



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

November 7, 2012

**S. 3341**

**Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review Act of 2012**

*As passed by the Senate on September 22, 2012*

**SUMMARY**

S. 3341 would require the Department of State, in consultation with various other agencies, to conduct a comprehensive review of the diplomacy and development policies of the United States every four years. The Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (QDDR) would include assessments, recommendations, and priorities for the diplomacy and development policy of the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Based on information from the Department of State, CBO estimates that implementing S. 3341 would cost \$8 million over the 2013-2017 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting S. 3341 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you go procedures do not apply.

S. 3341 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

**ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 3341 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 150 (international affairs).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2013- 2017
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Estimated Authorization Level	3	2	1	1	3	10
Estimated Outlays	2	2	1	1	2	8

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the start of fiscal year 2013, the necessary amounts will be appropriated each year, and the outlays will follow historical spending patterns for similar and existing programs.

S. 3341 would require the Department of State to review, and report to the Congress on, a national strategy for U.S. diplomacy and development programs. The review would be conducted every four years, with the next review beginning in 2013. The act would allow the Secretary of State to establish a QDDR office within the department.

The QDDR would highlight, among other things:

- The current national diplomacy and development policy of the Department of State and USAID,
- Priorities and challenges for national diplomacy and development efforts,
- A description of interagency efforts,
- A description of the roles of international organizations, and
- The budget plan to carry out the listed priorities.

Using results from the review, the department would be required to prepare and submit a report to the Congress on each QDDR. The act would require the report to include the review’s findings and the assumptions regarding national security and other matters that underlay the review.

The department conducted an initial QDDR in 2010—which began in June 2009 and took over a year to complete. For the 2010 QDDR, roughly 40 senior officials from the Department of State, USAID, and other government entities led working groups and task forces. In addition, preparing the 2010 QDDR report required four drafters and editors. On that basis, CBO estimates that implementing this act would require the equivalent of about 10 full-time staff from various agencies to conduct the review in 2013 (and the following review in 2017). Fewer staff resources would be needed for drafting, editing and

distributing the report in 2014. CBO estimates that implementing S. 3341 would cost \$8 million over the 2013-2017 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. This amount includes staff support, ongoing data collection, and planning for the next review.

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

### **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 3341 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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