



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

September 24, 2004

H.R. 4285

A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain public land in Clark County, Nevada, for use as a heliport

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on September 15, 2004

CBO estimates that H.R. 4285 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the bill would have a negligible effect on direct spending and would not affect revenues.

H.R. 4285 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to give 229 acres of federal land to Clark County, Nevada. The county would use that land to build a heliport facility. H.R. 4285 would require helicopter tour operators who use that facility to pay a fee of \$3 per passenger if they fly over the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, which is adjacent to the proposed heliport site. Under the bill, the Secretary could retain and spend those fees, without further appropriation, to manage cultural, wildlife, and wilderness resources on federal land in Nevada.

According to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the federal land to be conveyed currently generates no significant receipts and is not expected to do so over the next 10 years. Based on information from BLM, we estimate that charging helicopter tour operators a fee as proposed under H.R. 4285 would generate offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) totaling less than \$500,000 annually. Because we expect those amounts would be largely offset within the year they are collected by increased spending for resource management, we estimate that any resulting net change in direct spending under H.R. 4285 would be negligible.

H.R. 4285 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 would benefit Clark County by providing for the conveyance of federal land to the county at very little cost: only the administrative costs of the transfer. These costs would be incurred voluntarily.

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