



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 8, 2015

### **H.R. 1155** **SCRUB Act of 2015**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on March 24, 2015*

#### **SUMMARY**

H.R. 1155 would establish a commission to review existing federal regulations and identify those that should be repealed to reduce the cost of regulations on the economy. In addition, the legislation would require agencies to review all regulations within 10 years. Finally, H.R. 1155 would authorize the appropriation of up to \$30 million to fund the commission.

CBO estimates that, assuming appropriation of the specified amounts, implementing H.R. 1155 would cost \$30 million over the 2016-2020 period to operate the commission. Because any changes to current regulations would be subject to future congressional action, CBO estimates that enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 1155 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 1155 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within function 800 (general government) and all budget functions that include funding for agencies that issue regulations.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2016-2020
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Estimated Authorization Level	30	0	0	0	0	30
Estimated Outlays	6	6	6	6	6	30

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted by the end of fiscal year 2015.

## **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

Title I would establish a commission to review the Code of Federal Regulations to determine if a rule or set of rules should be repealed to lower the cost of regulations on the U.S. economy. The commission would recommend to the Congress a list of rules to be repealed. Under the bill, no existing regulations could be repealed unless subsequent legislation to authorize the repeal was enacted. The commission would consist of 9 members appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Members would be paid and reimbursed for travel expenses. In addition, the commission could hire staff. The commission would end after either 5 years and 180 days of enactment or 5 years after all commissioner terms have commenced, whichever is later. H.R. 1155 also would direct the commission to produce annual and final reports on its activities and would authorize the appropriation of up to \$30 million to cover the costs of the commission. Assuming appropriation of those amounts, CBO estimates that implementing this title would cost \$30 million over the 2015-2020 period.

Under title II, federal agencies would be directed to offset the estimated costs on the economy of any new regulations by repealing regulations that have been recommended for repeal by the commission; the repeal of such regulations, however, would require enactment of future legislation. How agencies could comply with this requirement to offset the costs of new regulations—without enactment of a law to repeal existing regulations—is unclear. Whether the implementation of new rules would be delayed or postponed under this provision of H.R. 1155 is also unknown. Consequently, CBO has not estimated any budgetary effects of implementing title II.

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

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

H.R. 1155 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

### **ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:**

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