



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

October 22, 2002

S. 1988

Buffalo Soldier Commemoration Act of 2002

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

S. 1988 would authorize the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish in New Orleans, Louisiana, a memorial to honor African-Americans who served in particular regiments of the United States Army during certain historic conflicts, and are known as buffalo soldiers. The memorial would be located on either federal land or land donated by the city or state and would be administered by the National Park Service or by the state, as appropriate. The bill would establish a fund in the U.S. Treasury for donations to build and maintain the memorial. Interest earned on fund balances would be credited to the fund. Finally the bill would authorize the appropriation of whatever sums are necessary to carry out the legislation.

Based on historical experience and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the commission would spend less than \$5 million to build the memorial over the next several years. The bill could increase revenues if the commission raised private contributions to offset the cost of the memorial, but CBO has no basis for estimating such amounts.

S. 1988 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. Participation in this project by the state of Louisiana would be voluntary.

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