



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 29, 1999

### **H.R. 1665**

**A bill to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield in Virginia, as previously authorized by law, by purchase or exchange as well as by donation**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on September 22, 1999*

H.R. 1665 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to purchase about 525 acres of land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield unit of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park in Virginia. Under existing law, the NPS could acquire this property only by donation, and the acreage could only be included within the boundary of the battlefield after such donation.

Based on information provided by the NPS, and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts within the next two years, CBO estimates that the federal government would pay about \$7 million to acquire the three parcels comprising the 525 acres. Once the property has been acquired, additional funds of less than \$500,000 would be needed over the next several years to provide for pedestrian access, fencing, exhibits, and other site development activities.

H.R. 1665 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

On June 23, 1999, CBO prepared a cost estimate for S. 955, a bill to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield in Virginia, as previously authorized by law, by purchase or exchange as well as by donation. S. 955 was ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on June 16, 1999. The CBO estimates for S. 955 and H.R. 1665 are identical.

The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.