



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 18, 2016

S. 3270

Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act

As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on September 20, 2016

SUMMARY

CBO estimates that, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, implementing S. 3270 would cost \$21 million over the 2017-2021 period for programs in the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to combat abuse of the elderly.

Enacting the bill could affect revenues and associated direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, we estimate that any such effects would be insignificant in any year and over the 2017-2026 period.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 3270 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

S. 3270 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 impact of S. 3270 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 500 (education, training, employment, and social services) and 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2017- 2021
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
DOJ Programs						
Estimated Authorization Level	3	3	3	3	3	15
Estimated Outlays	3	3	3	3	3	15
HHS Programs						
Estimated Authorization Level	6	0	0	0	0	6
Estimated Outlays	*	2	2	1	*	6
Total Increases						
Estimated Authorization Level	9	3	3	3	3	21
Estimated Outlays	3	5	5	4	3	21

Notes: DOJ = Department of Justice; HHS = Department of Health and Human Services; * less than \$500,000; components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted near the end of calendar year 2016, that the necessary funds will be provided for each year, and that outlays will follow the historical rate of spending for similar activities.

Department of Justice

S. 3270 would direct DOJ to undertake numerous activities to prevent crimes against the elderly and to improve the treatment of elderly victims, including the following:

- Provide training and technical assistance to state and local governments to assist them in investigating, prosecuting, and preventing crimes against the elderly and treating the victims of such crimes;
- Collect data from federal agencies on crimes against the elderly;
- Provide regular training to agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the investigation of crimes against the elderly; and
- Prepare reports on issues relating to crimes against the elderly.

Based on an analysis of information from DOJ about the costs to carry out those additional tasks, CBO estimates that it would cost the department about \$3 million annually to implement S. 3270, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds.

Department of Health and Human Services

The bill also would authorize appropriations for grants to assess the effectiveness and fairness of legal proceedings that result in court-appointed guardianships for elderly people. Those grants, which would be for demonstrations, would be in addition to other activities supporting elder rights conducted by HHS. Based on the cost of other demonstration projects to support elder rights, CBO estimates that implementing the new provisions would cost HHS about \$6 million, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget-reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending and revenues. S. 3270 would amend federal criminal law to make any assets found in connection with telemarketing fraud against elderly persons subject to seizure by the federal government, upon an individual's prosecution and conviction for such fraud. Proceeds from the sale of such assets are recorded as revenues, deposited into the Assets Forfeiture Fund, and later spent without further appropriation action. Because of the small number of relevant assets likely to be seized, CBO estimates that any additional revenues and associated direct spending would not be significant in any year and over the 2017-2026 period.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting S. 3270 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 3270 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:

Federal Costs:

Mark Grabowicz and Robert Reese (DOJ)

Christi Hawley Anthony (HHS)

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Rachel Austin

Impact on the Private Sector: Paige Piper/Bach

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

H. Samuel Papenfuss

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis