

H.R. 1036, Bassam Barabandi Rewards for Justice Act

As reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on July 21, 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	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 2033?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

H.R. 1036 would authorize the Department of State to offer rewards for information about the identity or location of individuals and entities that defy sanctions imposed by the United States or the United Nations.

Several existing programs provide rewards for information leading to the arrest or conviction of designated terrorists and criminals engaged in human trafficking, smuggling, and other transnational crimes. Since the mid-1980s, the department has awarded more than \$250 million under those programs, with most awards ranging between \$1 million and \$5 million. Many of the individuals and entities designated under those programs also are subject to sanctions; therefore, a portion of the population targeted by this act likely already would be sought out for crimes under current programs. CBO expects that the authority provided under the legislation would be implemented through those programs.

To the extent that the act would result in the department paying more rewards, implementing H.R. 1036 would increase spending subject to appropriation; however, it is uncertain whether and when the department would do so. Accounting for that uncertainty and using information about past awards—averaging about \$7 million each year—CBO estimates that under H.R. 1036 the department would pay less than \$500,000, on average, in additional awards in any given year and a total of \$1 million over the 2022-2027 period. That spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.



On May 4, 2021, CBO transmitted a [cost estimate for H.R. 1036](#), the Bassam Barabandi Rewards for Justice Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on April 21, 2021. The two versions of the act are similar, and CBO's estimates of their budgetary effects are the same.

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