

S. 1277, Mammoth Cave National Park Boundary Adjustment Act of 2023

As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on December 12, 2023

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2029	2024-2034
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	*	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? Yes	
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2035?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

S. 1277 would allow the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire an additional 980 acres of land to include in Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky. Of the land, 550 acres are currently owned by The Nature Conservancy, a nonprofit organization. The other 430 acres are owned by multiple landholders.

Using information from the NPS and the nonprofit, CBO expects that the organization would sell its 550 acres to the NPS for roughly \$1 million within the first year of enactment and that the NPS would use the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) to pay for that land. Amounts in that fund are available to acquire and maintain land by land management agencies without further appropriation. Acquiring the additional 430 acres would depend on the NPS reaching agreements with individual landholders. Based on information from the NPS, CBO expects that most landholders would not be willing to sell in the next several years.

The LWCF is available under current law and CBO expects that all of the amounts in that fund will be spent, though some of that spending will occur after 2034. Further, CBO cannot predict the timing of unspecified future land purchases. As a result, CBO expects any amounts used to purchase land for the park under S. 1277 would primarily be shifted from spending for other land purchases. Therefore, CBO estimates that enacting the bill would, on

See also

[CBO's Cost Estimates Explained](#), [CBO Describes Its Cost-Estimating Process](#), [Glossary](#)



net, increase spending from the LWCF by an insignificant amount over the 2024-2034 period.

Based on the costs of similar land management activities, CBO estimates that any costs incurred by the NPS to manage the additional land in the park would be insignificant over the 2024-2029 period. Any related spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Alaina Rhee. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip L. Swagel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office