



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 19, 2007

### **H.R. 830**

#### **Denali National Park and Alaska Railroad Land Exchange Act of 2007**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 10, 2007*

H.R. 830 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to exchange easements on land within the Denali National Park with the Alaska Railroad Corporation in order to build a turnaround for train traffic arriving at the Denali Park Station. The bill would not affect federal ownership of the land, and the Alaska Railroad would be responsible for all costs associated with completing the exchange. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 830 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 830 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 bill would authorize the Secretary to grant to the Alaska Railroad Corporation an exclusive-use easement—an agreement that would allow the Alaska Railroad the right to use a specified parcel of land for certain purposes to the exclusion of all others—on up to 25 acres within the Denali National Park. The easement would be for the purposes of constructing and maintaining a turnaround for trains arriving at Denali Park Station from Anchorage and Fairbanks. In exchange, the Alaska Railroad would be required to relinquish an equal amount of land that is subject to an exclusive-use easement between the federal government and the railroad under current law. Any exchange that takes place under the bill would not affect federal ownership of either piece of land, and the Alaska Railroad would be responsible for all costs associated with completing the land exchange. As such, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 830 would have no significant impact on the federal budget.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Daniel Hoople. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.