



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 7, 2010

H.R. 129

An act to authorize the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in the Los Padres National Forest in California

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on June 21, 2009*

H.R. 129 would authorize the exchange of 5 acres of land in the Los Padres National Forest for unspecified lands owned by the White Lotus Foundation. If the land exchange does not occur within two years, the federal land could be sold to the foundation, and the proceeds could be spent without further appropriation. Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 129 would have no significant net impact on the federal budget.

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. If the Forest Service sold the affected land to the foundation, H.R. 129 would increase offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) and associated direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. However, CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would have no significant net impact on direct spending. Enacting the legislation would not affect revenues.

On June 26, 2009, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 129, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 10, 2009. Both versions of the legislation would authorize the sale of federal land; however, the Senate version would authorize the Forest Service to sell the affected land if the agency cannot complete a land exchange within two years of the enactment of the legislation.

H.R. 129 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no cost on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jeff LaFave. The estimate was approved by Sam Papenfuss, Unit Chief for Income Security and Education Cost Estimates Unit, Budget Analysis Division.