



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 2, 2006

H.R. 2808

Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Coin Act

*As cleared by the Congress on September 8, 2006,
and signed by the President on September 27, 2006*

H.R. 2808 (enacted as Public Law 109-285) authorizes the U.S. Mint to produce a \$1 silver coin in calendar year 2009 to commemorate the bicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. The legislation specifies a surcharge of \$10 on the sale of each coin and designates the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, a government commission established by the Congress to study and recommend activities to commemorate Lincoln's bicentennial, to receive the income from the surcharge to further the work of the commission in honoring Lincoln's accomplishments. CBO estimates that H.R. 2808 will have no significant net impact on the federal budget over the 2007-2012 period.

Sales from the coins that are authorized by H.R. 2808 could raise as much as \$5 million in surcharges if the Mint sells the maximum number of authorized coins. However, the experience of recent commemorative coin sales suggests that receipts will be about \$4 million. Those receipts will be recorded in the budget as offsetting receipts, mostly in fiscal year 2009. By law, the Mint must ensure that it does not lose money producing commemorative coins before transferring any surcharges to a recipient organization. CBO expects that condition will be met and that receipts from the surcharges will be transferred to the commission in fiscal year 2012.

H.R. 2808 limits the collection of surcharges from more than two commemorative coins in any calendar year. According to the Mint, there is one other commemorative coin scheduled to be issued in 2009, so we expect this provision of the act will not reduce the collection or spending of surcharges for the Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Coin.

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