



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

May 3, 2012

**H.R. 2489**

**American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2011**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 25, 2012*

**SUMMARY**

H.R. 2489 would expand the American Battlefield Protection Program to include battlefields from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 and would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million a year over the 2014-2017 period for this program. In 2012, \$9 million was appropriated for this purpose, and \$10 million is authorized to be appropriated for 2013 under current law for the program. The amounts authorized for each year would be used to provide financial assistance to state or local governments to purchase land that has been identified by the National Park Service (NPS) as eligible for protection through the program but is not contained within the boundaries of a unit of the National Park System.

Assuming appropriation of the newly authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2489 would cost \$36 million over the 2013-2017 period and about \$4 million after 2017. Enacting H.R. 2489 would not affect revenues or direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 2489 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

**ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 2489 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2013- 2017
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Authorization Level	0	10	10	10	10	40
Estimated Outlays	0	6	10	10	10	36

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 2489 will be enacted during fiscal year 2012 and that the amounts authorized by the bill will be appropriated in each year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns of similar NPS grant programs.

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

H.R. 2489 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The bill would modify an existing grant for the preservation of battlefield sites and would benefit state and local governments. Any costs to those governments would be incurred voluntarily as a condition of federal assistance.

## **PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE**

On December 20, 2011, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 779, the American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2011, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on November 10, 2011. H.R. 2489 would authorize different amounts for the program and over a shorter period than S. 779. The CBO cost estimates for those pieces of legislation reflect those differences.

**ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:**

Federal Costs: Martin von Gnechten

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Melissa Merrell

Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

**ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:**

Theresa Gullo

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis