

H.R. 4526, Brian Tally VA Employment Transparency Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on July 30, 2020

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2025	2020-2030
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	1	not estimated
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 2031?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

H.R. 4526 would require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide certain information to people who submit claims seeking compensation for damage, injury, or death that they allege was caused by the department's staff or its contractors. That notification would explain the importance of obtaining legal counsel, list the employment status of any staff members named by the claimant, and provide the statute of limitations for filing claims in the state in which the claim arose if the claim involves a VA contractor. CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted near the start of fiscal year 2021.

According to the department, VA already provides such information to claimants if their allegations involve a VA contractor. Although VA currently notifies many claimants, CBO estimates that providing information on states' statutes of limitations would require additional resources. Using information from VA about the number of claims received each year and current VA practices, CBO estimates that satisfying the requirements of the bill would cost less than \$500,000 annually, totaling \$1 million over the 2020-2025 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Logan Smith. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.