

H.R. 4448, Administrative Law Judges Competitive Service Restoration Act
 As ordered reported by the House Committee on Oversight and Reform on July 20, 2021

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2027	2022-2032
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	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 2033?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 4448 would amend the process by which administrative law judges are appointed by requiring those judges to be appointed by federal agency heads from a list of qualified eligible candidates provided by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). The bill also would place those judges in the excepted service rather than competitive service and exempt them from a probationary period after being hired. (Applicants for excepted service positions are not required to compete with other applicants under the OPM merit system.) Because the bill would not change the underlying eligibility requirements or the pay scale for the position, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4448 would not have a significant effect on the federal budget; any spending for administrative costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

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