



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

July 30, 2007

S. 800

Niagara Falls National Heritage Area Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on July 25, 2007*

SUMMARY

S. 800 would establish the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area (NHA) in the state of New York. The bill would create a 17-member commission to serve as the first local coordinating entity for the proposed NHA. The commission would be responsible for developing a management plan for the NHA and assisting local governments and nonprofit agencies with implementation of the plan. In addition, the legislation would require the Department of the Interior to report to the Congress on the work of the NHA.

The legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million, not to exceed \$1 million annually, for financial assistance to the commission or other eligible entities over the next 15 years. CBO estimates that implementing S. 800 would cost \$5 million over the 2008-2012 period, with additional amounts spent after 2012. Enacting S. 800 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 800 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 S. 800 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				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Estimated Authorization Level	1	1	1	1	1
Estimated Outlays	1	1	1	1	1

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 800 would cost \$5 million over the 2008-2012 period and \$5 million over the following five to 10 years. Such amounts would be used to cover a portion of the costs of reporting, planning, establishing, operating, and interpreting the heritage area.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 800 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 May 9, 2007, CBO provided a cost estimate for H.R. 713, the Niagara Falls National Heritage Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 25, 2007. The two versions of the legislation are similar, and the estimated costs are the same.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Deborah Reis and Matthew Pickford
 Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Leo Lex
 Impact on the Private Sector: Craig Cammarata

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Peter H. Fontaine
 Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis