

H.R. 7496, COVID PREPARE Act of 2020

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Oversight and Reform on September 16, 2020

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2025	2020-2030
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	2	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 mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 7496 would require each federal agency to submit to the Congress an initial action plan for mitigating the risks associated with any resurgence in coronavirus cases and to provide regular updates until the President ends the emergency declaration related to the coronavirus pandemic. The bill includes specific information to be included in those plans such as the agency's priorities for preparing for and responding to a resurgence of COVID-19 cases and its plans for continuity of operations.

Although federal agencies are currently developing plans similar to those required by H.R. 7496, CBO does not anticipate that all those plans will be provided to the Congress with regular updates. CBO does not expect the cost of those additional activities to be significant in any one agency, but we estimate that, across the government, implementing the bill's requirements would cost about \$2 million over the 2021-2025 period; any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting H.R. 7496 could affect direct spending by some agencies that are allowed to use fees, receipts from the sale of goods, and other collections to cover operating costs. CBO estimates that any net changes in direct spending by those agencies would be negligible because most of them can adjust amounts collected to reflect changes in operating costs.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.