



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 17, 2016

H.R. 2589

A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to publish on its Internet website the text of any item that is adopted by vote of the Commission not later than 24 hours after receipt of dissenting statements from all Commissioners wishing to submit such a statement with respect to such item

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on April 28, 2016

H.R. 2589 would establish deadlines for the publication of certain information developed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The FCC is an independent agency governed by a five-member commission that regulates various aspects of wireline (telephone, for example), wireless, cable, and satellite communications. Under this bill, the text of any decisions that are subject to a vote by the commissioners would have to be published on the agency's website within 24 hours after the secretary of the commission receives the text of any dissenting statements.

Based on information from the FCC, CBO estimates that complying with the requirements in H.R. 2589 would have no significant effect on the agency's workload or costs. Moreover, under current law, the FCC is authorized to collect fees sufficient to offset the cost of its regulatory activities each year. Therefore, CBO estimates that the net cost to implement H.R. 2589 would be negligible, assuming annual appropriation actions consistent with the agency's authorities. Because enacting H.R. 2589 would not affect direct spending or revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 2589 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

H.R. 2589 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 Kathleen Gramp. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.