



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 2, 2010

H.R. 5131 **Coltsville National Historical Park Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources
on July 22, 2010*

H.R. 5131 would create the Coltsville National Historical Park in Connecticut, to be established once the National Park Service (NPS) obtains enough property at the proposed site to constitute a manageable park unit. Assuming that the conditions for establishment can be met and that the necessary amounts are appropriated, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 5131 would cost about \$1 million over the 2011-2015 period and about \$10 million over the 2011-2020 period. Enacting the bill would have no effect on revenues or direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

The bill 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.

Under H.R. 5131, the proposed historical park would be established when the NPS accepts the donation of enough land or interest in land to manage a park unit and has executed an agreement to accept another donation of space in the East Armory building. The proposed boundary would include the armory as well as Colt Park, the Church of the Good Shepherd, and several other buildings in Hartford. Most of those properties would remain in private, state, or local ownership, but the NPS would be authorized to help restore and develop them. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million for that purpose.

Based on information provided by the NPS, CBO estimates that the agency would spend about \$1 million over the next five years, primarily to prepare a management plan for the proposed park (as required by the bill) and provide technical assistance to local property owners. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, we estimate that the agency would spend \$9 million over the following five years to restore local properties, construct visitor facilities, and develop interpretive exhibits. We estimate that federal costs to operate the park would be less than \$500,000 annually.

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