



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

February 22, 2008

**H.R. 1239
National Underground Railroad
Network to Freedom Amendments Act of 2007**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on January 30, 2008*

SUMMARY

H.R. 1239 would authorize the appropriation of \$2.5 million a year to carry out activities of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, a program administered by the National Park Service (NPS) that is dedicated to the preservation, interpretation, and dissemination of Underground Railroad history. Under the legislation, \$2 million of the amounts authorized for each year would be spent on NPS projects and \$0.5 million would be provided to nonfederal entities for historic preservation of eligible sites.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amount, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1239 would cost between \$2 million and \$3 million annually over the 2009-2013 period. Enacting the legislation would have no effect on direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 1239 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 1239 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Authorization Level	3	3	3	3	3
Estimated Outlays	2	3	3	3	3

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted before the start of fiscal year 2009 and that the authorized amount will be appropriated for each year.

The Network to Freedom encompasses over 250 programs, sites, and partners in 27 states and the District of Columbia. H.R. 1239 would amend the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act to authorize the appropriation of \$2.5 million per year to carry out activities under the program. For fiscal year 2008, NPS received an appropriation of about \$1 million for those activities.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 1239 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On July 18, 2007, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1239 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 28, 2007. The two pieces of legislation are identical, and the cost estimates are the same.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Matthew Pickford

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Melissa Merrell

Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Theresa Gullo

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis