#### At a Glance

# S. 430, Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2019

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

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2025	2020-2030				
Direct Spending (Outlays)	28	68	68				
Revenues	0	0	0				
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	28	68	68				
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	1	not estimated				
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes	Mandate Effects					
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2031?	No	Contains intergovernmental ma	ndate? <b>No</b>				
	-110	Contains private-sector mandate	e? <b>No</b>				

<sup>\* =</sup> between zero and \$500,000.

#### The bill would

- Authorize an increase in payments under the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program
- Require the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to conduct related studies

#### Estimated budgetary effects would primarily stem from

· Increasing payments for the SRS program

Detailed estimate begins on the next page.



## **Bill Summary**

S. 430 would authorize an increase in payments under the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program in 2020 and 2021. The bill also would require the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to conduct related studies.

#### **Estimated Federal Cost**

The estimated budgetary effect of S. 430 is shown in Table 1. The costs of the legislation fall within budget functions 300 (natural resources and environment) and 800 (general government).

Table 1. Estimated Budgetary E	ffects of S.	430							
	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars								
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2020-2025		
			reases in Direct	Spending					
Estimated Budget Authority	28	40	0	0	0	0	68		
Estimated Outlays	28	40	0	0	0	0	68		
		Increases in	Spending Subj	ect to Appropri	ation				
Estimated Authorization	*	1	0	0	0	0	1		
Estimated Outlays	*	1	0	0	0	0	1		
* = between zero and \$500,000.									

#### **Basis of Estimate**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2020 with sufficient time to make the additional payments required under the bill in fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for the affected and similar activities.

#### **Background**

Under the SRS program, the federal government makes payments to counties containing National Forest System land and to some counties containing land that is managed by BLM. The program is authorized through 2020, and payments are not subject to annual appropriations; payments authorized for a particular year are made in the next year. Under current law, those payments equal 95 percent of the amount provided in the year before. In 2020, the federal government made about \$254 million in such payments. Because payments are already authorized for 2020, CBO estimates that amounts paid in 2021 will total about \$242 million.



#### **Direct Spending**

S. 430 would direct the federal government to make payments in 2020 and 2021 of \$282 million, the amount authorized in 2017. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting the bill would increase direct spending by \$28 million in 2020 and by \$40 million in 2021, the difference between the amounts required under the bill and the amounts currently authorized.

### **Spending Subject to Appropriation**

S. 430 would require BLM and the Forest Service to report to the Congress on the income that could be generated from a sustained-yield timber harvest on federal land. The bill also would direct those agencies to study the potential effects of reducing payments in lieu of taxes by the amount of other federal payments made to counties in Oregon. Based on the costs of similar activities, CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would cost \$1 million; any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

### Pay-As-You-Go Considerations

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget-reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. The net changes in outlays that are subject to those pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in Table 2.

Table 2.
CBO's Estimate of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Effects of S. 430, the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2019, as Ordered Reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on December 12, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars									2020-	2020-			
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2025	2030
Net Increase in the Deficit Pay-As-You-Go													
Effect	28	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	68	68



# **Increase in Long-Term Deficits:** None.

Mandates: None.

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