

H.R. 7338, Russia Cryptocurrency Transparency Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on April 5, 2022

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	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.			

H.R. 7338 would require the Department of State to appoint a Director of Digital Currency Security in its Office of Economic Sanctions Policy and Implementation. The director would review and analyze how digital currencies affect the U.S. sanctions regime and coordinate U.S. sanctions policy with the Department of the Treasury.

In addition, the bill would require the Department of State to report to the Congress on its use of cryptocurrency to reward individuals who provide information about crimes or terrorist acts. It also would be required to recommend effective ways to provide economic support and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, including through cryptocurrencies and technology incorporating blockchains¹. Finally, the department would be required to describe how digital currencies could affect sanctions related to Russia and its invasion of Ukraine.

¹ According to the National Institute of Standards and Technology, “blockchains are tamper evident and tamper resistant digital ledgers implemented in a distributed fashion (i.e., without a central repository) and usually without a central authority (i.e., a bank, company, or government). At their basic level, they enable a community of users to record transactions in a shared ledger within that community, such that under normal operation of the blockchain network no transaction can be changed once published.” See Dylan Yaga and others, Blockchain Technology Overview, NISTIR 8202 (National Institute of Standards and Technology, October 2018), p. ii, <https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.IR.8202> (PDF, 755 KB).



On the basis of information about the costs of compensation and operating expenses for department personnel and preparing similar reports, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 7338 would cost less than \$500,000 a year and total \$1 million over the 2022-2026 period. Such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Sunita D'Monte. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.