



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 11, 2016

S. 2967

National Biodefense Strategy Act of 2016

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs on May 25, 2016*

S. 2967 would require the President to establish a Biodefense Coordination Council to develop a national strategy to help the federal government prevent and respond to major biological incidents. Under the bill, the President would be required to report to the Congress on the status of the strategy every 180 days until it is completed and to update the strategy at least every five years thereafter. The bill also would require the President to submit an annual report detailing total federal expenditures on biodefense activities and how those expenses relate to the priorities established in the strategy.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 2967 would require a couple of employees annually to coordinate the Council's work and to produce the reports. CBO estimates that enacting S. 2967 would cost less than \$500,000 annually and about \$2 million over the 2017-2021 period; any such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to this legislation because it would not affect direct spending or revenues.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 2967 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

S. 2967 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 Ellen Werble. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.