



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

December 1, 2010

H.R. 4445
Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Clarification Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
on November 18, 2010*

H.R. 4445 would eliminate a provision of current law that prohibits certain land, located in New Mexico and held in trust by the federal government for the New Mexico Pueblos, from being considered Indian Country, as defined by federal law. Because the federal government is responsible for certain law enforcement activities in Indian Country, enacting the legislation could increase the workload of certain federal law enforcement agencies. Based on information from the Department of the Interior, CBO estimates that any costs associated with additional law enforcement activities would be insignificant and subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting H.R. 4445 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 4445 would impose an intergovernmental mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) by prohibiting gaming on some land held in trust for the Pueblos in New Mexico. Because the Pueblos are not currently operating gaming activities on this land nor do they have plans to do so in the future, CBO estimates that the cost, if any, would be small and well below the annual threshold established in UMRA (\$70 million in 2010, adjusted annually for inflation).

This bill contains no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

On June 25, 2010, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 4445 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 16, 2010. The House and Senate versions of the legislation are similar, and the CBO cost estimates are the same.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Jeff LaFave (for federal costs) and Melissa Merrell (for the state, local, and tribal impact). The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.