



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

June 8, 2018

H.R. 3535
Ruffey Rancheria Restoration Act of 2018

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 8, 2018

SUMMARY

H.R. 3535 would restore federal recognition to the Ruffey Rancheria Indian tribe in California. Federal recognition would make the tribe and individual members eligible to receive benefits from various federal programs. The bill also would allow the Department of the Interior (DOI) to take into trust property currently owned by the tribe which could permit certain types of gaming on those lands if DOI determines that the land is eligible to be used for such purposes under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3535 would cost \$5 million over the 2019-2023 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

Enacting H.R. 3535 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3535 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

H.R. 3535 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 3535 is shown in the following table. The costs of the legislation fall within budget function 450 (community and regional development) and 550 (health).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars						2019- 2023
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION							
Estimated Authorization Level	0	1	1	1	1	1	5
Estimated Outlays	0	1	1	1	1	1	5

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 3535 will be enacted near the end of 2018 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated each year beginning in 2019. Estimated outlays follow historical patterns for similar assistance to other tribes.

H.R. 3535 would provide federal recognition to the Ruffey Rancheria of California. Federal recognition would allow the tribe and about 350 tribal members to receive benefits from various programs administered by DOI and the Indian Health Service (IHS). DOI, primarily through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, provides funding to federally recognized tribes for various purposes, including child welfare services, adult care, community development, and other general assistance. IHS provides health services to federally recognized Indian tribes.

Using information provided by DOI, IHS, and the tribe and accounting for anticipated inflation, CBO estimates that providing services to the tribe under the bill would cost \$5 million over the 2019-2023 period. About 60 percent of those costs would be for health care services.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3535 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

MANDATES

H.R. 3535 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY

Federal Costs: Robert Reese (Department of the Interior) and Robert Stewart (Indian Health Service)

Mandates: Zach Byrum

ESTIMATE REVIEWED BY

Kim P. Cawley
Chief, Natural and Physical Resources Cost Estimates Unit

H. Samuel Papenfuss
Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis