

S. 1402, Durbin Feeling Native American Languages Act of 2021

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on August 4, 2021

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2026	2022-2031
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	3	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 2032?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

S. 1402 would require the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a survey every five years on the use of Native American languages in the United States. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$1.5 million in each survey year and in each year prior to the survey. The bill also would require federal agencies, including the Departments of the Interior, Education, and Health and Human Services, to consult with Indian tribes to evaluate their policies and procedures regarding Native American languages. Within a year, those agencies would need to report to the Congress with legislative recommendations.

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 1402 will be enacted before the end of calendar year 2021. Based on the timeline specified in the bill, CBO expects that the first survey on Native American languages would be conducted in 2023. CBO estimates that implementing that requirement would cost \$3 million over the 2022-2026 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

CBO estimates that implementing the requirements for various agencies to evaluate their policies and procedures regarding Native American languages would cost about \$300,000 over the 2022-2026 period.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget functions 450 (community and regional development) and 500 (education, training, employment, and social services).



Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under S. 1402

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars					2022-2026
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Survey on Native American languages						
Authorization	2	2	0	0	0	3
Estimated Outlays	*	1	1	1	*	3
Evaluation and report						
Estimated Authorization	*	0	0	0	0	*
Estimated Outlays	*	0	0	0	0	*
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization	2	2	0	0	0	3
Estimated Outlays	*	1	1	1	*	3

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding; * = between zero and \$500,000.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Jennifer Gray (for the Department of Health and Human Services) and Jon Sperl (for the Department of the Interior). The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.