



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

June 28, 2016

H.R. 3844
Bureau of Land Management Foundation Act
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 15, 2016

SUMMARY

H.R. 3844 would authorize the appropriation of \$7 million through 2020 to establish the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Foundation. Based on information provided by BLM, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$7 million over the 2017-2021 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3844 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

H.R. 3844 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 3844 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resource and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2017-2021
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	2	2	2	1	0	7
Estimated Outlays	1	2	2	2	0	7

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted near the end of 2016 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on spending patterns for similar programs.

H.R. 3844 would authorize the appropriation of \$2 million a year through 2019 and \$1 million in 2020 for BLM to establish the Bureau of Land Management Foundation, a nonprofit entity that would support the management of BLM lands and reclaim federal lands affected by mineral development. CBO expects that after 2020, activities of the foundation would be funded by private donations of money and property. Based on information provided by BLM, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3844 would cost \$7 million over the 2017-2021 period.

CBO expects that the foundation's operations would be similar to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the National Forest Foundation, both of which were established by the Congress with similar governance and authorities. The activities of both of those foundations are excluded from the federal budget. Under H.R. 3844, the foundation would be established by the Congress and members of the board overseeing the foundation would be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior; however, CBO would not consider the foundation an entity of the federal government whose cash transactions should be recorded in the federal budget. The foundation would not have powers that are normally reserved to governments such as the powers to enact regulations, charge compulsory fees, or assess and compel the payment of taxes. Thus, any activities of the foundation, including borrowing funds, accepting and spending donations, would be considered nongovernmental.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3844 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 3844 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would benefit state, local, and tribal governments to the extent that the Foundation provides grants or other assistance to public entities to support cleanup projects. Any costs incurred by those entities, including matching contributions, would be voluntary.

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