



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

June 20, 2013

S. 371
Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park Establishment Act
*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on May 16, 2013*

SUMMARY

S. 371 would establish the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park in and around the existing Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in the states of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Under the legislation, the proposed park would be dedicated to John H. Chafee, and a memorial would be displayed within the park.

Based on information provided by the National Park Service (NPS), CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$26 million over the 2014-2018 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to this legislation because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 371 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 371 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					2014-2018
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	

CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION

Estimated Authorization Level	15	4	4	3	3	29
Estimated Outlays	9	6	5	3	3	26

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the end of 2013 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar activities.

S. 371 would establish a new unit of the National Park System in the states of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. CBO estimates that the cost of implementing S. 371 would total \$26 million over the 2014-2018 period. We estimate that the NPS would spend nearly \$5 million to acquire property interests to comprise the new park. In addition, the NPS would spend more than \$6 million to construct facilities, rehabilitate sites, and conduct research for the proposed park. Annual operating costs for the proposed park would total about \$3 million beginning in 2015.

The legislation would also designate the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, Inc. as the local coordinating entity to disburse grants and support the activities of partner organizations. The legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$1 million per year through 2016 and would cost \$3 million over the 2014-2018 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 371 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined by UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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