



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

October 24, 2008

**S. 1193**

**An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take into trust  
two parcels of federal land for the benefit of certain Indian Pueblos  
in the state of New Mexico, and for other purposes**

*As passed by the House of Representatives on September 29, 2008*

CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost less than \$500,000 a year, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting S. 1193 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

The act 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. The provisions would benefit several Indian tribes.

Title I would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to take into trust a total of 18 acres of federal land in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the benefit of 19 Indian Pueblos in the state. The land is part of the former site of the Albuquerque Indian School, which provided training for Indians until 1982. Under the bill, the newly acquired land would be used for similar activities; gaming activities would be prohibited.

According to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the federal land currently generates no receipts and is not expected to do so during the next 10 years. Therefore, CBO estimates that transferring the lands into trust for the Pueblos would not affect offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending). In addition, we estimate that the administrative costs of the transfer would be negligible.

Subject to amounts provided in subsequent appropriations acts, title II would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make payments of between \$200,000 and \$350,000 annually to the reservation of Colorado River Indian Tribes for a new local energy department. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing this provision would cost about \$300,000 annually.

The remaining sections of S. 1193 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Those sections would:

- Authorize the Secretary to take lands into trust for the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida;
- Allow certain tribes to lease lands held in trust for more than 25-year terms;
- Permit the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Michigan to lease, transfer, or convey, without the approval of the Secretary, any interest in land not held in trust by the United States;
- Amend various provisions of the Indian probate code relating to land transfers; and
- Extend the authority for establishing a memorial to Martin Luther King, Jr., through November 12, 2009.

On April 29, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1193, the Albuquerque Indian School Act, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on April 24, 2008. The provision in the House version of S. 1193 relating to the transfer of lands in Albuquerque is very similar, and CBO's estimate of its costs is the same.

On June 5, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 5680, a bill to amend certain laws relating to Native Americans and for other purposes, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 14, 2008. Most of the provisions in H.R. 5680 are included in the House version of S. 1193. The costs of those provisions are the same except for the section relating to the new energy department. In H.R. 5680, that provision would increase direct spending by \$300,000. In S. 1193, payments for the department also would total about \$300,000 a year but would be made subject to appropriation of the necessary amounts.

On October 24, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 5680 as reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on September 25, 2008. That version of H.R. 5680 is similar to S. 1193, and CBO's estimates of their costs are the same.

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