



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

June 29, 2001

H.R. 451

Mount Nebo Wilderness Boundary Adjustment Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on June 27, 2001

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 451 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Because the bill could affect direct spending and offsetting receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply; but we estimate that any such impacts would be negligible. H.R. 451 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. Enactment of this legislation would benefit Juab County, Utah, by allowing it greater access to water supply facilities.

H.R. 451 would adjust the boundaries of the Mount Nebo Wilderness Area, located in Utah and administered by the Forest Service. The bill would remove from the wilderness area about 279 acres of federal lands that include water systems and facilities that cannot adequately be maintained because they are located within the wilderness area. To offset the removal of those lands, H.R. 451 would add about 293 acres of other federal lands administered by the Forest Service to the Mount Nebo Wilderness Area, subject to valid existing rights. Finally, H.R. 451 would correct the boundary of the wilderness area to exclude about 21 acres of privately owned land.

Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that any increased costs incurred by the agency to update maps and move signs to reflect the revised boundaries of the wilderness area would be negligible. Changing the classification of federal lands could affect whether new income-generating activities can occur on those lands. Thus, enacting this legislation could affect offsetting receipts, but we estimate that any such effects would be small. According to the Forest Service, none of the lands involved currently generate significant receipts, and they are not expected to do so in the near future, regardless of whether they lie within or outside the wilderness area.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.