



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 13, 2010

S. 518 **Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission Act**

As reported by Senate Committee on the Judiciary on August 5, 2010

S. 518 would establish a commission to plan, and oversee grants and activities commemorating the historic events associated with the War of 1812. The commission would consist of 24 members and would have about five years to report to the Congress on its activities. Members would serve without pay but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. In addition, the commission could hire staff and use federal or state detailees and volunteers. The commission would terminate 90 days after submitting its final report. S. 518 would direct the commission to prepare strategic and annual performance plans for its activities and would authorize the appropriation of up to \$500,000 annually over the 2010-2015 period for expenses of the commission.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that the commission would spend about \$2 million over the 2011-2015 period. Because S. 518 would authorize the commission to accept and use gifts, enacting the legislation could have a negligible impact on offsetting receipts and associated direct spending. Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply to the legislation. Enacting S. 518 would not affect revenues.

S. 518 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Any participation by state, local, or tribal governments in the activities of this commission would be voluntary.

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