



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 6, 2015

H.R. 1069 **Presidential Library Donation Reform Act of 2015**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Oversight
and Government Reform on March 25, 2015*

H.R. 1069 would require an organization that raises funds (or in-kind contributions) for a Presidential library to disclose the sources and amounts of such donations. Those organizations would have to identify any contributors of \$200 or more in a calendar quarter while the President is in office, as well as during the period before the federal government takes possession of the library or the President leaves office, whichever is later. Fundraising organizations would be required to provide this information to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Under the bill, NARA would be required to make this information freely available on the Internet in a downloadable database. Finally, the legislation would establish criminal penalties and fines for violations of its provisions.

Based on information from NARA, CBO estimates that, assuming availability of appropriated funds, the agency would spend about \$1 million over the 2016-2020 period to establish and maintain an online database. CBO estimates that any increases in federal spending to enforce penalties would be insignificant.

Because those prosecuted and convicted under H.R. 1069 would be subject to criminal and civil fines, enacting the legislation could increase federal revenues and associated direct spending. However, CBO estimates that such effects would not be significant in any year because of the small number of cases likely to be involved. Because the legislation would affect direct spending and revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures apply.

H.R. 1069 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 1069 would impose a private-sector mandate, as defined in UMRA, by requiring organizations established for the purpose of raising funds for Presidential libraries or their related facilities to submit information to NARA. The number of such organizations is small, and the cost to submit reports would be minimal. CBO estimates, therefore, that the direct cost of the mandate would fall well below the annual threshold established in UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$154 million in 2015, adjusted annually for inflation).

On March 17, 2015, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 558, the Presidential Library Donation Reform Act of 2015, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Both bills contain similar provisions, however, the Senate committee version would require NARA to post the information from Presidential library organizations in a downloadable format while the House committee version would require NARA to create downloadable database of information submitted. Those differences are reflected in the CBO cost estimates.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.