



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 11, 2002

### **H.R. 3421** **Yosemite National Park Education Improvement Act**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on October 8, 2002*

H.R. 3421 would address certain issues affecting the Yosemite National Park and other parks in California. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the National Park Service (NPS) would spend \$0.4 million in 2003 and a total of \$3 million over the 2003-2007 period to implement the legislation.

H.R. 3421 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Enacting this legislation could benefit two California school districts.

Section 3 of H.R. 3421 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make payments totaling \$400,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007 to two California school districts that serve the families of Yosemite National Park employees. CBO estimates that implementing section 3 would cost \$400,000 in 2003 and \$2 million over the 2003-2007 period, assuming appropriation of the amounts authorized for the payments.

Section 4 would authorize the NPS to use federal funds to establish transportation and other facilities for Yosemite National Park outside of the park boundaries. Based on information obtained from the NPS, CBO expects that the agency would enter into partnerships with state and local authorities to build joint transportation and other facilities near the park. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, we estimate that the federal share of these partnerships would be less than \$1 million over the next five years. Other provisions of the legislation would have no significant impact on the federal budget.

On April 8, 2002, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 3421 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on March 20, 2002. On September 23, 2002, we transmitted a cost estimate for S. 941, an act to revise the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the state of California, to extend the term of the advisory commission for the recreation area, and for other purposes, as ordered reported by the House Resources

Committee on September 12, 2002. Those pieces of legislation contained identical provisions for payments to the Yosemite school districts, and the cost estimates for them were identical. The Senate version of H.R. 3421 would authorize lower payments than the House legislation and would not authorize the NPS to use existing collections or revenues for that purpose. In addition, the Senate version of H.R. 3421 would authorize the use of federal funds for facilities outside of the park's boundary. The cost estimate for the Senate legislation reflect these differences.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Megan Carroll and Deborah Reis. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.