

S. 2151, A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide that COPS grant funds may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities

As passed by the U.S. Senate on August 1, 2022

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)	2	71	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

S. 2151 would amend the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program to permit the Department of Justice (DOJ) to award competitive grants to local law enforcement agencies for training programs for their recruits and officers. To be eligible, recruits and officers would need to serve in a local law enforcement agency within seven miles of their residence, or within 20 miles if they live in a county with fewer than 150,000 people, for at least four of the eight-years after they complete the training program. S. 2151 would require recruits to repay the training costs if they do not meet the service requirements.

The legislation creating the COPS program, which included an authorization of appropriations totaling \$8.8 billion for fiscal years 1995 to 2000, expired in 2009. The Congress has continued to provide funding for the program and appropriated \$512 million for the COPS program in 2022. CBO assumes S. 2151 would effectively authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary to cover the costs of implementing the new activities specified in the legislation.

Using information from DOJ on COPS grant awards in recent years, CBO estimates that about 200 local law enforcement agencies would receive grants each year under the

legislation, with an average of five recruits or officers per agency. In addition, CBO estimates that it costs roughly \$20,000 to train a recruit or officer, on average. In total, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2151 would cost \$71 million over the 2023-2027 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

Table 1. Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under S.2151						
	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars					2023-2027
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Estimated Authorization	23	24	26	28	31	132
Estimated Outlays	2	7	15	22	26	71

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