

S. 4337, Military Spouse Employment Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on August 3, 2022

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

S. 4337 would authorize federal agencies to hire military spouses for remote work without going through a competitive process. CBO estimates that enacting the bill would not significantly affect the federal budget.

Under current law, spouses of members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty and spouses of disabled or deceased members of the armed forces receive hiring preferences for jobs with the federal government. S. 4337 would expand the application of those preferences to remote work positions. That change would not affect the total number of people the federal government would employ or their compensation. However, implementing the bill could cause agencies to modify administrative processes. CBO estimates that the costs to implement those changes would be insignificant.

Enacting the bill also could affect direct spending by some agencies that are allowed to use fees, receipts from the sale of goods, and other collections to cover operating costs. CBO estimates that any net changes in direct spending by those agencies would be negligible because most of them can adjust amounts collected to reflect changes in operating costs.

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