COMMEMORATING THE “I HAVE A DREAM” SPEECH AT THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL

November 4, 1999.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. Young of Alaska, from the Committee on Resources,

submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 2879]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 2879) to provide for the placement at the Lincoln Memorial of a plaque commemorating the speech of Martin Luther King, Jr., known as the “I Have a Dream” speech, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 2879 is to provide for the placement at the Lincoln Memorial of a plaque commemorating the speech of Martin Luther King, Jr., known as the “I Have a Dream” speech.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H.R. 2879 would provide for the placement at the Lincoln Memorial of a plaque commemorating the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, “I Have a Dream” speech. The plaque would be placed in an appropriate location on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial where Dr. King delivered his famous civil rights speech on August 28, 1963. This bill also directs the Secretary of the Interior to accept contributions to help offset any costs associated with the preparation and placement of the plaque.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 2879 was introduced on September 15, 1999, by Congresswoman Anne Northup (R–KY). The bill was referred to the Com-
mittee on Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands. On October 27, 1999, the Full Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands was discharged from further consideration of the bill by unanimous consent. No amendments were offered and the bill was then ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by voice vote.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Resources’ oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article I, section 8 and Article IV, section 3 of the Constitution of the United States grant Congress the authority to enact this bill.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. Congressional Budget Act. As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in tax expenditures. According to the Congressional Budget Office, enactment of H.R. 2879 could increase revenues to the government by a negligible amount which would be credited to the discretionary appropriation that funds operation and maintenance of the memorial.

3. Government Reform Oversight Findings. Under clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has received no report of oversight findings and recommendations from the Committee on Government Reform on this bill.

4. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate. Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:
Hon. Don Young,
Chairman, Committee on Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 2879, a bill to provide for the placement at the Lincoln Memorial of a plaque commemorating the speech of Martin Luther King Jr. known as the “I Have a Dream” speech.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis.

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON
(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

H.R. 2879—A bill to provide for the placement at the Lincoln Memorial of a plaque commemorating the speech of Martin Luther King Jr. known as the “I Have a Dream” speech

H.R. 2879 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to install on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial a plaque commemorating the Martin Luther King Jr. speech, “I Have a Dream.” The bill would allow the secretary to accept donations to defray the costs of preparing and installing the plaque. Any amounts received would be credited to the discretionary appropriation that funds operation and maintenance of the memorial.

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2879 would cost less than $50,000 in fiscal year 2000 or 2001, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Some of this cost may be offset by private donations, but we expect that any amounts collected would be negligible. Because donations to the government are recorded as revenues, enacting the bill could affect receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 2879 contains no intergovernmental of private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104–4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL, OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill makes no changes in existing law.