



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

August 31, 2016

H.R. 1157

Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians Land Transfer Act of 2016

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources July 13, 2016

Under H.R. 1157, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians (Chumash Tribe), could request that the Department of the Interior (DOI) take into trust approximately 1,400 acres of land the tribe owns in Santa Barbra County, California. DOI would hold the title to that land for the benefit of the tribe if requested. The bill would prohibit certain types of gaming on those lands. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would have no significant budgetary effects related to holding the land in trust.

Enacting H.R. 1157 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1157 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

The bill would impose intergovernmental and private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). CBO estimates that the cost of the mandates would fall below the annual thresholds established in UMRA for intergovernmental and private-sector mandates (\$77 million and \$154 million in 2016, respectively, adjusted annually for inflation).

The bill would impose an intergovernmental mandate by preempting the authority of state and local governments to tax land taken into trust for the Chumash Tribe. Information from Santa Barbara County about taxes and other receipts associated with the land indicates that such revenues total less than \$500,000 annually.

The bill also would impose an intergovernmental and private-sector mandate by eliminating the ability of public and private entities to appeal the federal government's decision to take land into trust for the benefit of the Chumash Tribe. The County of Santa Barbara and private entities appealed DOI's approval in 2014 of the Tribe's application to take land into trust. The bill would effectively extinguish those appeals and preclude any future challenges by making the trust acquisition mandatory if the Tribe requests it. The costs of the mandates would be the value of forgone compensation and settlements associated with such appeals if they would have been successful under current law; however, because no monetary award is available for such challenges to the administrative

procedures and decisions of the federal government, CBO expects that the mandate would impose no costs.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Robert Reese (for federal costs), Rachel Austin (for intergovernmental mandates), and Amy Petz (for private-sector mandates). The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.