



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

September 28, 2000

H.R. 1680
Kern County California Land Exchange Act of 2000

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on September 20, 2000*

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1680 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Enacting this legislation could increase offsetting receipts (a form of direct spending); therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but CBO estimates that the one-time increase in such receipts would not exceed \$100,000 in fiscal year 2001. H.R. 1680 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. Any costs incurred by Kern County to achieve this exchange would be voluntary. Enactment of H.R. 1680 would have no other significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 1680 would provide for a property exchange between the federal government and Kern County, California, involving land and structures within the boundaries of the Sequoia National Forest. The legislation would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the county about 92 acres of federal property in exchange for about 52 acres of county-owned land within Sequoia National Forest. In addition to land, the county also would convey a storage facility to the federal government, and a cash payment.

According to the Forest Service, the federal land to be conveyed to the county in the proposed exchange includes a 56-acre site used as a juvenile justice facility by Kern County under permit from the Forest Service. The federal acreage also includes a fish hatchery, a maintenance yard, and a maintenance building. Based on information provided by Kern County, CBO estimates that the difference in the value of the lands that are planned to be exchanged is unlikely to exceed \$100,000, which would result in a cash equalization payment to the federal government. The county land to be acquired is undeveloped land in Greenhorn Mountain Park. Administering the new acreage would not have any significant impact on the Forest Service budget. The land would remain undeveloped.

On February 29, 2000, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1680 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on February 16, 2000. While the two versions of the legislation are similar, our cost estimate for the Senate version reflects the most recent information from Kern County and the Forest Service. Based on that information, CBO now estimates the increase in offsetting receipts under H.R. 1680 could be slightly higher than we estimated in February, but would still be significantly less than \$500,000.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Barry Blom. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.