



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

July 25, 2018

H.R. 3309
Social Security Online Tools Innovation Act of 2018

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Ways and Means on July 18, 2018

Within two years of enactment, H.R. 3309 would require the Social Security Administration (SSA) to develop and post a tool on its website that allows beneficiaries of the Social Security Disability Insurance (DI) program to estimate changes in their eligibility and benefits on the basis of earnings. In addition, the bill would prohibit SSA from recovering certain overpayments made to beneficiaries who relied on inaccurate information produced by the online tool.

Using information on the costs of setting up similar online tools and information from SSA, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$2 million over the 2019-2023 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. CBO estimates there would be no budgetary effects from the prohibition on collecting certain overpayments because SSA does not collect overpayments in similar situations under its current practices.

Enacting H.R. 3309 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3309 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

CBO has not reviewed H.R. 3309 for intergovernmental or private-sector mandates. Section 4 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act excludes from the application of that act legislative provisions related to the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance program under title II of the Social Security Act (including taxes imposed by sections 3101(a) and 311(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986). CBO has determined that H.R. 3309 falls within that exclusion because it concerns the DI program.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Justin Latus (for federal costs) and Andrew Laughlin (for mandates). The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.