# CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
## COST ESTIMATE

July 27, 2004

# H.R. 2528

## Hudson-Fulton-Champlain 400th Commemorative Commission Act of 2004

*As ordered reported by House Committee on Government Reform on July 21, 2004*

H.R. 2528 would require the Department of the Interior to establish a commission to assist in planning the commemorations of the voyages of Henry Hudson (the first European to sail up the Hudson River), Robert Fulton (the first person to use steam navigation on a commercial basis), and Samuel de Champlain (the first European to discover and explore Lake Champlain). The commission, consisting of 31 members, would have six years to report on its findings and recommendations. Members would serve without pay, but would be reimbursed for travel expenses. In addition, the commission could hire staff or use personnel from other federal agencies. The commission would be allowed to make grants of up to $40,000 annually for activities related to the voyage commemorations. The commission would terminate on December 31, 2010. For these purposes, the bill would authorize the appropriation of $500,000 annually from 2005 through 2011.

Assuming the appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that the commission would spend about $500,000 annually over the 2005-2011 period. Because H.R. 2528 would authorize the commission to accept and use gifts, the legislation could affect revenues and direct spending. However, CBO estimates that any revenues from contributions and subsequent direct spending would be less than $500,000 annually and would offset each other over the six years of the commission's activities.

H.R. 2528 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, and would benefit the states of New York, New Jersey, and Vermont.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Matthew Pickford (for federal costs), and Sarah Puro (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.