



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

January 22, 2004

S. 1423

Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2003

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on October 29, 2003

SUMMARY

S. 1423 would provide federal recognition to six Indian tribes in the state of Virginia—the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Eastern Division of the Chickahominy Tribe, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe. CBO estimates that implementing S. 1423 would cost the federal government about \$100 million over the 2004-2009 period, assuming that the tribes receive services and benefits at a level similar to other currently recognized tribes and that the necessary funds are appropriated. Enacting S. 1423 would have no effect on direct spending or revenues.

S. 1423 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no significant direct costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1423 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within several budget functions including 450 (community and regional development) and 550 (health).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Bureau of Indian Affairs						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	4	4	4	4	4
Estimated Outlays	0	3	4	4	4	4
Indian Health Service						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	5	5	5	6	6
Estimated Outlays	0	5	5	5	6	6
Other Federal Agencies						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	11	11	11	12	12
Estimated Outlays	0	8	11	11	12	12
Total						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	20	20	21	22	22
Estimated Outlays	0	14	19	21	21	22

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

S. 1423 would provide federal recognition to six Indian tribes in the state of Virginia. Although the bill does not specifically authorize the appropriation of funds, it would make members of such tribes eligible to receive services through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Indian Health Service (IHS), and other agencies that offer services to tribes. Thus, those federal agencies would be required to include members of the tribes among those eligible for benefits and would need additional appropriated funds to provide such benefits. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted in 2004 and that the necessary amounts will be provided each year, beginning in 2005.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

As federally recognized tribes, the Virginia tribes would be eligible for various programs administered by BIA, including child welfare services, adult care, child and family services, and general assistance. Based on information from the state of Virginia, CBO estimates that there are about 2,800 members of the affected tribes. Based on current per capita expenditures of about \$1,500 for tribal members eligible to receive BIA services, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1423 would cost about \$4 million each year over the next five years, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Indian Health Service

S. 1423 also would make members of the tribes affected by the bill eligible to receive health benefits from the IHS. Based on information from the IHS, CBO estimates that average spending per eligible individual would be about \$1,850 in 2005. As noted above, the bill would make about 2,800 individuals eligible for benefits. Thus, CBO estimates that S. 1423 would cost about \$5 million in 2005 and about \$27 million over the 2004-2009 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds.

Other Agencies

Several other agencies, including those of the Departments of Education, Housing and Urban Development, and Agriculture, provide services to federally recognized tribes. Based on information from the Office of Management and Budget, CBO estimates that the current per capita cost for other agencies that provide services to federally recognized tribes is about \$3,800 per member. Therefore, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1423 would cost about \$8 million in 2005 and \$53 million over the 2004-2009 period for other agencies to provide services to the Virginia tribes, assuming the appropriation of the necessary amounts.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1423 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no significant direct costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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