



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

August 16, 2007

**S. 817
National Heritage Areas and National Heritage Corridors
Technical Corrections Act of 2007**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on July 25, 2007*

SUMMARY

S. 817 would amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to authorize additional appropriations of \$5 million for each of four national heritage areas (NHAs) and similar affiliated areas of the National Park System. NHAs and affiliated areas are nonfederal lands and communities managed privately in consultation with the National Park Service (NPS). The legislation also would require the NPS to conduct an evaluation of each of the four areas.

Assuming appropriation of the \$20 million specifically authorized by the bill and an additional \$1 million for NPS evaluations, CBO estimates that implementing S. 817 would cost \$5 million in 2008 and \$21 million over the 2008-2012 period. Enacting this legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 817 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 817 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Estimated Authorization Level	5	4	4	4	4
Estimated Outlays	5	4	4	4	4

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

S. 817 would increase, by \$5 million each (or up to \$1 million annually), the total amounts authorized to be appropriated to the NPS for four areas administered by that agency: the Ohio & Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor, the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Essex National Heritage Area, and the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor. The funds would be used to assist NHA management entities, which are usually local nonprofit organizations. The legislation also would direct the NPS to evaluate the effectiveness of the management entity at each of the areas and recommend future funding levels.

Based on information provided by the agency and assuming appropriation of the amounts authorized or estimated to be necessary, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$21 million over the 2008-2012 period, including \$1 million in 2008 for evaluations required by the bill.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 817 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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