

**H.R. 1703, National Children’s Museum Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on March 24, 2021

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2021	2021-2026	2021-2031
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	5	10
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	5	10
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	0	0
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
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

H.R. 1703 would direct the General Services Administration (GSA) to enter into an agreement with the National Children’s Museum to operate in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, a mixed-use facility that houses both federal and private-sector offices. Under the bill, GSA would pay the museum’s lease expenses, but could terminate the agreement if the museum no longer uses the space as a children’s museum or ceases operations as a nonprofit organization. The museum entered into a 10-year lease agreement for the space in 2017 for an annual lease payment of about \$1 million.

The bill would require GSA to use funds from the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation or the International Trade Center to pay the museum’s lease obligations; under current law, those funds are primarily used for maintenance costs. By directing the GSA to use those funds for lease payments, enacting the bill would increase direct spending because the amounts in those funds are not otherwise available to be spent.

The museum is currently closed due to COVID-19 and CBO expects under H.R. 1703, GSA’s obligation to cover the museum’s lease payments would begin in early fiscal year 2022 when the museum reopens, and continue for the period of the current contract plus any renewals of the lease agreement. The current contract ends in 2027 but CBO also expects it will be renewed through at least 2031. Thus, CBO estimates implementing the bill would increase direct spending by \$5 million over the 2021-2026 period and \$10 million over the 2021-2031 period.



The costs of the legislation fall within budget function 800 (general government).

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 1.

**Table 1.**  
**CBO’s Estimate of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Effects of H.R. 1703, the National Children’s Museum Act, as Ordered Reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on March 24, 2021**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars											2021-2026	2021-2031
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031		
	<b>Net Increase in the Deficit</b>												
Pay-As-You-Go Effect	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	10

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