



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

June 16, 2000

**S. 2247**  
**Wheeling National Heritage Area Act of 2000**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on June 7, 2000*

S. 2247 would establish the Wheeling National Heritage Area in Wheeling, West Virginia. The bill would designate the Wheeling National Heritage Corporation as the management entity for the area and direct this nonprofit organization to implement a previously developed management plan. The corporation would provide financial and technical assistance to state and local agencies and other entities. The Secretary of the Interior would provide technical assistance to the corporation and approve or disapprove any amendments to the management plan. For these purposes, the bill would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million, not to exceed \$1 million annually over the next 15 years.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2247 would cost \$10 million over the next 10 to 15 years. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 2247 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 2247 would impose private-sector mandates, as defined by UMRA, on the Wheeling National Heritage Area Corporation. The costs of the mandates would fall well below the annual threshold established by UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$109 million in 2000, adjusted annually for inflation). The bill would require the corporation, as the management entity for the Heritage Area, to implement the current management plan for the area and to submit a revised management plan to the Secretary of the Interior for approval. The bill also would require that the management entity assist local governments and other organizations in activities related to purposes of the area. S. 2247 also would impose specific prohibitions on the management entity in the manner in which they may acquire real property. According to the corporation, it currently complies with most of the requirements in the bill. Further, based on information from the corporation and government sources, the restrictions related to acquiring property would not prevent the corporation from pursuing any planned purchases or activities for the area. Thus, CBO estimates that the costs of the mandates

would fall well below the annual threshold established by UMRA for private-sector mandates.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Deborah Reis and Ali Aslam (for federal costs), and Jean Wooster (for the private-sector impact). The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.