



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

November 22, 2016

**S. 2390
Federal Bureau of Investigation Whistleblower Protection
Enhancement Act of 2016**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary
on April 14, 2016*

CBO estimates that implementing S. 2390 would cost \$1 million annually; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting S. 2390 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

S. 2390 would aim to improve legal protections for employees at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) who report abuse, fraud, and waste related to government activities (such individuals are known as whistleblowers). The legislation would change the process for investigating and adjudicating complaints regarding reprisals against whistleblowers. The bill also would require the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to prepare reports related to complaints of whistleblower retaliation and the handling of those cases by the FBI.

S. 2390 would expand reporting requirements for DOJ and could lengthen the time required to adjudicate some complaints of retaliation. The legislation also could lead to an increase in the number of such cases (about one dozen annually in recent years). Based on the costs of similar activities, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2390 would increase administrative costs for DOJ and GAO by a total of about \$1 million annually.

S. 2390 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 Mark Grabowicz. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.