



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

December 3, 2009

H.R. 3804 **National Park Service Authorities and Corrections Act of 2009**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources
on November 18, 2009*

SUMMARY

H.R. 3804 would make a variety of changes to policies and procedures at the National Park Service (NPS) as well as to laws governing properties managed by the NPS. The bill also would raise the current ceiling on amounts authorized to be appropriated for a program that supports volunteers working in the national parks. Based on information from the NPS and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$31 million over the 2010-2014 period.

The bill also would adjust certain fines and penalties for violations of various laws on properties managed by the NPS. CBO estimates that those adjustments would have no significant effect on revenues.

H.R. 3804 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3804 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

| | By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars | | | | | 2010-2014 |
|---|--|------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | |
| CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION | | | | | | |
| Estimated Authorization Level | 3 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 36 |
| Estimated Outlays | 1 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 31 |

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 3804 will be enacted early in calendar year 2010 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated each year. Estimates of outlays are based on historical spending patterns of programs that support volunteer workers in the national parks.

H.R. 3804 would raise the current ceiling on amounts authorized to be appropriated for a program that supports volunteers working in national parks, from \$3.5 million to \$10 million annually. In 2010, the program received an appropriation of about \$3 million, and NPS expects the program to expand over the next five years reaching an annual cost of \$10 million by 2014. CBO estimates that implementing this provision would cost \$31 million over the 2010-2014 period.

The bill also would extend the terms of two advisory boards to the NPS, permit the NPS to enter into agreements with nonprofit organizations at Pearl Harbor, designate the current Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historical Site as an historical park, correct errors in the boundaries of the Lava Beds National Wilderness area, authorize a transfer of land between the NPS and the Department of Transportation, clarify policies regarding the responsibility for snow removal by federal agencies, and make technical changes to laws governing properties managed by the NPS. Based on information from the NPS, CBO estimates that none of those changes would have a significant effect on the federal budget.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 3804 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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