



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

January 12, 2012

H.R. 2362
Indian Tribal Trade and Investment Demonstration Project Act of 2011

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources
on November 17, 2011*

H.R. 2362 would allow up to six tribes to enter into certain leases of trust lands without approval of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).¹ Based on information provided by the Department of the Interior, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting H.R. 2362 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

Under current law, most tribes can lease trust lands to certain entities for up to 25 years, subject to the approval of BIA. Under the bill, up to six tribes would be authorized to enter into leases with Turkish businesses without BIA approval if those leases were subject to certain tribal regulations approved by the agency. Any lease involving the exploration for or extraction of natural resources would still require approval from BIA. CBO estimates that the legislation would have a negligible impact on BIA's workload.

H.R. 2362 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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

1. Trust lands are tribally owned lands that are legally held by the federal government for the benefit of tribal governments or individual tribal members.