

### At a Glance

## H.R. 2758, Lumbee Recognition Act

As passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on November 1, 2021

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2023	2023-2027	2023-2032
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	363	not estimated

Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
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

#### The legislation would

- Provide federal recognition to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina
- Extend services and benefits to the tribe provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service
- Authorizes the Bureau of Indian Affairs to take land into trust for the benefit of the tribe

#### Estimated budgetary effects would mainly stem from

- Providing federal benefits to the newly recognized tribe

**Detailed estimate begins on the next page.**

## Legislation Summary

H.R. 2758 would extend federal recognition to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, thereby making the tribe and its members eligible for various federal programs.

## Estimated Federal Cost

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 2758 is shown in Table 1. The costs of the legislation fall within budget functions 450 (community and regional development) and 550 (health).

**Table 1.**  
**Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 2758**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars					2023-2027
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Bureau of Indian Affairs						
Estimated Authorization	0	15	33	37	43	128
Estimated Outlays	0	10	27	36	43	116
Indian Health Service						
Estimated Authorization	0	39	79	80	81	279
Estimated Outlays	0	29	65	75	78	247
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization	0	54	112	117	124	407
Estimated Outlays	0	39	92	111	121	363

## Basis of Estimate

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted by the end of 2022. Providing federal recognition to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina would allow the tribe and its members to receive benefits from various programs administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS). CBO expects that those agencies and the tribe would require over a year to document the tribe’s membership and approve contracts for services, so no federal spending would occur until 2024. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2758 would cost \$363 million over the 2023-2027 period, assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts.

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

The Department of the Interior, primarily through BIA, provides funding to federally recognized tribes for various purposes, including child welfare services, adult care, community development, and general assistance. Based on recent per capita expenditures for other federally recognized tribes located in the eastern United States, CBO estimates that providing BIA services would cost \$116 million over the 2023-2027 period, assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts. CBO expects that most of that funding would go toward law enforcement and infrastructure needs on the tribe’s reservation.

### **Indian Health Service**

H.R. 2758 also would make members of the Lumbee Tribe eligible to receive health benefits from the IHS. Using information from the tribe, CBO estimates that about 44,000 of the tribe's 63,000 members live in the service area that is covered by IHS. CBO expects that the cost to service those people would be similar to current IHS beneficiaries—about \$1,700 for each person annually over the 2023-2027 period. Assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts and adjusting for anticipated inflation, CBO estimates that providing IHS benefits for the Lumbee Tribe would cost \$247 million over the 2023-2027 period.

### **Other Federal Agencies**

In addition to BIA and IHS funding, certain Indian tribes also receive support from other federal agencies, including the Departments of Education, Housing and Urban Development, and Health and Human Services. Based on their status as a tribe recognized by North Carolina, the Lumbee already receive funding from those agencies. Thus, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2758 would not increase spending for those programs.

**Pay-As-You-Go Considerations:** None.

**Increase in Long-Term Deficits:** None.

**Mandates:** None.

### **Estimate Prepared By**

Federal Costs:

Julia Aman (Bureau of Indian Affairs)  
Rob Stewart (Indian Health Service)

Mandates: Rachel Austin

### **Estimate Reviewed By**

Justin Humphrey  
Chief, Finance, Housing, and Education Cost Estimates Unit

H. Samuel Papenfuss  
Deputy Director of Budget Analysis