H.R. 4389, Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Enhancements Act of 2023 As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on March 12, 2024 By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars 2024 2024-2029 2024-2034 0 0 0 **Direct Spending (Outlays)** 0 0 0 Revenues Increase or Decrease (-) 0 0 0 in the Deficit Spending Subject to 28 not estimated **Appropriation (Outlays)** Increases net direct spending in Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? No any of the four consecutive 10-year No periods beginning in 2035? **Mandate Effects** Contains intergovernmental mandate? No Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year No periods beginning in 2035? Contains private-sector mandate? No * = between zero and \$500,000.

H.R. 4389 would amend the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act and would reauthorize the appropriation of \$6.5 million each year through 2028 to promote the conservation of neotropical migratory birds. The bill also would increase the federal cost share for migratory bird conservation assistance. Finally, H.R. 4389 would require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to report to the Congress on whether the agency has convened an advisory group of people and organizations involved in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds and if so, a description of the members of that group.

In 2024, the Congress provided \$5 million for activities under the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act; therefore, the bill would authorize the appropriation of an additional \$1.5 million for 2024. Based on historical spending patterns for this program, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4389 would cost \$28 million over the 2024-2029 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 4389

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2024-2029
Authorization ^a	2	7	7	7	7	0	30
Estimated Outlays	*	5	6	7	7	3	28

^{* =} between zero and \$500,000.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Kelly Durand. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

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a. The Congress appropriated \$5 million in 2024 for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42). The amounts shown in 2024 reflect the difference between what the bill would authorize in 2024 and the amount already provided.