



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

February 21, 2008

H.R. 830

Denali National Park and Alaska Railroad Land Exchange Act of 2007

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on January 30, 2008*

H.R. 830 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to exchange easements on land within the Denali National Park with the Alaska Railroad Corporation to build a turnaround for train traffic arriving at the Denali Park Station. The legislation would not affect federal ownership of the land, and the Alaska Railroad would be responsible for all costs associated with the exchange. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 830 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 830 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The legislation would authorize the Secretary to grant to the Alaska Railroad Corporation an exclusive-use easement—an agreement that would allow the Alaska Railroad the right to use a specified parcel of land for certain purposes to the exclusion of all others—on up to 25 acres within the Denali National Park. The corporation would use the easement to construct and maintain a turnaround for trains arriving at Denali Park Station. In exchange, the corporation would relinquish an equal amount of land that is currently subject to an exclusive-use easement between the federal government and the railroad.

On October 19, 2007, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 830 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 10, 2007. The two versions of the legislation are identical, as are the estimated costs.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Daniel Hoople. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.