

S. 225, Preserving America’s Battlefields Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on December 12, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2024	2020-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	59	146
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

S. 225 would authorize the annual appropriation of \$18 million through 2028 for the American Battlefield Protection Program, which is managed by the National Park Service. That program provides grants to state and local governments to share in the cost of acquiring eligible battlefield sites for preservation and protection. Over the same period, the bill also would authorize the appropriation of \$2 million annually for a battlefield restoration program and a battlefield interpretation technology grant program. Thus, the bill would authorize a total appropriation of \$20 million each year through 2028.

In 2019, the Congress appropriated \$10 million for the American Battlefield Protection Program. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts and based on historical spending patterns, CBO estimates that implementing S. 225 would cost \$59 million over the 2020-2024 period and \$146 million over the 2020-2029 period.

The costs of the legislation (detailed in Table 1) fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under S. 225

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars										2020-2024	2020-2029	
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029			
Authorization ^a	10	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	0	80	160
Estimated Outlays	0	7	15	18	19	20	20	20	20	20	7	59	146

a. S. 225 would authorize the appropriation of \$20 million annually from 2020 to 2028 for battlefield protection. However, under current law \$10 million is authorized to be appropriated for these purposes in 2020 and 2021. Thus, the table reflects the increase in the authorized amounts under the bill for those years. In addition, appropriations have already been provided for 2020. Accordingly, CBO does not estimate any outlays from the 2020 authorization in the bill.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Sofia Guo. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.