



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 21, 2004

### **S. 1678**

#### **Uinta Research and Curatorial Center Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on September 15, 2004*

S. 1678 would direct the Department of the Interior to establish a research and curatorial center near the Dinosaur National Monument, which is located in Colorado and Utah. The bill would authorize the department to acquire by donation up to five acres of land around Vernal, Utah, as a site for the new center. The facility would be used to store and conduct research on fossils and other items owned by the National Park Service (NPS) and other collectors. Under the bill, the center could be managed, operated, or used by governmental agencies, educational institutions, or nonprofit organizations through cooperative agreements between the department and those entities. S. 1678 would authorize the appropriation of \$8.8 million to carry out these activities.

Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming appropriation of the authorized amount, CBO estimates that the federal government would spend \$8.8 million over the next five years to construct the research and curatorial center. We estimate that the cost of furnishing, equipping, operating, and maintaining the center after 2009 would be about \$400,000 a year, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting S. 1678 would not affect revenues or direct spending.

The legislation 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.

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