

**H.R. 4977, Better Cybercrime Metrics Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on December 8, 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)	1	3	not estimated
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 2032?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

H.R. 4977 would direct the Department of Justice (DOJ) to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to develop a classification system for categorizing different types of cybercrime. The National Academy of Sciences would be required to consult with relevant federal, state, local, and private-sector stakeholders and report on its system to the Congress within one year.

The bill also would require the Bureau of Justice Statistics at DOJ to include questions on cybercrime victimization in its National Crime Victimization Survey. H.R. 4977 would authorize the appropriation of \$1 million for the National Academy of Sciences project and \$2 million for the Bureau of Justice Statistics survey. Using historical patterns of spending for similar programs and assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates it would cost \$3 million for DOJ to implement those requirements.

H.R. 4977 also would require DOJ to establish a cybercrime category within its National Incident-Based Reporting System, which collects data on crimes from federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, and direct the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to report to the Congress on the effectiveness of cybercrime reporting in the United States within six months. DOJ is currently collecting data on cybercrimes in its reporting system. Based on information from the department, CBO estimates that the costs to DOJ to establish the cybercrime reporting category would not be significant over the 2022-2026 period. Additionally, based on the cost of similar activities, CBO estimates the cost to GAO for



conducting its study would not be significant over the 2022-2026 period. Any such spending for these activities would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

On January 27, 2022, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for [S. 2629](#), the Better Cybercrime Metrics Act, as passed by the Senate on December 7, 2021. H.R. 4977 is similar to S. 2629, and CBO's estimates of their budgetary effects are the same.

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