

H.R. 1464, Saudi Arabia Accountability for Gross Violations of Human Rights Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on March 25, 2021

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2021	2021-2026	2021-2031
Direct Spending (Outlays)	*	*	*
Revenues	*	*	*
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	*	*	*
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 2032?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

* = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.

H.R. 1464 would require the Administration to impose sanctions on foreign people who the Director of National Intelligence determined were responsible for killing Jamal Khashoggi and would allow it to waive or suspend those sanctions if the government of Saudi Arabia takes several actions affecting civil rights in that country. The bill also would require the Administration to provide several reports to the Congress on human rights violations by Saudi Arabia and actions taken by the United States to address those violations.

The sanctions required under H.R. 1464 would deny affected people permission to travel to, enter, or remain in the United States. CBO estimates that provision would increase the number of people who would be denied visas by the Department of State. Most visa fees are retained by the department and spent without further appropriation, but some fees are deposited in the Treasury as revenues. Denying foreign nationals entry into the United States also would reduce direct spending on certain federal benefits for which they are eligible, such as emergency Medicaid or federal subsidies for health insurance.

Using data from similar sanctions, CBO estimates that few people would be affected; thus, enacting the bill would have insignificant effects on revenues and direct spending, and would, on net, reduce the deficit by insignificant amounts.

Using information about the costs of similar reports, CBO estimates that satisfying the reporting requirements in H.R. 1464 would cost less than \$500,000 each year and total \$1 million over the 2021-2026 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Sunita D'Monte. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.