

H.R. 3597, Solar Energy Research and Development Act of 2019

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology on July 24, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2019	2019-2024	2019-2029
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	962	1,492
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

H.R. 3597 would authorize the appropriation of \$1,492 million over the 2020-2024 period for the Department of Energy (DOE) to conduct research and development on solar energy systems and applications. Under the bill, DOE’s research activities would focus on alternative production and manufacturing technologies as well as methods for integrating solar systems and products into transportation, building, and other types of infrastructure. Appropriated funds also could be used to cover some of the cost of demonstration projects, including some expenses for planning, equipment, and operations. Finally, the bill would authorize the department to use grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to implement the programs.

Based on historical spending patterns for similar activities, and assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3597 would cost \$962 million over the 2019-2024 period and \$530 million after 2024. The costs of the legislation (detailed in Table 1) fall within budget function 270 (energy).

Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 3597

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2019-2024
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Authorization	0	270	284	298	313	328	1,492
Estimated Outlays	0	54	138	212	263	295	962

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Kathleen Gramp. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.