



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 17, 2002

S. 1325

A bill to ratify an agreement between the Aleut Corporation and the United States of America to exchange land rights received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for certain land interests on Adak Island, and for other purposes

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on June 5, 2002*

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1325 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 1325 would ratify an agreement between the federal government and the Aleut Corporation, an Alaskan Native corporation. Under that agreement, the federal government would convey to the corporation about 47,000 acres of federal lands and improvements on Adak Island in Alaska. In exchange, the corporation would give up its entitlement to 47,000 acres of undeveloped federal lands in the Aleutian Islands, which it has selected under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Under the agreement that would be ratified by the bill, the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) would manage those lands in the Aleutian Islands as part of the national wildlife refuge system.

The lands that would be conveyed to the corporation under S. 1325 comprise the site of a former naval air facility that was closed in 1996. According to the Department of Defense (DoD) and the FWS, the lands currently generate no receipts and are not expected to do so over the next 10 years; hence, CBO estimates that the proposed exchange would not affect offsetting receipts. Based on information from DoD and the FWS, we also estimate that the exchange would not significantly affect federal costs for land management.

S. 1325 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 costs that the corporation would incur as a result of the agreement ratified by this bill would be voluntary.

On May 3, 2002, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 4546 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Armed Services on May 1, 2002. Section 2863 of that legislation is substantively similar to S. 1325, and our estimates of the cost of the proposed land exchange under both pieces of legislation are the same.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Megan Carroll (for federal costs) and Marjorie Miller (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.