



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 14, 2009

S. 443

Hoh Indian Tribe Safe Homelands Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on August 6, 2009

CBO estimates that implementing S. 443 would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2010-2014 period, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting S. 443 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 443 would transfer 37 acres of land from the National Park Service (NPS) to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to be held in trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe in Washington. BIA also would take into trust an additional 434 acres of nonfederal land owned by the tribe, provided that the tribe conveys the land to BIA and that certain other conditions specified in the bill are met. The bill would extend the boundaries of the tribe's reservation to include conveyed and NPS lands. Based on information from BIA and NPS, we estimate that transferring the lands into trust would not result in large costs over the next five years.

The tribe could seek funding from BIA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development for certain services on some of the new reservation land; those resources are subject to the availability of appropriated funds, and S. 443 would not specifically authorize funding for those activities. In addition, according to the Department of the Interior, the NPS lands currently generate no receipts from mineral leasing or other activities and are not expected to do so during the next 10 years. Therefore, CBO estimates that conveying the land would not affect offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending).

S. 443 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. The tribe would benefit from the transfer of land.

On July 24, 2009, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1061, the Hoh Indian Tribe Safe Homelands Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 9, 2009. The House and Senate versions of the legislation are similar, and our cost estimates are identical.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Leigh Angres. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.