



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

October 7, 2005

S. 584

Betty Dick Residence Protection Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on September 28, 2005*

S. 584 would permit continued occupancy and the use of certain lands within Rocky Mountain National Park. Specifically, the bill would require the National Park Service (NPS) to extend the lease of 8 acres of public land to Betty Dick. CBO estimates that enacting those changes would have no significant impact on the federal budget.

Under a 1980 Settlement Agreement, Betty Dick's right to lease the land in the Rocky Mountain National Park expired after 25 years on July 16, 2005. However, Ms. Dick is currently living on the property and is expected to leave for the winter in late October. S. 584 would require the NPS to allow Ms. Dick to lease part of the original property, which includes a seasonal residence and outbuildings, for the remainder of her life at a below market rental price of \$300 per year.

The NPS currently receives no payments for the property, although it received \$7,500 in 1980 for a 25-year lease. NPS expects that the property could generate around \$6,300 in annual rental receipts if the property was leased at market rates. Under current law, proceeds from rental agreements are available for the agency to spend without appropriation action. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting S. 584 would have no significant effect on the federal budget.

S. 584 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

On May 23, 2005, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 432, the Betty Dick Residence Protection Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 18, 2005. The two pieces of legislation are similar and the cost estimates are identical.

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