apply.

The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.