



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 4, 2004

### **H.R. 4494**

### **Grey Towers National Historic Site Act of 2004**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on July 14, 2004*

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4494 would not significantly affect the federal budget. Starting in 2008, the bill would increase both revenues and direct spending by about \$200,000 in any year. H.R. 4494 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no significant costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 4494 would designate the Grey Towers National Historic Site on federal land in Pennsylvania. Under current law, the Forest Service manages that land as a national historic landmark in cooperation with a private nonprofit organization. According to the agency, redesignating the area as a historic site would not significantly alter its activities on the property or the federal costs to manage it. CBO estimates that additional administrative costs for the Forest Service would be minimal. Spending for such costs would be subject to appropriation.

H.R. 4494 would provide new authority for the Secretary of Agriculture to charge fees to individuals who visit the proposed historic site. Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that increased offsetting receipts from such fees would not exceed \$75,000 in any year. H.R. 4494 would authorize the Secretary to spend those receipts, without further appropriation, to support programs of the proposed historic site. Hence, CBO estimates that any increase in offsetting receipts would be largely offset by a corresponding increase in direct spending in the year they are collected.

Finally, H.R. 4494 would provide permanent authority for the Secretary to accept and use cash donations for the benefit of the proposed historic site. Any amounts received would be recorded in the budget as governmental receipts. Under current law, the Secretary already has authority to accept and use such donations through fiscal year 2007. Based on information from the Forest Service about the current level of such donations, CBO estimates

that H.R. 4494 would increase both revenues and direct spending by about \$200,000 a year starting in 2008.

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