



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 29, 2010

S. 1018

National Park Service and Northwestern State University Collections Conservation Center Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on June 21, 2010*

SUMMARY

S. 1018 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to enter into an agreement with the Northwestern State University to construct a facility to house the museum collection of the Cane River Creole National Historical Park in Louisiana.

CBO estimates that enacting the bill would increase direct spending by \$13 million over the 2011-2015 period. That amount would be spent on the construction of a new facility on land owned by the university. We estimate that managing the facility would not add significantly to the operating budget of the historical park, which is subject to appropriation.

Because enacting the legislation would affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues.

S. 1018 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 S. 1018 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					2011-
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2015
CHANGES IN DIRECT SPENDING						
Estimated Budget Authority	13	0	0	0	0	13
Estimated Outlays	2	3	4	3	1	13

Note: CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending after 2015.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

S. 1018 would authorize the NPS to enter into an agreement with the Northwestern State University to build a new facility for the agency on university land. Currently, the park's curatorial collections are housed in other locations within park boundaries. Under the bill, the new facility would be built on university land and also would provide space for the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (an NPS entity) and the Williamson Museum collection (owned by the university). If the university rents space in the new facility, it would pay a fee to the NPS, which the agency would be authorized to use without further appropriation for the historical park.

CBO expects that, under the bill, the NPS would enter into an agreement making the agency responsible for the costs of constructing the proposed facility. Because the new facility would be government property, the full cost of that construction should be recorded as new budget authority at the time the agreement is signed. Based on information provided by the NPS, CBO estimates that construction costs would total \$13 million over the 2011-2015 period, with no additional direct spending after 2015.

We estimate that the costs of managing the facility would not add significantly to the cost of operating the historical park because the collections to be housed in the new facility are already housed and managed by the NPS onsite. Finally, we estimate that any offsetting receipts collected by the NPS for renting part of the facility to the university (and any resulting direct spending of such amounts) would be insignificant.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. S. 1018 would increase direct spending to construct the new federal facility. The changes in the deficit that are subject to those pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in the following table.

CBO Estimate of Pay-As-You-Go Effects for S. 1018, the National Park Service and Northwestern State University Collections Conservation Center Act, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on June 21, 2010.

By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars												
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2010-2015	2010-2020
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (-) IN THE DEFICIT												
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	2	3	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	13	13

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1018 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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