



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

December 1, 2014

**S. 398  
Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's  
History Museum Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on November 13, 2014*

CBO estimates that enacting S. 398 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. The legislation would affect direct spending because it would authorize a new commission to accept and spend monetary gifts. Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, CBO estimates that the net effect of the bill on direct spending would be insignificant. Enacting S. 398 would not affect revenues.

S. 398 would establish a new commission to prepare a report containing recommendations as well as a fundraising plan for establishing and maintaining a National Women's History Museum in Washington, D.C. The 8-member commission would have 18 months to produce the report and submit it to the Congress. All commission members would serve without pay but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. In addition, the commission would be authorized to hire staff and, while no federal employees could be detailed to the commission, federal agencies could provide technical support. Finally, the bill would prohibit federal funds from being used for commission expenses; it would rely on gifts and contributions to cover those costs.

S. 398 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 April 9, 2014, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 863, the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum Act of 2013, as ordered reported by the Committee on House Administration on April 2, 2013. On April 15, 2014, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 863 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 9, 2013. Each of those pieces of legislation are similar to S. 398, and the CBO cost estimates are the same.

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