

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 2, 2009

H.R. 1506

A bill to provide that the claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on October 29, 2009

H.R. 1506 would waive the federal government's claims to certain documents related to the Administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) if the papers are donated as gifts to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Currently, the federal government is in negotiations with private parties regarding the ownership of the Tully Archive (Miss Grace Tully was FDR's personal secretary), which includes 5,000 documents, 100 personal letters, and other historical effects.

CBO expects that implementing H.R. 1506 could expedite the donation of the collection to NARA. The donation would provide a tax deduction for the private party that currently owns the archive. While the value of that deduction is uncertain, CBO estimates that over time, this legislation would have no significant net effect on federal revenues because the collection probably would be donated at some point without enactment of the bill.

H.R. 1506 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.

On May 21, 2009, CBO provided a cost estimate for S. 692, a bill to provide that the claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. The two pieces of legislation are identical as are the estimated costs.

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