

H.R. 8215, Veterans Online Information and Cybersecurity Empowerment Act of 2022

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on July 19, 2022

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)	0	52	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

H.R. 8215 would establish a program to improve cybersecurity and digital literacy among veterans. Under the bill, the Department of Veterans Affairs would make grants to nonprofit organizations and community-based groups that would provide veterans with instructional materials and training courses. Veterans participating in the program would learn how to safely use computers and mobile phones with an awareness of cybersecurity risks and develop media literacy for using online resources.

The bill would authorize appropriations of \$20 million in 2023, 2025, and 2027. Using historical spendout rates for similar programs, CBO estimates that awarding cybersecurity grants would cost \$52 million over the 2022-2027 period; such spending would be subject to appropriation of the specified amounts.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 700 (veterans benefits and services).



Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 8215

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2022-2027
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Grant Program							
Authorization	0	20	0	20	0	20	60
Estimated Outlays	0	12	7	13	7	13	52

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