

**H.R. 5487, Veterans Cemetery Grants Improvement 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	0	0
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
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

Under current law, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) awards grants to state, tribal, and territorial governments to establish or expand veterans' cemeteries. VA also awards grants totaling up to \$5 million annually for cemetery operations and maintenance projects such as improving the height and alignment of headstones, leveling gravesites, or improving turf conditions. H.R. 5487 would increase the maximum amount of cemetery grants for operations and maintenance to \$10 million.

Over the past five years, VA has provided an average of about \$600,000 per year in grants for operation and maintenance projects, far less than the \$5 million limit in current law. Thus, CBO does not expect increasing that limitation to \$10 million would increase grant funding for those projects.

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