



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

May 23, 2016

**H.R. 5229**  
**Improving Transition Programs for All Veterans Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
on May 18, 2016*

H.R. 5229 would require the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in collaboration with the Department of Labor and the Department of Defense, to conduct a study that would evaluate the effectiveness of programs that assist members separating from the armed forces in making a successful transition to civilian life. The study would focus on the outcomes of such programs for women veterans, veterans with disabilities, and other groups of minority veterans. Within 18 months of enactment, VA would be required to submit a report to the Congress regarding their findings from the study.

All three of those agencies have programs that provide such assistance, including:

- The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support, which helps service members and veterans earn degrees and qualify for civilian licenses and certifications both during and after their service;
- The Transition Assistance Program, which is an interagency collaboration that provides service members who are separating with information, tools, and training to prepare them to pursue additional education, find a job in the public or private sector, or start their own businesses; and
- The Post-9/11 GI Bill and the program of Training and Rehabilitation for Veterans with Service-Connected Disabilities, which are administered by VA and provide veterans with tuition and housing allowances, as well as employment assistance.

On the basis of information from the Department of Labor on the cost of previous evaluations of transition assistance programs, CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost \$2 million over the 2017-2021 period; that spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Enacting H.R. 5229 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 5229 would not increase net

direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

H.R. 5229 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 Ann E. Futrell. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.