



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

January 18, 2018

H.R. 4299

A bill to provide for the indefinite duration of certain military land withdrawals, to improve the management of lands currently subject to such withdrawals and to make management of such lands more transparent, and for other purposes

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources
on November 30, 2017*

H.R. 4299 would eliminate termination dates for the withdrawals of certain lands at four military installations in the western United States that are administered by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and used by the Department of Defense (DoD). The bill would require DOI and DoD to establish intergovernmental advisory committees at the four installations and also would require the affected agencies to issue reports regarding the management of those lands. Using information provided by DOI and DoD, CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would have no significant effect on federal spending.

Finally, under current law, DoD must complete environmental reviews before renewing existing land withdrawals. Under the bill, those reviews would no longer be necessary. Because only one withdrawal is set to expire before 2023 and because CBO expects that any amounts that would have been spent to complete the environmental review for that installation would be spent on other activities, CBO estimates that implementing that provision would have no significant effect on spending subject to appropriation over 2018-2022 period.

Those withdrawn lands are not currently generating income and are not expected to do so over the next 10 years. Enacting H.R. 4299 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4299 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 4299 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jeff LaFave. This estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.