



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 30, 2003

S. 1076

A bill to authorize construction of an education center at or near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on June 25, 2003*

Title I of S. 1076 would authorize the establishment of an education center near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Title II would amend the Commemorative Works Act, which governs the requirements for building memorials on federal land. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing title I would cost about \$1 million annually. The changes made by title II would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting S. 1076 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 1076 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 legislation would authorize a private sponsor, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., to build an education center near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the District of Columbia. While no federal funds would be used to build the center, the National Park Service would operate it at federal expense. Under section 8 of the Commemorative Works Act (as amended by title II of the bill), the sponsor would donate 10 percent of the center's construction costs to the National Park Foundation (NPF), a private nonprofit organization. Such funds would be available to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund for maintenance of the center.

Based on the costs of operating similar interpretive facilities in the National Park System, CBO estimates that the government would spend about \$1 million annually to operate the new education center once it has been constructed. (This amount excludes maintenance costs, which would be covered by the NPF maintenance account.)

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. The estimate was reviewed by Paul R. Cullinan, Chief for Human Resources Cost Estimates Unit of the Budget Analysis Division.