



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 12, 2011

S. 379 **Indian Tribes of Virginia** **Federal Recognition Act of 2011**

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 28, 2011

SUMMARY

S. 379 would provide federal recognition to six Indian tribes in Virginia—the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Eastern Division of the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe. Federal recognition would make the tribes eligible to receive benefits from various federal programs. CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$68 million over the 2012-2016 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds. Enacting S. 379 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 379 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 impact of S. 379 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 450 (community and regional development) and 550 (health).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2012- 2016
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Bureau of Indian Affairs						
Estimated Authorization Level	3	3	3	3	3	16
Estimated Outlays	2	3	3	3	3	15
Indian Health Service						
Estimated Authorization Level	10	10	11	11	11	53
Estimated Outlays	9	10	11	11	11	52
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	13	14	14	14	15	70
Estimated Outlays	11	13	14	14	15	68

Note: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 379 will be enacted early in fiscal year 2012, that the necessary amounts will be appropriated each year, and that outlays will follow historical patterns for assistance to other tribes.

S. 379 would provide federal recognition to six Indian tribes in Virginia. Such recognition would allow the tribes, with membership totaling about 4,100 people, to receive benefits from various programs administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS). Based on the average per capita expenditures by those agencies for other Indian tribes, CBO estimates that implementing S. 379 would cost \$68 million over the 2012-2016 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

BIA provides funding to federally recognized tribes for various purposes, including child welfare services, adult care, community development, and general assistance. In total, CBO estimates that providing BIA services would cost \$15 million over the 2012-2016 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds. This estimate is based on per capita expenditures for other federally recognized tribes located in the eastern United States.

Indian Health Service

S. 379 also would make members of the tribes eligible to receive health benefits from the IHS. Based on information from the IHS, CBO estimates that about 55 percent of tribal members—or about 2,300 people—would receive benefits each year. CBO assumes that the cost to serve those individuals would be similar to funding for current IHS beneficiaries—about \$3,500 per individual in 2011. Assuming appropriation of the necessary funds and adjusting for anticipated inflation, CBO estimates that IHS benefits for the tribes would cost \$52 million over the 2012-2016 period.

Other Federal Agencies

In addition to BIA and IHS funding, certain Indian tribes also receive support from other federal programs within the Departments of Education, Housing and Urban Development, Labor, and Agriculture. Based on their status as tribes recognized by Virginia, the tribes specified in the bill are already eligible to receive funding from those departments. Thus, CBO estimates that implementing S. 379 would not increase spending from those programs.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 379 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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