



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 22, 2008

H.R. 2933 **Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2008**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources
on July 16, 2008*

SUMMARY

H.R. 2933 would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million a year over the 2009-2013 period for grants to support efforts to protect and preserve historic battlefields under the Civil War Preservation Act of 2002. (The existing authorization for such grants is scheduled to expire after fiscal year 2008.) State and local governments would use those grants, in partnership with nonprofit organizations, to acquire interests in Civil War battlefield sites that lie beyond the boundaries of the National Park System.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that the National Park Service would spend \$42 million over the 2009-2013 period (and \$8 million in later years) to carry out this grant program. The legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

The bill 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

For this estimate, CBO assumes that amounts authorized by the bill will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimates of outlays are based on recent spending patterns for this program. The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 2933 is shown in the following table. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2009-2013
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level ^a	10	10	10	10	10	50
Estimated Outlays	5	7	10	10	10	42

a. For fiscal year 2008, about \$3 million was appropriated for battlefield preservation grants.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 2933 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state and local governments. The bill would extend the authorization of a grant program for the preservation of battlefield sites and would benefit state and local governments. Any costs to those governments would be incurred voluntarily.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE:

On February 29, 2008, CBO submitted a cost estimate for S. 1921, the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2007, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on January 30, 2008. H.R. 2933 and S. 1921 are nearly identical, and their estimated costs are the same.

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