

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 8, 2002

H.R. 3421 Yosemite National Park Education Improvement Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on March 20, 2002

SUMMARY

H.R. 3421 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make payments to two California school districts that serve the families of Yosemite National Park employees. The school districts would use those funds to enhance educational services provided to their students.

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3421 would cost \$750,000 in 2003 and about \$4 million over the 2003-2007 period, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. The bill could increase direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but we estimate that any such increase would be less than \$500,000 a year. H.R. 3421 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. Enacting this legislation could benefit the California school districts eligible to receive the authorized funds.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 3421 will be enacted by the end of fiscal year 2002 and that amounts necessary to implement the bill will be appropriated near the start of each fiscal year. The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3421 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 | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------|---------|------|------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
| CHANGES IN SPENDING | G SUBJECT TO | APPROP | RIATION | | |
| Estimated Authorization Level | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Estimated Outlays | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007, H.R. 3421 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to pay a total of up to \$750,000 to two California school districts that serve the families of Yosemite National Park employees. To make those payments, H.R. 3421 would authorize the Secretary to use appropriated funds, donations, or offsetting receipts from certain fees collected by the National Park Service (NPS). For this estimate, CBO assumes that the Secretary would principally rely on appropriated funds to make the payments authorized by the bill because very few collections and donations are available to spend on new activities. Hence, we estimate that implementing H.R. 3421 would increase discretionary spending by \$750,000 a year over the next five years, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. That annual amount could be lower if the Secretary chooses to use funds from other sources to make payments to the school districts, as discussed below.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

H.R. 3421 would authorize the Secretary to use certain fees and donations to make payments to the school districts. According to the NPS, the agency already has authority to spend nearly all such collections; hence, we estimate that any increase in direct spending of such fees under H.R. 3421 would be less than \$500,000 a year.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 3421 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Enacting this legislation could benefit the California school districts eligible to receive the authorized funds.

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