

S. 4572, Non-Intrusive Inspection Expansion Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on August 3, 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)	3	462	888
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. 4572 would require U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to increase its use of non-intrusive inspection (NII) systems at land ports of entry. Beginning in 2024, the bill would require CBP to use NII systems to inspect 40 percent of passenger vehicles and 90 percent of commercial vehicles entering the United States. NII systems, such as large-scale X-ray and Gamma-ray systems and handheld scanners, are used to quickly examine vehicles for weapons, narcotics, and other materials that pose nuclear and radiological threats.

The bill also would require CBP and the Government Accountability Office to submit various reports to the Congress about the use of NII at the U.S. border.

CBP indicated that many land ports of entry would require capital improvements, such as roadwork and new facilities, before large-scale NII could be installed. Based on the costs and timelines of similar projects, CBO estimates that such improvements would take two years to complete and cost \$98 million over the 2023-2027 period.

In addition to those improvements, CBP would need to install new large-scale NII systems. CBP indicated that it would install additional NII systems at the locations with the largest vehicle volume if S. 4572 was enacted, with multiple systems per site. Based on feedback from CBP, CBO expects that the agency would need to install an additional 70 large-scale NII systems to comply with the bill's requirements.



Using information from CBP, CBO estimates that the agency would install an average of 14 systems annually, beginning in 2025, and that each large-scale NII system would cost roughly \$9 million, including procurement, installation, and system integration. In addition, CBO estimates that it would cost \$1 million annually to maintain each system. Thus, CBO estimates that through 2027, the procurement and maintenance costs would total \$363 million. Additional systems would continue to be installed and maintained after 2027 at a cost of \$373 million.

In total, CBO estimates that enacting S. 4572 would cost \$462 million over the 2023-2027 period and an additional \$426 million over the 2028-2032 period (\$53 million for facility capital improvements and \$373 million for system installation and maintenance). 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. 4572

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars					2023-2027
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Estimated Authorization	50	51	119	155	170	544
Estimated Outlays	3	13	91	176	179	462

S. 4572 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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